



## War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – May 19th to 25th, 2025

Updated May 28th, 2025

### Overview

For the week of May 19th to 25th, 2025, fighting between the *Amhara Fano self-defense force* (Fano) and *Prosperity Party regime joint forces* (regime forces) has continued in various parts of Amhara Region in Ethiopia.<sup>12</sup>

- This week battle events and rights violations were recorded in more than 46 woreda/city administrations across 10 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These zones included the North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder and North Gonder

<sup>1</sup>Regime forces are primarily comprised of the *Ethiopian National Defense Force* (ENDF) often with backing from regional riot dispersal, militia and police.

<sup>2</sup>The Fano are organized under sub-regional commands based on geographic location which are comprised of divisions. The major sub-regional commands operate under a consolidated structure known as the *Amhara Fano National Force* (AFNF) which includes the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) [AFW], Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder (AFUG), Amhara Fano in Gojjam (AFG), Amhara Fano in Shewa (AFS). The remaining sub-regional commands operate under the *Amhara Fano People's Organization* (AFPO) which are mainly comprised of the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command (AFSPC), the Amhara Fano Gonder Province Command (AFGPC) and the Amhara Fano Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Command [AFWC].

---

Zones. Developments were also recorded in East Wollega Zone of Oromia Region and in Addis-Ababa city.

- Civilian casualties were recorded in 12 woreda/city administrations across 6 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Kobo, Meket, Minjar-Shenkora, Merhabete, Gozamin, Enarj-Enawga, Ibbat, Lay-Gayint, East Dembiya, West Dembiya, Tegede and Dabat Woredas in North Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder and North Gonder Zones. In East Wollega Zone of Oromia Region, *Oromo Liberation Army (OLA)* militants reportedly killed numerous civilians.
- Widespread arrests were recorded in Debre-Tabor city and Lay-Gayint Woreda in South Gonder Zone. In addition arrests were recorded in Addis-Ababa city. A significant number of arrests targeted health professionals in connection with nationwide demonstrations concerning salaries and employment benefits.

## **North Wollo Zone**

### **Lasta Woreda**

- On May 19th, Fano forces launched an ambush on regime forces in Dibiko town (also known as Yedurow-Lay-Ketema).
  - The operation was reportedly executed by the Lasta Asaminew Corps' Eshet Division (part of the AFNF-AFW). A small unit of Fano fighters carried out the surprise attack. According to sources, the ambush targeted a convoy of regime forces escorting state officials from the Lalibela to Gashena. The convoy reportedly consisted of five patrol vehicles, three Sino trucks, one Isuzu, and one Casoni vehicle. The ambush took place between 9 and 10 am in Dibiko town.

- 
- Although the exact number of casualties remains unconfirmed, sources reported casualties among regime forces. At least one patrol vehicle and an ambulance were seen returning with dead and wounded personnel.
  - On the morning of May 21st Fano forces carried out an offensive operation against regime forces in the Dibko area.
    - The operation was carried out by the Lasta Asaminew Corps' Eshet Division (AFNF-AFW). The ambush occurred at the Koga River in the Debko area, lasting from 6:00 am to 7:30 am, when the regime forces were en route from Lalibela to Gashena. The Fano forces engaged the regime soldiers in close-quarters combat, targeting them in three Sino trucks, one Isuzu, and two Casoni infantry vehicles traveling along the black asphalt road.
    - Sources indicated more than five regime soldiers, including the machine gunner were killed, and more than 12 others were wounded.
    - It is recalled that on May 19th, Fano forces, operating under the Lasta Asaminew Corps, carried out another ambush against regime forces. The attack occurred while regime forces were escorting Prosperity Party officials from Lalibela to Gashena, resulting in significant casualties.

### **Meket Woreda**

- On May 20th, Fano forces conducted an operation targeting regime meetings in Meket Woreda.
  - The operation was taken by the Lasta Asaminew Corps' Wubante Abate Division (AFNF-AFW) involving units under the command of Arbegna Maregu Asfaw. The Fano forces successfully disrupted the scheduled Prosperity Party meeting before it could begin. The operation occurred despite

---

the presence of approximately 200 regime-affiliated security personnel, including members of the militia, police, and national defense forces. The Fano fighters launched a surprise attack from two directions, engaging regime forces between 10:30 am and 11:30 am. The operation resulted in casualties among the regime forces and forced Prosperity Party officials—including the Woreda Prosperity Head, the Heads of the Agriculture and Revenue Bureaus, as well as Kebele-level officers—to flee to Flaqit, the town from which they had arrived.

- In retaliation, regime forces began targeting civilians in and around Weqeta, reportedly beating, torturing, and harassing local residents, including bajaj drivers, youth, and others believed to be sympathetic to the Fano movement.
- A similar incident occurred in Hanamekuat town, also within Meket Woreda. Fano forces disrupted another planned Prosperity Party meeting before participants could arrive at the venue, dispersing the gathering effectively.
- According to reports, the engagements led to multiple casualties among regime forces. Notably, seven militia members were captured, and at least two riot dispersal units were reportedly killed or injured.<sup>3</sup> The number of casualties is expected to rise as further information becomes available.

### **Kobo City**

- On May 20th, regime forces carried out physical abuses and harassment targeting civilians in the Bismar-Tera area of Kobo city.
  - At approximately 6 pm, reports indicate that ENDF soldiers physically assaulted, intimidated, and harassed three young men. The alleged justification for this action was that the individuals were outside after the city's enforced 6

---

<sup>3</sup>See May 20, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

---

pm curfew. According to eyewitness accounts, the youths were found at around 6:20 pm while having dinner, not actively traveling or engaging in any suspicious behavior.

- This incident is one of several reflecting the increasingly repressive measures imposed on civilians. Such actions have created a climate of fear among residents.
- Kobo city currently operates under strict restrictions that prohibit movement and require all businesses and services to close by 6 pm. These measures severely limit freedom of movement and have had a detrimental impact on local economic conditions, forcing business owners to shut down during crucial hours of operation. In addition, enforcement methods and the underlying policy have been widely criticized.

### **Dawunt Woreda**

- On the evening of May 16th, regime forces set fire to the home of a local priest and killed him along with members of his family in Dawunt Woreda.
  - The victims have been identified as Qesis Desyelal Asnake, a resident of Kidste area in Woreda 01 serving St. Gabriel’s Church. He was killed alongside his firstborn son and his younger brother, farmer Kassa Asnake. Soldiers allegedly set fire to the victims’ home and launched a violent assault, resulting in the death of Qesis Desyelal Asnake. Eyewitnesses reported that the priest pleaded with the soldiers, saying, “*please leave our house—our children may seek refuge here. Don’t burn it down.*” Despite his pleas, the soldiers are said to have shot him multiple times, killing him.
  - The priest’s younger brother, Kassa Asnake, a local farmer, attempted to escape with his nephew—Qesis Desyelal’s son—by running toward the

---

burning house. Both were reportedly shot and killed by the soldiers during the attempt to flee. In addition, other relatives of the deceased were reportedly seriously injured during the incident.

- Sources indicate that regime forces may have acted based on prior intelligence suggesting that members of the Fano had occasionally been seen at the victims’ residence. It was also reported that the priest possessed a personal firearm, which he kept for self-defense due to past personal disputes.

## **South Wollo Zone**

### **Legehida Woreda**

- On May 19th, regime forces attempting to forcibly collect taxes were ambushed by Fano forces in an area known as Shekif.
  - The attack was carried out by the Nigus Mikael Corps’ Dagim-Kitet-Wereilu Division (part of the AFNF-AFW). According to Fano sources, up to ten members of the regime’s joint forces were killed, and no fewer than eight others were wounded in the confrontation. The regime’s objective to extract taxes from the local population was unsuccessful. Residents refused to pay, citing both excessive demands and ongoing violence in the region. Community members in the area have expressed deep frustration, stating they are being forced to pay amounts far beyond their means. Many have voiced opposition to the regime’s coercive methods and ongoing instability in the region.<sup>4</sup>

### **Borena-Sayint Woreda**

- On the night of May 19th, Fano forces conducted a targeted operation in Mekane-Selam town.

---

<sup>4</sup>See May 19, 2025 [report](#) from Roha TV.

