



## War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – July 14th to 20th, 2025

*Updated July 21st, 2025*

### Overview

For the week of July 14th to 20th, 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 36 woreda/city administrations across 11 zonal administrations in Amhara Region.

These zones included the North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam,

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<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] or East Amhara Qetena (Menelik Command; MC), Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder (AFUG) or North Amhara Qetena (Belay Command; BC), Amhara Fano in Gojjam (AFG), Amhara Fano in Shewa (AFS) or South Amhara Qetena (Asaminew Command; AC). 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].

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West Gojjam, North Gojjam, Bahir-Dar, South Gonder, Central Gonder, and West Gonder Zones. Developments were also recorded in Addis-Ababa city.

- Civilian casualties were recorded in 8 woreda/city administrations across 6 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Lasta, Menz-Mam-Midir, Dega-Damot, Tach-Gayint, East Belessa, Gonder-Zuriya and Metemma Woredas in North Wollo, North Shewa, West Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder and West Gonder Zones. In Metemma Woreda of West Gonder Zone, an attack by Qemant militants resulted in civilian casualties and theft of cattle. A civilian casualty incident was also recorded in Addis-Ababa city.
- Widespread arrests were recorded in Dawunt and Qwara Woredas of North Wollo and West Gonder Zones in Amhara Region. Abductions were recorded in Efratana-Gidim Woreda of North Shewa Zone in Amhara Region.

## **Northeastern Amhara (Wollo Bete-Amhara Sub-Region)**

### **Updates from the AFNF-MC**

- On July 15th, the AFNF-MC announced a major reform and leadership restructuring within the Yegof Division under the Lij Eyasu Corps.
  - The review was conducted in the presence of central command members and focused on evaluating the division's operational performance and leadership effectiveness. As a result of the review, several leadership changes were made to strengthen the division's organizational structure and enhance its operational capacity. Newly appointed leadership of the Yegof Division:
    - \* Commander-in-Chief - Arbegna Commando Getachew Maru
    - \* Deputy Commander - Arbegna Hussein Adem

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- \* Campaign Leader - Arbegna Endre Damtew
  - \* Deputy Campaign Leader - Arbegna Eshetu Getabalaw
  - \* Head of Public Relations - Arbegna Sultan Yusuf
  - \* Head of Political Sector - Arbegna Muhammad Ahmed
  - \* Deputy Head of Political Sector - Lieutenant Ayalew Abebe
  - \* Head of Logistics - Arbegna Abebaw Abera
  - \* Head of Administration - Arbegna Beshir Ibrahim
  - \* Head of Finance - Arbegna Muhammad Hussein
  - \* Head of Ordnance - Arbegna Hussein Abuye
  - \* Head of Procurement - Arbegna Muhammad Hamza
  - \* Auditor - Arbegna Juhar Muhammad
- This restructuring marks a significant step in AFNF’s ongoing efforts to improve coordination, accountability, and strategic leadership within its ranks amid ongoing regional challenges.
- As of July 16th, reports indicate widespread defections in various parts of North Wollo Zone.
    - It is speculated that the defections are a direct response to widespread discontent among soldiers regarding the regime’s actions against civilian populations in the region.
    - On July 16th, three ENDF soldiers from the 61st Division under the ENDF North-East Command (led by Lieutenant-General Assefa Chekol), defected to the Lasta General Asaminew Tsige Corps (part of the AFNF-MC), bringing with them all their military equipment. The defectors cited their opposition to the regime’s ongoing oppression and violence against civilians, particularly in the Amhara Region. The defectors stated that their decision to join the Fano

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forces stemmed from moral outrage over the suffering inflicted on the Amhara people by regime forces.

- Further defections were reported on the same day involving members of the ENDF's 802nd and 803rd Corps. A soldier from the North-East Command 802nd Corps, 58th Division, 5th Battalion, reportedly killed the battalion's operational leader, accusing him of committing genocide against the Amhara people. He subsequently defected to the Special Operations Unit (under the AFNF-MC), bringing with him a black sniper rifle and another weapon. Another soldier from the 803rd Corps, who served as a military engineer, also joined the Special Operations Unit on the same day.
- These incidents reflect a broader and growing pattern of defections within the ENDF. In recent weeks, multiple soldiers have abandoned their posts to join the Fano, often citing moral opposition to the regime's policies, especially its treatment of the Amhara population.
- On July 17th, the AFNF-MC announced the formation of a new arts group.
  - In its official statement, the command called upon the Amhara community, both within the country and abroad, to support the initiative financially and materially. The statement emphasized that art plays a vital role not only in preserving and promoting Amhara culture, values, and identity, but also in supporting the broader goals of the armed struggle. By integrating cultural expression with political resistance, the group aims to reinforce national pride and morale among its supporters and the wider community. The newly established group is named the *Felege Asaminew Orchestra Band*, in honor of the symbolic figure associated with the Amhara resistance. The band will operate under the leadership of singer and cultural figure Kiros Derbe, who is well-known in the Amhara artistic community.

