

SOMALIA

Combined, actions by non-state armed groups and local clan conflicts led to more than 600 attacks on education, mostly in central and southern Somalia. This included attacks on schools, targeted killings, abductions, and abuse of students and educators, and military use of schools. At least 15 incidents affected higher education, mostly targeted killings of students and professors, and bombing of universities.

Context

By 2017, civil conflict had wracked Somalia for more than two decades. In 2012, Somali government troops, an allied non-state armed group, Ethiopian forces, and African Union forces regained control over parts of the country, including the capital city of Mogadishu, having taken it back from the Islamic Courts Union, a coalition of Sharia courts that assumed authority in 2006.¹⁸³²

However, Somalia faced continued insecurity and conflict between government forces and an al Qaeda-affiliated extremist group, the Harakat al-Shabaab al-Mujahedeen, known as al-Shabaab, which splintered off from the former Shariah coalition. Al-Shabaab aimed to build an Islamic state by using violence against the Somali government, its institutions, and other groups of people perceived to be affiliated with the government, including schools, foreigners, members of the Somali diaspora, and Western countries and organizations.¹⁸³³ In 2017, a newly elected government intensified military operations against al-Shabaab.¹⁸³⁴

Insecurity due to armed conflict negatively affected education across the country. Somalia's enrollment rates were some of the lowest in the world and were even lower in the most insecure areas. Across southern and central Somalia, only an estimated 30 percent of school-aged children had access to learning opportunities, and this number was only 17 percent in the areas most affected by conflict, including IDP settlements and rural areas.¹⁸³⁵ Moreover, armed conflict, along with drought and famine, continued to displace families across Somalia. According to OCHA, 1,029,000 people were displaced as of October 2017.¹⁸³⁶

Boys and girls were reportedly subject to different risks. The education of boys was reportedly prioritized over that of girls, which created significant gender disparities in education.¹⁸³⁷ As of September 2016, only 43 percent of Somali children enrolled in school were girls, due to factors including early marriage, a limited number of female teachers (only 12 percent at the primary level), and a lack of separate toilet facilities for girls in the schools.¹⁸³⁸ Most girls reportedly left school before grade five.¹⁸³⁹ Boys were more at risk of forced recruitment.¹⁸⁴⁰ During the first half of 2016, armed forces and groups reportedly forcefully recruited 962 boys and 410 girls.¹⁸⁴¹

The majority of attacks on education occurred in central and southern Somalia, but sporadic incidents were also reported in Puntland and Somaliland. A rapid assessment conducted in 2016 by the Somalia Education Cluster and funded by UNICEF in central and southern Somalia found that there were 682 attacks and threats against education. Many of the threats related to the presence of al-Shabaab, as well as to clan and community conflicts.¹⁸⁴² The same assessment noted that that Quranic school students, personnel, and institutions were most frequently attacked (369 incidents), followed by primary schools (169 incidents). The study noted that Quranic institutions may have been attacked most frequently because of their greater numbers.¹⁸⁴³ According to the study, 30 percent of attacks against education occurred in South West state, 27 percent in Hirshabelle state, 26 percent in Jubaland state, and 17 percent in Galmudug state.¹⁸⁴⁴ It should be noted that these numbers may include some incidents that were not attacks on education as defined by GCPEA, such as community grievances with school management, since the data were not disaggregated.

Somalia endorsed the Safe Schools Declaration in November 2015.

Attacks on schools

Between 2013 and 2017, al-Shabaab, the Somali National Armed Forces (SNAF), and other armed groups attacked more than 100 schools. While the SNAF was responsible for the majority of attacks on schools during 2013, al-Shabaab was responsible for most attacks in subsequent years. A UN report that began prior to the current reporting period verified 195 attacks on schools between 2012 and mid-2016. Of these, al-Shabaab was responsible for more than half (112) and the SNAF was responsible for approximately 30 percent (60). Unknown armed elements, the African Union Mission in

Somalia, Ahl al-Sunna wal-Jama'a (ASWJ), Galmudug Interim Administration forces, and the Kenyan Defense Forces were also responsible for a smaller number of attacks on schools.¹⁸⁴⁵ Rates of documented attacks on schools declined during the 2009-2013 reporting period for *Education under Attack 2014* and through 2014, before rising again during 2015 and 2016.¹⁸⁴⁶

