

# 3 poly students killed in clash with NURTW over bus fare

From John Adams, Minna

**THERE** was pandemonium in Bida, Niger State, Saturday evening, when students of the Federal Polytechnic, Bida, and some youths clashed, leading to the death of three students, while several others injured.

A lecturer of the institution was

beaten to stupor and hospitalised at the Federal Medical Centre, Bida.

Trouble started when some students allegedly attacked the driver of a commercial bus they had boarded from Minna for refusing to take them to the campus as earlier agreed.

The students claimed they boarded the vehicle from Minna with an agreement

with the driver to drop them on the polytechnic campus because of their luggage.

But on getting to Bida, the driver reneged on the agreement and dropped them at the motor park, claiming that the students did not pay him extra money to take them to the campus.

This did not go down well with stu-

dents and they attacked the driver but they were outnumbered and overpowered by members of the National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW) in the park.

The students went to the campus and mobilised their colleagues for revenge; on their way, they attacked a lecturer who wanted to intervene in the matter and beat him to a pulp.

It was at this point that some youths in the town engaged the students in a fight, which led to the killing of three students and a number of other student sustaining injuries.

Public relations officer of the institution, Hussein Enagi, confirmed the incident, saying the students returned to campus, regrouped in large numbers and went back to town for a reprisal attack.

According to him, "Our students said they were cheated by a driver and all means to lay their complaints were not entertained, rather, they were beaten up when they went with some SUG officials, majority

## Trial of Boko Haram suspects: AI commends FG

From Aidoghie Paulinus, Abuja

**AMNESTY** International (AI) Nigeria, has hailed the Federal Government over the trial of suspected Boko Haram terrorists.

Minister of Information and Culture, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, in a statement by his special assistant, Segun Adeyemi, said AI described the ongoing trial as "good progress for the justice sector."

The commendation, according to Mohammed, was contained in a letter addressed to Minister of Justice and Attorney-General of the Federation

Abubakar Malami, SAN, by Osai Ojigbo, country director, AI Nigeria, a copy of which was made available to the office of the minister of information and culture.

AI Nigeria's manager, media and communications, Isa Sanusi, who spoke with *Daily Sun*, confirmed the development.

Sanusi said, "We wrote to them twice; when they did the first trial and when they did the second, commending them for the trial."

According to Mohammed, "Amnesty International Nigeria said its delegates who were invited to observe the proceedings at the third phase of the trial

at Wawa Military Cantonment, Kainji, New Bussa, Niger State, 8 to 11 July, 2018, 'were treated with respect and decorum.'"

"Amnesty International has repeatedly and unequivocally condemned the attacks by members of Boko Haram. We have repeatedly urged the Nigerian government to conduct thorough and independent investigations into alleged human rights violations and abuses, with a view to bringing suspected perpetrators to justice in a fair trial without recourse to the death penalty, and this indeed is a good progress for the justice sector," AI said in the statement.