**Two struck dead by lightning, two lynched for theft in Kakamega [Kenya]**

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Two people died on the spot after they were struck by lightning in two separate incidents following a heavy downpour in Kakamega County.

In the first incident Rosemary Muramba, a 62-year-old died on the spot after she was struck at Ingusi village in Mumias West Sub County. The mother of seven was reportedly walking to the kitchen from her main house on Thursday evening to prepare a meal when tragedy struck. “It was around 7 pm and my wife was headed to the kitchen to prepare supper when the lightning struck her. We discovered her lifeless body moments later,” said Jackson Muramba, the deceased’s husband. The body was moved to Butere Funeral Home. Sara Karoye, Eshikalame area Assistant Chief urged residents to handle themselves with care during the rainy season as the place is prone to lightning strikes. "We have witnessed incidents in the past where lightning has struck many trees around here and even people particularly during a heavy downpour," she said.

The second incident occurred at Lukhapa village in Navakholo sub-county where a class six pupil at Sirigoi Primary School was struck as she was fetching rainwater. Sharon Misenya, 14, died on spot in the 7 pm incident. "We had a heavy thunder before the lighting struck killing my daughter and also hitting many trees around," said her father Bernard Okutoto. He said the daughter thought it wise to collect rainwater oblivious of the lurking danger.

Residents in the area have called on the government to erect lightning arrestors to avert similar incidents.