The UN verified 54 attacks on schools in Somalia in 2013.¹⁸⁴⁷ According to the UN, the SNAF was responsible for the majority of attacks on both schools and hospitals that year.¹⁸⁴⁸ It was not clear where the majority of these attacks took place, but media sources reported two examples of attacks on schools, both in central and southern Somalia:

- In January 2013, AMISOM troops were reported to have mistakenly fired on a religious school in a village near Mogadishu, killing five children and two adults.¹⁸⁴⁹
- Local media reported that in March 2013, two children died and three more were injured when a student accidentally triggered an IED that had been planted at a Quranic school in the Galgadud region, Galmudug state.¹⁸⁵⁰

The UN verified 17 attacks on schools in 2014. In contrast to the previous year, al-Shabaab was responsible for the majority of these incidents (eight), the Somali National Army and allied non-state armed groups perpetrated six, and unidentified assailants were responsible for three.¹⁸⁵¹ Attacks on schools included collateral damage caused by shelling, as well as intentional damage caused by vandalism. Again, the reports did not make clear where most of the attacks occurred, but there were sporadic reports of attacks on schools in central and southern Somalia. For example:

- Media sources reported that on May 1, 2014, shells fired by unknown assailants into Mogadishu city hit a Quranic school, as well as civilian homes. At least two people were killed and twelve wounded, although it was not clear whether any of them were teachers or students at the school.¹⁸⁵²
- AMISOM forces destroyed a madrassa in Ceel Garas town, Galmudug state, on October 2, 2014, while targeting al-Shabaab, according to information verified by the UN.¹⁸⁵³
- AMISOM and the UN reported that al-Shabaab was responsible for vandalizing and raiding schools in at least two cases: on March 24, 2014, in Hudur town, Western Bakool region, and on October 27, 2014, in Aadan Yabaal district, Middle Shabelle region, Hirshabelle state.¹⁸⁵⁴

In 2015, the UN documented at least 24 attacks on schools. Al-Shabaab was responsible for 15 of these attacks, the SNAF and allies were responsible for four, clan armed groups and unidentified non-state armed groups were each responsible for two, and unidentified air forces were responsible for one.¹⁸⁵⁵ Individual attacks continued to be concentrated in central and southern Somalia. For example:

- At the beginning of 2015, unidentified armed men allegedly threw grenades into one primary and one secondary school in Galkayo, Mudug region, Galmudug state, killing at least four teachers and injuring dozens, according to a media report.¹⁸⁵⁶
- The UN Secretary-General reported that Kenyan forces hit a Quranic school during air strikes against Jungal village in Baardheere district, Gedo region, Jubaland state, on July 21, 2015. The attack killed six boys and injured twelve others.¹⁸⁵⁷

During the first half of 2016, the UN signaled a dramatic increase over the previous year in the number of reported attacks on schools (33).¹⁸⁵⁸ The UN verified 46 attacks on schools in over the full course of the year. As in previous years, al-Shabaab was the primary actor responsible for these attacks (31), followed by the Somalia National Army (9), ASWJ (2), clan militias (2), and AMISOM (1).¹⁸⁵⁹

The Somalia Education Cluster's rapid assessment conducted in 2016 found that most attacks and threats against primary schools in central and southern Somalia occurred in Jubaland state (eight), with incidents also documented in Hirshabelle state (five) and South West state (one). Non-state actors were responsible for most of these attacks.¹⁸⁶⁰ There also were four attacks on schools in South West state (two Quranic, one secondary, and one technical).¹⁸⁶¹ Media sources and the Somalia Education Cluster also described several attacks in these areas, and in Banadir region where Mogadishu is located, which is also in central and southern Somalia. It was not clear whether there was any overlap between the incidents included in the rapid assessment and those described by other sources. Reports of incidents included the following:

- The UN reported that al-Shabaab mortar shells destroyed a madrassa in Caga Dhiig village, Banadir state, on February 25, 2016, killing three boys and injuring two other boys and a girl.¹⁸⁶²
- Media sources recorded an incident on July 21, 2016, claiming that unidentified assailants set fire to multiple schools near Cadale, Middle Shabelle region, Hirshabelle state.¹⁸⁶³
- According to media sources, on August 28, 2016, a vehicle filled with explosives was reportedly discovered in front of Zaawo Taako Primary School in the Xamar Weyne neighborhood of Mogadishu. Security forces defused the explosives.¹⁸⁶⁴
- According to the Somalia Education Cluster, at least four schools were damaged in Gaalkayo town, Mudug region, Galmudug state, at the end of 2016 during a period of intensified violence between non-state armed groups.¹⁸⁶⁵

An unknown number of educational institutions were damaged or destroyed by security forces or armed groups in 2017. These included:

- On April 18, 2017, unidentified opposition forces fired mortar shells that landed on a primary school in Mogadishu, Banadir region. Reports indicated that between one and four students were killed, and that seven or eight other civilians were injured.¹⁸⁶⁶
- According to a report by the Norwegian Refugee Council in support of the Housing, Land, and Property Sub Cluster and the Protection Cluster in Somalia, in December 2017, 25 learning facilities, 10 mainstream school, and 15 Quranic learning centers were demolished in the context of mass evictions in Mogadishu. In some cases, armed individuals wearing Somali security agency uniforms were responsible for the demolitions.¹⁸⁶⁷

Attacks on school students, teachers, and other education personnel

Members of non-state armed groups and unknown assailants threatened, kidnapped, detained, and killed teachers, and shot, abducted, and abused students in more than 100 cases during the 2013-2017 reporting period. Security forces were responsible for a smaller number of violations. The majority of such cases occurred in the southern and central states of Somalia, but sporadic cases were also reported in Puntland. The reporting period did not include any incidents on the large scale of those documented in *Education under Attack 2014*, such as one in October 2011 at the Ministry of Education that killed more than 100 people, many of them students and their parents.¹⁸⁶⁸

In 2013, AMISOM's daily media monitoring report identified several cases of al-Shabaab abducting more than 100 Quranic school teachers in central and southern Somalia, in most cases for refusing to comply with the group's demands.¹⁸⁶⁹

- At the beginning of January 2013, the group reportedly abducted more than 100 Quranic teachers in El-dheer town, Galgadud region, Galmudug state, for rejecting their demand to recruit fighters. It was not clear whether al-Shabaab demanded that the recruitment occur at schools.¹⁸⁷⁰
- In February 2013, al-Shabaab reportedly detained Quranic teachers from Halgan town, Hiran region, Hirshabelle state, after they refused to participate in a seminar the group had ordered them to attend.¹⁸⁷¹ The group also kidnapped another Quranic teacher on January 17, 2013, in Lower Juba region.¹⁸⁷²

In 2014, media reports, including those collated by AMISOM, indicated that unknown attackers and non-state armed groups shot and killed, detained and abducted approximately 10 teachers and students. The majority of these attacks occurred in southern and central Somalia, but one teacher was also attacked in Puntland state.¹⁸⁷³ Reported incidents included the following:

- Unidentified assailants allegedly shot and killed two students in Kismayo, Lower Juba region, Jubaland state, on April 14, 2014.¹⁸⁷⁴
- On October 26, 2014, assailants shot and killed two teachers in Mogadishu. Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack.¹⁸⁷⁵
- Two female teachers who worked in a kindergarten were shot and killed on their way to work on November 2, 2014, in Dharkenley district, Mogadishu, also by unknown attackers.¹⁸⁷⁶

- Al-Shabaab beheaded a Quranic teacher in Qardho, Bari region, Puntland state, on December 12, 2014, leaving his body near his hometown.¹⁸⁷⁷
- The UN documented an incident in which al-Shabaab detained two teachers for refusing to instruct their students to participate in religious classes. The date of the incident was unspecified.¹⁸⁷⁸

In 2015, media sources documented sporadic reports of attacks targeting education personnel. Unknown attackers, members of al-Shabaab, state police, and international forces were all implicated in the attacks, most of which occurred in southern and central Somalia. One attack also took place in Puntland.¹⁸⁷⁹ For example:

- On January 2, 2015, a bomb reportedly targeted a bus in Mudug region, Galmudug state, killing a security guard and wounding 10 other people, including at least 6 Kenyan teachers.¹⁸⁸⁰
- On April 14, 2015, members of al-Shabaab allegedly detonated two bombs outside the Somali Ministry of Education, and gunmen then stormed the building.¹⁸⁸¹ At least 12 people reportedly were killed, including 7 attackers, and at least 15 people were injured as a result of the attack. It was not clear how many of those killed were education personnel.¹⁸⁸²
- On July 12, 2015, Kenyan air strikes allegedly killed five children while they were on their way to study at a religious school.¹⁸⁸³
- On October 14, 2015, police entered a school in Bossaso Port, Puntland, to arrest the headmaster and an unknown number of students. When students protested, the police allegedly fired live bullets.¹⁸⁸⁴
- In December 2015, two gunmen went to the house of the headmaster of Al Cayn Primary School, where they shot and killed him. The reasons for the shooting were unclear, but he reportedly had argued with local authorities over school management and had received threats from a non-state armed group warning him to stop working, which he did not.¹⁸⁸⁵

According to the Education Cluster's rapid assessment in 2016, in central and southern Somalia, there were 14 attacks on education personnel, including twelve threats and two unspecified attacks, as well as 12 attacks targeting school children, including seven threats, two abductions, and three cases of unspecified abuse targeting school children in central and southern Somalia. The majority of these cases took place in Jubaland and South West states.¹⁸⁸⁶ In addition to these violations, there were media reports of one attack on teachers that occurred in Mogadishu. On March 30, 2016, at least two foreign teachers at a Somali primary school, their driver, a translator, and a security guard were reportedly killed in a drive-by shooting of their school bus by unknown gunmen in Mogadishu. Five students were injured in the attack.¹⁸⁸⁷

In 2017, al-Shabaab posted an online video in which the group's spokesperson threatened to harm teachers and parents who continued to send their children to Western-style schools.¹⁸⁸⁸ There also were also two attacks, including one targeting a Ministry of Education official and including one attack affecting school children.

- On April 10, 2017, a Ministry of Education officer reportedly died after a bomb planted in his car exploded in Hamarweyne district, Mogadishu.¹⁸⁸⁹
- On October 14, 2017 a large truck bomb detonated in Mogadishu, killing more than 300 people and injured hundreds, according to the *Guardian*.¹⁸⁹⁰ Among those killed were 15 primary school children who were on a school bus at the time of the blast.¹⁸⁹¹

Military use of schools and universities

The Somalia Education Cluster reported in 2016 that it was working with the SNAF to address military occupation of schools.¹⁸⁹² Although the Education Cluster noted that military use of schools was not a significant problem, the SNAF, al-Shabaab, and AMISOM were all reported to have used schools and universities for military purposes during the reporting period. Rates of military use were approximately the same as those reported in 2011 and 2012 by *Education under Attack 2014*, with between two and five institutions used each year.

Somali government forces and African Union troops were reported as having used two universities as military bases throughout the reporting period. For example:

- Media sources reported that Somali government forces and AMISOM established a military base at Kismayo University in September 2012. Several attacks reportedly targeted the university during the military troops' presence there, including the following:
 - On May 2, 2013, a woman carrying explosives attempted to attack the university, but she was arrested before succeeding.¹⁸⁹³
 - On May 9, 2013, unknown attackers hit the university with artillery fire. At least three people were killed.¹⁸⁹⁴
 - On August 22, 2015, assailants believed to be part of al-Shabaab exploded a vehicle at the military base on the campus of Kismayo University. The explosion killed at least 12 people and wounded more than 20.¹⁸⁹⁵
 - In February 2016, unknown perpetrators launched mortar shells that hit the university.¹⁸⁹⁶
- AMISOM forces used the Somali National University as a base throughout the reporting period, officially handing it back to the government in July 2017, after 10 years.¹⁸⁹⁷ al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for detonating two grenades near the university campus on August 4, 2013, while the African Union forces were still occupying it.¹⁸⁹⁸

There were also sporadic cases of schools used for military purposes throughout the reporting period. No instances were documented in 2013, but there were at least four verified and one unverified cases of schools used for military purposes in 2014, three by the SNAF, one by al-Shabaab, and one by AMISOM troops (unverified).¹⁸⁹⁹ At least three schools were reportedly used in 2015.¹⁹⁰⁰ Cases reported by the UN or media sources included the following:

