Africa

Burkina Faso
13 March 2020: In Djibo, Soum province, presumed JNIM militants ransacked and burned an unnamed school. Source: ACLED¹

16 March 2020: In Samboali village, Kompienga province, presumed JNIM or ISGS militants attacked the village, set fire to the primary school and stole supplies. Source: ACLED¹

Sahel Monitoring
A new series exploring violent and threatening incidents affecting aid operations, health care, education, civilians, refugees and IDPs in the Sahel region to ensure staff safety and better response outcomes. Burkina Faso and Niger available now.

Coming soon!
Cameroon and Mali - Sign up to our Sahel Monitoring mailing list to get them straight to your inbox.

Kenya

South Africa
11 March 2020: In Pinetown, KwaZulu-Natal province, protesting University of KwaZulu-Natal students reportedly set fire to a building on campus. The students were demanding increased student funding, the cancellation of students’ debt, and that indebted students be permitted to enroll. Sources: Eyewitness News, IOL I, IOL II and The Times

Middle East and North Africa
Egypt
18 March 2020: In Cairo, four intellectuals and activists - including a female mathematics professor at the University of Cairo and associate professor of political science at The American University in Cairo - were reportedly arrested by the authorities for carrying out a peaceful protest calling for the release of prisoners amid fears of COVID-19 spreading in Egyptian prisons. Sources: Middle East Eye, World Organisation Against Torture, John Hopkins University Coronavirus Resource Centre, The Guardian and The New York Times

This monthly digest compiles reported incidents of threatened or actual violence affecting education.

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

The listed reports have not been independently verified and do not represent the totality of events that affected the provision of education over the reporting period.

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

* = GCPEA event

Access data on teachers killed, kidnapped and arrested (KKA) and schools damaged and destroyed (DD) on HDX Insecurity Insight.

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Libya
10 March 2020: In Al Khums, Al-Marqab a member of the university council at the Almargeb University was kidnapped and killed by unidentified gunmen. Source: ACLED

Syrian Arab Republic
01 March 2020: In Bdama town, Idlib governorate, Syrian regime artillery fired shells near Bdama Primary School, damaging the building. Source: SNHR
02 March 2020: In Odwan village, Sahl al Rouj area, Idlib governorate, missiles from Russian warplanes struck Odwan Secondary School, damaging the building. Source: SNHR
16 March 2020: In Sanaa, seven female school principals were abducted by Houthi forces. No further information available. Source: Saudi24

17 March 2020: In Marib city, Ma’rib governorate, a missile of unidentified origin hit an unnamed school, damaging it. Source: CIMP

The Americas
Guatemala
02 March 2020: In Sayaxche, Peten department, a teacher was shot dead on her way to work by two men on a motorcycle. Source: El Periodico

Honduras
06 March 2020: In Santa Barbara city and department, a teacher was driving when he was shot dead by two men on a motorcycle. Source: El Pais

Mexico
19 March 2020: In Colonia CTM Culhuacan, Coyoacan, Ciudad de Mexico, the female chief of the department of the Medicine Faculty of Mexico National Autonomous University, was found dead inside a suitcase. She had disappeared a day earlier. Her body showed wounds caused by a sharp object. Sources: La Prensa and MVS

Africa
Cameroon
Targeted for Going to School - this report by Human Rights Watch documented attacks on education by separatists in Cameroon. For example, on January 30, armed separatists kidnapped a 19-year-old secondary school student in Cameroon’s Anglophone South-West region. Three days later, they chopped her finger off with a machete. Read more

Asia
Myanmar
08 March 2020: Near Kyauk Tan Gyi Village, in Kywi Te Village Tract, in Sittwe Township, in Rakhine State, a government education worker was shot and injured by Myanmar military soldiers who were on guard at Kyauk Tan Gyi gate (an entrance to Sittwe), while travelling back from Ponnagyun. Source: ACLED

The Americas
Colombia
04 March 2020: In Medellin, Antioquia department, a professor from the Antioquia University was attacked during the night inside her house by an unidentified armed individual. The attack occurred after the circulation of a pamphlet signed by the Gaitanist Self-Defense Forces of Colombia/Gulf Clan threatening members of the University. The professor survived the attack. The perpetrator tried to escape but was arrested. Sources: El Tiempo, El Colombiano I, El Colombiano II, El Mundo and Organización Mundial Contra la Tortura
Attacks on Students
This section covers events affecting students and school children.

