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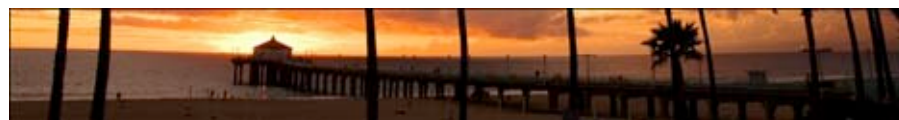
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Daily Independent (Lagos)

Nigeria: How Lightening Killed Two Wives, Children in Bauchi

Patience Ogbodo

12 July 2011

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Bauchi — This is not the best of times for Mallam Saidu Bello, a resident of Soro town, Ganjuwa Local Government Area of Bauchi State. This is because the man only recently lost his two wives and children; they were killed by lightening.

The tragic incident, which occurred in Soro on Tuesday June 28, has thrown residents of the area into mourning as they are yet to recover from the shock of losing four members of a family in one day.

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Before the incident, the deceased Zulaila and Harziya and their four months old Abubukar and two-year-old Umar were full of life. Of course, none of them had any inkling that the cold hands of death were knocking at their door.

Speaking to Daily Independent, Mallam Saidu Bello said he was at his workshop where he operates grinding

machine in the town when he received the sad news.

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He narrated: "Immediately I heard the news, I rushed home. And then I saw my family laid out. I saw the corpses of my two wives and their two children; I fainted and did not wake up till after they were buried."

Bello, a father of 11 children, said that as a Muslim he gives thanks to the Almighty who gave him everything and life including his departed members of his families. Bilkisu Yusuf, an eye witness account, giving details of the sad occurrence, said that the women and children were in the compound outside their rooms sieving millet when it started raining. She said she later left the two women who continued with their sieving under two date palm trees inside the compound.

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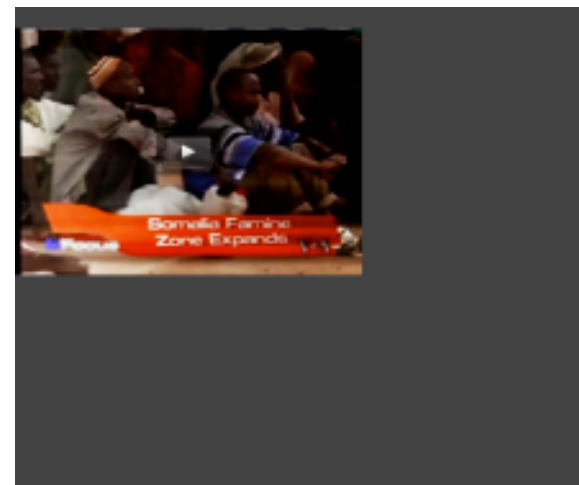
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