

# Education in Danger

Monthly News Brief

October  
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

#### Burkina Faso

**04 October 2019:** In Bouni village, suspected Katiba Macina (JNIM) militants burned a school. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

**14 October 2019:** In Lanfiera commune and department, Sourou province, presumed JNIM militants pillaged an unnamed school allegedly in connection to an attack against the military base in the locality. Villagers fled to the bush. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

**18 October 2019:** In Koulerou commune, Barani department, Kossi province, presumed Katiba Macina (JNIM) militants attempted to pillage unnamed school. The canteen had already been emptied. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

**25 October 2019:** In Rounga village, Ouindigui commune, Loroum province, two teachers were kidnapped from a market by suspected JNIM militants, and later executed. **Sources:** [Fasozine](#), [Alerte Info](#), [Burkina 24](#) and [AIB](#)

#### Burundi

**03 October 2019:** In Nyamurenza commune, Ngozi province, a secondary school student and CNL supporter was attacked by Imbonerakure at a school. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

#### Cameroon

**21 October 2019:** In Nkongsamba city, Moungo department, Littoral region, the school principal of Government High School Ebone and his daughter were attacked by former students who stormed into the school in search of two 'discipline masters' they accused of having been violent to them. The principal sustained machete injuries, and classes at the school were suspended. **Source:** [Mimimefo Infos](#)

#### Democratic Republic of the Congo

**22 October 2019:** Around Mweso, Masisi territory, North Kivu province, six students were abducted from their dormitory at the Medical Technical Institute of Mweso by three men armed with knives. Three students were released. The whereabouts of the remaining three students in unknown. The perpetrators also looted school property. Classes at the school were suspended. **Source:** [Afrique Info Magazine](#), [Kivu Security Tracker](#) and [7sur7](#)

## **Mali**

**15 October 2019:** In Arabebe village, Niafunke cercle, Tombouctou region, a teacher was kidnapped by suspected motorcycle borne JNIM militants. According to a witness, the attackers had previously instructed residents not to open schools in the area. **Sources:** [Mali ACTU](#), [Bamada](#) and [Mali Vox](#)

**25 October 2019:** At Korientze village, Korombana commune, Mopti cercle and region, suspected JNIM militants abducted at least five teachers and set school material and documents on fire. **Sources:** [RFI](#), [Xinhua](#), [Levenement Niger](#) and [Jeune Afrique](#)

**29 October 2019:** In Garbame village, Bourem commune, Gao region, an unnamed school was set on fire. It is unclear who the perpetrators were; however, suspected JNIM militants on motorbikes had earlier attacked the village market looking for leaders of the village. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

## **Nigeria**

**03 October 2019:** In Kakau Daji village, Chikun Local Government Area, Kaduna state, unidentified perpetrators broke into the Engravers College, a mixed boarding school, and kidnapped six schoolgirls and two teachers. They were all rescued by police on 26 October. **Sources:** [AFP](#), [AllAfrica](#), [Global Citizen](#), [Premium Times NG](#) and [Reuters](#)

## **Uganda**

**22 October 2019:** In Kampala, Ugandan authorities allegedly arrested over twenty students, mostly female, who were peacefully protesting a tuition hike at Makerere University. The students were released that day on bail but are now facing legal charges. **Sources:** [The Monitor](#), [The Edge](#), [PML Daily](#), [Standard Media](#) and [Campus Bee](#).

**23 October 2019:** In Kampala, state security forces allegedly carried out a violent crackdown on students as protests against a tuition hike continued at Makerere University. Students went on strike, disrupting lectures and calling on classmates to join them. **Sources:** [PML Daily](#), [The Edge](#), [Le Journal du Cameroun](#) and [The Monitor](#).

**24 October 2019:** In Kampala, police raided a residence hall at Makerere University, beating and detaining several students. The raid occurred as student protests against tuition fee increases continue unabated. **Sources:** [The Monitor](#), [The Independent](#), [Campuscam](#), [NTV I](#) and [NTV II](#)

**30 October 2019:** In Kampala, Ugandan police reportedly used tear gas to disperse Makerere University students protesting against the planned increase in tuition fees and the detention of a student leader. **Sources:** [Africa Global Village](#), [The Daily Monitor](#), [PML Daily](#), [Soft Power](#), [The Independent](#) and [NTV](#)

**30 October 2019:** In Makerere neighbourhood, Kampala, police reportedly fired tear gas inside a student dormitory after its residents began whistling at them. Around fifteen students were arrested. The police fired at journalists covering the events. **Sources:** [Daily Monitor](#), [Africa News](#) and [HRW](#)

