



## **Tsunamis that have affected Istanbul coasts**

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Turkey is a country prone to earthquakes. Historical information has documented many tsunamis related to earthquakes that have occurred near and on the Turkish coastline. Most of the tsunamis that have been documented have occurred in the Marmara Sea, and have affected the bay of Izmit, the coasts of Istanbul, the bay of Gemlik, the Kapı dağ peninsula and the coasts of Gelibolu. The earthquakes on which detailed information has been obtained are those on 24 August 358, 6 November 447, 25 September 478, 26 October 740, 25-26 October 989, 18 October 1343, 18 December 1419, 10 September 1509, 2 September 1754, 22 May 1766, 21 August 1859, 19 April 1878, 10 July 1894, 9 August 1912 and 18 September 1963. The 17 August 1999 earthquake is also known to have caused a tsunami in the bay of Izmit. Some of these earthquakes have generated tsunamis which have also affected the Strait and southern coasts of Istanbul.

To understand and determine the tsunami potential and their possible effects to Marmara and Istanbul coasts, detailed studies are needed on past tsunami-related earthquakes and other earthquakes whose tsunami-related effects are presently unknown. These studies include gathering appropriate historical data, studying the traces of tsunamis on the mentioned coastlines, mapping out the underwater topography in detail, determining the active faults and underwater landslides and modelling. Multidisciplinary studies on the aforementioned areas should be among the primary objectives.