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- The orchestra band is now actively recruiting individuals with talents in singing, dancing, musical instruments, and theater. The leadership has called on all talented members of the community to contribute their skills and join the cultural movement in the name of art. In addition, the band has appealed for financial contributions and donations of materials to support its ongoing efforts.
  - This initiative signals a growing effort by the Fano movement to blend cultural identity with political resistance, and to mobilize the public not only on the battlefield but also in the cultural sphere.
  - On July 18th, at least four ENDF soldiers reportedly defected and joined Fano forces.
  - The defectors were identified as members of two separate ENDF units: the Qagn 2 unit of the 803rd Corps under the North-Eastern Command and the 12th Infantry Regiment (2nd Regiment) of the 802nd Corps. Specifically, these individuals abandoned their previous military positions and aligned themselves with the Asaminew Division of the East Amhara Corps 1 (part of the AFNF-MC).
  - Notably, the defectors brought with them a cache of military equipment, including kalashnikov rifles and several hand grenades. This marks a significant contribution to the AFNF's operational capacity and reflects a growing internal disillusionment within the ranks of the regime's military forces.

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## North Wollo Zone

### Lalibela City

- On July 14th, fierce fighting erupted between Fano and regime forces in and around Lalibela town.
  - The clashes involve Fano forces under the Lasta General Asaminew Tsige Corps (part of the AFNF-MC) on one side, and regime forces on the other side. The regime troops reportedly suffered heavy casualties in the engagements. The fighting began early in the morning at 6 am, when various divisions of the Lasta Asaminew Corps launched a major offensive under *Operation Fano Esubalew Ayalew* against regime positions in Lalibela and surrounding areas in Lasta Woreda. Combat took place across multiple fronts, particularly from Merbarbu to Mekalt, and from Shumsha Airport to Gragn-Amba. Fano forces deployed a wide array of units, including the Maregu Temare Division, Tirari Division, Nebro Tewelwari Commando, Special Operations unit, Tefera Mamo Division, Eshet Division and Tekeze Division. In a strategic move, the Hailu Kebede Division was tasked with blocking the advance of regime reinforcements into the conflict zone.
  - According to sources, as a result of the intense fighting, 47 regime soldiers were killed, and over 39 others were wounded. The casualties include 36 members of the ENDF North-East Command 803rd Corps, 9 local militiamen, and two police officers. In addition to those killed and injured, several regime personnel were captured, including five militiamen, four ENDF personnel and one police officer. Fano forces also reported significant material gains, including 16 black kalashnikov rifles, over 1,200 rounds of kalashnikov ammunition and 8 waist armors.

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## Lasta Woreda

- On July 14th, the regime continued indiscriminate artillery shelling targeting civilian areas and religious institutions in Lasta Woreda.
  - According to local sources, the bombardments caused injuries and property damage, further escalating humanitarian concerns in the region. At approximately 8 pm, an artillery strike struck the Maimariam Church, located in Kebele 04 of Lasta Woreda. The attack seriously injured a religious student (commonly referred to as *Ye-Kollo Temari* —a student of traditional religious studies). The explosion also caused significant damage to the church courtyard. There were reportedly no armed groups or military presence in the vicinity at the time of the attack, suggesting that the strike deliberately targeted a civilian target. Despite the severity of the student's injuries, residents were unable to transport him to Lalibela town for medical treatment. Fearing that regime forces might accuse the wounded individual of being a Fano member and either arrest or kill him, the community refrained from seeking help. As a result, the injured student has yet to receive any medical care, raising serious concerns about his condition and the general safety of civilians seeking assistance.
  - Residents of Lasta Woreda report that artillery and mortar fire have been repeatedly launched from the Shimbarma Qutir-Hulet area, endangering both religious sites and surrounding communities. The ongoing attacks have placed places of worship and local communities under constant threat, contributing to growing fear and instability in the region.
- As of July 15th, defections from regime forces to Fano have continued, with reports confirming the defection of additional military personnel, including high-ranking commanders in Lasta Woreda.