## **Asia**

### **Afghanistan**

**08 October 2019:** In Ghazni city and province, a bomb exploded at Ghazni University while a lecture was in session, injuring at least twenty-one students. No group has claimed responsibility for the attack. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#), [Tolo News](#) and [MSN](#)

**08 October 2019:** In Khoshamand district, Paktika province, an unnamed school was allegedly raided by Afghan and US forces. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

**14 October 2019:** In Hesa-e Dowom Khair Khana neighbourhood, Kabul, a school principal of Abdul Ghafoor Nadeem High School was reportedly shot and killed in front of the school by unidentified gunmen  
**Sources:** [Khaama Press](#) and [Ariana News](#)

**16 October 2019:** In Alishing district, Laghman province, a vehicle bomb of unidentified origin exploded near a police station, partially destroying a nearby religious school. Three police officers were killed, and 36 people injured, about 20 of whom were students. **Source:** [RFE RL](#)

### *China*

**06 October 2019:** In Hong Kong, riot police entered the Chinese University of Hong Kong and arrested several students allegedly for breaking the anti-mask law. All were later released. **Sources:** [KH01](#), [Central News Agency Taiwan](#), [South China Morning Post](#) and [Asia Times](#)

**21 October 2019:** In Beijing, Chinese authorities detained a Chinese history professor working at the Japanese Hokkaido University on suspicion of being a spy for Japanese authorities. **Sources:** [South China Morning Post](#), [The Nikkei](#), [Taiwan News](#), [Taro Living News](#), [Yahoo Japan](#) and [NHK World-Japan](#)

### *The Philippines*

**13 October 2019:** In Barangay Rosary Heights 7, Cotabato city, Maguindanao province, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, an official of the Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education was reportedly shot dead by unidentified perpetrators. **Sources:** [Philippine News Agency](#)

**15 October 2019:** In Barangay Lumbayao, Valencia city, Bukidnon province, a teacher and member of the Alliance of Concerned Teachers (ACT), was reportedly shot by four armed men in Dalet Elementary School. Her husband was also shot at but not hit. **Sources:** [GMA](#), [Philippine Daily Inquirer](#), [Bulatlat](#), [Rappler](#), and [The Filipino Times](#)

## Europe

### *Ukraine*

**03 October 2019:** In Zolote 5 village, Zolate town, Popasna Raion district, Luhansk province, gunfire of unidentified origin hit the windows of School #4, where 100 pupils attend classes. No further details specified. **Source:** [Ukraine Education Cluster](#)

**06 October 2019:** In Staromykhailivka settlement, Marinka Raion district, Donetsk province, hostilities of unidentified origin caused damage to the windows of Kindergarten #48. **Source:** [Ukraine Education Cluster](#)

**15 October 2019:** In Oleksandrivka settlement, Donetsk province, unidentified perpetrators damaged the windows of an unnamed school, where 213 students attend classes. **Source:** [Ukraine Education Cluster](#)

**23 October 2019:** In Zolote 5 village, Zolate town, Popasna Raion district, Luhansk province, gunfire of unidentified origin hit, once more, the windows of School #4, where 100 pupils attend classes. **Source:** [Ukraine Education Cluster](#)

## Middle East and North Africa

### *Syrian Arab Republic*

**08 October 2019:** In Tal Abyad city, Raqqa governorate, Syrian Democratic Forces soldiers seized control of two schools and used them as military headquarters. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**12 October 2019:** In al Bara village, Idlib city and governorate, Syrian regime forces artillery fired shells near

Ismail Lata school, partially destroying the building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**12 October 2019:** In Kfarrouma village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime forces fired shells near al Rabeya Primary School, partially damaging the building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

**15 October 2019:** In Ein Laruz village, Ariha, Idlib governorate, two teachers were abducted by masked HTS fighters after they left their homes to go to work. **Source:** [SOHR](#)

**27 October 2019:** In al Janoudiya town, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime forces shelled al Janoudiya High School for girls, partially destroying the building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

### *Yemen*

**27 October 2019:** In Razih district, Saada governorate, a school was damaged by artillery shells. No further details available. **Source:** [Civilian Impact Monitoring Project \(CIMP\) Daily Alert](#)

## 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*

**General:** As a new school term began in Burkina Faso, schools in areas affected by conflict remained shut, leaving hundreds of thousands of children without access to education. **Source:** [The New Humanitarian](#)