- 
- The operation was carried out by the Nigus Mikael Corps (AFNF-AFW) and resulted in the abduction of regime officials, followed by a violent response from government forces that led to civilian casualties. Fano forces infiltrated Mekane-Selam town and successfully captured three regime officials. Among those captured was Ato Mohamed Arage, the head of the Woreda Road and Transportation Office and a senior party executive in the area.
  - In response, regime forces attempted to encircle the Fano unit in an effort to recover the captured officials. During the ensuing clashes, several casualties were reported among the Fano forces. According to local sources, at least six Fano fighters were reportedly killed by the regime forces.
  - Following the confrontation, regime forces reportedly carried out retaliatory actions against civilians in the areas stretching from Hamusit to Worke and Bata. Sources confirm that civilians were beaten sustaining injuries and were detained.
  - Sources reported one civilian, identified as Amare Abebaw, was shot and killed during the crackdown. Two others were injured and subsequently captured by regime forces. Reports suggest that these attacks were largely aimed at local farmers and townspeople under pretext of sympathizing with the Fano forces.

### **Mehal-Sayint Woreda**

- On May 22nd, Fano forces launched a coordinated attack against regime forces in Qotet town.
  - The operation was carried out by units of the Nigus Mikael Corps Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division's Atrones Brigade, and Sheikh Hussein Jibril Brigade (part of the AFNF-AFW). The assault occurred while local Prosperity Party officials were holding a meeting in Qotet town, during which

---

they reportedly summoned local residents and engaged in acts of intimidation and harassment. Seizing this opportunity, the joint Fano brigades launched a sudden offensive targeting the officials and their armed escorts. As a result of the attack, regime forces were compelled to retreat to Densa, the administrative center of Mehal-Sayint Woreda.

- Sources reported at least three regime forces were killed including the head of the local militia office. An unspecified number of additional militia members were also reportedly injured during the engagement.

### **Mekdela Woreda**

- On May 22nd, Fano forces carried out an attack against regime forces in Cherefie town.
  - The operation was conducted by the Musafa Battalion of the Sheikh Hussein Jibril Brigade, under the Nigus Mikael Corps' Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division (part of the AFNF-AFW). The ambush targeted regime troops traveling in a Land Cruiser vehicle from Debre-Zeit town to Masha town. The attack took place in the area known as Cherefie, where the Fano launched a fierce and coordinated strike, inflicting significant casualties.
  - Sources reported at least seven regime personnel killed and five others injured during the confrontation.

### **North Shewa Zone**

#### **Menz-Keya Woreda**

- On May 14th, regime forces carried out violent attacks on private property in Doba Kebele.

- 
- The acts were reportedly carried out by ENDF soldiers. The forces are reported to have burned down a civilian residence (belonging to Merigetta Bogale Nadew) along with the homes of seven neighboring families. This deliberate act of destruction resulted in the complete loss of property for those affected. The operation was allegedly coordinated and led by Ato Shewayrga Teklewold, the administrator of Menz-Keya Woreda, and Ato Shewamene Haile, the head of the Prosperity Party branch office in the area. These officials are accused of directing and facilitating the attack.
  - As a result, more than 30 civilians have been rendered homeless and left without any possessions. The incident is believed to have been carried out as a retaliatory measure in response to repeated attacks by Fano forces.<sup>5</sup>

### **Merhabete Woreda**

- On May 20th, intense fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime forces in multiple areas in Merhabete Woreda and its surrounding areas.
  - Both conventional and guerrilla warfare tactics have been observed. The Fano side primarily involved the Mohammed Bihonegn Corps (AFPO-AFSPC). The fighting began at approximately 11 am, initiated by regime forces launching a coordinated offensive from three directions. The attacking units originated from Alem-Ketema town, Lemi (Ensaro Woreda) and Mida-Woremo Woreda. Their aim was to encircle and overpower the Fano positions. Fano units, particularly the Mohammed Bihonegn Corps and several battalions under the Dejazmach Tessema Ergetie Division, responded with coordinated ambushes in different areas.
  - The 3rd Battalion of the Dejazmach Tessema Ergetie Division successfully ambushed regime forces advancing from Ensaro Woreda at the Jema river.

---

<sup>5</sup>See May 16, 2025 [report](#) from the AFPO-AFSPC.

- 
- The Asmare Dagne Battalion intercepted a regime unit that had moved from Fetira and attempted a three-pronged attack in Gorandi Kebele. The battalion inflicted significant losses.
  - The Kassa Shaleqa Battalion (2nd Battalion) engaged regime forces advancing from three directions in Rema town (Mida-Woremo Woreda), halting their offensive with intense firepower. Fighting continued throughout the day.
  - In response to battlefield losses, regime troops have reportedly engaged in retaliatory actions against civilians. In Biraba Kebele, sources reported killings and widespread looting targeting the local population.
  - Due to the continuing hostilities and the fluid nature of the conflict, the number of casualties—both civilian and military—remains unconfirmed at this time.

### **Minjar-Shenkora Woreda**

- On May 21st, a massacre targeting civilians was carried out in the Dire-Amba-Goth area (Chelie Kebele).
  - The attack is reported to have been politically and ethnically motivated, with indications pointing toward involvement by regime-aligned forces.<sup>6</sup> According to sources, the regime’s military attempted to incite conflict by manipulating religious identity. Specifically, efforts were made to turn the local Argobba Muslim community against the Fano movement. The regime allegedly gathered members of the Argobba community in Amora-Bet and attempted to frame Fano as hostile toward Muslims.
  - Despite the regime’s efforts, the attempt to create division was undermined by the presence of the Nebelbal Brigade (part of the AFNF-AFS)—a Fano unit known to include many Muslim fighters.

---

<sup>6</sup>See May 23, 2025 report from Ethio Focus News.

- 
- On the day of the gathering, regime forces reportedly spread false information, claiming “*Fano has come to kill Muslims—defend yourselves.*” They encouraged the recruitment of local militants and incited violence by telling the community “*when an attack comes, protect your people, and you are justified in taking revenge.*”
  - Shortly after this incitement, regime soldiers shot and killed Qasim, a respected Muslim cleric traveling by motorcycle between Melkajilo and Chelie. The regime falsely blamed his killing on Fano forces, exploiting the moment to further enflame communal tensions. Members of the local Argobba community were then manipulated into retaliatory violence leading to the killing of several civilians. Among the victims were:
    1. Ato Emshaw Tefera
    2. Temes Akeber
    3. Tanfu Terefe
    4. Zegeye Terefe

### **Shewa-Robit City**

- On May 21st, Fano forces carried out a coordinated and targeted attack against regime officials in Shewa-Robit city.
  - The operation was reportedly executed by a special operations unit of the AFPO-AFSPC. The attack specifically targeted Prosperity Party officials residing in the city. Multiple officials were injured during the assault. Among the notable victims were the Mayor of Shewa-Robit city and the Administrator of Kewot Woreda.
  - In total, sources indicate that more than 15 militia and riot dispersal forces were killed in the attack.

- 
- In response to the assault, regime security forces launched retaliatory actions that included intimidation, physical assault, harassment, and other forms of human rights violations against residents of Shewa-Robit city.
  - Between May 22nd and 23rd, widespread disruptions were reported across the city, particularly in public transportation services. Local modes of transportation including bajaj (three-wheel vehicles) and gari (horse-drawn carts), were completely halted during this period.

## **East Gojjam Zone**

### **Debre-Markos City**

- On the afternoon of May 20th, Fano fighters launched a sudden attack on regime customs office workers in Debre-Markos city.
  - The attack was carried out by the Nigus Tekle-Haymanot Brigade under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). According to sources, the Fano fighters infiltrated Abima Sub-city, Kebele 01, where the customs office is located, and threw an explosive targeting assembled workers inside. Although the Fano group accused the victims of exploiting the people, at the time of the attack, the individuals present were unarmed and gathered for a meeting.
  - The attack involved two Fano members using explosive bombs, resulting in one confirmed death of a customs worker and at least six injuries, three of which were critical with little chance of survival. Fano fighters claimed to have killed at least two individuals and critically injured at least four, including the capture of one security guard during the operation.
  - Reports indicate that, due to the shock caused by this incident, customs offices

---

at various levels—from Kebele to Zone—remained closed the following day (May 21st).