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- Most notably, the Deputy-Commander of the 61st Division under the 3rd Regiment of the ENDF Northeast Command, Lieutenant-General Silabat Yimenu Alemu, has defected to the AFNF-AC Lasta General Asaminew Tsige Corps, bringing with him a full complement of military equipment.
  - This event follows a recent pattern of high-level defections. Within the past week alone, Lieutenant-General Mebre Yigzaw, Commander of the Third Division, and Lieutenant-General Shegaw Nigus, Commander of the First Division, also joined the Lasta Asaminew Corps.
  - These developments are being closely watched as they may signal deeper fractures within the regime military structure.

### **Dawunt Woreda**

- Between July 11th and 16th, regime forces intensified mass arrests in Dawunt Woreda.
  - In the Kurba area alone, security forces reportedly detained over 40 civilians, including 16 civil servants employed by the regime itself.
  - Initially, the detainees were accused of involvement in a coup d'état, a charge that was dismissed by the local court, which deemed itself unqualified to hear such a case and referred it to the federal judiciary. This shift in legal justification has raised serious concerns regarding due process, judicial independence, and the politicization of legal procedures.
  - The mass arrests have reportedly instilled widespread fear and psychological distress among the local population. Residents in Dawunt Woreda are living under heightened surveillance and intimidation, creating a climate of fear and uncertainty that threatens basic civil liberties and community stability. The continued arrests, conducted without clear legal grounds, reflect an



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increasingly authoritarian approach of the regime in the country.

### **Kobo City**

- On July 17th, Fano forces reportedly detained four regime-aligned civil servants working under the Kobo city administration.
  - According to sources, the Fano forces summoned the four civil servants in the early morning hours and instructed them to report to a specific location. Upon arrival, the civil servants were taken into custody by the Fano forces. Among those detained is one of the managers from the city's revenue office, identified as Yesira Hidet Halafi.
  - Reports indicate that these individuals were actively involved in tax collection operations across the town, despite prior warnings from the Fano forces. The AFNF-MC had previously issued directives prohibiting residents from paying taxes to state structures, claiming that the regime was using tax revenues to finance military operations against civilians and Fano fighters, rather than addressing the needs of the local population. The detained civil servants reportedly ignored these warnings and continued their tax collection efforts, allegedly ordering revenue officers to enforce tax payments. It is claimed they managed to collect a significant amount of money, which may have triggered the Fano response. As of now, the whereabouts of the detained civil servants remain unknown, and there has been no official statement from either the state or the AFNF regarding their condition or possible release.

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## **South Wollo Zone**

### **Mekdela Woreda**

- On July 14th, a fierce armed confrontation took place between Fano and regime forces around Debrezeyit town. The clash involved forces from the Nigus Mikael Corps' Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division (under the AFNF-AC) and regime forces at approximately 4 pm. The encounter resulted in casualties on both sides. According to initial reports, at least two Fano fighters were confirmed dead and on the regime side, three regime militias were killed, and an additional three were injured during the battle.

### **Amhara-Sayint Woreda**

- Between July 15th and 16th, fierce battles were reported between Fano and regime forces across various fronts in Amhara-Sayint Woreda.
  - On July 15th, between 2:30 pm and 7:00 pm, a joint offensive was launched by the 2nd (Yamirew Alemu) Battalion and 3rd (Wondimnew Melkenew) Battalion of the Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division (under the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Corps). These coordinated Fano units attacked regime positions at the Tedibabe-Mariam front, a strategic stronghold. Facing heavy casualties and sustained pressure, the regime forces were forced to abandon their camp, fortifications, and the surrounding area. The retreat was described as disorganized, signaling a major setback for regime military operations in that zone.
  - Simultaneously, on another front, the 1st (Satenaw) Battalion of the Tabor-Terara Brigade carried out an intense assault on regime forces stationed at the Guameda front. Intense fighting ensued, resulting in regime troops being pushed out of their entrenched positions. By July 16th, regime forces had fully

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withdrawn from the Guameda area, relinquishing control to the Fano units. Despite fighting fiercely, regime troops reportedly suffered an unknown number of casualties, including fatalities and injuries. In retaliation, the regime attempted to reinforce its position by deploying additional forces equipped with a ZU-23 anti-aircraft gun from elsewhere in the woreda. However, these reinforcements were also forced to retreat under intense resistance from the AFNF fighters. Sources indicate that regime forces incurred substantial losses in both fatalities and injuries.

- The confrontations resulted in significant regime losses and strategic territorial gains for Fano forces.

### **Borena Woreda**

- On July 18th, Fano forces carried out fighting under a nighttime urban operation in Borena Woreda.
  - The operation was led by the Engineer Desalegn Assefa Division of the Nigus Michael Corps, operating under the AFNF-MC. According to sources, Fano forces launched a well-coordinated night assault by encircling regime camps located in the small towns of Tewa and Mekdela. Once encircled, Fano fighters initiated a swift and concentrated attack, successfully overwhelming regime positions in both towns.
  - While the exact number of casualties on the regime side remains unconfirmed, local sources reported substantial losses. In Tewa town alone, at least ten regime soldiers were killed, with many others wounded. On the Fano side, at least one fighter, was killed during the operation.

