

Kenya: Six Pupils Injured By Lightning



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By Emojong Osere

SIX pupils have been injured after lightning struck a school in Teso North, following a heavy evening down pour.

The six are standard five pupils at Kolanya Girls' Primary School.

The school's authorities on Tuesday said the lightning struck a tree within the school's compound sending intense heat and shock waves across nearby classes.

The injured girls were studying in a class near the tree that was struck, said teacher Elna Omaset.

The pupils were treated at Malakisi Health Centre.

All the six girls were in a stable condition, Omaset said.

The school head teacher Miriam Osiya said the incident left the 366 pupils in the school in panic since it is the first occurrence in the girls' boarding school.

She spoke to the Star on the phone on Wednesday.

In April, eight people were seriously injured when lightning struck spectators during a local football match at Kakapel Primary School, Teso North.

Late 2013, three people died following a strike that came shortly after a light afternoon shower at Chamasiri village in Angurai.

Chamasiri is less than five kilometers from Kolanya Girls' Primary School.

In 2009, lightning struck Korisai Primary School, Teso North, killing seven pupils and injuring more than 50 others.