- State security forces reportedly used a secondary school to interrogate more than 45 people who were arrested in Afgoye district, Lower Shabelle region, South West state, in September 2014.¹⁹⁰¹
- The army used one school in the Lower Shabelle region, South West state, during 2015. The army vacated the school in response to UN advocacy.¹⁹⁰²
- UN personnel verified that Somali forces also used two schools in Diinsoor town, Bay region, South West state, in November 2015. The army was still using one of the schools at the end of 2016.¹⁹⁰³

In 2016, the SNAF and AMISOM reportedly continued to use schools. This occurred most prominently in South West state but was also reported to occur in other areas in central and southern Somalia. Somalia's 2012-2016 Education Sector Analysis reported that a rapid baseline survey conducted in 2016 found that the military was occupying seven primary schools and one secondary school, including three primary schools and one secondary school in South West state, two primary schools in Jubaland state, one primary school in Hirshabelle state, and one primary school in Gal-mudug state.¹⁹⁰⁴ Other sources also reported military use of schools that year, but it was not clear whether these reports overlapped with those documented in the Education Sector Analysis. For example:

- After al-Shabaab attacked their base, AMISOM forces reportedly occupied a secondary school in Gedo region, Jubaland state, for six days in January 2016.¹⁹⁰⁵
- In May 2016, a media report collected by AMISOM indicated that the Somali Ministry of Defense had ordered the SNAF to vacate one school in Afgoye district, Lower Shabelle region, South West state, after the troops had occupied the school for four years.¹⁹⁰⁶ It was not clear whether this was the same school where the army interrogated people in September 2014.

At the time of writing, the only information available on military use of schools and universities was the handing over of Somali National University from AMISOM to the Somali government.¹⁹⁰⁷

Child recruitment at, or en route to or from, school

Throughout the 2013-2017 reporting period, AMISOM, the UN, and other observers repeatedly reported that al-Shabaab recruited children from schools and madrassas, although the exact number of children recruited continued to be difficult to determine, as was the case from 2009 to 2013. There were reports that al-Shabaab used education as a tool for recruitment, establishing schools and madrassas to recruit child fighters. Al-Shabaab allegedly gave lectures and distributed booklets supporting its ideology, and the group forced children to attend madrassas they operated in order to train them as soldiers. It was also noted that the group detained and abducted teachers, elders, and imams who did

not comply with turning children over to the group. In 2017, al-Shabaab reportedly introduced a new primary and secondary school curriculum, which excluded such elements as English-language education and replaced it with Arabic, and was seeking to institute the new curriculum widely, according to a media source.¹⁹⁰⁸

Education was also reportedly promised in return for participation in fighting. A March 2016 report by AMISOM stated that al-Shabaab members frequently recruited or forcibly abducted children as young as 10 years old from madrassas, promising them a better education and access to a more prosperous life in return for their participation in fighting. The report noted that the group used some children as suicide bombers.¹⁹⁰⁹

While *Education under Attack 2014* indicated that girls were recruited as soldiers' wives between 2009 and 2012, there were no such cases documented during the period covered in the current report.

Incidents in which children were abducted and forcibly recruited included the following:

- The UN documented al-Shabaab's recruitment of six boys, some as young as twelve years old, from a Quranic school in the city of Baidoa, Bay region, South West state, on January 24, 2013.¹⁹¹⁰
- The same report documented the recruitment of 34 boys during four of the attacks on schools that al-Shabaab and other groups carried out in 2013.¹⁹¹¹
- A media report alleged that al-Shabaab abducted hundreds of children in El Bur town, Galgadud region, Galmudug state, in June 2013, including from Quranic schools.¹⁹¹² It was not clear how many of these children were boys or girls.
- On February 16, 2014, al-Shabaab recruited four boys from a school in Waajid district, Bakool region, after threatening to kill the teachers if they did not join the group.¹⁹¹³
- The UN documented the abduction of approximately 150 children from madrassas in the Bay region, South West state, by al-Shabaab for recruitment purposes in December 2015. Of the twenty-six of cases that were verified, all were boys.¹⁹¹⁴
- On April 19, 2016, al-Shabaab reportedly abducted at least 10 students from their school in Harardheere district, Mudug region, Galmudug state, according to a media report.¹⁹¹⁵
- Human Rights Watch documented an intensified child recruitment campaign by al-Shabaab beginning in mid-2017. For example, the group forcibly abducted at least 50 boys and girls from two schools in Burhakaba, Bay region, in September 2017. Witnesses who spoke to Human Rights Watch reported that the children were taken to Bulo Fulay, a village with several religious schools and a training facility. Al-Shabaab fighters reportedly returned to another school in Burhakaba two weeks later, where they threatened and beat a teacher and demanded that more children be handed over. Human Rights Watch pointed out interviewees' concerns and al-Shabaab's history with child combatants, but noted that there was no clear evidence that the children were abducted for fighting purposes.¹⁹¹⁶

