

Education in Danger

Monthly News Brief

November
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

20 November 2019: In Oulfo Alfa village, Seno province, Sahel region, a school was reportedly ransacked by unidentified gunmen who also attacked the village and killed three civilians. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Cameroon

10 November 2019: In Bamenda city, Mezam county, Northwest region, a student was reportedly killed and eight others abducted from their student hostel by gunmen. Ambazonian separatists were accused by the police but have denied involvement. **Sources:** [Cameroon Online](#) and [China.org.cn](#)

Kenya

11 November 2019: In Juja town, Kiambu county, students gathered peacefully in front of the Jomo Kenyatta University of Science and Technology to protest rising insecurity in Juja. Soon after, police arrived and used teargas to scatter the crowd. The university later announced its closure until further notice. **Source:** [Standard](#)

Mali

09 November 2019: In Deguimbere village, Mopti region, presumed Katiba Macina (JNIM) militants burned the local school and granaries. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Niger

27 November 2019: In Tigueze Fan Raoufi village, Filingue, Tillaberi region, presumed ISGS militants entered an unnamed school and whipped four teachers with fifteen lashes each as punishment for teaching the modern school system. They also seized their belongings. **Source:** [Urgence Tillabery](#)

Somalia

17 November 2019: In Afgooye, Lower Shabelle region, a teacher was allegedly killed by Al Shabaab militants. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

24 November 2019: In Afgooye, Lower Shabelle, a teacher was allegedly shot and killed by unidentified armed perpetrators **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Asia

Afghanistan

01 November 2019: In Darqad district, Takhar province, a landmine blast planted by the Taliban killed nine boys as they were heading to school. The children, aged between eight and 11, stepped on the bomb planted on a road in a Taliban-controlled village. **Sources:** [Al Jazeera](#) and [RFE RL](#)

13 November 2019: In Qasaba area, Police District 15, Kabul, a bomb of unidentified origin targeting a convoy of a private security company killed 12 people, including a boy who was heading to school, and injured 20 others. **Source:** [RFE RL](#)

China

12 November 2019: In Sha Tin city and district, New Territories East constituency, Hong Kong special administrative region, amid an ongoing series of demonstrations across Hong Kong, police fired teargas and rubber bullets at the president of the Chinese University of Hong Kong as he was attempting to negotiate for calm between police and students at the university. The police reportedly shouted at him that it was “not the time to negotiate”. **Source:** [The Sydney Morning Herald](#)

17 – 19 November 2019: In Hung Hom area, Kowloon city district, Hong Kong, anti-government protesters occupied the Hong Kong Polytechnic University leading to a violent confrontation between them and police. Police besieged the institution for three days in an attempt to arrest dissidents holed up inside. More than 280 protesters were injured, and 1,100 people were arrested. **Sources:** [Channel News Asia](#), [The Wall Street Journal](#) and [Washington Post](#)

Middle East and North Africa

Occupied Palestinian Territories

03 November 2019: In Hebron, West Bank, Israeli forces allegedly fired tear gas canisters near a school causing dozens of Palestinian students to suffer from tear-gas inhalation. **Source:** [Alray](#)

24 November 2019: In Hebron, West Bank, Israeli soldiers fired tear-gas canisters near a school complex. Dozens of Palestinians suffered from tear-gas inhalation. **Source:** [IMEMC](#)

25 November 2019: In Hebron, West Bank, Israeli soldiers allegedly fired tear gas canisters at schools, a kindergarten and homes resulting in tear-gas inhalation. **Source:** [IMEMC](#)

Iraq

24 November 2019: In Karabilah city, al-Qaim district, Anbar province, a young girl who was on her way back from school was reportedly shot and killed inside a car by the Tribal Mobilization Forces (TMF) at a TMF checkpoint. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Syrian Arab Republic

01 November 2019: In Bdama town, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime forces shelled Bdama Primary School, partially destroying it. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

06 November 2019: In Jisr al Shoghour city and district, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes fired missiles near Ali Bin Abi Taleb School, severely damaging its building and furniture. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

08 November 2019: In Jisr al Shoghour city and district, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime warplanes shelled Zakariya Aktaa School, damaging its building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

09 November 2019: In al Kenda village, Idlib governorate, Russian warplanes shelled the Numan al Haji Primary School, damaging its building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

