

# Education in Danger

Monthly News Brief

May 2019

## Attacks on education

The section aligns with the definition of attacks on education used by the Global Coalition to Protect Education under Attack (GCPEA) in [Education under Attack 2018](#).

### Africa

#### Cameroon

**21 May 2019:** In Bamenda town, Mezam region, Ambazonian separatists reportedly killed and dismembered a teacher. No further details specified.

**Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

**24 May 2019:** In Bakweri town, Buea region, three teachers were reportedly abducted by Ambazonian separatists. A ransom was demanded for their release.

**Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

#### Mozambique

**09 May 2019:** In Mocimboa da Praia town, Cabo Delgado province, insurgents from the militia group ASQJ reportedly beheaded a teacher. No further details specified. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

#### Nigeria

**29 April 2019:** In Katari village, Kagarko local government area, Kaduna state, unidentified perpetrators blocking the Kaduna-Abuja Highway abducted the chairman of the Universal Basic Education Commission and his daughter, killing the driver in the process. **Sources:** [Punch](#) and [The Guardian Nigeria](#)

**30 April 2019:** In Abuja, unidentified gunmen broke into the Taraba State University and kidnapped the Deputy Registrar, subsequently calling the brother of the victim to request a ransom. **Source:** [The Guardian Nigeria](#)

### Asia

#### Afghanistan

**13 May 2019:** In Korpeto area, Nahrin district, Baghlan province, a teacher was reportedly killed by unidentified armed militants. No further details specified.

**Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

#### India

**03 May 2019:** In Washbugh neighbourhood, Pulwama town, Pulwama district, Jammu and Kashmir region, suspected militants reportedly threw a grenade at a CRPF party stationed at Central High School. No damage or injuries were reported. **Source:** [ACLED](#)

This monthly digest comprises threats and incidents of violence as well as protests and other events affecting education.

It is prepared by Insecurity Insight and draws on information collected by Insecurity Insight and the [Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack \(GCPEA\)](#) from information available in open sources.

GCPEA provided technical guidance on definitions of attacks on education.

Data from the Education in Danger Monthly News Brief is available on [HDX](#) Insecurity Insight.

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**03 May 2018:** In Nurmathi, G.madugula Mandal, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh state, four high capacity landmines were found and defused near the Nurmathi Armed Outpost close to the hostel of the Tribal Welfare Ashram School for Girls. **Source:** [Times of India](#), [The Hans India](#) and [ANI News](#)

## **Myanmar**

**03 May 2018:** In Kyauk Tan village, Rathedaung township, Rakhine state, the Tatmadaw, Myanmar's Army reportedly opened fire on 275 men and boys who they had temporarily detained in a village school, killing six and wounding eight. **Source:** [UNOHCHR](#)

**09 May 2019:** In Kun Taing village, Buthidaung township, Maungdaw district, Rakhine state, an extremist mob set a public primary school and an Arabic school on fire, as part of a wider assault on properties belonging to members of the Rohingya ethnic group. **Source:** [The Stateless Rohingya](#)

## **Europe**

### **Ukraine**

**06 May 2019:** In Troitske, Luhanska province, shelling and shooting in its vicinity of Troitske school led to damages. Around 30 children were evacuated and the school remained closed for at least 2 days. **Source:** [Ukraine Education Cluster](#)

**08 May 2019:** In Mykhailivka, Luhanska province, eight windows at an unspecified school sustained damages due to gunfire in the area. This is 8th time this school has been damaged since the beginning of 2019. In February/March, the school was temporarily closed for almost a month due to insecurity in the area affecting access to education for around 100 boys and girls. **Source:** [Ukraine Education Cluster](#)

## **Middle East and North Africa**

### **Occupied Palestinian Territories**

**04 – 05 May 2019:** In Gaza, Israeli rocket shrapnel and debris of buildings directly hit and damaged a total of 13 Palestinian schools amid an Israeli offensive on the enclave. **Source:** [Palestine Post 24](#)

**19 May 2019:** In Bethlehem, West Bank, Israeli forces reportedly shot tear gas canisters at Palestinian teachers and students, leaving dozens of Palestinians with respiratory problems. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

