

# Education in Danger

Monthly News Brief

September  
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.

It is prepared by Insecurity Insight from information available in open sources.

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The [Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack](#) (GCPEA) provided technical guidance on definitions of attacks on education.

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## Africa

### Kenya

**Around 12 September 2019:** In Mathemba, Wote town, Makueni county, several students were reportedly beaten and injured by police officer who stormed the Mathemba Secondary School during a planned strike. **Sources:** [Standard Media](#) and [Batatv](#)

### Somalia

**26 September 2019:** In Mogadishu, an IED reportedly planted by al Shabaab detonated, striking a bulletproof vehicle carrying Turkish engineers of the education body Maarif Foundation near the KM-5 intersection. **Source:** [AA](#)

### South Africa

**02 September 2019:** In Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape province, violent clashes ensued between student protestors and security officials at Nelson Mandela University. The students were demonstrating against the lack of action taken by the university in response to concerns about safety on campus. Following the violence, seven students were reportedly arrested. **Sources:** [News 24](#), [Herald Live I](#) and [Herald Live II](#)

### South Sudan

**05 September 2019:** In Yei River state, government and opposition forces continued to occupy schools, despite orders from their senior commanders to vacate the buildings. Classes cannot resume until the military forces depart. **Source:** [Radio Tamazuj](#)

## Asia

### Afghanistan

**10 September 2019:** In Giro district, Ghazni province, an unnamed school was destroyed during a raid by Afghan and US forces which killed five civilians and injured two more. Two houses and two mosques were also destroyed in the raid. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

**16 September 2019:** In Ghazni province, a magnetic explosive device reportedly attached to a University of Ghazni bus detonated, killing the driver and injuring five students who were onboard. Similar attacks targeting higher education communities had been carried out in previous months. **Sources:** [WSBT](#) and [Devdiscourse](#)

**17 September 2019:** In Khowal village, Pasaband district, Ghor province, a teacher, a student, and a government employee - all brothers - were killed by Taliban militants who accused them of affiliation with the government. **Sources:** [Reporterly](#)

**22 September 2019:** In Birinji village, Du Layna district, Ghor province, a teacher was killed by Taliban member(s) following their warning to the teachers and other government employees that they should leave their jobs or be killed. **Source:** [NYT](#)

### **India**

**03 September 2019:** In Itanagar city, Papum Pare district, Arunachal Pradesh state, a student leader and social activist was allegedly beaten and killed by a patrolling team of the police. **Sources:** [Eastern Sentinel](#), [Arunachal Times](#) and [The Arunachal Pioneer](#)

### **Thailand**

**19 September 2019:** In Tambon Ba-ngoi Sinae, Yaha district, Yala province, suspected-Malay Muslim Separatists opened fire at a school, however, no injuries were reported. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

## **Europe**

### **Ukraine**

**04 September 2019:** In Horlivka city, Horlivka municipality, Donetsk oblast, an exchange of mortar fire shrapnel fragments of unspecified origin penetrated the windows of the Kindergarten 51, causing damage to a wall inside the building. **Source:** [Ukraine Education Cluster](#)

**06 September 2019:** In Kozatcke, Donetsk oblast, a blast wave of unspecified origin caused 17 windows of an unnamed primary and secondary school to shatter, leaving no casualties but forcing the temporary closure of the school. **Source:** [Ukraine Education Cluster](#)

**06 September 2019:** In Kozatcke, Donetsk oblast, a blast wave of unspecified origin caused damages to five windows of an unnamed kindergarten, forcing its temporary closure. **Source:** [Ukraine Education Cluster](#)

## **Middle East and North Africa**

### **Occupied Palestinian Territories**

**09 September 2019:** In Bayt Rima, Ramallah, West Bank, Israeli forces carried out a series of raids in which a student was injured in the neck when shot with rubber bullets. **Source:** [Alaraby](#)

### **Syrian Arab Republic**

**08 September 2019:** In Kafranbel city, Idlib governorate, suspected Syrian regime artillery reportedly shelled Haitham al Bayyoush school, partially destroying its building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**08 September 2019:** In Talmennes town, Idlib governorate, suspected Syrian regime artillery reportedly shelled Mohammad Ta'ea Othman School, partially destroying its building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**13 September 2019:** In Afrin city, Aleppo governorate, suspected Kurdish Self-Defence Forces artillery reportedly fired two shells near al Urouba School, damaging its building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**22 September 2019:** In Kafr Aweed town, Idlib governorate, suspected Syrian regime artillery shelled Banat Kafr Aweed School, partly destroying its building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

