

Nganja Mining Operation Attack: Fatal Assault on Chinese Site in South Kivu (October 2023)

Nganja District, South Kivu, DRC

3.434548°S, 28.486396°E

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Incident Date: 27-31 October 2023

Fatalities: 3

Injured: 5

Victim(s) Profile: Congolese mine workers/personnel, likely working age, likely male (not specified in sources)

Aggressor(s): Unidentified; at least one attacker was Congolese and was killed in the incident; group/organisational affiliation not established

In late October 2023, an attack on a Chinese-operated mining site in Nganja District, South Kivu Province, killed three people and injured five others. All three fatalities were Congolese nationals, including one of the attackers, according to reports circulated on Chinese community WeChat channels and picked up by The China-Global South Project. The attack was the third in a string of assaults on small-scale Chinese mining operations in eastern DRC in autumn 2023, following the 1 September ambush of a TSM Mining convoy near Ngalula and the 9 October attack on a TSM concession at Kachemba, in the Misisi mining area (both documented in companion reports). Due to continuing security concerns, a separate Chinese mining firm that had recently begun operations in Misisi suspended activity and withdrew on 10 October 2023.

The China-Global South Project reported that three people were killed and five injured in an attack on a Chinese mining operation in Nganja District. According to reports circulating on Chinese community WeChat platforms, all of the dead were Congolese, including one of the attackers, indicating the attacking group suffered at least one fatality of its own during the incident. Business & Human Rights Centre's coverage of the same attack described it as the third such incident targeting Chinese mining operations in South Kivu Province within roughly two months, following the September ambush near Ngalula and the October attack at Kachemba/Misisi. In response to the deteriorating security environment, the Chinese embassy in Kinshasa convened a security briefing with local Chinese community groups and businesses, and a separate Chinese mining firm that had recently begun operations in Misisi ceased activity and withdrew its personnel on 10 October 2023.

Neither source reviewed for this report specifies the precise site of the attack within Nganja District, the exact date, or the identity or affiliation of the attackers beyond the detail that at least one was Congolese and was killed. The case file notes that IPIS records this incident as unresolved, consistent with the absence of any follow-up reporting identified in this review naming those responsible or clarifying the exact location or date.



Location of Nganja District within DRC (Article from China Global South)



Locations of a series of attacks in 2023 on Chinese mining facilities and personnel

References

“Three Dead in Newest Attack on Chinese Mine In DRC,” The China-Global South Project, <https://chinaglobalsouth.com/tag/nganja-district/> (accessed via tag archive, 16 July 2026; original article date not independently confirmed).

“DRC: Third attack on Chinese mining companies in South Kivu province in two months lead to several deaths and injuries,” Business & Human Rights Centre, accessed 16 July 2026, <https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/latest-news/drc-third-attack-on-chinese-mining-companies-in-south-kivu-province-in-two-months-lead-to-several-deaths-and-injuries/>.