**30 May 2019:** In Wadi al-Joz neighbourhood, East Jerusalem, Israeli police physically assaulted and kidnapped a teacher and pro-Aqsa Mosque activist after they stormed her private residence, ransacked it, and seized some of her belongings. **Source:** [The Palestinian Information Centre](#)

### **Syrian Arab Republic**

**Throughout May 2019:** In Hama and Idlib governorates, Syrian Government and Russian airstrikes and shelling continued to damage or destroy health care facilities and schools amid what is widely considered to be a systematic assault, forcing humanitarian actors to suspend their programmes. Sources estimate that around 32 medical facilities and 64 schools were attacked from April 26 to June 15. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera I](#), [Al Jazeera II](#), [Anadolu Agency](#), [NPR](#), [OCHA](#), [Save the Children](#), [SNHR](#), [The Guardian](#), [The New Arab](#), [TNH](#) and [UNSC](#)

**02 May 2019:** In Ebleen village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime forces helicopters reportedly dropped a barrel bomb near al Amal Kindergarten, partially damaging its building and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**02 May 2019:** In Hbit town, Khan Shaykhun Nahiyah sub-district, Maarrat al-Nu'man district, Idlib governorate, an aerial attack by unspecified perpetrators hit an unnamed school under unspecified circumstances. **Source:** [OCHA](#)

**02 May 2019:** In Kafr Nabl town and sub-district, Maarrat al-Nu'man district, Idlib governorate, an aerial attack by unspecified perpetrators hit an unnamed school. **Source:** [OCHA](#)

**02 May 2019:** In Al-Huwayz al-Qibla village, Qalaat al-Madiq sub-district, Suqaylabiyah district, Hama governorate, an aerial attack by unspecified perpetrators hit an unnamed school under unspecified circumstances. **Source:** [OCHA](#)

**03 May 2019:** In al Habeit village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes and missile launchers reportedly fired missiles on a complex of three schools, partially destroying their buildings and damaging their furniture. The three schools in question were Martyr Khaled al Musa High School, Khawla Primary School and al Qedsaiya School. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**03 May 2019:** In Ma'aret Harma village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime missile launchers reportedly shelled a complex of four schools, severely damaging their buildings. The four schools were: al Reefiya School, Ahmad Yasin Primary School, Ma'aret Harma Girls' School, and Ma'aret Harma High School. **Source:** [OCHA](#) and [SNHR](#)

**03 May 2019:** In Kansfara village, Jabal al Zaweya area, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime helicopters dropped barrel bombs on Iqraa Primary School, severely damaging its building and yard. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**04 May 2019:** In Maar Tesin village, Kafr Nabl Nahiyah sub-district, Maarrat al-Nu'man district, Idlib governorate, a recent escalation in violence affected an unnamed school under unspecified circumstances. **Source:** [OCHA](#)

**04 May 2019:** In al Habeit village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles near Martyr Khaled al Bakkour Primary School, partially damaging the building itself as well as the entranceway, fence, and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**04 May 2019:** In Arnaba village, Idlib governorate, Russian warplanes allegedly fired missiles near Arnaba Primary School, partially destroying the building and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**04 May 2019:** In al Lejj village, Idlib governorate, Russian warplanes reportedly fired a missile on al Lejj Primary School, partially destroying the building and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**04 May 2019:** In Sfuhun village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime helicopters reportedly dropped barrel bombs near Ali Bin Abi Taleb High School, partially destroying the school fence as well as damaging the buildings and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**04 May 2019:** In Kansfara village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime helicopters reportedly dropped barrel bombs near Iqraa School, partially damaging its building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**05 May 2019:** In Deir Senbul, Ihsim Nahiyah sub-district, Ariha district, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime forces helicopters reportedly dropped barrel bombs on Deir Senbul Primary School, partially destroying the building and damaging its furniture. **Sources:** [SNHR](#) and [OCHA](#)