## Yemen

**02 September 2019:** In Al-Kala'ibah area, Al Maafer, Taizz governorate, an unnamed school is reportedly being used a prison by armed men allegedly affiliated with Islah. There have been reports of at least one detainee being executed. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

## 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

### *Democratic Republic of the Congo*

**04 September 2019;** In South Ubangi province, an unidentified armed group robbed a convoy of the INGO Caritas and \$82,500 intended to pay the salary of teachers of primary and secondary schools was taken. **Source:** [Radio Okapi](#)

### *Mozambique*

**06 September 2019:** In Guerrissa, Morrumbala, Zambezia region, an elementary school teacher and member of the RENAMO party and his wife were allegedly severely beaten in their home by three individuals allegedly linked to the Frelimo party. **Source:** [Club of Mozambique](#)

### *Nigeria*

**27 September 2019:** In Kaduna city, Kaduna state, Nigerian police raided a building housing an Islamic school in the Rigasa area, during which they found more than 300 male students – two of whom were from Burkina Faso and the rest from Nigeria – in a torture room, where many of them had been chained on the wall, hung, raped and beaten by their teachers in the name of reforming them and 'making them responsible'. The proprietor of the school and six staff were arrested during the raid. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#) and [France 24](#)

### *South Africa*

**18 September 2019:** In Tsakane Extension 5, Ekurhuleni city, Gauteng province, a five-year-old child was gang-raped by four nine-year old boys at Fakukhanya Primary School. **Sources:** [Daily Mail](#) and [Daily Star](#)

### *Sudan*

**04 September 2019:** In El Fasher city, North Darfur state, dozens of professors and staff of the University of El Fasher reportedly staged a protest in front of the office of the university director to demand a stop to the allocation of large areas of land near the campus to members of the Rapid Support Forces. **Source:** [Dabanga Sudan](#)

**22 September 2019:** In Nyala city, South Darfur state, state security forces reportedly used violence against students protesting high prices and shortage of bread. **Source:** [VOA News](#)

**29 September 2019 (DOA): Update:** In an unspecified location, a medical student and activist who was raped during the violent dismantling of a sit-in in front of the army command on 3<sup>rd</sup> June committed suicide. **Source:** [Dabanga Sudan](#)

## Asia

### *Afghanistan*

**11 September 2019:** In Bakhto-Tangi village of Shah Wali Kot district, Kandahar province, one scholar who owned a religious school was killed by Taliban militants. **Source:** [NYT](#)

**16 September 2019:** In Mohammad Agha district, Logar province, a female student was killed and another student injured when Taliban militants fired at an Afghan forces convoy. **Source:** [Ariana News](#)

### *Bangladesh*

**09 September 2019:** In Cox's Bazar city, Chittagong division, a female student studying at the Cox's Bazar International University was suspended on the basis of her Rohingya ethnic identity. **Sources:** [New Straits Times](#), [Al Jazeera](#), [Dhaka Tribune](#) and [The Straits Times](#)

**21 September 2019:** In Gandhina, Kalihati, Tangail district, Dhaka division, unidentified perpetrators attacked and critically injured a schoolteacher over a dispute over the land where a mosque was built. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

### *Hong Kong*

**28 September 2019:** Border authorities reportedly refused to permit an American political scientist and author to enter the country, possibly in retaliation for his public work related to democracy and human rights in the region. **Sources:** [Hong Kong Free Press](#) and [Channel News Asia](#)

### *India*

**04 September 2019:** In Puranigudam town of Samaguri tehsil, Nagaon district, Assam state, an unidentified group of people reportedly attacked and critically injured the Principal of RKB Higher Secondary School and Secretary of Students' Union Body. **Source:** [Pratidin Time](#)

**13 September 2019:** In Ferozepur town, Ferozepur district, Punjab state, three unidentified men on motorcycles stabbed and killed the President of Ferozepur Student Organisation of Punjab University. **Source:** [Times of India](#)

