**Triple tragedy as three family members, including two children, killed by lightning – South Africa**

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24 March 2022

https://www.news24.com/witness/news/kzn/triple-tragedy-as-three-family-members-including-two-children-killed-by-lightning-20220324

Three members of the Mzobe family in KZN were killed after lightning struck their home.

PHOTO: File, iStock

Three family members of the Mzobe family in Ofafa, in the uBuhlebezwe Local Municipality near Ixopo, were killed after they were struck by lightning on Wednesday afternoon.

KZN MEC for Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Sipho Hlomuka, said the province continues to experience inclement weather conditions that pose a danger to human life.

Hlomuka said the reports received by the department indicate that a 69-year-old woman and two children, aged 10 and 13, were killed instantly when lightning struck their home in the afternoon.

One other person was injured in the incident and rushed to hospital for treatment.

“We wish to express our sincere condolences to the family of the victims.

“We have assigned disaster management teams to provide the necessary support to the affected family,” said Hlomuka.

The MEC said the inclement weather conditions that were experienced in parts of the province on Wednesday uprooted trees and damaged both public and private infrastructure.

He said disaster management teams continue to assess the extent of the damage in the affected areas.

“We continue to plead with our communities to exercise all caution whenever a weather warning is issued by the South African Weather Service. These warnings provide crucial information which can help to save lives,” he said.