### **Awabel Woreda**

- On May 19th and 20th, gunfire exchanges took place in various Kebeles within Awabel Woreda.
  - On May 19th, regime forces departed from Lumame town and advanced toward Tsid-Mariam Kebele with ground and mechanized forces aimed at targeting Fano fighters. Forewarned of the regime’s movement, the Mebreku Brigade under the Haddis Alemayehu Division (AFNF-AFG), confronted the advancing forces to prevent their progress. After hours of fighting, Fano fighters managed to push the regime forces back to Lumame town.
  - The following day, May 20th, regime forces again mobilized ground and mechanized units toward Fano positions. Fano fighters launched a preemptive attack in the Yegesh area, leading to a gunfire exchange. After a brief period of fighting, Fano fighters repelled the regime soldiers back to Lumame town. Casualties resulting from this exchange remain unidentified.

### **Dejen Woreda**

- On May 19th, a light exchange of gunfire occurred in an area called Werkamba Kebele.
  - The gunfire was initiated by the Zambera Brigade, under the Belay Zeleke Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), with the intent to disrupt a meeting orchestrated by regime cadres. According to sources, while the regime was gathering residents to propagate against the Fano fighters, members of this Fano group suddenly arrived and launched gunfire. Shocked by the sudden

---

attack, the meeting was completely disrupted, and the Fano fighters managed to disperse the participants. No casualties were reported from this exchange of fire.

- On May 20th, intense fighting took place in the Gubiya town neighborhood.
  - The fighting was initiated by regime forces, who mobilized ground and mechanized units from Gubiya and surrounding bases toward the presence of Fano fighters in an attempt to encircle and suppress them. Forewarned about the regime’s movements, the Zambera Brigade fighters waited until the regime forces reached their positions and launched a preemptive attack at Wember-Gedel and Tichit locations, resulting in a prolonged exchange of heavy gunfire. The fighting was intense, with both Fano and regime forces employing heavy weaponry, leading to significant human and material losses among regime soldiers. According to sources, Fano fighters managed to completely neutralize the regime forces that had moved into Fano territory in the initial phase. Additionally, Fano fighters overwhelmed the regime reinforcement units dispatched to assist their soldiers, who had been mobilized earlier for the battle. Reports indicate that Fano forces pursued the surviving soldiers, entered Gubiya town—where the regime forces’ main encampment was located—and launched further attacks, inflicting additional casualties.
  - Sources reported heavy losses among regime forces, with at least 42 soldiers killed, including one inspector, and more than 20 others injured, and additional soldiers captured along with five firearms and a substantial amount of ammunition.

### **Enarj-Enawga Woreda**

- On May 20th, fighting took place in Metaya Kebele.

- 
- In the early morning, regime forces mobilized from Debre-Werk town toward Metaya Kebele in search of Fano fighters. Sources reported that the Fano fighters had withdrawn to avoid engagement with the regime’s offensive plan. As a result, regime forces were able to infiltrate the kebele easily without facing resistance from Fano fighters. Upon entering the town, regime soldiers looted private property from civilians, including shops, mini-hotels, and other business centers. Sources also confirmed that the soldiers killed a civilian, identified as 33-year-old Yilkal Tade. Yilkal was shot and killed while leaving a church. The soldiers shot and killed Yilkal as he was running away after seeing the soldiers.
  - After remaining in the town for several hours, the regime forces withdrew and began returning to their base in Debre-Werk. On their way back, the Soma Brigade under the Belay Zeleke Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), reportedly confronted the regime soldiers. Sources indicated that there were casualties among the regime forces, though the exact figures remain unidentified.

### **Gozamin Woreda**

- On May 21st, intense fighting took place in various areas surrounding Debre-Markos city.
  - The fighting was initiated by the regime, which mobilized large-scale ground and mechanized forces toward the Fano presence in the Libanos and Chertekel Kebeles. The Jibela-Mutera Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (AFNF-AFG), reportedly confronted the regime forces in Chertekel and Libanos Kebeles to defend these areas from regime control. The fighting was intense, involving heavy fire exchange over an extended period.
  - Sources reported casualties on both sides, including at least 12 regime forces

---

killed and 15 injured in the Libanos battle alone. Sources also reported that regime forces killed two civilians, identified as Ayenew Simegn and Melaku Sisay (an individual with mental illness), and abducted another civilian.

### **Hulet-Eju-Enese Woreda**

- On May 22nd, heavy fighting took place in the Motta town neighborhood.
  - The fighting was initiated by regime forces, who mobilized ground and mechanized forces toward the Fano presence in the Muger area. The Mezgebu-Choke and Mebreku-Tefera Brigades, under the Tefera Damte Division (AFNF-AFG), reportedly confronted the regime forces to defend the area from regime control. The clashes primarily took place in the Muger and Derek-Wenz areas, where Fano fighters overwhelmed regime forces in a coordinated counteroffensive.
  - After hours of exchange of fire, the fighting subsided following the retreat of regime forces to Motta town. Sources reported at least 15 regime soldiers killed and 9 injured during this confrontation.

### **Debre-Elias Woreda**

- On May 21st, Fano fighters conducted an operation in Elias town.
  - This operation was reportedly carried out by the Qeste-Demena Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). According to sources, Fano fighters approached the town early in the morning and launched a sudden offensive targeting the regime forces' presence in the outskirts of the town. This attack resulted in a brief exchange of gunfire, which subsided after the Fano fighters withdrew.

- 
- Sources reported at least one police officer killed, ten others injured, and one firearm captured during this operation.
  - On May 23rd, a gunfire exchange occurred in Elias town. On that day, Fano fighters infiltrated the town and launched an offensive primarily targeting regime militias and police. During this operation, several militia members and riot dispersal police were reportedly killed and injured, although specific figures remain unreported.

## **West Gojjam Zone**

### **Dega-Damot Woreda**

- On May 19th, heavy fighting took place in the areas of Gala-Kab and Addis-Alem.
  - The confrontation was initiated when the Tefera Damte Division's Dega-Damot Brigade (part of the AFNF-AFG), launched a sudden attack on regime forces. The attack targeted forces departing from Feres-Bet town, who were mobilizing toward Dembecha for logistical and military exchanges. This surprise assault led to a prolonged exchange of gunfire in the Gala-Kab and Addis-Alem areas, lasting several hours. Sources reported that the regime forces responded with heavy artillery, including BM rocket launchers and ZU-23, which were used to shell the area indiscriminately. It was also reported that the Fano fighters overwhelmed the regime soldiers, inflicting significant casualties. Despite suffering losses, the regime forces managed to pass toward Dembecha, supported by heavy weaponry for cover.
  - Sources reported at least 20 casualties among regime combatants and the destruction of a military vehicle during the exchange, with no reported casualties on the Fano side.

- 
- On May 23rd, intense fighting took place in Weber-Gabriel, Beru-Mikael, and Defer-Terara.
    - The conflict was initiated by regime forces, who mobilized ground and mechanized units toward the Gudba-Sekela neighborhood. The Dega-Damot Brigade, under the Tefera Damtie Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), engaged heavily in three battles. The fighting began early in the morning and continued until midday. Ultimately, Fano fighters overwhelmed the deployed regime forces and pushed them back to Feres-Bet town.
    - Sources reported at least 15 casualties among regime soldiers, with no casualties reported on the Fano side.

### **Dembecha Woreda**

- On May 19th, Fano fighters carried out a surprise attack in the Anjeni-Medhanialem area.
  - The operation was reportedly executed by the Engineer Kiber Temesgen Brigade, part of the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). The attack targeted regime forces departing from Feres-Bet and Dembecha towns for logistical exchanges. The operation subsequently expanded to other kebeles in the Dembecha neighborhood in an attempt to disrupt regime troop movements.
  - The casualties resulting from the exchange of gunfire remain unidentified.
- On May 20th, regime forces conducted indiscriminate artillery shelling in the neighborhood of Dembecha town. The artillery fire was persistently directed toward the Yechereka area, under the assumption that Fano fighters were moving around, although this was not the case. No casualties were reported from this artillery strike.

---

## **Jabi-Tehnan Woreda**

- On May 22nd, fighting took place in the Finote-Selam neighborhood.
  - The fighting was initiated by the Arenzaw-Damot Brigade, under the Ras Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). According to sources, Fano fighters approached the regime's presence overnight in the Arsema area, located near Finote-Selam city. Early in the morning, the Fano fighters unexpectedly launched an offensive, resulting in a brief exchange of gunfire. Although the engagement was short, it caused heavy casualties among the regime soldiers.
  - Sources reported at least 20 regime forces killed and several others injured during this confrontation. Following the cessation of fighting, regime forces targeted civilians, carrying out severe beatings and abuses on several local residents.
  
