



# Kano: Police raise alarm over plots to import thugs to disrupt polls

• Warns trouble makers to steer clear or face full wrath of law

By Bashir Bello

**KANO**—THE Kano State Police Command, yesterday, raised the alarm over plots by some disgruntled politicians in the state to import thugs to disrupt Saturday governorship polls.

Commissioner of Police, CP Mamman Dauda who raised the alarm in a statement through the command's spokesperson,

Abdullahi Haruna, warned thugs and other trouble makers to steer clear of the state or face the full wrath of the law.

According to the statement, The Kano State Police Command under the leadership of CP Mamman Dauda has received information that some disgruntled politicians are planning to import thugs to the state with the sole aim of disrupting the forthcoming Gubernatorial / State Assembly

Elections slated for Saturday, 11th March 2023. The Commissioner of Police is warning all thugs, mischief makers and miscreants to steer clear of the state as the Command will not relent in its effort at dealing decisively with troublemakers.

"The command will liaise with other security agencies in the state to ensure the arrest and diligent prosecution of all suspects. The thugs will also be

charged to court alongside their sponsors.

"We want to use this medium to thank the law-abiding citizens and the good people of Kano State for their support during the Presidential / National Assembly Elections as it was conducted peacefully. The CP wants the good people of the State to continue in the same vein for us to record a zero-violence election," SP Haruna however stated.

## Senatorial poll: Suswan goes to court, canvasses vote for PDP guber candidate

By Peter Duru

**MAKURDI**—THE Senator representing Benue North-East Senatorial District, Gabriel Suswan, has called on Benue people to vote massively for the Peoples Democratic Party, PDP, governorship candidate, Mr. Titus Uba in Saturday governorship and State Assembly elections.

The former Governor of the state in a statement yesterday in Makurdi through his Special Adviser on Media and Publicity, Bede Bartholomew, urged his 'supporters and all PDP members in the state to go out massively and campaign vigorously for Uba as well as other candidates of the party to emerge victorious at the polls. Uba has the capacity to take Benue State

to another level of development and deserves to be given the mandate of the people.

According to the statement, Senator Suswan had earlier held a crucial meeting with Governor Samuel Ortom and other leaders of the PDP towards achieving victory for Mr. Uba and other candidates of the party in the elections.

The lawmaker, who also rejected the outcome of the February 25 senatorial election, which he lost to Mr. Emmanuel Udende of the All Progressives Congress, APC, said he was approaching the courts to reclaim his mandate.

The lawmaker insisted that he would not concede defeat because the election was marred by irregularities and discrepancies.

## Benue guber candidates vow to tackle herdsmen killings, insecurity

By Peter Duru

**MAKURDI**—AHEAD of Saturday's gubernatorial poll and state house of assembly polls, candidates of political parties in Benue State have promised to accord priority attention to the lingering insecurity in the state by ending armed herders' incursions if elected.

The candidates made the commitment in Makurdi while featuring on the 2023 Benue Gubernatorial Debate organised by SAVDFUTUR, a non Governmental organisation.

The candidates including Terhemem Tilley-Gyado of the African Democratic Congress, ADC, Dabu Asemayina of Action Alliance, AA, Mede Bemgbator of Social Democratic Party, SDP and Joseph Waya of the All Progressives Grand Alliance, APGA, who individually spoke extensively on their development agenda for the state, noted that no government would make progress without first tackling the security challenges facing

the People.

According to the APGA candidate, "as a government you can achieve nothing if the security of lives and properties is not given the appropriate attention it deserves. So my government will take all necessary steps to end armed herders attacks in our communities to ensure peace in our state."

The same position was adopted by the AA, ADC and SDP candidates who also reiterated their resolve to check the menace of herdsmen killings and drift in the state if elected in the March 11 election.

The candidates who took questions from the live audience and online participants acknowledged the devastating effect of the attacks and killings in the state.

The debate Coordinator, Mr. Kator Inyom, said the platform was created to avail the candidates the opportunity to speak to the people and also take question from them directly on their plans and development agenda for the state and its people.

## ....NNPP, Kano govt bicker over plot to burst gov election

By Abdulmumin Murtala

**KANO**—THE New Nigeria Peoples Party, NNPP, and the Kano State government are accusing each other of plot to disrupt Saturday's governorship election.

While the NNPP accused Governor Abdullahi Ganduje and the state Director of Department of State Services, DSS, Alhassan Muhammad, of planning to disrupt the poll, the state government vowed to check any attempt by NNPP to rig the governorship and state assembly elections in the state.

NNPP in a statement yesterday read by the Senator-elect representing Kano North Senatorial Zone, Dr Baffa Bichi, claimed the party has details of plans by the duo to use hired bandits across the state,

organized delays of sensitive materials and plan to disrupt collation centres.

The party further alleged that there is also plan to compromise Law Enforcement Agencies, engage in massive vote buying and voter intimidation, selective arrest and intimidation of NNPP leaders.

Among others, NNPP said "We are therefore writing to draw the attention of the President Commander-in-Chief and indeed all the authorities concerned to be in full knowledge of these ungodly plans and to take every necessary action to ensure the protection of lives and property, to ensure the peaceful and credible conduct of elections, and to ensure that the brewing crisis in Kano State is averted and Ganduje and his collaborators are not allowed to kill even more innocent citizens because of their desperation to cling to power."

