

calamity

[kə'ləmɪti] *n*

1) бедствие; беда; большое несчастье, катастрофа

national calamity - национальное бедствие

to avert a calamity - предотвратить беду /несчастье/

to suffer a calamity - пережить несчастье

calamity is man's (true) touchstone - ≅ человек познаётся в беде

2) горе, скорбь; отчаяние

◇ calamity Jane /howler, prophet/ - *амер.* а) пессимист; паникёр; б) демагог, играющий на трудностях

calamity issue - *амер.* острый вопрос; вопрос, который опасно ставить /поднимать/

calamity

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

ca·lam·ity [**calamity calamities**] *BrE* [kə'ləmɪti] ^ˈ *NAmE* [kə'ləmɪti] ^ˈ **noun**

countable, uncountable (pl. **ca·lam·ities**)

an event that causes great damage to people's lives, property, etc.

Syn: ↑disaster

- Sudan suffered a series of calamities during the 1980s.
- His financial help saved the magazine from total calamity.

Word Origin:

late Middle English (in the sense 'disaster,' and 'distress'): from Old French **calamite**, from Latin **calamitas**.

calamity

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

calamity /kə'ləmɪti, kə'ləmɪti/ *BrE* ^ˈ *AmE* ^ˈ **noun** (plural **calamities**) [**countable**]

[**Date:** 1300-1400; **Language:** Old French; **Origin:** calamité, from Latin calamitas]

a terrible and unexpected event that causes a lot of damage or suffering **SYN disaster**:

* It will be a calamity for farmers if the crops fail again.

—**calamitous** *adjective*

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calamities 262

calamitous 188

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