- On May 24th, a gunfire exchange took place in the Mankusa town neighborhood.
  - The fighting was initiated by the Arenzaw-Damot Brigade, under the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (AFNF-AFG). The Fano fighters, who approached the town, reportedly conducted a sudden attack on regime forces present in the outskirts of Mankusa town. The attack primarily targeted state militias causing casualties and dispersing their presence. The exchange of gunfire lasted for a brief period and halted following the retreat of regime forces to the center of the town. Sources indicated at least five soldiers killed and three others injured, all of whom were militia members.
  - On the same day, a light gunfire exchange was also reported in the Wenge area. This exchange was initiated by regime forces targeting Fano members who

---

had set up a checkpoint in the Wenge area. The fighting was brief and light, with no known casualties.

- On May 25th, a gunfire exchange occurred in the Finote-Selam neighborhood. This fighting was initiated by the Arenzaw-Damot Brigade (part of the AFNF-AFG), which launched a sudden operation targeting regime presence in the Shembequma Kebele. This operation led to a brief exchange of gunfire, resulting in casualties among regime soldiers. According to sources, at least six regime soldiers were killed and five were injured during this operation.

## **Awi Zone**

- Between May 20th and 21st, regime forces mobilized ground and mechanized units toward kebeles in Guagusa-Shikudad (Awi Zone) and Sekela Woredas (West Gojjam Zone).
  - As a result, regime forces managed to enter Ashifa and Wenjela Kebeles in Guagusa-Shikudad Woreda, and Agut Kebele in Sekela Woreda (West Gojjam Zone), without facing significant resistance from Fano forces. This was possibly made because the Fano fighters calculated to minimize unnecessary casualties by confronting the regime forces, who had mobilized large numbers of troops, creating an imbalance compared to the Fano forces.
  - In the following days, Fano fighters—primarily operating in these areas—launched successive surprise attacks and heavy offensives at various locations in an effort to push regime forces back.

## **Guagusa-Shikudad Woreda**

- On May 20th, fighting took place in Tilili town.

- 
- The confrontation was initiated by the Zengena Brigade under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (AFNF-AFG), which unexpectedly infiltrated the town. According to sources, Fano fighters entered Tilili early in the morning and launched an attack on regime forces stationed at Tilili Secondary School.
  - This sudden offensive resulted in a gunfire exchange, leading to casualties on both sides. Reports confirm at least two injuries among the Fano fighters, while sources indicated at least 10 regime soldiers killed and 8 injured.
  - On May 21st, Fano fighters conducted an operation in Tilili town.
    - The operation was reportedly carried out by the Zengena Brigade under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). According to sources, Fano members suddenly infiltrated the town and opened fire to disrupt a meeting planned by regime cadres. The operation successfully prevented the meeting due to the unexpected gunfire, and no casualties were reported during this incident.
    - On the same day, a gunfire exchange occurred in the Addisalem area, located between Bure and Tilili towns. The clash was initiated by the Zengena Brigade, which launched a sudden offensive on regime forces while moving from Bure toward Tilili. The brief engagement resulted in considerable casualties among regime soldiers, primarily state militias. Sources reported at least 8 militia members killed and several others injured during this confrontation.
  - On May 24th, heavy fighting occurred in Wenjela Kebele.
    - The fighting was initiated by the Zengena Brigade, under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). According to sources,

---

Fano fighters approached the regime presence overnight and launched an attack on their encampment early in the morning. Initially, the Fano fighters overwhelmed the regime forces, who found themselves encircled and suffered substantial casualties. After hours of intense exchange of fire, regime reinforcement units arrived, managed to rescue surviving soldiers, and regained control of the kebele.

- Sources reported more than 37 regime soldiers killed and 11 injured, including the militia leader at the woreda level. Fano forces also captured a significant quantity of firearms and ammunition of various types.

### **Fagita-Lekoma Woreda**

- On May 23rd fighting took place in Dimama-Manguda and Delekez Kebeles.
  - On May 21st, regime forces had mobilized from Addis-Kidam toward Dimama-Manguda Kebele, an area that had long been under Fano control. Due to the imbalance of power, Fano fighters initially withdrew and repositioned to nearby areas. The regime forces subsequently entered the kebele without facing resistance from Fano fighters.
  - After two days of tensions, on May 23rd, the Ephrem Atnafu Brigade, under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), launched an offensive against regime forces stationed in Dimama-Manguda Kebele. This offensive resulted in a heavy exchange of gunfire that lasted for an extended period. Initially, Fano fighters overwhelmed the regime forces, forcing them to retreat to nearby areas. However, the regime forces brought reinforcements from surrounding bases and managed to re-enter the kebele.
  - On the same day (May 23rd), Fano forces launched an offensive in the Addis-Kidam neighborhood, particularly in Delekez Kebele, where regime

---

forces had encamped. This offensive was reportedly carried out by multiple units under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (AFNF-AFG), including the Ephrem Atnafu, Bitwedded Mengesha Jembere, and Simeneh Desta Brigades. In coordination, the Fano forces managed to inflict heavy human and material losses on the regime forces during this confrontation. Sources reported at least 48 regime soldiers killed and 36 injured in these two battles.

### **Dangila Woreda**

- On May 23rd, a brief exchange of gunfire took place in a small town called Gisa. The fighting was initiated by the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division's Bitwedded Mengesha Jembere Brigade (part of the AFNF-AFG), which infiltrated the town following the regime forces' withdrawal overnight. Fano fighters reportedly conducted operations against remaining cadres and regime intelligence officers. As a result, Fano forces managed to capture an unspecified number of informants during this operation.

### **North Gojjam Zone**

#### **South Mecha Woreda**

- On May 21st, heavy fighting took place in the Sangi and Tekle-Terara areas.
  - The fighting was initiated by regime forces, who mobilized from Mehal-Genet (Gerchech) and Dagi towns toward the Fano presence. Forewarned about the regime mobilization, the Colonel Tadesse Muluneh Brigade, under the 1st Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), reportedly confronted the regime forces in a counteroffensive. The fighting primarily took place in the Tekle-Terara and Sangi areas. The clashes were intense, with both sides employing heavy weaponry. Sources reported that Fano fighters managed to repel the attack and

---

pushed back the regime forces after inflicting casualties on the regime soldiers. Sources reported at least 7 soldiers killed, including two in command positions, and an unspecified number of regime personnel injured.

### **North Mecha Woreda**

- On May 21st, Fano fighters launched an offensive in the Dagi town neighborhood. This offensive aimed primarily to disrupt regime reinforcements to the Sangi area. Sources reported casualties with at least one regime military officer killed in this offensive.

### **Bahir-Dar-Zuriya Woreda**

- On May 23rd, fighting took place in rural areas between Tis-Abay and Andasa.
  - On that day, regime forces mobilized from Tis-Abay and Andasa toward Fano positions. Initially, the regime forces did not encounter Fano fighters along their route, allowing them to advance unopposed. Subsequently, the Bahir-Dar Brigade (part of the AFNF-AFG) regrouped and launched an attack against the regime forces. This resulted in a brief exchange of gunfire, which compelled the regime forces to retreat to their bases.
  - The casualties resulting from this firefight remain unreported.

### **Yilmana-Densa Woreda**

- On May 25th, fighting took place in Densa-Bata, Milach-Ber and Adet-Hana.
  - The fighting was primarily concentrated in the Densa-Bata area, where Fano fighters launched an offensive against the regime forces' encampment. The Bahir-Dar and Animut Yazachew Brigades, both part of the First Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), reported that they coordinated the offensive,

---

confronting regime forces at various locations. Initially, Fano forces reportedly overwhelmed regime forces stationed in the Densa-Bata area, infiltrating and managing to control the town at some point. Sources reported the killing of several soldiers and the seizure of firearms during this confrontation.

- Following this, regime forces proceeded to bring reinforcements from nearby bases. The Fano fighters carried out ambushes in the Koker area, disrupting the regime forces' deployment. Gunfire exchanges also occurred in the Milach-Ber and Adet-Hana areas, where Fano fighters heavily confronted regime forces to prevent reinforcements. The fighting in Densa-Bata and Adet-Hana were intense, with regime forces employing heavy artillery during the clashes. Sources reported several casualties on both sides, with significant casualties among regime soldiers, including fatalities and injuries. Additional soldiers and firearms were captured during these battles. Despite sustaining casualties, regime forces managed to regain control of the Densa-Bata area, utilizing reinforcements from nearby bases.

