

# Thunderstorm kills three, injures four in Imo

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| Map of Imo State

Heavy thunderstorms in Obidi, Agwa, in the Oguta Local Government Area of Imo State, on Tuesday evening, killed no fewer than three people and left four injured.

Tension particularly enveloped the entire community over the incident as most of the indigenes said the thunderstorm seemed mysterious as it was not accompanied by heavy downpour.

An elder in the village, Mr Nze Ike, who affirmed the incident, said four people were currently battling for their lives at the hospital following the impact the thunderstorm had on them.

According to him, the thunderstorm was accompanied by a slight rainfall.

Nze said, “It was just a little rain in the community on Tuesday, but the impact of the thunderstorm hit three people, and they died instantly. As I speak with you, four people are still in the hospital.

“The thunder struck a heavy tree where people normally took shade and affected almost all the people underneath it taking shade.

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“Our community was alleged to have killed the traditional ruler some time back. Some people are scared it may have been a sign of sacrilege because we have not seen anything like this before.”

Nze said some parents have called their children to suspend any trip home till the ill wind blows away.

A community leader in Agwa, Mr Collins Ughalla, described that incident as a big tragedy.

“We’re still mourning. The last time this occurred was in the 1980s. May the Lord rest their souls,” Ughalla said.

Efforts to get the Police Public Relations Officer in the state, Henry Okoye, proved abortive as his phone number did not connect.