12 November 2019: In Kafr Aweed village, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime artillery shelled a complex of four schools - Ahmad Meghlaj Primary School, Ahmad Meghlaj Secondary School, Kafr Aweed Girls School and Kafr Aweed Boys School, damaging their buildings. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

15 November 2019: In al Bara village, Jabal al Zaweya, Idlib governorate, Russian warplanes shelled Ismail Lata High School, damaging its building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

15 November 2019: In al Bara village, Jabal al Zaweya area, Idlib governorate, Russian warplanes shelled the Teacher Training Institute, damaging its building. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

17 November 2019: In al Ali Bajeliya village, Raqqa governorate, a car bomb exploded near al Ali Bajeliya Primary School, damaging it. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

18 November 2019: In Jern al Haj Saleh village, Raqqa governorate, Syrian Democratic Forces artillery shelled a school sheltering IDPs, killing two children. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

22 November 2019: In Bdama town, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime forces artillery shelled Bdama Primary School, destroying its building. The school had already been bombed on 1 November 2019. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

Yemen

06 November 2019: In Al-Nashmah area, Al-Ma'afir district, Taizz governorate, Abu Al-Abbas fighters stormed the June 13 school and opened fire, injuring three students. The school was reportedly taken over and used for military purposes. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

06 November 2019: In Al Nashmah area, Al Ma'afir district, Taiz governorate, small arms fire of unidentified origin hit an unnamed school, wounding three students. **Source:** [Civilian Impact Monitoring Project \(CIMP\)](#)

25 November 2019: In Al Abal village, Harib Al Qaramish district, Ma'rib governorate, artillery shells of unidentified origin hit an unnamed school. **Source:** [Civilian Impact Monitoring Project \(CIMP\)](#)

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: In Mentao commune, Pobé-Mengao department, Soum province, Sahel region, mounting insecurity by armed groups continues to force the closure of schools in the Mentao refugee camp. **Source:** [UNHCR](#)

Burundi

05 November 2019: In Nyamurenza commune, Ngozi province, a female student was raped by a teacher and Imbonerakure leader. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

20 November 2019: In Matana commune, Bururi province, Imbonerakure attacked National Congress for Freedom (CNL) supporters, some of whom were teachers. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

26 November 2019: In Kirundo commune, Kirundo province, a teacher and CNL supporter was beaten up by a National Council for the Defense of Democracy–Forces for the Defense of Democracy (CNDD-FDD) member of parliament for refusing to leave the CNL party. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

28 November 2019: In Mutaho commune, Gitega province, the CNDD-FDD deputy communal representative raped his 15-year-old maid. Other women have come forward saying this CNDD-FDD leader and communal education director raped them as well. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

Ethiopia

09 November 2019: In Weldiya city, Semien Wollo zone, Amhara region, a clash over the results of a football match between students of the Waldia University on campus led to the death of at least two ethnic Oromo students, and the injury of 14 more. Police arrested 13 students in connection to the incident. **Sources:** [Borkena](#) and [SABC News](#)

12 November 2019 (DOA): In Oromia region, a clash between students from the Amhara and Oromo ethnic groups at the Dembi Dolo University left one Amhara student dead. Three students were kidnapped and taken to an unknown destination. **Source:** [Ezega](#)

12 November 2019 (DOA): In Oromia region, Amhara students of Jimma, Wedewelabu, Haramaya and Adama Universities were reported to be in fear of violence by Oromo students. **Source:** [Ezega](#)

Nigeria

12 November 2019: In Wukari town and LGA, Taraba state, a school principal was killed by unidentified gunmen who ambushed their car on the Wukari-Tsokundi road. **Sources:** [All Africa](#) and [Daily Trust](#)

16 November 2019: On the Isele-Uku/Ubulu-Uke road, Aniocha North LGA, Delta state, a teacher was injured by suspected Fulani militiamen. The militia abducted his daughter, but she was later rescued. **Sources:** [Sun News Online](#) and [Oriental News Nigeria](#)

South Sudan

23 November 2019: Between Aguka and Tonj, Warrap state, a teacher was injured by gunmen who attacked a motorbike carrying the teacher, a prison officer and one other civilian. The prison officer was killed and the civilian was wounded. The men were suspected to be from the disputed Gok state. **Source:** [Radio Tamazuj](#)

