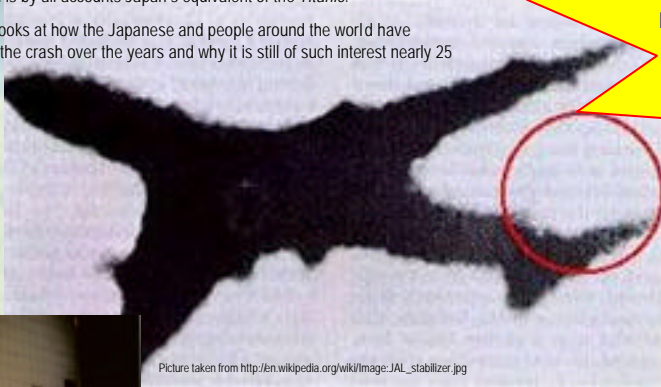


Background

At 18:56 on 12 August 1985 Japan Airlines flight JL123 crashed in mountains north-west of Tokyo some 32 minutes after its tail blew off and all hydraulics were lost. Of 524 crew and passengers on board, only 4 were found alive when rescue teams reached the site about 12 hours later. To this day it remains the world's worst single plane crash. It is continues to have a special place in the memories of many Japanese and is by all accounts Japan's equivalent of the *Titanic*.

My research looks at how the Japanese and people around the world have responded to the crash over the years and why it is still of such interest nearly 25 years later.



Picture taken from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Image:JAL_stabilizer.jpg



Picture courtesy of Peter Mathews

Psychology and Religion

- How do people in different cultures deal with death – both with their own impending death and that of other's?
- What training should companies provide employees to help them to look after families of victims and deal with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder?
- Why do some people choose not believe official verdicts on the causes of major accidents?
- Why are conspiracy theories so popular?
- Why do people seemingly like to link themselves to major disasters by personalizing it to someone they know being directly impacted?
- Why do some people remember where they were when a particular incident occurred?
- Why do some incidents have greater long term impact on a general population than others?

Literature, Communication & Popular Culture

- Why do people continue to write about accidents many years after?
- What to look for in reading articles by victims' relatives about the crash
- Why do some incidents get turned into films & stories, but others do not?
- Why are certain types of disaster films popular?
- Why are there so many internet sites dedicated to such accidents?
- Why do people discuss it on blogs – what is the role of blogs?
- Why post videos on YouTube and who watches them?

Flight JL123: SOS

Looking for collaboration to help answer the following questions ...

Research Methods

- How can we be sure that an online survey is accurate?
- How to interview people about death of loved ones?

Management & Culture

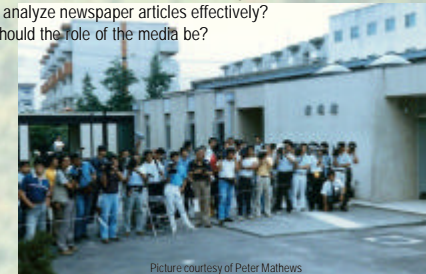
- How do management systems and cultural attitudes to authority vary across cultures?
- What is their impact?
- What is the significance of shame and guilt in different cultures?

Politics

- What should a government be doing after a major accident?
- Who is responsible for poor rescue measures? What should happen as a result?

Journalism

- How do the media cover incidents like this in different countries?
- How to assess international media coverage of the crash?
- How to analyze newspaper articles effectively?
- What should the role of the media be?



Picture courtesy of Peter Mathews

For further information or to help answer these questions, please contact:

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