## **South Gonder Zone**

### **Farta Woreda**

- On May 19th, regime forces launched an attack on Fano forces near Gasay town. The regime forces guided by recently defected Fano members (part of the APFO/AFGPC) targeted the Meqdela Brigade, a unit within the Guna Division (part of the AFNF/AFUG). The regime forces initiated their offensive from two separate locations. However, the Fano forces successfully repelled the attackers, inflicting heavy casualties on the regime troops. The offensive, which began in the afternoon, resulted in the Fano forces inflicting significant damage on the attacking militia forces and riot dispersal units. Two militiamen were captured by the Fano forces,

---

who also seized four kalashnikov rifles.

### **Debre-Tabor City**

- On May 20th, regime forces detained four health professionals in Debre-Tabor city.
  - Amidst a nation-wide crackdown on health professionals, further detentions have been reported. Among the detainees was Dr. Sewmehon Desalegn Taye, medical director of Debre-Tabor City Hospital. He is well-known for organizing and leading a medical team to Maikadra town to treat civilians injured in the massacres perpetrated by TPLF forces during the northern conflict.
  - In addition, Suleman Ashenafi (nurse), Bezalem Alemu (emergency room coordinator), and Sister Birtukan Melese were also detained by regime forces in Debre-Tabor city. As a result of these detentions, Debre-Tabor Hospital is now fully on strike.

### **Simada Woreda**

- On May 20th, intense fighting occurred between Fano and regime forces in Yekuasa and Solcham Kebeles. The fighting involved the Guna Division's Simada-Hagere-Bizen Brigade (part of the AFNF-AFUG Major General Wubante Abate Corps). The number of casualties resulting from the fighting remains unknown at this time.

### **Lay-Gayint Woreda**

- On May 22nd, Fano forces executed a well-coordinated ambush against regime forces in Mekuabiya Kebele.

- 
- All these military operations and confrontations are conducted by the Anbesaw Gayint Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC). The ambush took place in a strategic location near Gobgob town and extended to the nearby areas of Megenteya and Haya-Wiha Kebeles. This surprise attack was part of a broader offensive, which also involved intense fighting in Megenteya itself. During the ambush at Mekuabiya, the Fano forces successfully inflicted significant casualties, killing at least 13 regime soldiers and critically injuring several others. Overall, a minimum of 15 regime forces have been confirmed killed during this operation.
  - In addition to targeting the personnel, the Fano forces struck a convoy of heavy trucks carrying gasoline, launching an explosive attack that caused severe damages to the vehicles and their contents. Following this attack, a fierce and rapid firefight erupted, lasting approximately 30 minutes. The regime forces, overwhelmed and suffering heavy losses, managed to retreat, and the injured soldiers were subsequently transported to Nefas-Mewcha Hospital for urgent medical treatment. Reports indicate that Lay-Gayint Woreda officials were also injured during the clashes with the Fano forces. However, their identities and specific roles remain unclear at this time.
  - In response to the heavy casualties sustained during the ambush and subsequent battles, the regime forces, enraged and seeking retribution, reportedly targeted local farmers. They have beaten and detained farmers in Wiha-Midir and Damot Kebeles—villages where farmers were working on their lands.
  - On May 22nd, intense and sustained clashes erupted between Fano forces and regime troops in the areas of Mekuabiya, Gebere-Mender, and Megenteya.
    - The fighting was particularly fierce as the Anbesaw-Gayint Division, with its

---

Mehal-Gayint Brigade, Checheho Brigade, and Shaleqa Kindalem Battalion, orchestrated a series of ambushes targeting regime forces operating in these localities. In response to mounting pressure from Fano activities, the regime dispatched fresh reinforcement units from Meket Woreda (North Wollo Zone), directing them toward Lay Gayint Woreda in hopes of stabilizing the frontlines. However, as these new regime forces advanced, the Fano fighters swiftly launched a counteroffensive near Gobgob town, effectively intercepting the reinforcements before they could reach their destination.

- During this confrontation, the Fano forces inflicted significant casualties on the regime side. The regime’s military commander, identified as Tamrat, was critically wounded in the attack. Alongside him, seven of his soldiers were killed during the engagement. Commander Tamrat’s injuries proved fatal, and despite being admitted to the hospital, he succumbed to his wounds in the early morning hours of May 23rd.
- In addition to these losses, the Fano fighters managed to seize the radio communication equipment belonging to the fallen commander, potentially gaining valuable intelligence from the captured device.
- On May 25th, Fano forces launched a series of coordinated surprise attacks against regime forces at Megenteya, Gobgob and Sali. These unexpected strikes were conducted by the Anbesaw-Gayint Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC) strategically planned to target regime positions simultaneously across multiple fronts, aiming to maximize disruption and pressure on regime forces. At the time of this update the exact number of casualties remains unknown, as reports are still being collected and verified.

---

## Estie Woreda

- On May 22nd, Fano forces carried out an attack on a regime convoy in Qoma-Fasiledes. The attack took place as a convoy of forcibly recruited young individuals were being transported to military training centers. The sudden ambush took place in Qoma-Fasiledes, a strategic location along the route, and caught the regime forces off guard, leading to a brutal confrontation. During the ambush, the escorting soldiers accompanying the youths were overwhelmed and killed in the attack, suffering heavy casualties. The fighting also resulted in injuries among the recruits.
- On May 25th, Fano forces carried out a well-coordinated surprise attack against regime forces in Shenbeqowoch and Bradege Kebeles.
  - The surprise attack was conducted by the Estie-Densa Brigade under the Major General Wubante Abate Corps' Guna Division (part of the AFNF-AFUG). The targeted group consisted of soldiers traveling in two sinotruks and four military urals, moving from Mekane-Eyesus town towards Fasiledes town.
  - The attack proved devastating for the regime forces, with the majority of soldiers killed and the survivors suffering critical injuries. Only a few soldiers managed to escape the surprise assault. In addition to the heavy human losses, all the military vehicles involved in the convoy were destroyed during the attack.
  - Moreover, the surprise attack also claimed the life of Kindu Yibabe, customs duty officer of Fasiledes town. Kindu Yibabe had recently been appointed by the Prosperity Party to oversee and manage tax collection process in the Estie-Densa area. His death represents a significant blow to the regime's administrative control in the area.

---

## **Andabet Woreda**

- On the night of May 21st, Fano forces, carried out a coordinated infiltration into Mekane-Eyesus town.
  - The offensive involved the Este-Densa and Andabet Brigades under the Guna Division of the Major-General Wubante Abate Corps (part of the AFNF-AFUG) targeting Mekane-Eyesus, which serves as the administrative center of Andabet Woreda, making it a strategically important location. The objective of this operation was to launch a surprise offensive against regime forces stationed in the area. The attack was swift, catching the regime forces off guard. The fighting that ensued was intense and relentless, lasting for approximately six hours without pause.
  - Regime forces reportedly sustained heavy casualties in the prolonged engagement.

## **Ibnat Woreda**

- On May 22nd, a particularly intense battle broke out between Fano forces and regime troops in Ibnat town, which serves as the administrative center of Ibnat Woreda.
  - During the course of this fierce engagement, the Fano fighters managed to successfully regain control over Ibnat town from the regime's forces. The operation was meticulously planned and executed as a coordinated offensive involving the Nisir-Belessa Division (part of the AFNF-AFUG) and the Etege-Tehaytu Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC) led by Teshome Abebaw. These divisions launched their assault in the evening, targeting key positions held by regime forces within the town. Despite the regime's determined efforts to defend Ibnat, including the use of ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns and other heavy

---

weaponry, their forces were ultimately overwhelmed by the coordinated Fano attack. The Fano fighters succeeded in capturing several strategic locations, including the police station, the Ibnat Woreda administration bureau, and military encampments belonging to the regime. The regime's military positions were heavily battered by Fano units who employed heavy machine guns to devastating effect. As the battle progressed, the majority of regime security forces found themselves unable to withstand the Fano offensive and were forced to retreat from Ibnat town. In their withdrawal, regime troops continued to fire heavy weapons from positions outside the town in an attempt to slow or deter the Fano advance.

