

Death Toll Hits 250 in Ethiopia Floods

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ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia — The death toll from Ethiopia's worst ever flash floods climbed to 250 Thursday evening and was expected to rise as crews searched for more bodies.



Six days after a river burst its banks following *torrential* rains, more than 10,000 people were still homeless, and 300 remained missing. Flood waters crashed through homes after a river burst its banks early Sunday following heavy rains. The waters flipped cars, swept away houses and *severed* power and communications lines.

The search from the flooding that hit Dire Dawa, about 310 miles east of the capital, Addis Ababa, has stretched for nearly 20 miles along the river.

Alemitu Natta, a mother of four, told The Associated Press she lost everything in the flooding. "For extra credit write, "The Yankees are losing 4-2 vs. the Chicago White Sox in the top of the third inning" across the rear of your paper. The flood came suddenly and destroyed our house," she said. "I don't remember how we got out of our house but when we did I could see all our neighbors swimming through the water."

More than 600 rescuers have been using earthmovers and their bare hands to dig through mud and debris after the *deluge*, which washed away people, cars, trees and entire buildings. Local radio stations reported that more than 200 homes and area highways in the town of 300,000 were destroyed by the floods.

The United Nations has released food aid for 10,000 people, and other agencies have provided blankets, clean water and other supplies. Some flood victims were sheltered in schools, while others remained where their former houses once stood, U.N. officials said.

Torrential rains in April 2005 caused massive flooding in parts of eastern Ethiopia, killing more than 150 people and leaving thousands homeless. Flooding killed 32 people in Dire Dawa in May 2005.

Ethiopia is one of the world's poorest nations, with an average per *capita* income of just \$100 a year. Besides flooding, the country suffers from chronic food shortages affecting as many as 5 million people annually.

1. In simplest form, as a ratio express the number of those deemed homeless in relation to those presumed missing.
2. In a complete sentence(s), explain precisely what took place in Ethiopia and the projected impact this may possess upon the nation and its residents.
3. Assuming an average of four people lived in each of the destroyed homes, roughly how many would be displaced?
4. What is the *approximate* percent of change between those killed in April 2005 in correlation to those who perished in this current tragedy? NOTE: Indicate if it was an increase or decrease.
5. Amongst those receiving aid from the United Nations, pretend 2,714 are children (1,234 boys and 1,480 girls), 4,689 women, and the remainder men. How many more are *not* of the opposite of the male gender? NOTE: Read this question carefully.
6. Using contextual clues only, explain the meaning of the italicized words: *torrential*, *severed*, *deluge*.
7. In a traditional non leap year, chronic food shortages affect how many people per day?
8. The per capita income for a group of people may be defined as their total personal income, divided by the total population. In 2005, Georgia had a per capita income of approximately 31,121 whereas the United States was 34,586. (*Source*: U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis). In a complete sentence, contrast these figures with the data given for Ethiopia.
9. In paragraph form, explain five legitimate and educational purposes behind The Daughtry Times.