"We are aware that thousands of bandits from Chad and Niger

republics as well as from Katsina and Kaduna states have been hired and brought into Kano State by the Gandujia administration to be used to disrupt the elections. The DSS and the Nigeria Police are aware of this. These bandits, brandishing heavy weapons including guns and machetes, are already in different locations across the 44 local government councils. Nigerian government and indeed all Nigerians should be aware that for any breach of the peace on Election Day, governor Ganduje and his gang including the Kano Director of the DSS (who ought to have retired from the service over a year ago) must be held personally responsible. Law enforcement agents must be proactive in taming this unfortunate menace and averting this senseless disaster that is being planned against the good people of Kano State.

"It is also worthy of note to inform you that Mr. Ganduje has granted pardon to a number of

convicted murderers who were sentenced to death by competent courts of law. Only late last year he commuted the death sentences of these murderers to life imprisonment and last week he granted pardon to all of them. We are raising this, because we are aware that Kano State government has raised a team of government officials to travel to the correctional facilities where these murderers are serving their sentences to collect them, return them to Kano to join the gangs of bandits with the intention of terrorizing the good people of Kano and disrupting the conduct of the March 11, 2023 elections."

Responding, the Kano State government dismissed NNPP's allegations, insisting that it is the opposition party that is planning to rig the Saturday poll, vowing to check any attempt by NNPP to perpetuate any form of electoral fraud.

The government in a statement by the Commissioner for Information and Internal Affairs, Malam Muhammad Garba, said government has received credible information on how thugs will be hired from villages in Kano and beyond to upset the electoral process through violence, massive rigging, box snatching and arson.

Garba recalled that in 2019, the opposition managed a well organised election rigging network, particularly in the metropolitan local governments, where youths, mostly without voter cards, were engaged to perpetrate the act.

The commissioner alleged that this time around, the opposition was planning to bring chaos through the use of thugs to cause mayhem with a view to dispersing voters at polling units in order to have the opportunity to rig the elections and subvert the will of the people.

## CSOs, others kick as Reps Majority Leader, Doguwa, gets bail

By Bashir Bello

**KANO**—A Federal High Court sitting in Kano, yesterday granted bail to the Majority Leader, House of Representatives, Alhassan Doguwa standing trial over alleged complicity in the murder of three members of his constituency.

The police in Kano arrested and charged Mr Doguwa, alongside others, for criminal conspiracy, culpable homicide, unlawful possession of fire arms, mischief and incitement of public disturbance.

Recall that Doguwa was arraigned before a Senior Magistrate court by the Kano State Commissioner of Police and was later remanded in prison till 7th March, 2023.

The Presiding Judge, Justice Yunusa Muhammad granted Doguwa bail following an exparte application for the enforcement of Doguwa's rights by his counsel, Nuraini Jimoh before the court.

Jimoh had prayed the court to

admit the defendant on bail, arguing that his client is presumed to be innocent, pursuant to the provision of section 35 subsection 6 of constitution of Federal of Nigeria (1999 as amended).

Ruling on the application, Justice Muhammad granted the application with N500 and two reliable sureties in like sum.

The Court said the sureties shall be first class emir and any senior officer in civil service.

Justice Muhammad similarly ordered Doguwa to drop his International Passport to Court Registry pending the trial.

The Court also restrained the defendant from going to his Constituents during the Gubernatorial and state House Assembly elections billed to hold on 11th March, 2023.

## CSO, others fume

Meanwhile, Kano State Civil Society Forum and some concerned citizens have kicked against the bail granted to Doguwa by the court.

The Forum's Chairman, Ibrahim Waiya, while briefing newsmen threatened to challenge the matter before International Court of Justice and International Human Right Commission, saying the matter would not be swept under the carpet.

According to him, "this is just the beginning of the case. The matter will not be swept under the carpet as we will follow up to logical conclusion. We will challenge the matter before International Court of Justice and International Human Right Commission for redress."

Earlier, some concerned citizens of Tudun-Wada LGA who got wind of the unfolding development to secure bail for Doguwa had besieged the Federal High Court to protest the move.

The aggrieved citizens were seen displaying placards with inscription such as "We need Justice for T/Wada people", "Public is watching Alhassan Adu Doguwa", "Right to life is constitutional" and "No bail for Alhassan Adu Doguwa," among others.

### BRISCOE

R.T. BRISCOE (NIGERIA) PLC  
(RC 1482)

LAGOS, 3 MARCH 2023

### NOTICE OF DELAY IN THE FILING OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF R.T. BRISCOE (NIGERIA) PLC FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER, 2022 AND THE UNAUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2023

The Board and Management of R.T. Briscoe (Nigeria) PLC ("the Company") hereby inform the Nigerian Exchange Limited ("NGX"), the Company's shareholders and the general public that the filing of the Audited Financial Statements of the Company for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022 ("2022 AFS") would be delayed due to the recent appointment of our new External Auditors and the required referral of the accounts to the Financial Reporting Council of Nigeria for regulatory review.

As a consequence of the provisions of NGX's Listing Rules on filing of quarterly financial statements which preclude the Company from announcing subsequent interim accounts without having first filed its last audited financial statements, the filing of the unaudited financial statements for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 ("2023 Q1 UFS") would also be delayed. We are confident that the 2022 AFS and the 2023 Q1 UFS would be filed at the latest on or before the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2023.

*Sei Onajide*

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