

Religion matters: Role of the mosque in disaster risk governance



Abdur Rehman Cheema
PhD Candidate
Massey University

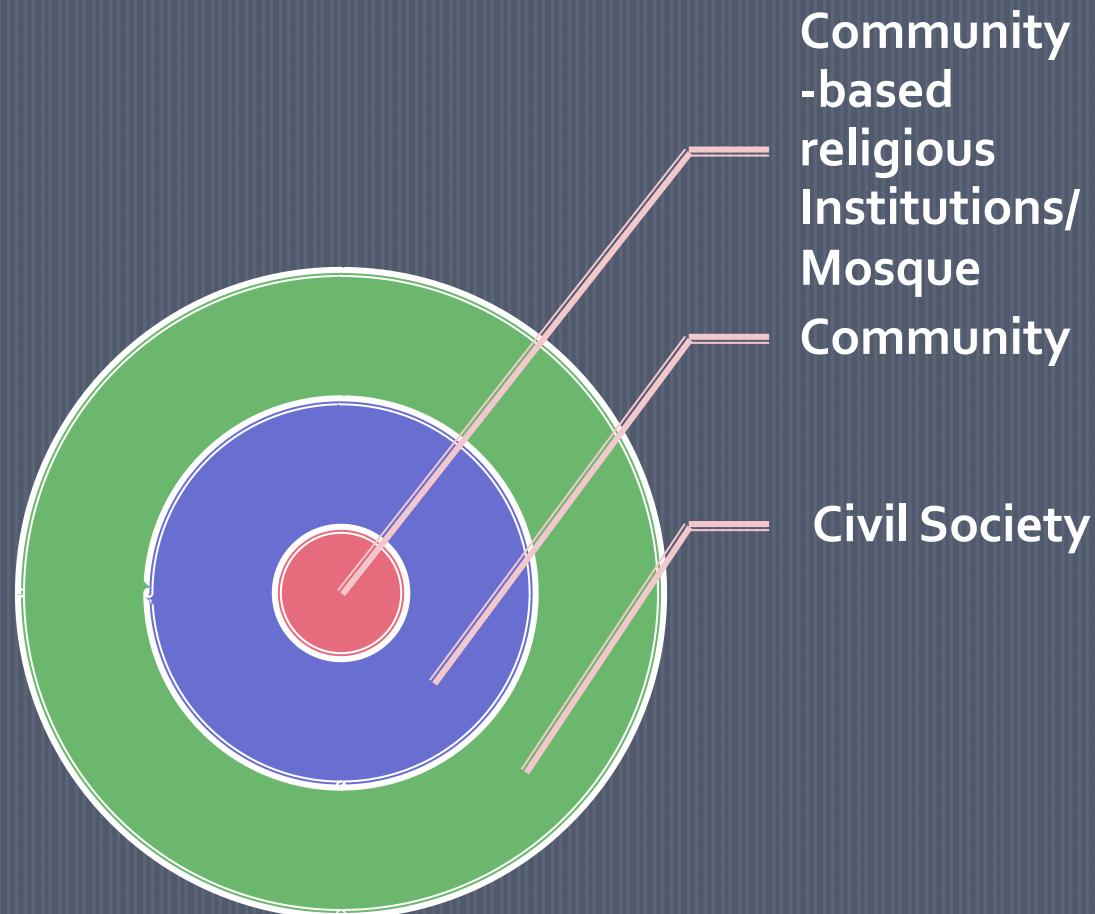
Case Study - Methodology

- Earthquake Oct 8, 2005
- Magnitude = 7.6
- Injured = 70,000
- Death = 80,000
- Muslim Pop = 95%
- Mosques = over 300,000
- Qualitative Methods
 - Interviews, observations
 - Focus group discussions
 - Secondary sources

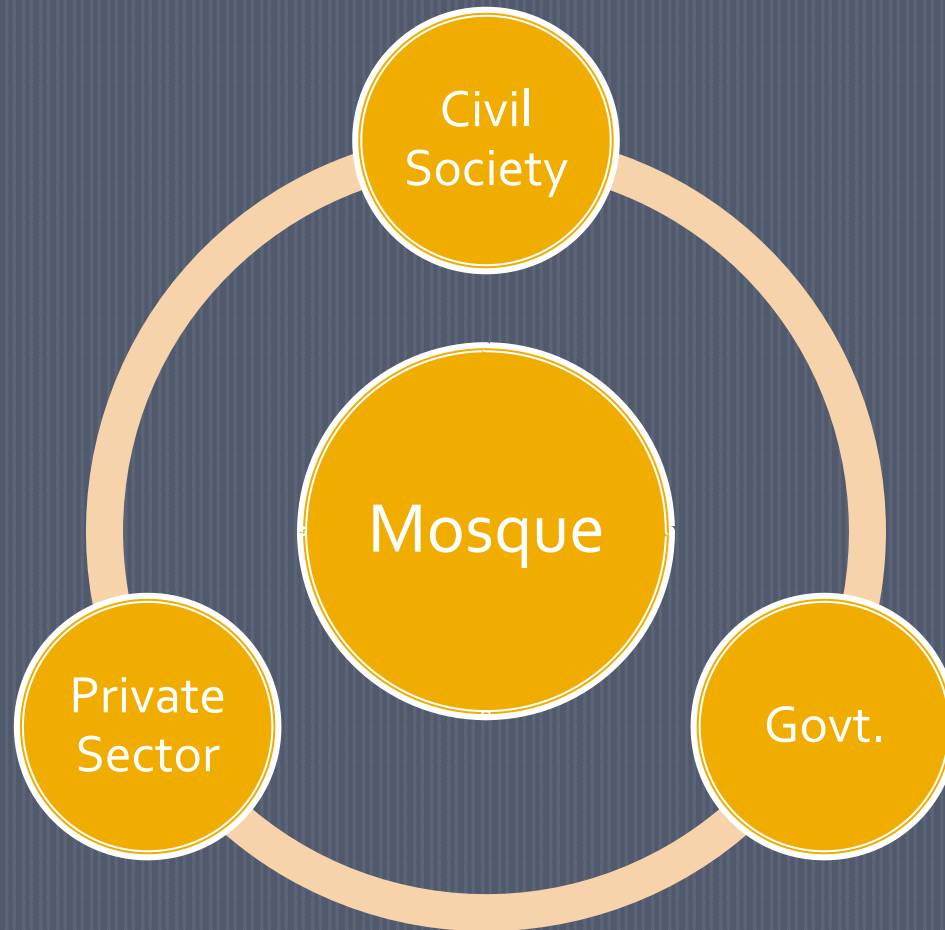


Research question

What was the distinctive role of the mosque disaster risk governance?



Mosque – Civil Society, Govt, Private Sector (Disaster Risk Governance)



Conceptual Framework

Distinctive role of the mosque (contd.)

LITERACY RATIO = 36
ENROLMENT RATIO = 32

CHILDREN DEATHS = 18,095
TEACHER DEATHS = 853



Distinctive role of the mosque (contd.)



Distinctive role of the mosque (contd.)

- Entry point in communities, connecting the poor and the marginalised with social safety networks
- Information centre
- Main source of psychosocial healing
- Affects disaster risk perception

Challenges

- Mosque is the epicentre of our society. Definitely, Imams are our stakeholder but we do not involve with them formally. They tell people that earthquakes occur because they are sinners and immoral.

(Director General, Govt. Provincial Agency)

Conclusion

- Community-based religious institutions affect and influence peoples' life...probably more so where state fails to deliver.
- Continue ignoring or start engaging?

Thanks



A dilapidated bridge leading to the case study village