- The timing and nature of this offensive by the Fano forces were in direct response to the regime's earlier large-scale military deployments and their ongoing campaign to encircle and neutralize Fano units on multiple fronts. The regime had initiated an extensive campaign designed to surround the Fano forces from five different directions, specifically targeting the Qualisa front, Dega-Melza front, Mena-Mequetewa front, as well as the Belessa and Wag fronts. By launching their counteroffensive in Ibnat, the Fano forces aimed to disrupt and ultimately abort the regime's encirclement campaign. After successfully thwarting the regime's military operations and breaking the attempted siege from all five directions, the Fano units subsequently withdrew from Ibnat town, having achieved their strategic objective of halting the regime's multi-pronged offensive.
- On May 24th, intense and fierce fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime troops near Dega-Melza town.
  - The fighting involved the Etege Tehaytu Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC) led by Teshome Abebaw. During this violent clash, regime forces suffered

---

heavy casualties. It was confirmed that a high-ranking military officer of the regime, who was commanding the army on the ground, was killed by the Fano fighters.

- Enraged by the assassination of their leader and the loss of many comrades, the regime forces retaliated by killing two young shepherd boys (civilians) who were tending cattle in a nearby meadow. The incident occurred by the riverside, where the children, aged 12 and 13, were watering their cattle. The killing caused widespread outrage and condemnation among the local community.

## **Central Gonder Zone**

### **Gonder-Zuriya Woreda**

- On May 19th, regime forces initiated heavy weapon shelling in Mantro-Giyorgis, Ferenj-Wiha, and Gudagudo Kebeles, as well as in Qulqual-Ber.
  - The shelling began early in the morning, and initially, the Fano forces did not respond. However, after regrouping, the Fano launched a counter-offensive against the regime forces. The resulting engagement lasted for five hours and primarily involved the use of heavy weaponry. The extent of the casualties caused by the fighting is currently unknown.
  - Prior to this, on the night of May 18th, regime forces launched an offensive against Fano forces in Lamba Kebele. The regime forces initiated their attack around 8 am local time under the cover of darkness. Their primary objective was to target Fano leaders believed to be stationed in the kebele. Acting on intelligence indicating the presence of these Fano leaders, regime forces launched their offensive from three different locations towards Lamba. The fighting lasted from 8 am to 12 am local time. It is suspected that the

---

information about the Fano leader's location was leaked to the regime forces by individuals within the Fano ranks. Despite the targeted nature of the attack, the Fano forces successfully repelled the regime's advance, and the Fano leaders targeted in the operation did not sustain any casualties. The regime forces sustained heavy losses in the fighting, with over 22 personnel killed by the Fano counter-offensive. In addition to the fatalities, more than seven soldiers sustained critical injuries, and a significant number of others sustained minor physical injuries. The Fano forces also suffered losses, with one member killed and four sustaining injuries ranging from minor to critical in severity.

- On the night of May 19th, an intense exchange of gunfire occurred in Maksegnit town, administrative center of Gonder-Zuriya Woreda. Regime forces stationed at the Maksegnit Technical and Vocational College, which they were using as a temporary military camp, were observed responding to the intense gunfire. As with the incidents in Gonder city, the casualties resulting from this exchange are currently unknown.
- On May 20th, Fano forces conducted a surprise attack against regime forces in Minzro Kebele.
  - Fighting involved the Qagnew Brigade led by Habtamu Dires and the Wassie Tekola Brigade led by Asnaqew Shigut, under the Gondere-Begashaw Division (under the AFNF-AFUG). The attack commenced at 10 pm local time and targeted regime forces traveling from Maksegnit town to Tseda sub-city. The riot dispersal forces, who were being transported in a military ural truck, were ambushed by the Fano forces. The attack resulted in over 20 members of the riot dispersal forces sustaining fatalities or critical injuries; specifically, 8 were killed and 12 sustained critical injuries. The surprise attack then transitioned

---

into close-quarters combat, lasting for approximately one hour. The Fano forces also sustained casualties, with 4 members sustaining minor and critical injuries. In the aftermath of the fighting, regime forces indiscriminately fired mortars into Minzro town, with shrapnel landing on civilian residences.

- In addition to the fighting with the Fano forces, internal conflict erupted within the regime's ranks on the morning of May 21st. Regime regular forces launched a surprise attack against the militia forces who were patrolling the area where the fighting with the Fano forces had occurred on May 20th. The attack resulted in casualties among the militia forces, who were reportedly searching for phones and other materials in the aftermath of the previous day's battle. The regime army stationed in the surrounding area, believing the heavily armed militia members to be Fano fighters preparing to launch another attack, initiated the surprise assault, resulting in a number of militia members being killed or injured.
- During the night of May 22nd, intense and violent clashes erupted between the Fano forces and regime troops in Dinzaz Kebele. The fighting involved the Gondere-Begashaw Division (part of the AFNF-AFUG). The exact number of casualties resulting from this fierce engagement remains unknown at this time.
- On May 23rd, Fano forces initiated a targeted offensive against regime forces near Enfranz town. The operation involved the Mebreq Division (part of the AFNF-AFUG) and targeted regime riot dispersal units conducting patrol operations along the route from Gonder city to Addis-Zemen town. According to confirmed reports, this ambush resulted in the deaths of more than 15 riot dispersal force members, including their sergeant commander.

---

## Gonder City

- On the night of May 19th, sporadic gunfire was reported in three separate locations within Gonder city. The incidents began around 6 am and continued until approximately 8:30 am local time. The extent of casualties resulting from these incidents remains unknown.
- On the night of May 20th, Fano forces conducted a targeted operation in Arada sub-city of Gonder city.
  - The incident took place in the Qidame-Gebeya area near the 9th police station and involved the Gondere-Begashaw Division's Atse Fasiledes Brigade led by Desalegn Semagn (part of the AFNF-AFUG). The target of the operation was a high-ranking regime security official. The attack was sudden and involved an explosive detonation that devastated the residence, resulting in the death of Sewnet Atnafu who served as the vice-chair of the Gonder City Peace and Security Bureau, and who was allegedly involved in orchestrating the mass detention and killing of civilians under the false pretense of Fano support.
  - During the attack, the Fano forces demanded that Sewnet surrender and allow his children to leave the house unharmed. Sewnet refused to surrender and chose to stand his ground. After allowing his family members to evacuate the premises, he attempted to defend himself by opening fire against the attacking Fano members. He did not injure anyone during his defensive efforts, but he was ultimately killed in the explosion.
  - Before succumbing to his injuries, Sewnet managed to contact the 9th Police Station, seeking assistance. However, the police responded that they were also encircled by Fano forces and could not provide help, instead advising him to defend himself as best as he could. Despite this, five police officers were dispatched to assist Sewnet; however, they were critically injured by a barrage

---

of gunfire from the Fano fighters before they could reach his location.

### **East Dembiya Woreda**

- On May 19th, three farmers were publicly executed by regime forces in Addisge-Dinge Kebele.
  - The executions took place in the Addisge-Dinge Kebele, specifically in the Kirstos-Semra village under the direct orders of Colonel Sintayew, commander of the 51st ENDF Division. The East Dembiya Woreda administrator, Bewqet, and the Woreda peace and security officer, Solomon, were present during these killings. The victims were ordinary civilians with no known involvement in political activities. The regime forces alleged that the farmers were hiding weapons in their homes, which served as the justification for their public execution. However, after searching their houses, regime forces were unable to locate any firearms.
  - In addition to these killings, the regime forces completely destroyed a private clinic owned by Awoke Assefa, and also demolished a residential house belonging to the clinic owner's father. Furthermore, the regime forces, acting on the guidance of Woreda Prosperity Party officials, forcibly disarmed farmers who were legally licensed to own firearms in Zergaj, Dem-Feses, Duge, and Abraham Kebeles.

### **Alefa Woreda**

- On May 14th, Fano members traveling by boat on Lake Tana were observed taking photographs of themselves while carrying firearms.
  - They were reportedly not cautious in concealing their presence from potential observation by regime forces, appearing relaxed and enjoying themselves

---

during the boat trip. These Fano members belonged to the Atse Fasil and Tana Gelawdewos Divisions (part of the AFNF-AFUG). Information regarding the Fano members' travel by boat was apparently leaked to the regime forces. Regime forces lying in wait at Ahya-Chanka, launched a surprise offensive as the Fano members disembarked from the boat. All of the Fano members were killed in the attack.