**07 May 2019:** In Ihsim town and sub-district, Ariha district, Idlib governorate, suspected Russian warplanes

fired missiles on a complex containing the Mustafa Haj Hussein Primary School, severely damaging its building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**07 May 2019:** In Kafranbel city, Idlib governorate, Russian warplanes allegedly fired missiles near al Sena'a School, partially damaging the building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**07 May 2019:** In Kafr Sajna village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes reportedly fired missiles near the Medical Technology Institute of "Free" Aleppo University, partially destroying its building and severely damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**07 May 2019:** In Kafr Sajna village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes reportedly fired missiles near a high school for girls, partially destroying the building and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**08 May 2019:** In al Nqayer village, Idlib governorate, Russian warplanes reportedly fired missiles near al Nqayer Primary School, partially damaging the building and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**09 May 2019:** In Shnan village, Jabal al Zaweya area, Idlib governorate, Russian warplanes reportedly fired missiles near Shnan Primary School, partially damaging the building and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**09 May 2019:** In Sarja village, Idlib governorate, Russian warplanes reportedly fired missiles on Sarja High School, partially destroying the building and severely damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**14 May 2019:** In Jisr al Shoghour city, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes reportedly fired a missile near Abdul Rahman al Naser Primary School, severely destroying its fence and partially damaging the building and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**15 May 2019:** In Khan Sheikhoun city, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes reportedly fired missiles on al Beira al Janoubiya School, partially damaging the building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**15 May 2019:** In Heesh village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles on Ibn al Qayyem Primary School, partially destroying the building and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**17 May 2019:** In Kafranbel city, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes reportedly fired missiles near Fadel al Khatib Primary School, partially damaging the building and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**21 May 2019:** In Tal Abyad city, Raqqa governorate, a male teacher of Breighi Primary School was reportedly arrested by members of the Syrian Democratic Forces during a raid on his house and was taken to an undisclosed location. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**21 May 2019:** In Khan Sheikhoun city, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes fired a missile on al Farahidi Primary School, partially destroying the building and fence, and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**22 May 2019:** In Jisr al Shoghour city, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes reportedly fired missiles near Ruqayya Bint Malek High School, partially destroying the building and severely damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**22 May 2019:** In Kafr Sajna village, Idlib governorate, aerial missiles reportedly fired by Syrian regime warplanes fell near Maysaloon Primary School, partially destroying the building and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**23 May 2019:** In Khan Sheikhoun city, Idlib governorate, helicopters reportedly belonging to the Syrian regime dropped barrel bombs near Abdul Majid Haj Bakri Primary School, partially damaging the buildings and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**23 May 2019:** In Kafr Aweed village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles near Iqraa Primary School, partially destroying the building and fence and damaging the school furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**24 May 2019:** In Kafr Nabl town and sub-district, Maarrat al-Nu'man district, Idlib governorate, Syrian Government aerial attacks hit two schools. **Source:** [The New Arab](#)

**25 May 2019:** In Kansfara village, Idlib governorate, a primary school for girls was struck by missiles, partially destroying the yard and fence as well as damaging the building and furniture. Syrian regime fixed-wing warplanes were reportedly behind the attack. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**27 May 2019:** In Kafr Sajna village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime forces fired missiles near to Maysaloon Primary School, partially destroying the building and damaging furniture contained inside. The school had reportedly been targeted previously by Syrian regime forces on 22 May 2019. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**27 May 2019:** In al Sheikh Mustafa village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime forces reportedly dropped a barrel bomb next to al Sheikh Mustafa al Reefiya Primary School, partially destroying the building and its perimeter fence, as well as damaging furniture contained inside. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**29 May 2019:** In Hazarin town, Kafr Nabl sub-district, Maarrat al-Nu'man district, Idlib governorate, Syrian Government warplanes fired missiles near the Basmat Amal Primary School, partially destroying the building and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**29 May 2019:** In Hazarin village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes reportedly fired missiles near Basmat Amal Primary School, partially destroying the building and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**29 May 2019:** In Khan Sheikhoun city, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes reportedly bombed Ahmad al Naser Primary School. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

## Arrests, detentions and imprisoned

The section aligns with the definition of attacks on education used by the Global Coalition to Protect Education under Attack (GCPEA) in [Education under Attack 2018](#).

