

Thunderstorm ‘kills’ three suspected kidnappers in Kwara

By **Odun Edward, Ilorin**

13 July 2023 | 3:32 am



[FILES] Thunderstorms

Three suspected kidnappers were, yesterday, killed by a thunderstorm in Oro Ago community, in Ifelodun Local Council of Kwara state.

The Guardian learnt that the incident happened three days ago and was linked to the efforts of a local vigilante team in the Igbomina, Kwara axis, aimed at checking security challenges in the area.

Igbomina is a Yoruba settlement noted for its industry prowess.

In a viral video of the incident, it was gathered that the victims of the thunderstorm were suspected members of an eight-man kidnap gang, who reportedly operated in Iwo, Osun State about two weeks ago.

The one-minute-13-seconds video clip showed decomposing bodies of three young persons, presumably in their 20s, already burnt beyond recognition in a bush, with flies all over the scene.

The voice in the short video clip said: “We’re members of the vigilance team in Igbomina Kwara. Our efforts against those perpetrating evil and kidnapping people in our area had yielded fruits. Thunderstorm struck them dead, three of them.

“God will continue to make us successful against the evildoers. We shall overcome them all by the grace of God. Thank you all.”

Also, another video clip showed some herders alleged to be relatives of the victims of the thunderstorm, in a bush, bemoaning their loss. They ascribed the incident to an act of God that

cannot be questioned by anyone, saying that thunderstorms are from God and can never be man-made.

A source among Oro-Ago Development Union (ODU), a socio-cultural organisation of natives of the area, who confirmed the incident, said members of the vigilante team in the area briefed the organisation on the development.

Speaking on the incident, the state's Police Commissioner, Ebunoluwarotimi Adelesi, said that the Command and its men had already commenced investigation on the development.

The police boss said veracity of the incident would be ascertained after diligent investigation.