

Education in Danger

Monthly News Brief

July
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](#).

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

The [Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack](#) (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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Africa

Burkina Faso

08 July 2019: In Mansila department, Yagha province, unspecified perpetrators burned down five schools for unspecified reasons. **Source:** [Menastream](#)

Cameroon

Throughout July 2019: In English-speaking regions, armed separatists continued to occupy 53 schools, reportedly using them for military purposes and to hide from the Cameroon Armed Forces. The alleged occupation could complicate government plans to restart education in the regions in September 2019. **Source:** [VOA](#)

Central Africa Republic

20 July 2019: In Niem, Bouar district, Nana-Mambere province, a director of the private Catholic school of Niem-Yelewa was murdered by unidentified armed group. **Sources:** [Corbeau News](#), [Centrafrique Presse](#) and [Afropages](#)

Democratic Republic of the Congo

17 July 2019: In Kafwaya, Kolwezi district, Lualaba province, DRC's national military, the FARDC – who were deployed in June to seize illegally controlled mines – reportedly ransacked a school and torched dozens of houses in the local mining community. Two young children were severely burned. **Source:** [Mining](#)

Somalia

09 July 2019: In Raga Ceel, Cadale region, Middle Shabelle province, a nine-year-old girl on her way to school was raped and tortured by a security personnel. The suspect escaped. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

South Sudan

09 July 2019: In Bahr Grinti county, Amadi state, unknown gunmen shot and killed the county's education director along the road between the county headquarters and Mapordit Hospital. Their motivation is unknown. **Source:** [Radio Tamazuji](#)

11 July 2019 (DOA): In Bahr Grinti county, Amadi state, armed men abducted at least six students under unspecified circumstances. The victims were later rescued by South Sudanese police. **Source:** [Radio Tamazuj](#)

Sudan

25 July 2019: In the area of Jebel Marra², Central Darfur state, Sudanese Government forces reportedly fired an artillery shell that fell at the entrance of the Sheikh Adam Khamis Koran School, killing four students and wounding 20 more. **Source:** [Dabanga Sudan](#)

29 July 2019: In El-Obeid city, North Kordofan state, members of the Rapid Support Forces opened fire on a spontaneous anti-government protest, killing at least five secondary school students and wounding between 40 - 50 more. **Sources:** [All Africa](#) and [Dabanga Sudan](#)

Asia

Afghanistan

01 July 2019: In Kabul, the detonation of a car bomb as part of a wider and complex Taliban attack caused part of the building of an unnamed primary school to collapse. At least 51 students were hurt by flying glass. A private war museum, which tends to host many schoolchildren, was also affected. The intended target was a logistics and engineering unit of the Ministry of Defence. **Sources:** [Anthony Neal](#), [RFE RL](#) and [The New York Times](#)

07 July 2019: In Ghazni city, district and province, the Taliban set off a car bomb, killing 14 people and wounding 200 more, many of whom were students attending a nearby school. **Sources:** [BBC](#), [FDD's Long War Journal](#) and [RFE RL](#)

19 July 2019: In Kabul, an explosion of unknown origin struck near the entrance of the Kabul University shortly after daybreak as students were waiting to take fourth-year exams, killing at least eight people and injuring another thirty-three. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#), [CBC](#), [AP News](#): [RFE RL](#) and [The New York Times](#)

India

24 July 2019: In Ganderbal, Jammul and Kashmir region, Indian troops allegedly assaulted and injured several Central University of Kashmir (CUK) students at their hostel after the students objected to a raid which the troops had allegedly conducted without any official procedure at their hostel. **Sources:** [Kashmir Reader](#), [Rising Kashmir](#) and [The Kashmir Images](#)

The Philippines

25 July 2019: In Barangay Hibaiyo, Guihulngan City, Negros Oriental province, a public-school principal and his sister, an official of the Department of Education, were shot and killed by unidentified assailants. **Sources:** [News MB](#), [Philstar](#) and [Newsinfo](#)

Europe

Ukraine

03 July 2019: In Donetsk, Horlivska school #30 was damaged due to hostilities. No injuries were reported. **Source:** [Humanitarian Response](#)

08 July 2019: In Khreshchatytske, Donetsk, an unnamed school and kindergarten reportedly sustained damages due to increased hostilities in the area. Windows on the first floor in kindergarten and on the first and second floors in the school were damaged with shrapnel. No injuries were reported. **Source:** [Humanitarian Response](#)

11 July 2019: In Lukove, Donetsk, an unmaed school was reportedly damaged. 20 windows were shattered and several shrapnel holes in the wall of the school building were reported. Additionally, the area around the school was heavily cratered by shelling - more than 15 craters were found within the 120-meter radius of the school. **Source:** [Humanitarian Response](#)

