



For the information of future generations...

Philippines warns of 'explosive eruption' after Taal Volcano spews ash near Manila

Manila, Philippines (CNN) Philippine authorities have urged a "total evacuation" of nearly a million people near the capital Manila, after a volcano spewed ash up to nine miles (14 kilometers) into the air Sunday prompting warnings of a possible "explosive eruption."

The Taal Volcano, about 37 miles (60 kilometers) south of the capital Manila on the island of Luzon, is one of the country's most active. Images from the scene on Monday showed streams of lava beginning to gush out the volcanic vent, the sky above still thick and dark with ash and steam.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) has raised the alert level to four, meaning an "explosive eruption" could happen in the coming hours or days. Its highest alert level is five, indicating an eruption is taking place.



The volcano...beautiful but dangerous

People watch plumes of smoke and ash rise from Taal Volcano on January 12, 2020, in Tagaytay outside Manila, Philippines.

In explosive eruptions, magma is fragmented and violently expelled from the volcano—think of a soda can after being shaken—as opposed to thick lava oozing out.

Taal Volcano isn't actually very big -- but it's considered among the world's most dangerous, owing to the number of people that live in its immediate vicinity, said Erik Klemetti, a volcanologist at Denison University.

There are two zones of concern around the volcano, according to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). Around 459,000 people reside within a danger zone with a 14-kilometer (8.7 miles) radius around the volcano, according to a map by the agency, while more than 930,000 people live in a wider 17-kilometer (10.5 miles) danger zone.

PHIVOLCS has urged a "total evacuation" of everyone within the 17-kilometer radius around the volcano.

As of Monday, more than 25,000 people had sought shelter in temporary evacuation centers set up by the authorities. The total number of evacuees is likely to be higher, however, with many people choosing to stay with family members and relatives in other parts of the country.



Federal authorities are helping the response and evacuation operation. The army sent 20 military vehicles and 120 personnel to help affected residents, and the secretary of national defense said helicopters were on standby to evacuate people.

The defense secretary also urged residents near the eruption to evacuate, and not to hesitate in leaving their homes. Aid organizations like the Red Cross are assisting on the ground by sending rescue vehicles and supplies.

Classes on all levels have been suspended in many areas, including Metro-Manila.

In SPU Manila, classes had been suspended since last week.

ANNOUNCEMENT

There will be **NO CLASSES AND OFFICE OPERATIONS** on the following dates:

January 9, 2020 (Thursday)
TRASLACION 2020

JANUARY 10-11, 2020 (Friday and Saturday)
Retreat of all SPU Manila Employees

Share. Perform. Unite. Make it happen!

www.facebook.com/spumanila | [@officialSPUM](https://twitter.com/officialSPUM) | www.spumanila.edu.ph
102 832-5697 | 680 Pedro Gil St., Malate, Manila, 1004, Philippines



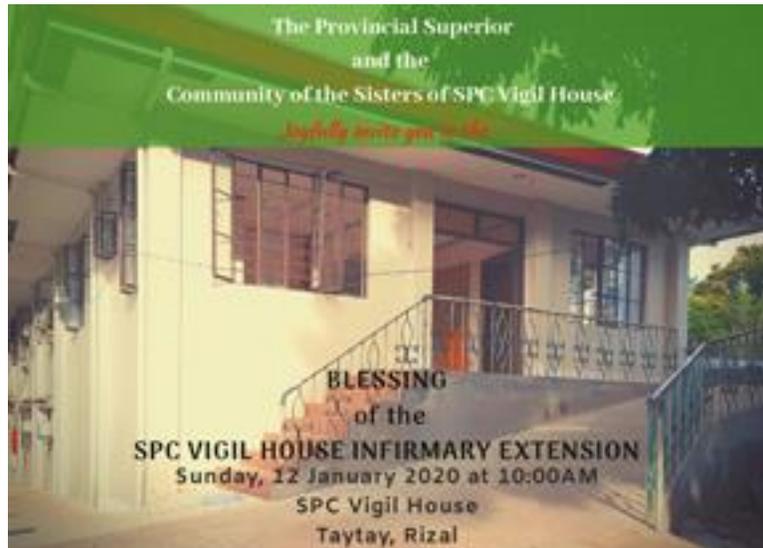
Classes and office operations were at a standstill in the university since last week and are expected to remain closed until tomorrow, 14 January 2020 due to the Taal Volcano activity.

LAST WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

INSTITUTIONAL RETREAT
Alfonso Center for Renewal
10-11 January 2020



BLESSING OF VIGIL HOUSE INFIRMARY ANNEX
12 January 2020



SPMAFI AND 2020 JUBILARIANS FINAL MEETING
Meeting Room
7 January 2020