**22 September 2019:** In Tashrim village, Bijapur district, Chhattisgarh state, Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist) cadres killed an Ashram school student at a 'Praja court' (people's/Kangaroo Court) after keeping him hostage for two days due to suspicions he was a police informer. **Source:** [SATP](#)

**26 September 2019:** In Bangalore city, Bangalore Urban district, Bayaluseemé region, Karnataka state, unidentified perpetrators stabbed a South Sudanese pharmacy student, who succumbed to his injuries a day later. One suspect was arrested. **Source:** [Radio Tamazuj](#)

### *Indonesia*

**01 September 2019:** In Jayapura city, Papua province, members of a non-Papuan organisation attacked Papuan students in their dormitories. One student was killed and two were injured. **Source:** [The Guardian](#) and [HRW](#)

**16 September 2019:** In Sumatra and Borneo islands, forest fires usually started by illegal burning to clear land for farming forced the closure of thousands of schools over health fears. **Sources:** [Channel News Asia](#)

**23 September 2019:** In Wamena town, Jayawijaya regency, Papua province, alleged false rumours that a high school teacher had racially insulted an indigenous student sparked violent protests by hundreds of people. **Source:** [Time](#)

**24 September 2019:** At Ilaga, Puncak regency, Papua province, Indonesian security forces shot dead a student while supposedly chasing Papuan rebels. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

**24 September 2019:** In Jakarta, student demonstrators protesting against newly passed anti-corruption legislation and a draft criminal code clashed violently with police, reportedly resulting in more than three hundred people treated for injuries sustained in the violence. **Sources:** [The Guardian I](#), [The Guardian II](#), [Al Jazeera](#), [Antara News](#), and [CNN](#)

### ***Nepal***

**04 September 2019:** In Kathmandu, members of All Nepal National Free Students' Union who had reached the Police Club to meet with some arrested students were attacked by the police with batons. Eight students sustained injuries following the incident. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

**08 September 2019:** In Baglung city, Baglung district, Dhawalagiri, the student leader of All Nepal National Independent Student Union was physically assaulted by the Independent Student Union chairperson during a meeting at Dhawalagiri Multiple Campus. **Source:** [Nepal Monitor](#)

### ***Pakistan***

**08 September 2019:** In Islamabad, unidentified motorcycle-borne perpetrators fired at Islamabad University and injured a male and a female student, one of who was a member of Quaid-i-Azam University's Pakhtun council. Both were hospitalised. **Sources:** [Morning PK](#) and [Samaa](#)

**15 September 2019:** In Ghotki town, Ghotki district, Sindh province, Pakistani police detained the owner and principal of a private Hindu school over allegations by a student of committing blasphemy, prompting riots by radical protesters. Simultaneously, an angry mob ransacked the school and attacked a Hindu temple. **Source:** [Al Jazeera](#)

### ***The Philippines***

**11 Sept 2019:** Near the border of Barangays Mazante and Cabaroan, Magsingal town, Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Region, a school principal was shot and wounded by the alleged president of Association of Barangay Captains (ABC) and his companion. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

### ***Turkmenistan***

**18 September 2019 (DOA):** Across Turkmenistan, the Turkmenistan security service began expanding its network of informants among university students to spy on those who criticise the Turkmen Government or use proxies to access banned websites. **Source:** [RFE RL](#)

## **Middle East and North Africa**

### ***Yemen***

**General:** Violence, displacement and attacks on schools continued to prevent two million children from accessing school. Moreover, the non-payment of salaries to teachers over the past two years also put the education of a further 3.7 million children at risk. **Sources:** [Asharq Al-Awsat](#) and [UNICEF](#)

## The Americas

### Colombia

**04 September 2019:** In Soacha city, Cundinamarca province, riot police reportedly used indiscriminate force against student protestors peacefully demonstrating on campus against the University of Cundinamarca administration. Twenty students were reportedly detained, and at least twelve were reported to be injured, including one struck by a police bullet. **Sources:** [Telesur](#), [El Espectador](#), [Alerta Bogota](#) and [Refworld](#)

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The incidents reported are not a complete nor a representative list of all events that affected the provision of education and have not been independently verified. All decisions made, on the basis of, or with consideration to, such information remains the responsibility of their respective organisations.

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