

Gunmen reply Niger gov, attack his local govt, kill 3, abduct 28

From **John Adams** In Minna

BARELY 24 hours after Niger State governor, Alh. Abubakar Sani Bello, asked security agents to launch a full-scale war against gunmen in the state after the killing of 37 people in Nakunda and Wurukuchi in Shiroro Local Government last week, the gunmen have replied him with major attacks on some communities in Kontagora and Mashegun LGAs of the state, killing three and abducting 28 others.

The governor, while reacting to the killings last week, said it was time to launch a major offensive against terrorists in the state, describing the massacre of 37 villagers as insane and barbaric.

The latest attacks occurred in Farin-Shinge in Kontagora LGA, the governor's LGA, and Kulho, Jigawa, Dogo Fadama communities in Mashegun LGA.

The gunmen were said to have carried out the onslaught on the communities between Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.

According to our source, in Farin-Shinge community, a few kilometers from Kontagora, the headquarters of Kontagora LGA, gunmen struck at about 1.45 pm when the people were about to observe

the jummaat (Friday prayers) and abducted eight people as the worshippers scramble for safety.

Vice-chairman of Kontagora LGA, Mr. Aliyu Makiga, who confirmed the attack in Farin Shinge, said that gunmen came through the Tegna route in their large numbers, adding that the security op-

eratives tried to foil the attack, but met a stiff resistance from the well equipped gunmen.

According to him: "They kidnapped a lot of people, but some were set free when their motorcycles could not carry all of them and others are still with them.

"They are demanding a ransom of seven numbers 50 litres

jerry can of petrol, milk and other drinks, including provisions. They are yet to make any monetary demand," he said.

Also, another group of gunmen attacked Jigawa, Dogo Fadama and surrounding communities, killing two people, while four others were abducted.

(Continued on www.sunnewsonline)

Appeal Court dismisses FUNAAB's plagiarism case again

From **Laide Raheem**, Abeokuta

AN Appeal Court in the Lagos Judicial Division has dismissed a case of plagiarism filed by the Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta (FUNAAB), against Dr. Janet Bamgbose and Mr. Akeem Bamigbade, who were lecturers of the institution.

Bamgbose and Bamigbade, who were associate professor and assistant lecturer, respectively, had approached a lower court seeking justice on claims that their appointments were wrongfully terminated on the allegation of plagiarism.

They contended that they were not accorded fair hearing in the course of appearing before the investigation panel and, subsequently, the Governing Council of the institution.

The lecturers said the decision by the university to terminate their appointments was malicious, arguing that the appellant did not comply with the provision of Section 18 (3) of the Federal University of Agriculture Act (Cap 22), Laws of the Federation of Nigeria, 2004, in constituting the Staff Disciplinary Com-

mittee that tried their matter.

They had appealed to the institution to reconsider its decision after they had been served with letters of termination, while the institution failed to respond to their pleas.

Some of the reliefs sought by Bamgbose and Bamigbade at the lower court were a declaration that their termination

Keren: Hold Premiere Academy accountable for our safe

From **Juliana Taiwo-Obalonye**, Abuja

MOTHER of Keren-Happuch Aondodo Akpagher, the 14-year-old boarding house student of Premiere Academy, Lugbe, Abuja, who died of health complications as a result of alleged rape, Mrs. Vivien Vihinga Akpagher, and leader of the Coalition of Gender-Based Violence Responders, Lemmy Ughegbe, have raised the alarm over harassment by the

school for their outcry that the rapist be brought to justice.

In a statement jointly signed by the duo, they said the desperation shown by the school was of concern to them as they now fear for their lives and their family members.

They have, therefore, asked Nigerians to hold Premiere Academy accountable for their whereabouts and safety, even as they pleaded with the Inspector-General of Police to provide