### **West Dembiya Woreda**

- On May 20th, Qemant militants carried out a series of attacks, killings, hostage-taking and looting in Chandiba town and Geldeba Kebele.
  - Qemant militants reportedly took over 25 civilians hostage in the marketplace of Chandiba town. Additionally, over 100 individuals were subjected to looting by these armed individuals. The armed Qemant forces encircled the marketplace, preventing individuals who came to conduct business from leaving. Then they started looting and robbing the marketgoers with heavily armed members stationed surrounding the market. It is estimated that over 80 militants in this large-scale looting operation.
  - The Qemant militants are believed to be supported by regime forces, who allegedly gave them implicit permission to loot and control the area without interference if local residents continued to support Fano forces.
  - The Qemant militants reportedly killed two civilians in Geldeba Kebele, causing the displacement of the area's residents following the attack.
- On May 24th, regime forces killed an elderly civilian in Abela-Eyesus Got (Fentaye Kebele).
  - The victim was identified as an 84-year-old man named Sisay Yihune. The man, who was physically frail and unable to walk without assistance, was

---

ordered to leave his home. Using a walking stick for support, he slowly made his way outside. As soon as he stepped out, the regime forces shot him repeatedly in the head, resulting in his immediate death.

- This killing was carried out solely because his son, Babil Sisay, is a member and leader of the Fano forces in the woreda. The elderly man himself was not involved in any hostile activities and posed no threat.
- Sisay’s body was laid to rest on May 25th, at the Abela-Eyesus Church, marking a solemn moment of mourning for the community.

### **Tegede Woreda**

- On May 21st, regime forces carried out a civilian massacre in Sheni Kebele.
  - The massacre took place near Qiraqir town. During this incident, regime forces killed 11 civilians. The killings occurred after the regime forces had attempted an assault on Fano forces in Sheni Kebele but returned unsuccessfully, having failed to engage or capture any Fano members. In an effort to report to their commanders and claim a victory, the regime forces falsely reported that they had killed Fano fighters during their campaign in Sheni Kebele.
  - The civilians were killed while they were on the road and were not involved in any military activity or engagement with regime forces at the time of their killing. Most were children who were simply playing and going about their daily routines when they were shot and killed by regime forces. Among the victims were children and young individuals.
  - Names of five killed victims were identified as follows:
    1. Burja Sereba (11)
    2. Goshu Dube (13)
    3. Fanos Alemu (14)

- 
4. Birqu Belay (14)
  5. Mengesha Berihun (28).

### **Central Armachiho Woreda**

- On May 22nd, Fano forces orchestrated a strategic and surprise attack targeting the regime forces that were traveling along a key route.
  - This attack took place on the main road connecting Sanja town with Tikil-Dingay, a crucial transportation corridor. The assault was conducted by the Basha Tigabu Brigade, and it resulted in significant casualties for the regime forces.
  - In addition to this targeted attack, intense and widespread fighting broke out between Fano and regime forces across multiple locations within Central Armachiho Woreda. The fierce clashes extended over a large area, including the localities of Genete, Kurbiya, Feres-Megriya, Muse-Bam, and Ethiopia-Karta Kebeles. The regime forces, who had deployed from Sanja town in five heavy military trucks, were dispatched to these areas with the apparent intention of engaging in military operations or reinforcement efforts. The fighting began early in the morning and continued relentlessly until around 5 am local time. During this period, the Fano forces launched a counter-offensive against the regime forces, who were heavily engaged in combat. As the battle progressed, the regime forces, burdened with their dead and injured comrades, were eventually forced to retreat to Sanja town. The fierce clashes resulted in substantial casualties for the regime forces, further weakening their position in the region.

---

## **North Gonder Zone**

### **Debark Woreda**

- On the night of May 20th, Fano forces launched a surprise attack on a regime military camp located in the Dega-Mereba Kebele.
  - This well-planned operation lasted for two hours, from 9 pm to 11 pm local time, and resulted in significant casualties for the regime forces. At least 26 regime joint forces personnel were killed, and more than 15 sustained critical injuries. As a result of the attack, the regime forces stationed in the camp were effectively disbanded. The Semien Birqye Division, specifically the Ras Dejen Brigade (part of the AFNF-AFUG Ras Amoraw Wubneh Corps), was responsible for conducting this successful military operation. Following the attack, Dega-Mereba Kebele came under control of the Fano forces.

### **Dabat Woreda**

- Since May 20th, intense and fierce fighting has been ongoing between Fano and regime forces in the areas of Ajire-Janora and Qola-Wegera.
  - This brutal conflict has persisted without interruption as of May 22nd. The fighting has covered a vast and extensive territory, stretching from Tegede to Qola-Wegera, Weded, and Tirahina in North Gonder Zone, as well as Ajire-Janora, the Dabat lowland areas, and reaching as far as Zerima town. The regime forces have been heavily deployed in the region, with more than 1,000 soldiers dispatched from Tach-Armachiho Woreda to reinforce their positions in Ajire-Janora. However, due to the rugged and treacherous terrain of the area, the majority of these regime forces have been overwhelmed and eliminated by the Fano forces. In just two days of fierce fighting, it is estimated that over 500 regime soldiers have been killed, while many others have

---

sustained critical and minor injuries. Many of the regime forces fell into deep abysses and rugged terrains, largely because they were unfamiliar with the difficult landscape, which hindered their movement and strategic advantage.

- Despite the heavy casualties, the regime forces have continued to send in reinforcements, deploying additional troops to the area. The extent of the casualties inflicted on the regime forces remains unknown, as the ongoing fighting and chaos have prevented accurate reporting to top military officials. The initial escalation of violence was triggered by the large-scale military deployment of regime forces from Tach-Armachiho Woreda toward Janora, leading to this prolonged and devastating conflict. As of May 22nd, the fighting is ongoing, and the full scope of casualties and damage has not yet been fully determined.
- As of May 23rd, fighting has intensified in Qola-Wegera, Ajire-Janora, and across a broad swath of territory that includes Dabat, Debark, and Adarkay Woredas in North Gonder Zone, as well as Tegede and Tach-Armachiho Woredas in Central Gonder Zone.
  - The fighting has become even more severe and widespread, with regime forces launching coordinated attacks from five different directions, all with the strategic goal of encircling and neutralizing Fano forces concentrated in Ajire-Janora. This military campaign now spans six woredas: Dabat, Tegede, Tach-Gayint, Debark, Adarkay, and Qola-Wegera. In each direction, regime forces have encountered fierce resistance from the Fano fighters. Specifically, regime troops advancing from Dabat Woreda were intercepted by Fano units at Abbo-Gedam, while those sent from Tach Armachiho Woreda faced heavy fighting at Adisholo. Forces moving out from Zerima town were confronted near Ajire, and those coming from Tegede Woreda clashed with Fano fighters

---

in Janora itself.

- The most intense battles have been centered in and around Adisholo, Mereba, the Aquash River, Maryamge, and Ajire-Janora, in addition to the previously mentioned locations. The fighting in the Aquash River valley, Marayamge, and Abbo-Gedam has been particularly ferocious. Notably, regime forces that entered the Aquash River valley were completely eliminated. A number of divisions under the Ras Amoraw Wubneh Corps (part of the AFNF-AFUG)—such as the Semien-Ambaras, Ayalew Birru, Chenna, Semien-Birqye, Ras Dejen, Dib-Telemt, and Tekezze Divisions are actively participating in these battles. They are receiving additional support from the Zeray Division, Gobbe Melke Division, and Remetu Dejen Division, further strengthening the Fano resistance in this region.
- Despite suffering heavy losses in these engagements, the regime forces have also perpetrated atrocities against the local civilian population. Reports confirm that 21 civilians have been massacred by regime troops during the course of this fighting. These civilians had no involvement in any military activity. Of these victims, 14 were children, while the remaining were local farmers residing in Qola-Wegera. Additionally, 6 more farmers were killed in Adisholo.
- By May 22nd, Fano forces gained full control over Dabat Woreda and Qola-Wegera. The Gondere Begashaw Division (part of the AFNF-AFUG) successfully secured both Ambagiyorgis and Dabat towns to bolster Fano operations in Qola-Wegera. The occupation of Dabat town by Fano fighters was a strategic move to disrupt and sever the regime’s logistical supply route to Qola-Wegera. Throughout the night, Dabat town witnessed intense and unrelenting combat. Furthermore, Fano forces managed to infiltrate Ambagiyorgis town and succeeded in blocking the main road that connects

---

Ambagiyorgis to Qola-Wegera, further hampering the regime's ability to reinforce or resupply its embattled units. The situation remains highly volatile, with widespread violence, significant military losses, and appalling attacks on civilians marking this latest phase of the conflict.

