JDR Award for the Most Downloaded Article 2023:

Message from the Winner

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It is my honor to be awarded for the Most Downloaded Article 2023 by the *Journal of Disaster Research*. I would like to express my deep gratitude to the other two authors and to all the people who have cooperated with our research by giving their advice and comments.

Stampede incidents have occurred frequently in recent years, and how to prevent injuries and deaths in the crowds has become an important issue. We based the article we wrote on the lessons learned from stampede incidents in the past, verifying the significant factors involved in stampede incidents and the relationship between the crowds and spatial aspects through simulated case studies. We found in our research that knowing how to provide spatial and event planning for the safety of the crowds in the evacuation events would be necessary. In urban areas of Taiwan, there are large events in venues such as the Taipei Dome. We put our effort into continuing to discuss the application of evacuating planning, not only in terms of safety exits and evacuation routes but also suitable spatial design and management for the crowds in the buildings or areas in several situations, such as earthquakes or fires.

The number of times this paper has been downloaded since its publication four years ago shows us its practicality for both the academic and non-academic communities. We would like to express our appreciation to the people who read and supported this paper around the world; they provide a driving force that pushes us to continue to do research. We hope the JDR continues to be an important academic platform for the exchange of cutting-edge disaster research.

Pei-Chun Shao
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