### Europe

#### Turkey

**07 May 2019:** In Istanbul, a female professor at Boğaziçi University was sentenced by a Heavy Penal Court to one year and three months imprisonment on charges related to terrorism. The charges are reportedly related to her endorsement of a petition criticizing state and military actions in the Kurdish parts of Turkey. **Sources:** [Bianet](#) and [Evrensel](#)

**11 May 2019:** In Balıkesir, a male professor at University of Lyon-1 was arrested by Turkish authorities on charges related to terrorism. The charges relate to his endorsement of a petition criticizing state and military actions in the Kurdish parts of Turkey, and to his alleged participation at a pro-Kurdish documentary screening in France. **Sources:** [Bianet](#), [Ahval News](#), [Turkey Purge](#), [Turkish Minute](#), [Academics for Peace](#),

[T24](#), [SMAI](#), [Rebellyon](#), [Labor Solidarity](#), [France 3](#), and [France 24](#).

**21 May 2019:** In Istanbul, a female professor at Sabancı University was sentenced by a Heavy Penal Court to two years and one-month imprisonment on charges related to terrorism. The charges are reportedly related to her endorsement of a petition criticizing state and military actions in the Kurdish parts of Turkey.

**Sources:** [Bianet](#) and [Ahval News](#)

**30 May 2019:** In Istanbul, a male associate professor at Ankara university was sentenced by a Heavy Penal Court to one year and three months imprisonment on charges related to terrorism. The charges are reportedly related to his endorsement of a petition criticizing state and military actions in the Kurdish parts of Turkey. **Sources:** [Bianet](#) and [Ileri](#)

## Education in Danger safety, security and access incidents

These events go beyond the definition used by the GCPEA to cover a wider range of events that affect the provision of education including events perpetrated by students, private individuals and criminals as well as significant strike action or protests by students.

Aid in Danger

### Africa

#### *Burkina Faso*

**In the last three years:** Of 2,869 schools across Burkina Faso, 1,111 have been closed as a direct result of Islamic extremist violence. **Sources:** [Gatestone Institute](#) and [The New American](#)

#### *Mozambique*

**03 May 2019:** In Ntapuala village, Cabo Delgado province, insurgents from the Islamist Insurgency in Mozambique group (known as ASQJ) reportedly attacked a village, killing three people, one of whom was a teacher. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

#### *Nigeria*

**06 May 2019:** In Mkpāt Enin city, Akwa Ibom state, a female student at Akwa Ibom State University was suspended from the university, allegedly as a result of criticizing the university administration on social media. **Sources:** [Premium Times](#), [Daily Post](#) and [Independent](#)

#### *South Sudan*

**26 May 2019:** In Rumbek town, Lake state, two Ugandan teachers were reportedly killed by five gunmen while traveling towards Atiaba, allegedly in revenge for the accidental death of a local chief. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

### Asia

#### *Afghanistan*

**Throughout May 2019:** Across Afghanistan, security threats from militant groups, including the Taliban and the Islamic State, continued to force more than 1,000 schools to remain shut. **Source:** [Reuters](#)

**08 May 2019:** In Kabul, Taliban militants attacked a compound operated by the USAID-funded contractor Counterpart International for its ties to the USA, killing three CARE employees: a security guard, a driver, and an education technical advisor. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#), [CARE](#), [Counterpart](#), [The New York Times](#) and [The Washington Post](#)

#### *Bangladesh*

**29 May 2019: Update:** In Feni village and district, Chittagong division, police charged 16 people with

murder, including the principal of an unnamed religious school, for burning to death a student on 06 April 2019. **Source:** [BBC](#)

### ***Cambodia***

**20 May 2019:** In Praek kak area, Stueng Traeng district, Kampong Cham province, one Cambodian national was reportedly killed and one injured in an unspecified attack on a school. No further details specified. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