Asia

Afghanistan

05 November 2019: In Hematkhil district, Baghlan city and province, a retired university lecturer at Kabul University and cultural advisor to the Kabul mayor was assassinated by the Taliban while travelling from Baghlan to northern Kunduz province. **Sources:** [Khaama Press](#) and [The Frontier Post](#)

29 November 2019: In the Kelagai village, Dushi district, Baghlan province, four civilians including a school principal and his two sons were killed following an attack on their house. Some sources claim the Taliban was behind the attack. **Sources:** [Bakhtar News](#)

Bangladesh

18 November 2019: At Babelakona border, Sadar upazila, Sherpur district, two Bangladeshi college students were shot dead by Indian BSF when they mistakenly entered the border area. **Sources:** [The Daily Star](#), [Asian News Network](#) and [Eleven Myanmar](#)

China

11 November 2019: In Kaiyuan city, Tieling prefecture, Liaoning province, a man broke into an unnamed kindergarten and sprayed over 50 children and three teachers with a corrosive liquid, injuring them. Police arrested the perpetrator less than an hour later. **Sources:** [AFP](#), [CNN](#) and [The Guardian](#)

13 November 2019: In Hung Hom area, Kowloon city district, Hong Kong, anti-government protesters entered the campuses of the Hong Kong Baptist University, and allegedly forced Nordic students to move out. The protesters also barricaded the roads around the university with bricks to slow the police response. **Sources:** [The Guardian](#) and [The Sydney Morning Herald](#)

14 November 2019: In an unspecified location, Hong Kong, the Technical University of Denmark urged its 36 students to return home after protesters set their dormitories on fire. **Source:** [The Guardian](#)

18 November 2019: In Sha Tin city and district, New Territories East constituency, Hong Kong, police assisted by staff of the Chinese University of Hong Kong entered the university building and seized over 3,900 petrol bombs supposedly held by anti-government protesters. The university management also reported theft of dangerous chemicals from its laboratories. **Sources:** [Channel News Asia](#) and [Xinhua](#)

Pakistan

Around 04 November 2019: Near Karamna, Khyber district, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, a headmaster and three other teachers were assaulted by armed volunteers of Bazaar-Zakhakhel Peace Committee after they did not stop their vehicle at an illegal committee checkpoint. Teachers organised a week of strikes in response. **Source:** [ACLED¹](#) and [Dawn](#)

Europe

Greece

06 November 2019: In Neapoli, Thessaloniki, an Iranian refugee high school student was attacked on his way to school by two youths with their faces covered. The assailants, who are thought not to be pupils at the school and appear to have racist/xenophobic motivations, used a sharp instrument to cut the boy on his hand and threatened him not to return to school. **Source:** [Ekathimerini](#)

Middle East and North Africa

Iraq

Around 12 November 2019: In Hillah city, Babylon province, anti-government protests forced the closure of schools. **Source:** [IBT](#)

Around 12 November 2019: In Kut city, Wasit province, anti-government protests forced the closure of schools. **Source:** [IBT](#)

Syrian Arab Republic

12 November 2019: In Ariqa, As-Suwayda governate, a student was killed by a stray bullet in front of an unspecified university's Faculty of Literature during a fight between an unidentified gunman and another student. **Source:** [SOHR](#)

13 November 2019: In As-Sweida city, As-Suwayda governate, a gunman opened fire at two university students in front of an unspecified university's Faculty of Arts, killing one and wounding the other. **Source:** [SOHR](#)

19 November 2019: In Hreiji town, Deir-ez-Zor province, a teacher was allegedly shot and wounded by unidentified gunmen. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

21 November 2019: In Latakia city, Latakia governorate, Syrian regime forces arrested a male teacher and took him to an undisclosed location. **Source:** [SNHR](#)

26 November 2019: In Hawijat Kat village, Deir-ez-Zor province, unidentified gunmen shot and wounded a teacher who worked for the Educational department in Al-Busayrah city. **Source:** [SOHR](#)

Yemen

12 November 2019: In Aden, Khawr Maksar district, a university student was reportedly kidnapped by unidentified gunmen in front of the Faculty of Arts of Aden University, located by the main university building. **Source:** [Yemen Press](#)

21 November 2019: In Al Awd area, Qasabah district, Ad Dali governorate, pro-Houthi forces allegedly kidnapped a teacher and took them to an unknown place during a campaign of kidnappings in the area. **Source:** [ACLED](#)¹

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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.



¹ Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) [database attribution policy](#). Accessed 5 December 2019.