

2 Students Killed By Lightning

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Tragedy hit the St James's Seminary Senior High School (SHS) at Abesim, near Sunyani in the Brong Ahafo Region Tuesday night when two final-year students were struck to death by lightning.

The two, Isaac Osei Kuffour and Shadrack Adofo, both Business students, were in the company of five others who had closed from prep and were heading towards their dormitories when the lightning struck around 10.30 p.m.

The five other students sustained injuries and are currently on admission at the Sunyani Regional Hospital.

When the Daily Graphic visited the school at 9 a.m. yesterday, some of the parents and relatives of the students were seen checking on their children, while the entire student body, in shock as a result of the tragedy, were in the school chapel praying in grief.

They sang hymns to renew their faith in God and in memory of their departed mates and consoled one another.

When the song, "God be with you until we meet again", was sung, some of the students were thrown into uncontrollable weeping.

The Rector of the school, Rev Fr Ebow Ansu, who was equally shocked, declined to speak to newsmen, saying he was not ready to grant any interview to the press until the parents of the deceased students had arrived.

He said the school authorities had got in touch with the parents of the deceased and those injured.

The Chapel Prefect of the school, Master Edmund Sackey, who was an eyewitness to the tragedy, told newsmen that the students had closed from their evening prep around 10.30 p.m. on Tuesday when the lightning struck.

He said the seven students, comprising the two deceased and the five injured ones, were on their way to the dormitory when the lightning struck them on the road in front of the school chapel.

As of the time of filing this report, the school authorities had asked the students to go for a one-week break and return to school on Wednesday, June 29, 2011.