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Center for Public Diplomacy

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SPECIAL EDITION

Commemorating 168 Schoolchildren Killed in U.S. Attacks

MFA DIGEST



MINAB #168

The Minab School Tragedy

ON SATURDAY MORNING OF 28 FEBRUARY 2026, the US and Israel launched a coordinated attack on Iran. One of the first sites attacked by the United States in the early hour of the invasion was the Shajareye Tayyebah School in the southern city of Minab in Hormuzgan Province, off the shores of the Strait of Hormuz. According to witness accounts corroborated by satellite-based analyses, the area of the school was hit by multiple US Tomahawk bombs. The roof of the school collapsed on students, killing 120 schoolchildren. A total of 168 people were killed and several others injured in the US attack. **Saturday 15 August 2026 marked the 168th day of the US-Israeli invasion of Iran. People in Iran and across the world including in the Iranian missions abroad commemorated the memory of the 168 people killed in the US attacks on Minab School.**



THE TRAGEDY AT THE SHAJARAH TAYYIBA MINAB SCHOOL became the deadliest attack on an educational facility in the US-Israel invasion. The images that emerged from the rubble of the destroyed school were reviewed and verified in person by journalists from international media including the Sky News, CNN, BBC, the New York Times, the Washington Post, Reuters, and global independent fact-finding groups.



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Sky News takes viewers inside Minab in new film investigating primary school strike in Iran

Monday 15 June 2026



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'What was their crime?': BBC visits Iran school where strike killed 120 children

23 July 2026

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Nawal Al-Maghafi

Senior international investigations correspondent, Minab, southern Iran



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Minab school bombing: how the worst mass casualty event of the Iran war unfolded - a visual guide

A strike on Shajareh Tayyebah school during the US-Israeli bombing campaign killed up to 168 people. The Guardian has pieced together the incident and its aftermath using verified footage and images from the site

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Tess McClure and Deepa Parent

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FILE- This picture, released by the Iranian government's foreign media department and distributed by the AP without changes, shows graves being prepared for the victims, mostly children, of a strike Feb. 28 on a primary school in Minab, Iran, Monday, March 2, 2026. (Iranian Foreign Media Department via AP/File) (Uncredited/Iranian Foreign Media Department)

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Nawal Al-Maghafi in Minab

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Travelling through Iran reveals mixed narratives about the US-Israel war

Some believe conflict strengthened national unity, others say it deepened repression, but all mourn the dead



📷 Nawal Al-Maghafi with footballers travelling home after the domestic league restarted.

The New York Times



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'Mistakes Are Made,' Trump Says About Deadly U.S. Strikes on Iranian School

More than 100 days after U.S. airstrikes demolished an elementary school in the southern Iranian city of Minab, the president said the episode was still under investigation.

SEVERAL INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS condemned the US attack and concluded, in separate reports, that the deadly US bombing of the Iranian school constituted a grave violation of humanitarian law and is a war crime.

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Deadly bombing of Iran primary school 'a grave violation of humanitarian law': UNESCO



© Mehr News Agency | Smoke rises over Tehran, Iran following air strikes in June 2025. (file)

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Iran: Human Rights Council to hold urgent debate on 27 March on Minab school strike

THE US PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP AND WAR SECRETARY Pete Hegseth, however, evaded the responsibility of the attack as against the abundant evidence published by global media, independent investigators and fact-finding institutes which demonstrated that US Tomahawk bombs were used to demolish the Minab School. The US unaccountability has sparked international outcry especially by the press.



The New York Times

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OPINION
W.J. HENNIGAN

An American Strike Killed Iranian Civilians. Where's the Accountability?

July 16, 2026



Anthony Gerace



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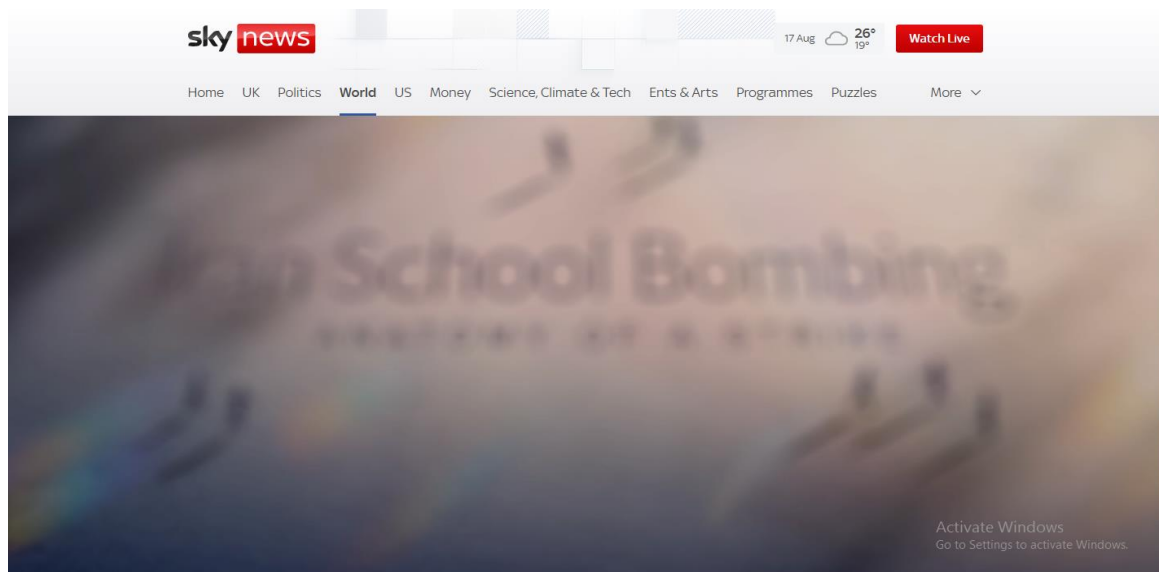
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MORE THAN FIVE MONTHS AFTER THE ATTACK, THE PENTAGON had still not provided an explanation for why the US military fired Tomahawk cruise missiles at the elementary school. A confidential Pentagon investigation had confirmed that the attack was the work of the US military, but its findings were never fully released. CNN reported, citing informed sources, that the US military command had refused for months to order a formal investigation to clarify the scope of the attack.

