

# 6.8-magnitude quake shakes eastern Tajikistan

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**Online Desk:** A 6.8 magnitude earthquake shook a lightly populated, remote part of Tajikistan early Thursday near China's far western Xinjiang region. It was 67 kilometers (41 miles) west of Murghob, Tajikistan and 20 kilometers (12 miles) deep, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. Murghob is the district capital with a population of a few thousand people high in the Pamir Mountains, reports AP.

China Earthquake Networks Center said the quake was 7.2 magnitude and 10 kilometers (6 miles) deep. Preliminary seismic measurements by different agencies often differ. Further information was not immediately available.

A 5.0-magnitude aftershock hit the area about 20 minutes after the initial quake, followed by a 4.6-magnitude quake. The sparsely populated territory is surrounded by the towering Pamir Mountains and is home to Lake Sarez.