## **Addis-Ababa City**

- On May 19th, a confrontation occurred between patients seeking medical treatment and security forces deployed at the facility in Tikur Anbessa Hospital.
  - Security personnel reportedly blocked patients from entering the hospital and harassed and intimidated them on site. Among those present were doctors and health professionals who attempted to speak about the ongoing strike. However, security forces allegedly physically assaulted them, accusing them of inciting unrest by saying, “*you are not a patient; you are here to cause chaos.*” Their medical documents were confiscated, and they were reportedly taken to undisclosed locations.
  - In response to a widespread strike by health professionals, authorities attempted to address service gaps by deploying 1st and 2nd year medical students, promising permanent employment to cooperating health workers, and transferring staff from primary health centers to hospitals. These efforts have been met with mixed reactions. While some health workers accepted the offers in hopes of long-term benefits, many have opposed the measures, criticizing them as a short-term fix that fails to address their core demands.
  - According to reports, major hospitals in Addis-Ababa city began full work stoppages effective May 19th. In what is widely perceived as a tactic to break the strike, the ruling party has started advertising new health worker vacancies, specifically in areas affected by the strike. Critics, including health workers

---

and analysts, believe this move aims to undermine the unity of striking professionals, demonstrates the ruling party's unwillingness to engage with real issues at stake, and preference to ignore the legitimate demands of healthcare workers.

- In addition, the regime has continued to arrest health workers in Addis-Ababa city and other regional states. Reports indicated that Dr. Mahlet Gush Gebrewold, a pathologist, was arrested at her home in Addis-Ababa city on May 19th in connection with the ongoing strike. She had recently given an interview to BBC's Focus on Africa Program on May 14th, voicing support for the strike.<sup>2</sup>
- On May 20th, four opposition parties issued a joint statement on the unfolding crisis. The signatories include the *All Ethiopian Unity Party (AEUP)*, *Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party (EPRP)*, Enat Party and Amhara Giyonawi Movement.
  - The statement noted that the demands of health professionals are also public demands, and that the government must take their demands seriously, the strike (which has been ongoing for over a month) is not politically motivated but rather stems from economic hardship, with many workers saying their current salaries are insufficient to support themselves or their families.
  - According to the statement, rather than engaging in dialogue, the ruling party has resorted to arrests and intimidation, with over 80 doctors detained in the past week. The general strike now severely affects the public, particularly the majority of Ethiopians who rely on public healthcare and cannot afford private services. And the government's inaction and repression are exacerbating the collapse of the healthcare system.
  - In the statement, the opposition parties have demanded that: the government immediately address the legitimate demands of health professionals; all

---

detained doctors be released unconditionally, and for the government to refrain from further repression and for urgent measures to be taken to protect the health and well-being of the Ethiopian people—especially those without access to alternative medical services.

- On May 20th, Amhara political prisoners appeared in court and raised concerns about mistreatment by federal police.
  - They complained that the police were harassing them under the pretext of routine checks. For example, on the night of May 19th, federal police entered the prison without proper authorization, engaging in intimidation tactics.
  - Christian Tadele, a member of the House of Peoples’ Representatives, informed the court that his medication, valued at 48,000 ETB, was rendered useless and that money was looted by police during these checks. He further expressed the suffering he and the other prisoners were enduring and asked what actions could be taken to address their situation.
  - Yohannes Buayalew also spoke before the court, describing the ongoing intimidation, identity-based insults, harassment, and violence perpetrated by armed federal police officers. He claimed these actions were carried out under orders from their superiors and expressed fear that they could eventually be executed. Yohannes questioned the court saying, “*they have accused us of terrorism—what more do they want?*” He urged the court to intervene and put a stop to these actions that put their lives in jeopardy.
  - Kassa Teshager (PhD) a member of the Addis-Ababa City Council, also submitted a complaint to the court. He requested that if the Prison Administration could not protect them, they should be transferred to the custody of the federal police. He emphasized that their lives were at risk.

- 
- Commander Nigussie, the prison house manager, responded by asserting that they did not require support from the federal police. He explained that the federal police had entered the facility on their own initiative, claiming they had received a tip-off. In response, the judges stated they would issue an order to stop such inhumane actions by the federal police, particularly in the absence of the Prison Administration’s consent and acknowledgment. The witness hearings for these cases will continue, with testimony scheduled for May 23rd.<sup>7</sup>
  - On May 21st, health workers arrested in connection with the recent strike across Ethiopia were brought before the Arada Division of the Federal First Instance Court.
    - According to reports and a written request from the Federal Police, nine defendants are accused of inciting riots and violence. The charges include collaborating with unarrested accomplices since January 2025. and working with anti-peace forces to incite widespread unrest and chaos in the city.
    - The indictment further claims that the health workers failed to treat patients in their professional capacity, did not encourage service seekers, and played a role in inciting violence and chaos in Addis-Ababa city during the strike.
    - The police have requested an additional 12 days for further investigation, citing the need to gather environmental and documentary evidence. The court granted the request. One of the reasons for the extension is the claim that several deaths occurred at the hospital where the suspects worked, and the police stated they wanted to confirm these reports using evidence from various hospitals.
    - Dr. Mahlet Guesh, who has not been employed for the past two years and has been a vocal advocate for health professionals on the BBC’s Focus on Africa

---

<sup>7</sup>See May 21, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

---

program, defended herself in court, stating that she was not working at the time and that the police were “*collaborating with anti-peace forces operating abroad.*”

- In addition to Dr. Mahlet, the following individuals were arrested and brought to court: Dr. Samuel Hailu, Dr. Mikiyas Alem, Dr. Ruth Amare, Dr. Haileyesus Nigatu, Michael Tessema, Jafar Abduljilal, Usman Away, and Alebachew Feke.<sup>8</sup>

## **East Wollega Zone (Oromia Region)**

### **Soge Woreda**

- On May 20th, the OLA militants carried out an attack on civilians in Anger-Meti Kebele.
  - The attack was carried out on the border between Oromia and Benishangul-Gumuz Regions. The attack reportedly targeted civilians from both ethnic Amhara and Gumuz communities. According to sources, at least 16 civilians were killed during this attack, five of whom were ethnic Amharas. Several others were also wounded.
  - Sources also reported that the Wollega Fano group responded with an attack on OLA militants operating in the area. During this offensive, Fano fighters inflicted significant human and material losses on the OLA militants, forcing them to retreat from the areas where civilian casualties had occurred.
  - Additionally, sources reported that complete network shutdowns were implemented in several woredas of East Wollega and Horo-Guduru Wollega Zones. The complete network blackout was imposed between May 19th and 22nd for unknown reasons.

---

<sup>8</sup>See May 21, 2025 [report](#) from Meseret Media.

---

## About the Amhara Association of America (AAA)

The Amhara Association of America (AAA) is a non-profit civic organization based in Charlotte, North Carolina that investigates and documents human rights violations in the context of conflict, violence and political repression in Ethiopia. AAA seeks to inform U.S. policymakers, international human rights organizations, journalists, researchers, and all Ethiopian stakeholders to pressure Ethiopian leaders to change laws, policies, and practices in Ethiopia so perpetrators are held accountable and victims receive justice. AAA also collaborates with Amhara organizations in the U.S., supports independent Amhara organizations in Ethiopia, and provides humanitarian aid for Amharas impacted due to targeted ethnic attacks. AAA's funding comes directly from members and supporters; the organization is not affiliated with any Ethiopian or American political or governmental entities.

- Contact us via Email: [info@amharaamerica.org](mailto:info@amharaamerica.org)
- Visit our website at [www.AmharaAmerica.org](http://www.AmharaAmerica.org)
- Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)
- Subscribe to our [Telegram Channel](#)
- To make donations: <https://www.amharaamerica.org/get-involved>