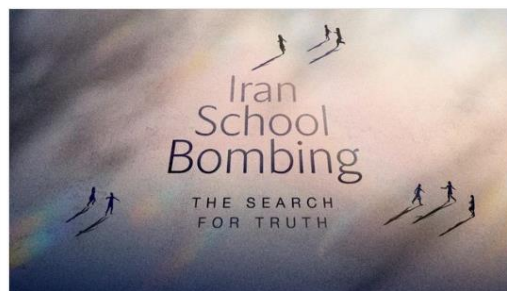


A Sky News investigation has revealed the scale of the intelligence failure behind a deadly strike on an Iranian primary school.

The 28 February strike on Shajareh Tayyebah school in Minab killed 156 people, including 120 students and an unborn child.

Seven independent experts told us that all the evidence points towards US responsibility.

The findings are part of a Sky News documentary, *Iran School Bombing: The Search for Truth*.



AMONG THE SURVIVORS, ONE STUDENT LATER SPOKE OF A moment he would never forget: his friend Arash was identified by his socks, because nothing else was left of his body.



Photo : Masoud Shahrestani

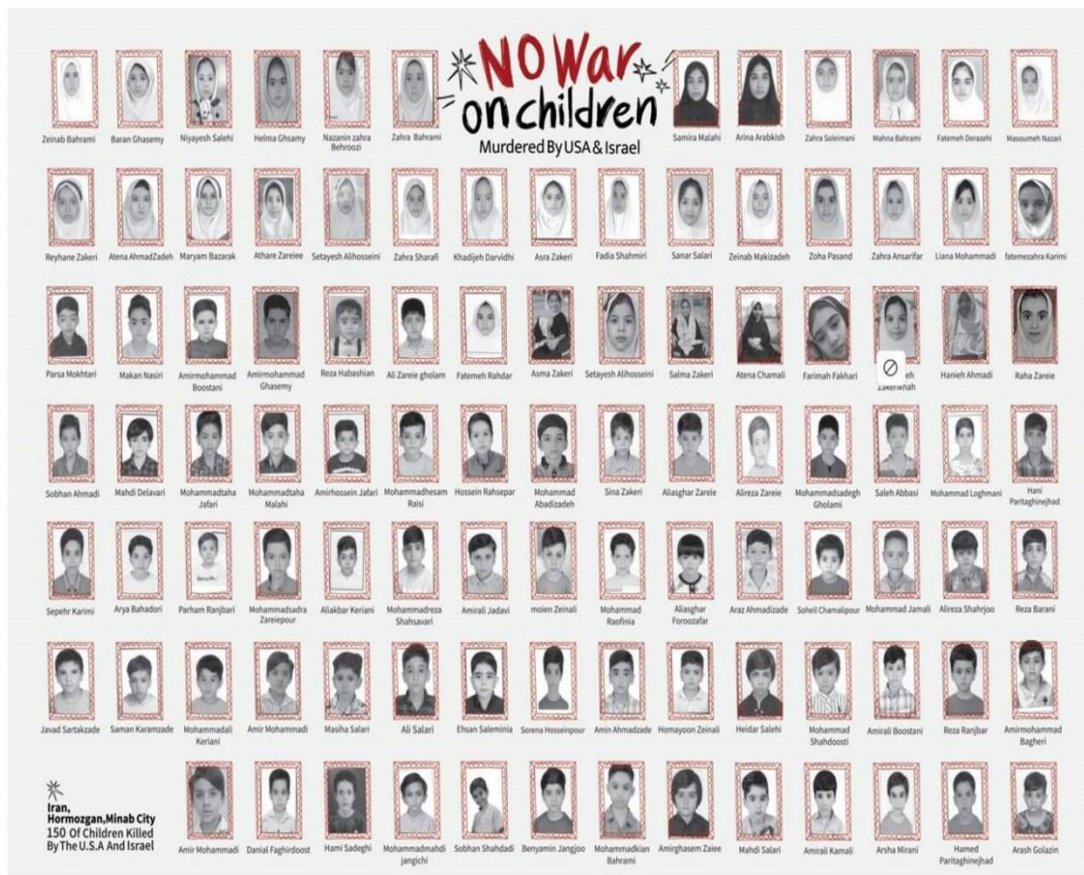


ON MARCH 3, 2026 , THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE, INCLUDING grieving families and local officials, attended the funeral of the victims in Minab to see off the children who would never return to school.









**Encaustic and mixed media monotype entitled “Minab, 168 Innocents”
by Katharine Cosenza Butler***



**Katharine Butler is an American printmaker, with emphasis on etching, chine collé, and woodcut. She is also a painter, primarily watercolor and works on paper.*

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