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## **Delanta Woreda**

- On July 19th, Fano forces executed a targeted urban operation resulting in the killing of a senior regime official accused of committing serious human rights violations.
  - The operation was carried out by the AFPO-AFWPC. According to sources, the operation specifically targeted Ato Getahun Ayele Birru, who served as the Woreda Administration Office Manager in Delanta Woreda. Ato Getahun was accused by Fano and local residents of playing a leading role in arbitrary arrests of civilians, as well as participating in other forms of state-sponsored repression within the district.<sup>3</sup>
  - The Delanta Woreda Communication Bureau confirmed the incident, issuing a public condolence message on behalf of the Delanta Administrative Council. The statement reported that Ato Getahun Ayele Biru was shot dead by unidentified armed individuals approximately 50 meters from his residence at 6:20 am on July 19th.<sup>4</sup>

## **Southeastern Amhara (Shewa Sub-Region)**

### **North Shewa Zone**

#### **Menz-Lalo-Midir Woreda**

- On July 14th, heavy fighting broke out between Fano and regime forces in Menz-Lalo-Midir Woreda.<sup>5</sup>
  - The battle was triggered in the early hours of the morning, around 5 am, when a combined force of regime troops attempted to move from Molale town

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

<sup>4</sup>See July 20, 2025 [statement](#) from the Delanta Woreda Communication Bureau Office.

<sup>5</sup>See July 14, 2025 [report](#) by Mida-Woremo Woreda Communications.

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toward Wogere. However, their movement was anticipated, and Fano forces took swift counteraction. Fighting was particularly intense in the Zeber area, where the Fano resistance launched attacks from three directions—Kidana, Kubit, and Atiks creating a tactical pincer movement that severely disrupted the regime’s communication networks and forward movement. The fighting was carried out by the Atse Amdetsion Corps’ Menelik Division and the Mohammed Bihonen Corps’ Tessema Ergete Division (part of the AFPO-AFSPC). These divisions coordinated to deliver a concentrated and well-executed assault on regime forces attempting to gain ground.

- While exact figures remain unverified at this stage, sources report that regime troops sustained heavy casualties. Given the intensity and scale of the fighting, it is believed that losses on the regime side were substantial, though independent verification is ongoing.

### **Mida-Woremo Woreda**

- On July 14th, regime forces issued a misleading report claiming that numerous Fano members referred to by the regime as “*extremists*”—had surrendered and accepted the state’s “call for peace”.<sup>6</sup>
  - According to the official statement, over 467 individuals allegedly affiliated with the Fano group had turned themselves in over the course of several days, culminating in a formal welcoming ceremony on July 14th. The regime claimed that these individuals were received with honor in all kebeles across Mida-Woremo Woreda.
  - However, local sources have strongly contested this narrative. Eyewitness accounts and independent reports suggest that the majority of those presented

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<sup>6</sup>See July 14, 2025 [report](#) by Mida-Woremo Woreda Communications.

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as surrendering fighters were, in fact, regime militias operating in the region. This orchestrated event appears to be part of a wider propaganda campaign aimed at portraying the regime's peace efforts as successful and widely accepted. Sources also confirmed the presence of a limited number of fighters from the Rambo Division (AFPO-AFSPC) who had disobeyed orders to withdraw from the area.

- Despite this, the regime has continued to showcase images and videos of its militia members falsely labeled as defecting Fano fighters, in an attempt to inflate the perception of widespread capitulation. This deliberate manipulation of facts underscores the regime's ongoing effort to misinform both domestic and international audiences about the realities on the ground.

### **Efratana-Gidim Woreda**

- On July 15th, regime forces conducted a series of arrests targeting civilians including children and elderly individuals in Efratana-Gidim Woreda.
  - Three civilians were detained in the Bergbi village (located a few kilometers from Ataye town). Among those arrested were two young children and their grandmother. The children were identified as Mintesnot Amare (3-year-old boy) and Eleni Amare (1-year-old girl), who are the children of Fano Amare Tazeze, who is reportedly affiliated to the AFNF-AC. The children's grandmother, who had been caring for the children in the absence of their mother (reportedly working abroad in the Middle East to support the family), was also taken into custody along with the children. The individuals were subsequently taken to Ataye town, where they are reportedly being held in detention. According to sources, regime officials have pressured the children, telling them to "*bring your father back*", and have threatened imprisonment if he does not surrender. Such actions constitute psychological intimidation and

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violate both national and international standards for the protection of children and non-combatants.

