

Don't run away from a tsunami, but evacuate by floating

Mitsumasa Etoh (Associate Professor, Shobi University)

In order to survive a tsunami, it is best way to run away. This is Japan's way of thinking. Currently, 26% of Japanese are over 65 years old. The speed of a tsunami is 30km/h. This is the same as athletes who run 100 meters in 12 seconds. The speed of a tsunami is so fast that we can't run away.

When a big earthquake strikes, roads liquefy, cracks occur, and there is much rubble on the road. The roads are crowded with people who are running away from the tsunami. A big earthquake is greatly different from an evacuation drill. In a real disaster, an old people can't run away. I think that we need evacuation methods other than "running".

We have customized a ship's evacuation boat, the float designed for helicopters of the Self Defense Force, and the float for escaping from the fighter plane. My suggestion is to save lives by floating on the tsunami.