**LIGHTNING STRIKE KILLS TWO [Zambia]**

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Two children have died in Kakomo area in Kaputa district after being struck by lightning.

The female children aged 10 years and 1 year six months respectively met their fate on Wednesday evening after the area experienced a heavy down pour with strong thunder and lightning.

Father to one of the deceased girls, Davies Mwansa told ZANIS in Kaputa yesterday that the lightning also burnt his house and left two women injured. Mr Mwansa, who was not around the time the incident was happening, said five people were in the house at the time of the incident.

He explained that his one year six months daughter died and his wife was injured from the lightning while two other daughters escaped with minor injuries. He added the other 10 year old girl who died from the lightning was a neighbor’s child who was seeking shelter from the rains at the time the lightning struck his house.

And Kaputa District Commissioner, Mulenga Fube who went to the funeral house yesterday has expressed regret at the loss of two lives. Mr Fube said it was sad that the two children had died from the incident. The Commissioner has since offered his condolences to the families of the deceased children.

And Kaputa Town Council Chairperson, Simon Kapisha who accompanied the District Commissioner to the funeral house also offered his condolences to the bereaved families.

Meanwhile, the condition of the women who were injured during the incident is said to be stable and are likely to be discharged soon.