

Leaders in drive for lightning arrestors, Uganda

<http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/Leaders-in-drive-for-lightning-arrestors/688334-2400768-p2e10ez/index.html>

By Zadock Amanyisa Posted Tuesday, July 29 2014 at 01:00

Bushenyi

Leaders in Bushenyi have launched a campaign for installing lightning arrestors to protect lives and property following recent incidents where lightning struck two schools in the district.

Eight pupils of Buramba Primary School in Bushenyi-Ishaka Municipality were killed by lightning, 17 others and a teacher injured last week. Early this month, lightning struck Bunyarigi Primary School in the Bushenyi Municipality injuring six pupils.

The drive, dubbed 'Lightning Arrestors Campaign' was launched on Friday at Buramba during the requiem service for the deceased. The LC5 chairperson, Mr Willis Bashaasha, appealed to the leaders to "wake up" and start forging ways of helping people because they are voted and appointed to serve people, protect their lives and property.

Urged to act "We cannot sit and wait for the government to give us everything. We are the government," Mr Bashaasha said. The campaign kicked off with a fundraising where Shs2 million was collected to buy an arrestor for Buramba Primary School.

Mr Bashaasha said the drive will continue until all public places install lightning arrestors. Bushenyi-Ishaka MP Odo Tayebwa said the Ministry of Disaster Preparedness would help families that lost their children.

Presiding over the requiem service, the Rt Rev. Yona Mwesigwa Katoneene, the Bishop of West Ankole Diocese, said the public should repent of negligence and look for aggressive ways to avoid such tragedies. He pledged spiritual and financial support to the campaign.

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