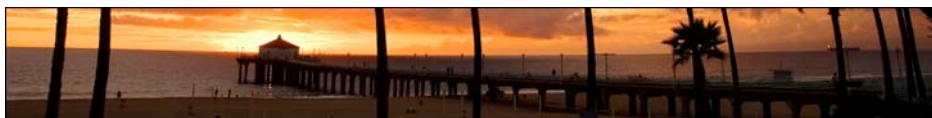


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Nigeria: Lightning Kills 12 Farmers in Gombe

30 June 2011

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Twelve farmers were killed and nine others critically injured when thunder struck in Gelengu village in Balanga local government area of Gombe State during a heavy downpour.

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Malam Umar Ahmed, Nigeria Red Cross

Disaster Coordinator in charge of Gelengu, near Gombe, told Journalists yesterday that the incident occurred on Tuesday at around 1 p.m.

Ahmed said that the victims were on their farms when the rain started, adding that the rains started with a heavy storm, the victims scampered for shelter when the thunder struck.

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He said that some of the victims died in the process while others sustained injuries.

The Red Cross official added that the injured were receiving medical attention at the Primary Health Care Centre in Balanga Local Government of the state.

"They were running for shelter because of the intensity of the rainfall when thunder struck them. When the incident occurred, my men were alerted and they moved to provide humanitarian services.

"So far, we have recovered 12 corpses and nine persons are on admission at the hospital in Balanga", Ahmed said. (NAN)

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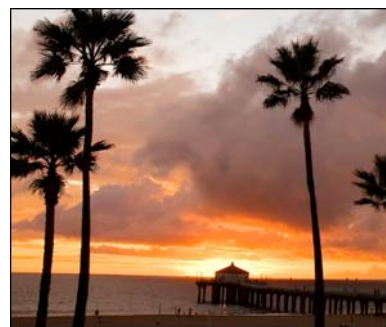
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