- In addition, reports indicate that the wife of another Fano member was also arrested recently in Ataye town, solely on the basis of her alleged family association with a Fano fighter. The detained individual was identified as Memhirit (teacher) Kibebe Mamo Asalf, who worked as an Amharic language teacher at Bergibi Elementary School, under the Efratana-Gidim Woreda Education Office. According to reports, she was arrested by Ataye police, with no clear legal basis provided at the time of her detention. Her arrest appears to be based not on her own actions, but rather on alleged familial ties to a Fano leader, suggesting a pattern of guilt by association.
- These actions signal an alarming escalation in the regime's policy of targeting civilians, particularly women and children, simply due to alleged familial connections to Fano fighters. Such detentions raise serious human rights concerns and may amount to collective punishment, a violation of both national and international legal norms.
- On July 18th, Fano forces engaged in combat with the ENDF in Efratana-Gidim Woreda. The fighting was carried out by the Atse Amdetsion Corps 7-70 Division (under the AFPO-AFSPC). According to the sources, the confrontation began at around 8 am, when regime forces launched an offensive in an attempt to advance toward Fano defensive positions. In response, the Fano mounted a strong resistance, leading to intense fighting that stretched across a wide area, from Seyat Kebele to Key-Giorgis, indicating the broad geographic scale of the clashes. The number of casualties remains unknown, due to ongoing fighting and limited access to information from the front lines.
- On July 19th, Fano forces launched a coordinated ambush against regime forces in

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Ambober-Wotaga Kebele. The operation was reportedly carried out by the members of the Sebat Leseba Division (part of the AFNF-AC). The ambush took place in the Metikoriya-Mikael area. According to sources, the ambush resulted in an unspecified number of casualties among regime forces, with both fatalities and injuries reported. This attack is believed to be in retaliation for recent actions taken by regime forces, which included the detention of family members of Fano forces.

### **Mojana-Wadera Woreda**

- On July 18th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime troops in Sasit town. The clash marks a significant escalation in the ongoing conflict in the region. On the Fano side, the engagement was led by the Atse Dawit Division (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC). Hostilities reportedly began at approximately 4:30 pm. Opposing them were units from the regime's 112th Commando Division. Due to the ongoing nature of the conflict, information regarding casualties and the broader impact remains limited.

### **Menz-Mam-Midir Woreda**

- On July 19th, Fano forces launched a coordinated and large-scale offensive against regime forces in towns within Menz-Mam-Midir Woreda and surrounding areas.
  - The operations were undertaken by the AFPO-AFSPC. The operations reportedly resulted in significant military gains and inflicted heavy losses on regime troops and local militia elements. The offensive began at approximately 5 am on July 19th. Various divisions of Fano forces initiated simultaneous attacks in strategic locations, particularly targeting Molale town, administrative center of Menz-Mam-Midir Woreda. Several divisions and battalions played active roles in this operation, including the Rambo Division, Menelik Division, and the Nisir Battalion under the Atse Amdetsion Corps



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(under the AFPO-AFSPC). In addition, the Tessema Ergetie Division, Aste-Guma-Terara Division and Biruke Demissie Battalion under the Muhamed Bihonegn Division participated. These forces targeted key regime installations, including military camps and outposts in and around Molale, where local militias were also stationed.

- During the course of the offensive, Fano forces successfully captured Molale for a brief but impactful period. In the process, they dealt substantial blows to regime forces and killed more than ten key regime figures. According to sources, notable regime losses (confirmed fatalities) include:

1. Moges Gebre-Selassie – Peace and Security Head, Menz-Mam-Midir Woreda (017 Kebele)
2. Addise Mulugeta – Menz-Mam-Midir Woreda Office Manager
3. Abebe Addise – originally from 017 Kebele
4. Mamo Gebre-Tsadiq – originally from 018 Kebele
5. Teklu (last name unknown) – originally from 02 Dowa-Got
6. Addis Abebe – Militia member (formerly a guard), originally from 02 Kebele
7. Colonel Wondimachew
8. Shaleqa Ephrem
9. Shaleqa Woubshet
10. Shaleqa Shifa

- These individuals were members of the regime political and military support structure. Additional regime casualties, both killed and injured, were reportedly numerous, with Molale Hospital overwhelmed by the influx of wounded soldiers. In addition to the tactical victories, Fano forces reportedly seized a significant number of personal weapons and captured several regime

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soldiers.

