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## **Investigation of Lightning Mass Casualty Incident at Mongoyo School, Uganda**

### **Authors**

Dr. MaryAnn Cooper - African Centres for Lightning and Electromagnetics Network

Mr. Richard Tushemereirwe - Executive Committee, ACLENet

### **Abstract**

On October 24, 2018, Mongoyo School in northern Uganda was struck by lightning. Three children were killed and 72 to 76 children reported injured, depending on the news account, such as in the following two reports:

<https://chimpreports.com/3-dead-after-lightning-struck-primary-school-in-yumbe-district/>

and

<https://www.premiumtimesng.com/foreign/africa/288405-lightning-kills-3-children-injures-72-others-in-uganda.html>.

A questionnaire to guide interviews with the families and examinations of the children was constructed using the format previously reported by Carte, Anderson, Cooper (2002). A team of nurses was trained, one of which was a lightning survivor herself. The interviews and examinations were conducted on 8 through 12 November 2019, approximately one year after the incident.

It was confirmed that three children were killed, 73 others injured and twenty remain out of school to date because of opinions formed by many communities in Africa after a lightning incident. Locations of burns and other injuries were documented and longer-term problems such as weakness or chronic pain were cataloged.

### **Topic Areas**

Lightning Safety, Protection, and Casualty Occurrence

### **Submission Format**

Oral