### *Burundi*

**16 October 2019:** In Gitaramuka commune, Karuzi province, a CNL supporter and teacher was attacked by Imbonerakure. The victim was returning home on his motorcycle at the time of the attack when he was hit on the head with a baton. The victim has said that it is his political affiliation that is the cause of this attack. **Source:** [Ligue Iteka](#)

### *Cameroon*

**14 – 18 October 2019:** In Northwest and Southwest regions, separatist groups opened nine community schools to replace government-run schools that have been forcibly shut since November 2016. Meanwhile, the Cameroonian Government has been urging parents and students to stay away from separatist-run facilities. Separatists are also seeking to take over abandoned schools owned by Christian denominations. **Source:** [VOA News](#)

### *Kenya*

**16 October 2019 (DOA):** Following the deadly collapse of an informal school in Nairobi due to poor construction and overcrowding on September 23, the Kenyan Education Ministry ordered the closure of 300 informal schools across Kenya, affecting approximately 10,000 children. **Source:** [Al Jazeera](#)

### *Mozambique*

**15 October 2019:** In Nacala Port, Nampula province, police tried to disperse the crowd on election day at Sao Vicente de Paulo Secondary School. A person was killed, shot and beaten by the police, and four people were shot in the lower limbs. **Sources:** [All Africa](#) and [Club of Mozambique](#)

## **Nigeria**

**16 October 2019:** In Sabon Garin area, Daura local government area, Katsina state, Nigerian police raided the Mal Niga Islamic Reform School and freed 500 men and boys who had been imprisoned there, many of whom had been chained to walls, molested and beaten by their captors. The owner of the school and his five employees were arrested, but the current proprietor and teachers managed to flee during the raid.

**Sources:** [All Africa](#) and [Al Jazeera](#)

**19 October 2019:** In Rigasa area, Kaduna city and state, Nigerian police raided an unnamed Islamic reform school and rescued 147 students subjected to abuse by their captors. The owner of the school has already been arrested by the police in a previous operation. **Source:** [Al Jazeera](#)

## **Sudan**

**20 October 2019:** In Khartoum, Islamist students loyal to the National Congress Party attacked student supporters of the Forces for Freedom and Change at Alzaiem Alazhari University. Twenty-seven students were reportedly injured. **Sources:** [Dabanga Sudan](#), [Sudan Tribune](#), [United Press International](#), [University World News](#), [Sudanile News](#), [Al-Ain News](#), [Alnilin News](#) and [Mobtada News](#)

**23 October 2019:** In El Fasher city, North Darfur state, hundreds of teachers reportedly held a protest in front of the Education Ministry, demanding the payment of salary arrears, freedom of movement, the removal of symbols of the former government from the ministry, and the dissolution of unions. **Source:** [Dabanga Sudan](#)

## **Zimbabwe**

**14 October 2019:** Rural Zimbabwean teachers embarked on a strike action with a stay-at-home protest against underpayment. **Source:** [VOA News](#)

## **Asia**

### **Afghanistan**

**05 October 2019:** In Joghalandak area, Sangin district, Helmand province, three students were killed and two injured in an alleged attack by NATO and Afghan military forces. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

**15 October 2019:** In Chaki Wardak district, Wardak province, a teacher was arrested during a raid by Afghan forces on civilian houses. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

### **Bangladesh**

**03 October 2019:** At Jagannath University campus, Dhaka, violent clashes broke out between opposing student groups during a protest organised by the student-wing of the BNP demanding the release of the jailed BNP leader. **Sources:** [The Daily Star](#), [The Dhaka Tribune](#), [The Nation](#) and [Prothom Alo](#)

**06 October 2019:** In Dhaka, suspected members of the Bangladesh Chhatra League, the student wing of the ruling political party, reportedly beat to death Bangladesh University of Engineering Technology student, in apparent retaliation for his social media activity and his alleged involvement with the opposition student group. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#), [The Dhaka tribune](#), [The Daily Star](#) and [BBC News](#)

**15 October 2019:** In Sadar, Ishwarganj upazila, Mymensingh division, a schoolboy was allegedly stabbed to death by a leader of BCL. **Source:** [Daily Sun](#)

**24 October 2019: Update:** A Bangladeshi court sentenced 16 people to death, including the head teacher of an Islamic school, for the murder of a Bangladeshi student who was burned to death last April after complaining of being sexually harassed by her school principal. **Sources:** [New York Times](#) and [The](#)