- In response to the offensive and their losses, regime forces launched retaliatory strikes, targeting civilian areas with indirect fire, including the use of ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns and other heavy weaponry. These attacks resulted in the deaths of more than four civilians, including family members, teachers, and students. These individuals were reportedly killed during the regime's retreat and retaliatory shelling of non-combatant areas. In addition to the loss of life, significant property damage was reported, particularly in agricultural areas, where local farmers' fields were targeted and destroyed.
- Confirmed civilian fatalities include:
  1. Lewutu Woldeyohannes – student, originally from 04 Kebele (Wogere town)
  2. Zerihun Abebe – originally from 04 Kebele (Wogera town)
  3. Memhir Befiqadu Wondimu – originally from 01 Kebele (Wogere town)
  4. Habtamu Wondimu – originally from 01 Kebele (Wogere town), who was the brother of the late Memhir Befiqadu Wondimu

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

- On the morning of July 19th, Fano forces launched a coordinated attack in Zemero town. According to sources, the operation was undertaken by the Etege Taytu Division of the Muhammed Bihonen Corps (under the AFPO-AFSPC) parallel to the simultaneous operation in Molale. While the full scale of the engagement is still being assessed, early reports confirm that casualties were inflicted on regime forces, though the exact number of dead and injured remains unconfirmed at this time.

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### **Ankober Woreda**

- On July 19th, Fano forces launched a well-timed offensive targeting regime forces conducting a troop rotation between Debre-Birhan and Ankober Woreda.
  - The operation was carried out by the Aschalew Dessie Division of the Muhamed Bihonegn Corps (under the AFPO-AFSPC). According to reports, the attack was strategically launched during a vulnerable moment, while regime forces were transitioning between their positions in Debre-Birhan and Ankober Woreda. The ambush took place near a location known as Kundi, where the First and Second Battalions launched a surprise strike on both incoming and outgoing regime units.
  - The attack reportedly inflicted significant casualties, with many regime soldiers killed or wounded. Sources indicate that regime troops were forced to retreat in disarray, some returning to Debre-Birhan and others retreating back to Ankober, carrying their dead and injured personnel.

### **Merhabete Woreda**

- On July 19th, Fano forces launched a tactical assault on regime forces in Belbelit. The operation was executed by the Dejazmach Tessema Ergete Division of the Muhammed Bihonegn Corps (under the AFPO-AFSPC), targeting regime units. According to sources, the ambush occurred as regime forces were moving into the area for the purposes of survey and inspection. Although the exact number of casualties remains unconfirmed, reports indicate that the regime forces suffered losses and were compelled to abandon their mission. Facing sustained fire from Fano units, the regime troops were forced to retreat from the area.

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## **Southwestern Amhara (Gojjam Sub-Region)**

- The AFNF-AFG has announced completing training of commando forces in three locations. These areas include: Aneded Woreda (East Gojjam Zone), where the Tedla Gualu Brigade operates; Metekel Zone, where the Jawi-Metekel Division operates; and Bibugn Woreda (East Gojjam Zone), where the Mezgebu Walelign Brigade operates.

### **East Gojjam Zone**

#### **Goncha-Siso-Enese Woreda**

- On July 14th, intense fighting took place in the Ginde-Weyn town neighborhood.
  - The confrontation was initiated by Fano fighters, who combined brigades from the Samuel Aweke Division (part of the AFNF-AFG) and launched a coordinated offensive on the regime presence. The Soma Brigade, Arenzaw Goncha Brigade, Abay-Sheleqo Brigade, and the division's Commando unit were reportedly involved in the confrontations. According to sources, the fighting primarily took place in the Gembore and Buza areas, where Fano fighters unexpectedly advanced and launched an offensive against regime forces. The combat was intense, characterized by heavy artillery shelling from both sides. Fano fighters reportedly used mortars during the battle, in addition to hand-to-hand combat. The fighting began early in the morning and subsided after at least three hours of intense confrontation. During this operation, Fano fighters claimed that they have overwhelmed the regime forces, asserting control of the regime encampment in the Buza area.
  - Sources reported casualties during this confrontation, with one injury confirmed among Fano members; at least ten regime soldiers were killed,

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many others were injured and two were captured.

- Additionally, Fano fighters launched a sudden offensive in the Cheye area, targeting regime reinforcement forces that had departed from Felege-Birhan and were heading toward the battles in Gembore and Buza. The Soma Brigade, responsible for this operation, succeeded in disrupting the movement of regime reinforcements for several hours.