Africa

Burundi

28 March 2020: In Rugari, Muyinga, Muyinga province, a student was attacked and injured by an Imbonerakure who teaches at a local secondary school. Source: ACLED

31 March 2020: In Ruvyagira, Mutambu commune, Bujumbura Rural province, a CNL member and student was attacked and injured by Imbonerakure. Source: ACLED

Democratic Republic of Congo

17 March 2020: In Butembo, North Kivu province, a student was killed by a stray bullet when a soldier attacked members of the Veranda Mutsanga in order to disperse them from rebuilding houses near the IBTP campus. The soldier was arrested and sentenced to death. Source: ACLED

Kenya

04 March 2020: In Nairobi city and county, a suspended University of Nairobi student was reportedly arrested and beaten to death by campus private security guards. Sources: Nairobi News, Soko Directory, Standard Media, The Daily Nation I, The Daily Nation II and The Star

Nigeria

11 March 2020: In Makurdi, Makurdi LGA, Benue state, a student was beaten to death with a hammer at 7.30pm at the Benue State University campus by unidentified cult members. The University introduced new security measures as a result. Source: Educeleb

Somalia

06 March 2020: In Hargeisa city, Maroodi Jeex region, Somaliland, a male University of Hargeisa professor went into hiding after he received death threats. The professor had recently been released from prison on blasphemy charges. Sources: Al Arabi, Humanists International I, Humanists International II, International Institute for Religious Freedom and Samaynta

South Africa

02 March 2020: In Empangeni town, Kwazulu Natal province, demonstrating students reportedly blockaded roads around the University of Zululand campus and threw a petrol bomb at a police car, setting it on fire. The students were demanding increased student funding, the cancellation of students’ debt, and that indebted students be permitted to enroll. Sources: East Coast Radio, Ladysmith Gazette, Sfrica 24 and Sowetan Live

02 March 2020: In Cape Town city, Western Cape province, demonstrating students allegedly vandalized Cape Peninsula University of Technology property, resulting in the temporary closure of the campus and four arrests. The students were demanding increased student funding, the cancellation of students’ debt, and that indebted students be permitted to enroll. Sources: All Africa, Daily Voice, IOL and News 24

South Sudan

26 March 2020: In Rumbek market, Kuei, Rumbek centre, a student from Savannah High School was shot dead by soldiers as they attempted to disperse people from fighting in the market. No reason for the fighting was reported. At least four soldiers from the joint integrated security team were arrested over the killing. Source: Catholic Radio Network

Sudan

04 March 2020: In the village of Turr, in an unspecified locality of Central Darfur state, two IDP school students were wounded when armed pastoralists attacked the village. They also stole five donkeys. The governor of Central Darfur state has disputed that this event occurred. Source: ACLED
Asia

India
01 March 2020: In Hyderabad city, Telangana state, students at the English and Foreign Languages University were reportedly barred from exiting the university by police officials, apparently in order to prevent them from participating in a protest outside campus over the controversial Citizenship Amendment Act. Sources: The New Indian Express, The Siasat Daily, The Times of India I and The Times of India II

Middle East and North Africa

Occupied Palestinian Territories
03 March 2020: In al Quds's Isawiya neighbourhood, West Bank, Palestinian students of the Boy's Secondary School were attacked by Israeli forces who fired rubber coated bullets at them. One student suffered injuries to his hand. Sources: ACLED

Syrian Arab Republic
15 March 2020: In Salqin, Idlib countryside area, a student was reportedly killed by HTS for allegedly communicating with the regime. Source: ACLED

Notes
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Key definitions
Teachers killed, kidnapped and arrested (KKA) and schools damaged and destroyed (DD)
Teacher: Anyone working professionally in the education system, or volunteering at any level of the education system, including teachers, academics, education support and transport staff (e.g., education administrators, janitors, bus drivers, librarians), or education officials.
Killed: Refers to a teacher being killed. Teacher(s) killed while in captivity are coded as ‘kidnapped’.
Kidnapped: Refers to a teacher being kidnapped, missing or taken hostage.
Arrested: Refers to a teacher being arrested, charged, detained, fined or imprisoned. The classification is based on reported but not independently verified information. Insecurity Insight project makes no independent judgement about the legality of any reported arrest or detention.
Schools: Any facility providing education or resource which is used to support the educational process, including kindergartens, schools, universities, technical and vocational education training institutes, textbook and school warehouse facilities.
Damage: School was reported as damaged (partially destroyed and heavily damaged) during the incident.
Destruction: School was reported as destroyed in the incident.
Find about more on definitions used by Insecurity Insight and by GCPEA here.

1 Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) database attribution policy. Accessed 5 April 2020