Children who were recruited by armed groups sometimes were later arrested or fled. For example:

- During a battle in Puntland in April 2016, Somali security officials reported that they arrested around 100 boys as young as 14 years old, dozens of whom al-Shabaab had abducted from their schools.¹⁹¹⁷ Of those children, 28 were sentenced in military court to between 10 and 20 years in prison; 26 were being held in prison at the beginning of 2017, after having been to a rehabilitation center in Mogadishu; and 9 were initially sentenced to death before having their sentences commuted to 20 years.¹⁹¹⁸
- In August 2017, *Voice of America* reported that children fleeing areas of central Somalia controlled by al-Shabaab were escaping recruitment. According to the district commissioner of Adale town, Middle Shabelle region, al-Shabaab had been abducting children from local schools to reinforce their numbers.¹⁹¹⁹

Attacks on higher education

Higher education institutions and personnel continued to be targeted sporadically in the current reporting period, as was reported in *Education under Attack 2014*. GCPEA found media reports of 16 incidents that affected approximately

32 people. These attacks were concentrated in Mogadishu, with 12 taking place in the capital city. There were also reports of attacks against higher education in other areas of southern and central Somalia, including Galmudug state and South West state, as well as one incident in Somaliland. The attacks that occurred in the south and center of the country included gunmen attacking university personnel and explosions on university campuses, while the attack in Somaliland occurred in the context of a student protest.

There were three reported attacks on higher education in 2013, according to local media sources:

- On August 17, 2013, unknown attackers reportedly kidnapped five students who were on their way to study at Mogadishu University.¹⁹²⁰
- On November 7, 2013, two unidentified assailants shot and killed Mahmud Kolow, a university professor in the Lower Shebelle region, South West state.¹⁹²¹
- On December 6, 2013, a female lecturer from Uganda who was working at the University of Somalia was reportedly shot and killed by unknown perpetrators on her way home from the campus in Mogadishu.¹⁹²²

Higher education personnel and infrastructure were reportedly targeted in six cases throughout 2014, according to media sources. These included five by unidentified attackers and one by Somali police:

- On January 11, 2014, gunmen shot and killed a female university employee in Mogadishu.¹⁹²³
- On April 14, 2014, Somali police arrested dozens of students who were peacefully protesting against a tuition fee increase at Hargeisa University, Somaliland. Police also fired live bullets into the air to disperse the crowd, injuring one student.¹⁹²⁴
- A blast struck the campus of the National University of Somalia in Mogadishu on April 21, 2014, leading three students to jump from the walls and injure themselves.¹⁹²⁵
- In May 2014, unknown gunmen shot and killed a Kenyan teacher working at a college in Galkayo town, Mudug region, Galmudug state.¹⁹²⁶
- Also in May, a university lecturer working at Horseed International University, Mogadishu, was targeted by a bomb planted in his car. The attack injured one university student.¹⁹²⁷
- On December 10, 2014, assailants opened fire on the vehicle of the acting chancellor of Mogadishu's Somali Institute of Management and Administration Development (SIMAD), who was killed in the attack.¹⁹²⁸

In 2015 there were at least four reported attacks targeting higher education, including a deadly attack on the Ministry of Higher Education, according to media sources. For example:

- On January 7, 2015, a car bomb exploded in Mogadishu, critically injuring a lecturer at SIMAD. The assailants were not identified.¹⁹²⁹
- On April 14, 2015, al-Shabaab targeted Somalia's Ministry of Higher Education, blasting the entrance and then storming the building. They killed at least 15 and wounded at least 20, including civilians and the attackers.¹⁹³⁰
- Three months later, on August 11, 2015, an explosive device planted by al-Shabaab at the gate to Samad University in Mogadishu injured two people.¹⁹³¹
- On August 12, 2015, leaflets bearing al-Shabaab's logo were reportedly distributed in Mogadishu, warning residents to stay away from Samad University, located in the city.¹⁹³²

In 2016 at least two incidents of attacks on higher education were reported by media sources:

- Professor Abdiweli Badi Mohamed was injured by an explosive device attached to his vehicle in Mogadishu. Sources interviewed by the media believed that al-Shabaab was responsible, but it was not clear why the attack was carried out.¹⁹³³
- Samad University in Mogadishu was reportedly affected by violence for a second time on November 29, 2016, this time by Somali forces. AMISOM's *Daily Monitoring Report* indicated that security forces had entered the university during evening classes, fired bullets into the air, and confiscated several students' cell phones.¹⁹³⁴

At the time of writing, there had been no reported attacks on higher education in 2017.

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- ¹⁸³⁴ “Somalia leader declares country a ‘war zone,’” *Al Jazeera*, April 6, 2017.
- ¹⁸³⁵ OCHA, *Humanitarian Needs Overview 2017: Somalia*, October 2016, pp. 8, 14. UN Population Fund (UNFPA), *Educational Characteristics of the Somali People* (Nairobi: UNFPA, 2016), p. viii. Federal Government of Somalia, Ministry of Education, Culture, and Higher Education with the support of UNICEF and the Global Partnership for Education, *Education Sector Analysis* (Mogadishu: Federal Government of Somalia, 2017), unpublished document shared via email in September 2017, p. xi.
- ¹⁸³⁶ OCHA, “Somalia: Humanitarian Dashboard,” October 2017.
- ¹⁸³⁷ OCHA, *Humanitarian Needs Overview 2017: Somalia*, p. 14.
- ¹⁸³⁸ Federal Government of Somalia, Ministry of Education, Culture, and Higher Education, *Education Sector Analysis*, p. 110.
- ¹⁸³⁹ OCHA, *Humanitarian Needs Overview 2017: Somalia*, p. 14.
- ¹⁸⁴⁰ OCHA, *Humanitarian Needs Overview 2017: Somalia*, p. 7.
- ¹⁸⁴¹ OCHA, *Humanitarian Needs Overview 2017: Somalia*, p. 21.
- ¹⁸⁴² Federal Government of Somalia, *Education Sector Analysis*, pp. 38-46.
- ¹⁸⁴³ Federal Government of Somalia, *Education Sector Analysis*, p. 41.
- ¹⁸⁴⁴ Federal Government of Somalia, *Education Sector Analysis*, pp. 38-46.
- ¹⁸⁴⁵ UN Security Council, “Report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict in Somalia,” S/2016/1098, December 22, 2016, para. 50.
- ¹⁸⁴⁶ UN Security Council, “Report of the Secretary-General,” S/2016/1098, para. 50.
- ¹⁸⁴⁷ UN General Assembly and Security Council, “Report of the Secretary-General,” A/68/878-S/2014/339, para. 120.
- ¹⁸⁴⁸ UN General Assembly and Security Council, “Report of the Secretary-General,” A/68/878-S/2014/339, para. 120.
- ¹⁸⁴⁹ “5 Children Killed as African Union Peacekeepers Mistakenly Open Fire on a School,” *RT News*, January 17, 2013, as cited in GCPEA, *Education under Attack 2014*, p. 181.
- ¹⁸⁵⁰ “Somalia: Bomb Explosion Kills Two Children in Central Somalia,” *RBC Radio*, March 24, 2013, as cited in GCPEA, *Education under Attack 2014*, p. 181.
- ¹⁸⁵¹ UN General Assembly and Security Council, “Report of the Secretary-General,” A/69/926-S/2015/409, para. 151.
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- ¹⁸⁵⁷ UN Security Council, “Report of the Secretary-General,” S/2016/1098, para. 56.
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