### **Debre-Markos City**

- On July 15th, Fano fighters carried out a sudden operation in Debre-Markos city.
  - This operation was reportedly carried out by the Nigus Tekle-Haymanot Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). The Fano fighters targeted safety net and customs professionals, who were accused of abusing residents alongside the regime soldiers. Following frequent warnings in previous days, Fano fighters apprehended these individuals overnight and took them into their custody.
  - In a separate development, the Nigus Tekle-Haymanot Brigade also executed a sudden operation in the Amist-Kilo area (Kebele 03). During this operation, Fano fighters opened automatic gunfire and killed three state militias. In retaliation for this attack, the regime soldiers executed a civilian who was around the scene during this military operation.
  - On the same day, Fano fighters also reportedly attacked regime officials and inflicted casualties while the latter were in a meeting.
- On July 17th, Fano fighters carried out a sudden operation in the suburb of Debre-Markos city.
  - The operation was reportedly carried out by the Jibela-Mutera Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). The attack

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targeted regime forces who were en route from Debre-Markos towards Fendika to transport logistic supplies for the regime force unit stationed in the area. The Fano fighters targeted the regime's patrol vehicle with a machine gun and inflicted several casualties among the soldiers inside. Sources reported that at least five regime soldiers were killed and five more injured, with the vehicle being destroyed.

- In a separate development on the same day, Fano fighters reportedly conducted an additional operation in the Wiha-Gan area, killing one regime militia member and injuring one more during this operation.
- In the early morning hours of July 20th, Fano fighters conducted a sudden operation in Debre-Markos city.
  - The operation was reportedly carried out by members of the Jibela-Mutera Brigade, a group under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). According to sources, Fano fighters secretly infiltrated Debre-Markos city and launched an offensive against the regime's presence overnight at 3 am. This offensive primarily targeted militias and riot dispersal police, with Fano fighters successfully neutralizing the targets within a brief period. The offensive was unexpected, making the regime unable to mobilize reinforcements from other regime encampments. Given that the offensive took place overnight and was unforeseen, the ENDF was unable to provide cover with artillery shelling.
  - During this operation, sources reported at least 24 militias and policemen killed and many others injured during this operation. Sources also reported that Fano captured 4 firearms and over 400 rounds of ammunition.

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### **Sinan Woreda**

- On July 15th, Fano fighters conducted a sudden operation in Rebu-Gebeya town. The operation was reportedly carried out by the Sinan Abajime Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). The Fano fighters, who unexpectedly infiltrated the regime's positions, launched automatic gunfire which lasted for a brief period and inflicted casualties. Sources reported one soldier killed and another injured during this operation.

### **Machakel Woreda**

- On July 17th, intense fighting took place in the Wetebet area. On that day, regime forces mobilized from Amanuel towards this kebele. The Belay Zeleke Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (under the AFNF-AFG), in an attempt to encircle and suppress regime forces, launched heavy gunfire in the Wetebet area. This offensive led to a heavy fire exchange, resulting in casualties on both sides. Fano fighters reportedly inflicted particularly severe human and material losses on regime forces. Although not identified with specific figures, sources reported that a few casualties were reported on the Fano side.

### **Dejen Woreda**

- On the evening of July 18th, Fano fighters conducted a sudden operation in Dejen town. The operation was reportedly carried out by the Zambereha Brigade of the Belay Zeleke Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). According to reports, Fano fighters suddenly infiltrated the town and captured a wanted regime official (Kebele chairman) identified as Yayeh Adamu, without any exchange of fire.

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### **Debay-Telatgin Woreda**

- On the evening of July 18th, Fano fighters conducted a sudden attack in Quyi town. Reports indicated that the attack was conducted with an explosive, targeting state militias and regime administrative officials. Sources indicated that two regime officials were killed and one more was injured during this operation.

### **Shebel-Berenta Woreda**

- On July 19th, gunfire exchanges took place in two locations in Shebel-Berenta Woreda. The fighting was initiated by regime forces who mobilized towards the Selelkula area. The Shifferaw Gerbaw Brigade, under the Belay Zeleke Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), reportedly confronted regime forces who advanced towards Selelkula Kebele. Sources reported light casualties resulted from both sides. While regime forces advanced towards this kebele, Fano fighters launched gunfire at the regime's presence in Yedoha town. During this confrontation, Fano fighters reportedly inflicted several casualties among the regime soldiers.

## **West Gojjam Zone**

### **Dega-Damot Woreda**

- On July 15th, intense fighting took place in Feres-Bet town and surrounding villages in Dega-Damot Woreda.
  - The fighting was initiated by the combined forces from the Tefera Damte Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). Reports indicate that the Dega-Damot Brigade, Mezgebu-Walelign, Mezgebu-Choke, Yohannes Alemayehu, and Mebreku Tefera Brigades conducted the operation in Feres-Bet town. The fighting took place in several locations where regime forces were stationed, including Ziquala, Gubgubta, Gesages, and other neighboring bases.