### ***India***

**14 May 2019:** In Srinagar city, Jammu and Kashmir region, violent clashes took place between police officials and students, who were protesting in response to the reported rape of an infant girl in Kashmir. **Sources:** [Kashmir Observer](#), [Counter Currents](#) and [Greater Kashmir](#)

### ***Vietnam***

**29 May 2019:** In an unspecified location, Nghe An province, police arrested and detained a Vietnamese music teacher for posting material on Facebook about the activist group Viet Tan, which the Vietnamese State has labelled a terrorist organisation. **Source:** [CNA](#)

## **Europe**

### ***Albania***

**21 May 2019:** In Korca city and county, representatives from universities all over Albania announced a nationwide student strike for 22 May 2019 to protest the failure of the Albanian Government to fulfil their requests. **Source:** [Exit](#)

### ***Turkey***

**06 May 2019:** In Ankara, the Middle East Technical University rector banned all LGBTI+ events from taking place on campus, including a Pride parade that was scheduled to take place a few days later. **Sources:** [Amnesty International](#), [Bianet](#), [Human Rights Watch I](#), and [Human Rights Watch II](#)

**10 May 2019:** In Ankara, police fired tear gas at demonstrators participating in a banned Pride parade at the Middle East Technical University campus. 24 students and one professor were arrested for defying the ban. **Sources:** [Albawaba](#), [Amnesty International I](#), [Amnesty International II](#), [Amnesty International III](#), [Ahval News](#), and [Bianet](#).

## **Middle East and North Africa**

### ***Algeria***

**07 May 2019:** In Tizi Ouzou city, a group of students at the Tizi Ouzou University violently obstructed an on-campus event seeking to draw parallels between the Berber Spring of 1980 and the ongoing pro-democracy protests taking place in Algeria. **Sources:** [TSA-Algerie](#), [El Watan](#), [La Depeche de Kabylie](#), [L'Expression](#), and [The Middle East Monitor](#)

**21 May 2019:** In Algiers, thousands of Algerian students and faculty members held anti-government demonstrations near the University of Algiers. **Source:** [Middle East Monitor](#)

### ***Iraq***

**26 May 2019:** A male professor at the College of Media, University of Baghdad, reportedly received threats against himself and his family after reporting on alleged corruption within the Central Bank of Iraq involving government officials. **Sources:** [GCHR](#), [RSE](#), [Baghdad Today I](#), [Baghdad Today II](#), and [National Union of](#)

## Iraqi Journalists

### *Iran*

**13 May 2019:** In Tehran, violent clashes broke out at the University of Tehran between pro-government activists and students protesting the requirement that women wear a hijab on campus. **Sources:** [France 24](#), [Radio Farda](#), [VOA](#), [The Jakarta Post](#), and [Payvand](#)

### *Israel*

**15 May 2019:** An Israeli NGO launched a website that features a list of 85 academics it says are involved in anti-Zionist activity, and invites students to complain about lecturers who preach anti-Israel rhetoric. **Source:** [The New Arab](#)

### *Morocco*

**24 May 2019 (DOA):** In Ouazzane town and province, Tanger-Tetouan-Al Hoceima region, a school bus driver verbally and physically assaulted a female student for eating during Ramadan, and subsequently spread a rumour that she is an atheist, causing her to experience stress and psychological issues. **Source:** [The New Arab](#)

### *Saudi Arabia*

**21 May 2019 (DOA):** Saudi authorities are set to convict and execute three scholars after Ramadan. In Riyadh, the trio are currently awaiting trial at the Criminal Special Court, after being arrested in September 2017, when Saudi authorities detained dozens of prominent figures in an alleged anti-corruption crackdown. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#) and [Middle East Eye](#)

## The Americas

### *Nicaragua*

**23 May 2019:** Across Nicaragua, a general strike called by the opposition resulted in the temporary closure of private schools. **Source:** [AP](#)

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<sup>1</sup> Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#).

<sup>2</sup> The AWSD database does not include the names of individual victims or the agencies affected by an incident. This is done in consideration of the victims and their families who may not wish to have the names publicised in this format and to afford equal respect to the many victims for whom this information is not available.