Assignment 3: Security

What are two major computer security incidents that have occurred in Qatar?

1. QNB:

Qatar National Bank (QNB) is the leading bank in the State of Qatar. On April 26th 2016 they faced a security breach where around 1.4GBs of user bank account data – namely detailed credit card information and limits – was leaked. QNB clarified that there was "no financial impact on our clients or the bank" and reassured that an investigation would be taking place to find the guilty. However, according to information expert Nitin Bhatnagar, "the leak contains PII, which could have serious repercussions for customers."

2. QNA:

The Qatar News Agency (QNA) was met with a cyber security attack that went after their social media platforms and websites in 2017. The hackers reportedly utilized a VPN software to scan the website after which they "exploited a loophole in the network's system and installed a malicious software" (Al Jazeera, 2017). As a result of this, false stories were published and employee information was collected. To resolve the issue, IT experts traced the IP address back to the UAE, giving a closer look at the origination of the culprit.

Some websites to read more:
https://thepeninsulaqatar.com/article/23/05/2020/Cyber-attacks-threaten-security,-peace,-stability-Qatar

https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/7/20/qatar-says-cyberattack-originated-from-the-uae

https://www.marhaba.qa/qatar-registers-almost-12000-cyber-attacks-this-year-more-during-quarantine/