ABSTRACT

Nepal is categorized as one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to natural disasters. Geographically, it lies between the two large and populous nations of Asia-China in the North and India in the West, South, and East. Many reports and studies have shown that over the last 33 years, various disasters have occurred in Nepal. One of the greatest disasters to hit the country is Gorkha earthquake that occur on April 25, 2015. A 7.8 magnitude of quake has caused nearly 9,000 casualties, 22,303 injured, and more than 600,000 structures in Kathmandu were destroyed. Due to incapability to handle the national disaster, the Government of Nepal called for International aid. During the emergency, Nepal surprisingly has decided to reject an offer for assistance which consist of 20 professional rescue team from Taiwan. In fact, Taiwan has well-trained rescue team and capability to bring resources and expertise to help the earthquake victims, since the country also familiar with earthquake disaster. To analyze the reason behind the decision of Nepal to reject an offer of aid from Taiwan, the writer uses Disaster Diplomacy theory. The data comes from the secondary data using library research method. This research found out that the reason behind the rejection are: 1) Accepting aid from Taiwan could distract diplomacy with China; 2) Nepal wants to re-affirm its commitment to One-China Policy.

Keyword(s): Disaster Diplomacy, International Aid, Distract Diplomacy, One-China Policy