11 July 2019: In Zolote-5/Mykhailivka, Luhansk, school #4 was reportedly damaged by gunfire from an unspecified origin. The school has reportedly been damaged 11 times since the beginning of 2019. **Source:** [Humanitarian Response](#)

Middle East and North Africa

Iraq

06 July 2019: In Nineveh governorate, 30 kilometres south of Mosul city, security forces and local police entered the Hammam al-Alil 1 IDP Camp, where they occupied a school currently closed for summer recess, and questioned thousands of residents about the actions and whereabouts of their relatives who are suspected of Islamic State affiliation, causing widespread fear of arrest and sexual exploitation. The use of schools for military activity is a violation of international humanitarian principles and contrary to the Safe Schools Declaration for which Iraq has signed. **Source:** [Human Rights Watch](#)

Syrian Arab Republic

02 July 2019: In Jabala village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles near Jabala High School for girls, partially destroying the fence and entrance and damaging the school building. **Sources:** [SNHR](#)

03 July 2019: A male college student at Tishreen University in Latakia city who had been arrested in 2013 by Syrian regime forces was confirmed to have been registered as having died in February 2016, likely due to torture in a detention centre. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

07 July 2019: In Abu Habba village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles near Abu Habba Primary School, partially damaging the building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

10 July 2019: In Ariha city, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes reportedly fired a missile on the Fine Arts School, partially destroying the fence and damaging the building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

10 July 2019: In Babolin village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes reportedly fired missiles on Martyr Omar Ulwan Primary School, partially destroying the building and damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

10 July 2019: In Kafrouma village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime forces helicopters dropped a barrel bomb near Martyr Abdul Hamid Qaddi School, partially damaging the building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

13 July 2019: In Morek town, Hama governorate, alleged Syrian regime forces reportedly fired missiles on Martyr Mustafa Abdul Qader High School, partially destroying the building and severely damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

16 July 2019: In Jisr al Shoghour city, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes reportedly fired missiles near Rab'a al Adawiyya School, damaging the building and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

19 July 2019: In Khan Sheikhoun city, Idlib governorate, alleged Russian warplanes and Syrian regime forces helicopters fired bombs near al Atawi School, partially destroying its building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

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

21 July 2019: In Urm al Jouz village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired a missile on the entrance of a secondary school, partially damaging the building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

22 July 2019: In Kafranbel city, Idlib governorate, a student at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering was reportedly killed as Syrian regime warplanes fired several missiles on the city. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

22 July 2019: In Saraqeb city, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles on Najdat al Khaled High School for Girls, damaging the building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

22 July 2019: In Kafrooma village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime forces helicopters reportedly dropped several barrel bombs on al Farouq al Gharbiya School, damaging the building and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

23 July 2019: In Ma'aret al Nu'man city, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime forces warplanes reportedly fired missiles on Creators for Vocational Training Centre, severely damaging its furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

23 July 2019: In Heesh village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime forces reportedly fired missiles on a complex that includes two schools, the Martyr Mahmoud al Shawwa Elementary School and the Ibn Qayyim Preparatory School, partially damaging the schools' buildings, and damaging their furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

25 July 2019: In Kafrooma village, Idlib governorate, alleged Syrian regime helicopters dropped several barrel bombs on Ibn Hayyan Elementary School, partially damaging the building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

26 July 2019: In Morek town, Hama governorate, alleged Russian warplanes reportedly fired several missiles on Ahmad Juma Orabi School, damaging the building and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

27 July 2019: In al Mozara village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles near al Mozara Elementary School, damaging its building. **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

01 July 2019: In Istanbul, a Heavy Penal Court sentenced a male research assistant from İstanbul Kültür University and two female lecturers from İstanbul Okan University and Işık University to fifteen 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](#), [Evrensel](#), and [TIHV](#)

11 July 2019: In Istanbul, a Heavy Penal Court sentenced a female research assistant at the Middle East Technical University to fifteen 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](#), [T24](#), and [TIHV](#)

18 July 2019: In Istanbul city and province, Marmara region, a Turkish-American professor, who, back in 2016, criticised the Turkish Armed Forces for killing Kurdish civilians, faced trial by a Turkish court. The judge decided to postpone a verdict until October 2019 and exempt the accused from appearing in future court sessions. **Sources:** [CBS Sacramento](#) and [The Sacramento Bee](#)

Education in Danger safety, security and access incidents

Aid in Danger

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.

