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# Lightning kills three in Ebonyi

Uchenna Inya  
ABAKALIKI

**L**ightning has killed three people in Afikpo in Afikpo North Local Government Area of Ebonyi State.

The incident, which occurred at Ngodo community and another community in the ancient town, came after a downpour which lasted for some hours.

The tragedy occurred about 3pm on Friday.

A resident of Afikpo, Iheukwumere Okogwu Otu, told the New Telegraph that one of the victims hailed from Cross River State and had lived in the area for years.

He said: "It is true that thunder (lightning) killed three people in our place. There was heavy rainfall that day which was accompanied by thunder.

"The thunder (lightning) killed the three people. It occurred in two different places. It killed two at the Ngodo commu-

nity and another person in another place. One of those killed was from Cross River State who settled in Afikpo."

Otu described the incident as unfortunate and the first of its kind in the area.

Another man, Eze Christian Egwu, told our correspondent that the downpour, which started about 10am, was so serious that the residents couldn't go out for the day's business.

## Five held for

Olufemi Adediran  
ABEOKUTA

**P**olice in Ogun State have arrested five suspected kidnappers for allegedly abducting an eight-year-old boy, Sadiq Abass.

The suspects reportedly abducted the boy at his residence at Ogere in Ikenne Local Government Area of the state and demanded N3.5 million ransom from