

# ARMED CONFLICT AND EDUCATION

In some places in Southeast Asia, education is beset by armed conflicts and its excesses. School buildings and lives of students are part of the collateral damage and teachers are fair game.



**School No More:** Panglima Indanan Elementary School in Indanan, Sulu in the Philippines is now a military camp complete with large artilleries like a howitzer as seen in this photo. Education suffer the brunt of militarist policies of past and present regimes geared at ending the long standing civil war in the island of Mindanao.

**Major Setback:** The destruction of education networks is one of the greatest setbacks for countries affected by armed conflict since lost education take years to replace, making the overall task of postwar recovery even more difficult.

**Teachers Behind Bars:** Before the ceasefire agreement in 1995, many Mon teachers in Myanmar were arrested and accused by the military junta as being rebel supporters even though these teachers have not been involved in the armed movement.

**Excesses of War:** Landmines remain a threat in many places in Cambodia like this elementary school in the Samlot district. This situation is specially dangerous for children who walk their way to schools. Similar problem is faced in Laos and Myanmar where the US likewise planted landmines in it many bombing campaigns during the Vietnam War.