Africa

Democratic Republic of the Congo

22 July 2019: In Bunyatenge, Walikale district, North-Kivu province, Mai-Mai militia reportedly killed a professor of the Bunyatenge Institute after accusing him of not paying 'taxes' to the group. The Institute suspended all activities as a result. **Sources:** [Top Congo Fm](#) , [Actualite](#) and [7 sur 7](#)

Ghana

22 July 2019: In Tamale, unidentified gunmen attacked the deputy education minister on the Tamale-Buipe highway close to Sarikyikura.. **Sources:** [Ghana Web](#), [The World News](#) and [Graphic](#)

Niger

04 July 2019: In Bosso, Diffa province, suspected ISWAP/Boko Haram militants abducted a schoolgirl. No further details specified. **Source:** [Urgence Diffa](#)

South Africa

17 July 2019: In Westville, KwaZulu-Natal university, demonstrating students threw stones at police vehicles and destroyed campus property. The students were protesting poor living conditions at student dormitories as well as a rule excluding students who had previously participated in similar protests from taking exams. **Sources:** [News24](#), [Danilposh](#), and [IOL](#).

South Sudan

08 July 2019: Update: In Rumbek city, Western Lakes state, the Hope and Resurrection Secondary School reopened its doors after its prior closure following an assault on 26 May which left two Ugandan teachers dead. **Source:** [Radio Tamazuj](#)

Sudan

24 July 2019: The Holy Koran University in Omdurman city, Khartoum state, and the University of Bakhtalruda suspended classes indefinitely, following a series of student protests calling for civilian rule. **Source:** [Dabanga Sudan \(a\)](#) and [Dabanga Sudan \(b\)](#)

24 July 2019: In Omdurman city, Khartoum state, students of the Omdurman Ahlia University organised a mass demonstration on campus in solidarity with those who went missing in the General Command massacre. **Source:** [Dabanga Sudan](#)

24 July 2019: In Khartoum, the administration of the University of Bahri suspended classes indefinitely

due to an increase in the number of protesting students who refused to attend. **Source:** [Dabanga Sudan](#)

24 July 2019: In Sennar town and state, the administration of the Sennar University suspended classes indefinitely due to an increase in the number of protesting students who refused to attend. **Source:** [Dabanga Sudan](#)

24 July 2019: In Al-Fulah town, West Kordofan state, the administration of the University of West Kordofan suspended classes indefinitely due to an increase in the number of protesting students who refused to attend. **Source:** [Dabanga Sudan](#)

25 July 2019: In Khartoum, the administration of the University of El Nilein announced the indefinite closure of the institution for reasons related to the safety of students and employees, and the risk of damage to property. **Sources:** [All Africa](#) and [Dabanga Sudan](#)

Asia and the Pacific

Australia

24 July 2019: In Brisbane, a protest held at the University of Queensland campus over democracy and human rights concerns in Hong Kong and mainland China resulted in violent clashes between opposing groups of students. **Sources:** [News](#), [South China Morning Post](#), [ABC](#), [New York Times](#), [The Guardian](#), and [The Stand News](#)

Bangladesh

20 July 2019: In Shahbagh, Dhaka city, a BCL leader was shot in the leg by unidentified assailants at Dhaka university. Police have not yet shared the details of incident. **Source:** [The Daily Star](#)

India

10 July 2019: In Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh province, a school manager was shot and injured by unidentified individuals on school grounds. The attack is believed to be connected to a property dispute. **Source:** [Times of India](#)

19 July 2019: In Dhanupali area of Sambalpur city, Odisha province, a journalist was manhandled by police while covering a protest organised by parents of convent school students against a recent child molestation case. Police claimed that the journalist 'misbehaved' and therefore had to use force to remove him. **Source:** [Odisha Sun Times](#)

Indonesia

12 July 2019: Update: Indonesian authorities granted clemency to a Canadian teacher of the Jakarta Intercultural School who was convicted of sexually abusing students in 2014, in a case widely criticised for irregularities. **Source:** [Reuters](#)

12 July 2019: Indonesian authorities suspended the enforcement of a six-month prison term and a 500 million rupiah (approximately 31,300 euro) fine on an Indonesian woman who had previously worked as a temporary teacher at an unnamed school in 2014, and was prosecuted for violating an electronic communications law, after she recorded the headmaster sexually harassing her. **Source:** [AP](#)

Nepal

04 July 2019: Sabaila Municipality, Dhanusa district, Janakpur province, an unknown group, supposedly from India, attacked a teacher by injecting him with a syringe. The teacher lost consciousness after the incident. Further investigation of the incident is ongoing. **Source:** [My Republica](#)

Europe

Greece

02 July 2019: In Crete island and region, an American scientist who had been attending a conference at the Orthodox Academy disappeared under unclear circumstances. Her body was found on 08 July. **Source:** [CNN](#)

The Americas

United States of America

19 July 2019: *Update:* In Illinois state, a former PhD student was sentenced to life in prison for the kidnap and murder of a Chinese graduate student at the University of Illinois in June 2017. **Source:** [BBC](#)

This document is part of the Education in Danger project. It is published by Insecurity Insight and funded and supported by USAID through Save the Children US



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

² It is unclear whether the article is referring to the mountains or the district of Jebel Marra