**Kogi community suspects spiritual connotation as lightning strikes two dead [Nigeria]**

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Two persons were over the weekend killed by lightning during a heavy downpour in Odda quarters in Ayetoro Gbedde, Ijumu Local Government Area of Kogi State.

The two deceased were: Wale Ayeku, a middle-aged man and Joseph fondly called J-Boy.

DAILY POST gathered that the deceased persons were both taking shelter at a local “game-joint” not too far from where both of them resides when they met their untimely death.

Eyewitnesses said they were nine of them under a tree, where young people usually meet to play “snooker game” during evenings.

“When the rain started, we were all happy because we have had scarcity of rain this year, but the thunder and lightning that accompanied the rain scared everyone.

“It was not quite long after the rain started that we heard loud screams and wailing which compelled people to scamper for safety.

“In the midst of that confusion, we discovered that the nine victims were struck down by the lightning, while seven other persons survived with injuries.

“It was a sorry sight but we managed to render assistance by taking one of them (Wale) to a nearby hospital for medical attention, which was however too late because he was already dead.”

It was also gathered that members of the community believe there’s a spiritual angle to the tragic event, which they hope to know in seven days time, according to the Sango priest.

When contacted, the traditional ruler, The Olu of Ayetoro Gbedde, HRM Sunday Ehindero confirmed the incident.

He added that the council reported the incident to the police, and officers were quickly deployed to the area.