## Guardian

### *India*

**08 October 2019:** In Mamallapuram town, Chengalpattu district, Tamil Nadu state, Indian authorities reportedly arrested a male Tibetan assistant professor at Hidustan College, in an apparent attempt to prevent protests while China's president was visiting India. In the days leading up to the meeting, Indian authorities had already arrested several Tibetan activists and had forced them to officially declare they would not disturb public order. **Sources:** [The Washington Post](#), [India Today](#), [The Hindu](#), [The Hindustan Times](#) and [The New Indian Express](#)

**09 October 2019:** In Wardha district, Maharashtra state, the Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya administration reportedly expelled six students for organising a non-violent campus demonstration to raise concern over contentious issues in the country. The university revoked the expulsion five days later. **Sources:** [National Herald](#), [The Statesman](#), [The Wire](#), [The Hindustan Times](#), [The Telegraph](#), and [the Election Commission of India](#)

**09 October 2019:** In Shillong city, East Khasi Hills district, Meghalaya state, two North Eastern Hill University students (one of whom was also a Hynniewtrep Youth Council member) were attacked and wounded by an unidentified group of 10 masked men in the university hostel. **Source:** [Meghalaya Times](#)

**10 October 2019:** In Jiaganj town, Murshidabad district, West Bengal state, a teacher and BJP-RSS supporter was fatally stabbed with a machete by unidentified people. His wife and infant son were also killed. **Sources:** [India Today](#), [News Meter](#) and [Outlook India](#)

### *Myanmar*

**15 October 2019:** Near Sit Aung village, Kyauktaw township, Rakhine state, a university student was injured when military shooting targeting a fugitive man supposedly hit him accidentally. **Source:** [Irrawaddy](#)

**27 October 2019:** In Pwee Wone village, Paletwa township, Chin state, an employee of the education department in Paletwa was abducted by six unidentified people in civilian clothes while he was at home with the family. **Source:** [BNI Online News](#)

**Around 29 October 2019:** Near Oke Taung village, Buthidaung township, Rakhine state, a teacher and other civilians were reportedly abducted by the Arakan army. **Source:** [ACLED](#)<sup>1</sup>

### *Malaysia*

**15 October 2019:** In Kuala Lumpur, University of Malaya administrators filed a complaint with local police against an engineering graduate who staged a lone protest against the university's vice chancellor during his convocation ceremony. **Sources:** [MSN news](#), [The New Straits Times](#), [Attorney General of Malaysia](#), [NST](#) and [Channel News Asia](#)

### *The Philippines*

**10 October 2019:** In Barangay Batulawan, Pikit municipality, Cotabato province, a college student was shot dead by an unidentified man as he was entering Cotabato Foundation College campus. **Source:** [Philippine Daily Inquirer](#)

**17 October 2019:** On a campus at Mindanao State University, Barangay Dimalna, Marawi city, Lanao del Sur province, Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, a student was shot by unidentified perpetrators. The student later died after falling into a coma for several days. **Sources:** [Philippine News Agency](#), [Inquirer I](#), [Inquirer II](#), [Minda I](#) and [Minda II](#)



## Europe

### *Croatia*

**10 October 2019:** Teachers and other employees in all Croatian elementary and high schools launched an indefinite strike demanding higher wages. **Source:** [AP](#)

### *Finland*

**01 October 2019:** In Kuopio city, Kuopio sub-region, Northern Savonia region, a Finnish former student entered the Savo College carrying a sword, after which he started a small fire and stabbed several people. A woman was killed and 10 students were injured. The suspect was later arrested by Finnish police. **Source:** [BBC](#)

## Middle East and North Africa

### *Algeria*

**08 October 2019:** In Algiers, police arrested over one hundred students from various universities holding a peaceful weekly protest calling for democratic reforms. **Sources:** [Le Monde](#), [Al Bawaba](#), [Algiers Herald](#) and [The North Africa Journal](#)

### *Iraq*

**28 October 2019:** In Baghdad, Iraqi security forces fired tear gas at school and university students who defied a warning from the Iraqi Prime Minister and joined thousands of anti-government protesters in the city. Iraqi soldiers also beat high school students with batons. **Source:** [Reuters](#)

### *Occupied Palestinian Territories*

**06 October 2019:** In West Ramallah, Israeli soldiers fired tear gas at students from various universities participating in a peaceful demonstration near Ofar prison. The students were protesting against arrests and administrative detentions of Palestinians by Israeli authorities. **Sources:** [IMEMC News](#), [Al-Monitor](#), [Alaraby News](#) and [Fobzu](#)

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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](#). Accessed 11 November 2019.