

# Insecurity: Bandits Kill 3 miners in Niger, 3 drown escaping attack

From **John Adams,**  
Minna

**BANDITS** have continued their onslaught on Communities in Niger State for the second day running with the latest attack on miners at Damidami Village in Munya Local Government Area of the state, killing three of them.

The bandits were said to have swopped on the mining site, located about 20 kilometers from Kuchi Town, on Wednesday afternoon, after bandits were repelled from attacking Kuchi town by men of the state Joint Security Task Force (JTF).

Three others were said to have been drowned in River Shiro, while they were trying to escape from the bandits, but 63 of them, eventually escaped to safety, and are currently taking refuge at Zumba town.

According to a source close to Zumba community, the miners had migrated from Plateau state, and settled at Kuchi, but would always go to Damidami village for their mining activities.

One of the Miners, who escaped to Zumba, told our

Correspondent on phone that the bandits numbering about 100 invaded the site, and demanded among other things, money, handset, gold, but when they were not satisfied with what they got, they shot three people, who were not ready to cooperate with them.

"Many of us ran into the bush when we saw them coming on motorcycles, and shooting into the air to instill

fear in us. Some were able to escaped to the river side, while many were surrounded by the bandits.

"They demanded for money, handset, and gold from us. They collected everything from us.

"Those who were shot did not have anything to give to them. Our attackers are Fulani, but majority of them are not Nigerians, because they

are carrying long hairs. They were also speaking other languages that we do not understand", he narrated.

Meanwhile, the bodies of the miners who drown in the river, had been recovered with the help of local divers from Zumba, who had been searching for the missing ones since the incident occurred yesterday.

## Alleged N5bn fraud: ICPC re-arrests Ojerinde at court premises

**THE** Independent Corrupt Practices and other related offences Commission (ICPC), on yesterday, re-arrested Mr. Dibu Ojerinde, former Registrar, Joint Admissions and Matriculation Board (JAMB).

The operatives of ICPC made the arrest shortly after today's hearing before Justice Obiora Ekwuatu of a Federal High Court (FHC) in Abuja, where the professor has been standing trial on an 18-count charge, bordering on diversion of public funds to the tune of N5 billion.

Ojerinde, who was be-

ing led out of the court by one of his sons, to the car park, after Justice Ekwuatu, adjourned the trial until February 15, was accosted by the anti-corruption commission's operatives who drove him away in their vehicle.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) however, gathered that the latest arrest cannot be unconnected to the fresh facts emerging from his ongoing trial, and made by the 4th prosecution witness, Mr. Jimoh Olabisi, former Deputy Director of Finance of JAMB.

A reliable source from

the commission informed NAN that a warrant of arrest for his re-arrest was obtained from the FHC Chief Judge, Justice John Tsoho.

NAN reports that the ICPC had, on July 8, 2021, arraigned the former JAMB registrar on an 18-count charge

He was said to have committed the offence during his tenure as registrar of the National Examinations Council (NECO) and JAMB.

Ojerinde, however, pleaded not guilty to all the charges and was later admitted to bail in the sum of N200 million