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According to reports, Fano forces approached Feres-Bet town overnight and encircled the regime's presence. Early in the morning, the Fano forces launched a heavy, simultaneous offensive at all locations, supported by heavy machine guns and rifles. This offensive led to a heavy exchange of fire, compelling the regime forces to disperse and retreat to the outskirts of the town. The Fano fighters then overran the regime's encampment, capturing significant military and non-military equipment.

- Regime forces mobilized large-scale reinforcements from Dembecha town in an attempt to rescue the encircled and dispersed regime soldiers in the battle that took place in the Feres-Bet neighborhood. However, Fano fighters carried out an ambush with heavy shelling and inflicted substantial casualties in the Dingay-Ber area, compelling the regime soldiers to return to Dembecha town. The fighting reportedly continued until late afternoon as regime forces continued efforts to deploy reinforcements in order to regain control of Feres-Bet and its surrounding areas. Fano forces also persisted in searching for dispersed and surviving soldiers both in the town and the surrounding areas.
- Sources reported hundreds of regime soldiers were killed and injured during this operation, in addition to material losses. Seventeen soldiers and at least five regime vehicles were also captured by Fano fighters. Sources also reported that substantial military equipment was captured and destroyed by Fano fighters. Fano forces claimed to have captured one mortar, four heavy machineguns, five light machineguns, 172 kalashnikov firearms, with tens of thousands of rounds of ammunition of various types.
- On July 16th, fighting which began earlier continued in Dega-Damot Woreda.
  - After heavy losses sustained on July 15th, regime forces mobilized additional reinforcement from Dembecha town overnight. Fano fighters reportedly

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conducted a sudden operation to prevent the regime's advancement towards Feres-Bet town. The attack was reportedly carried out by the Engineer Kiber Temesgen Brigade (part of the AFNF-AFG), when regime forces reached the Qibe-Gedel area. Fano fighters reported that they inflicted several casualties during this operation, compelling regime soldiers to retreat back to their point of departure. The following day, regime forces persisted in advancing towards Feres-Bet town, with unconfirmed reports of entering the town.

- On July 16th, regime forces mobilized towards the town and re-entered Feres-Bet town. The regime forces re-entered Feres-Bet town without facing heavy resistance from the Fano side. Fano fighters reportedly withdrew and repositioned in rural areas. After regime forces entered Feres-Bet town, the soldiers perpetrated multiple abusive acts and civilian killings. Sources reported that regime soldiers executed at least four civilians and injured others shortly after regaining control over Feres-Bet town. The details of the incidents regarding the civilian massacre are yet to be investigated.

### **Jabi-Tehnan Woreda**

- On July 17th, a light gunfire exchange took place in Jiga town. The gunfire was initiated after regime soldiers encountered two Fano members in the town. The regime soldiers launched gunfire upon encountering these Fano members; one of them managed to escape during the fire exchange, while the other was shot and injured by the regime soldiers. The regime soldiers captured and detained the injured Fano member.

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## **North Gojjam Zone**

### **South Achefer Woreda**

- On the night of July 15th, reports of heavy gunfire were heard in Dilamo town. Sources reported that gunfire emanated from regime positions, though the reason for the gunfire remains unknown. Fano sources reported that the gunfire was due to a confrontation that erupted between regime forces, particularly ENDF soldiers and state militias. Sources reported at least seven soldiers killed and others injured from both sides during this mutual confrontation.

### **South Mecha Woreda**

- On July 20th, intense fighting took place in Mehal-Genet (Gerchech) town. The fighting was initiated by the Colonel Tadesse Muluneh Brigade, under the 1st Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). The fighting was characterized by its extended duration and heavy weaponry shelling from both sides. Sources reported that the Fano fighters overwhelmed the regime force encamped there, inflicting human and material losses. The fighting halted around midday following the Fano fighters' withdrawal from the town.

## **Bahir-Dar City**

- On July 20th, Fano fighters conducted a sudden operation in Bahir-Dar city. The operation was reportedly undertaken by members of the Tadesse Muluneh Brigade (under the AFNF-AFG), who employed an explosive device. The attack was executed in Kebele 13, targeting the city's 3rd police station. The casualties resulting from this attack remained unidentified, while sources confirmed seeing a regime vehicle transporting injured soldiers to the hospital. Sources reported at least 5 regime soldiers killed in this operation.

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## **Northwestern Amhara (Gonder Sub-Region)**

### **South Gonder Zone**

#### **Andabet Woreda**

- On July 15th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime joint forces in Yedi-Maryam, Adama, and Yewefchame Kebeles.
  - The clashes stemmed from an attempt by regime militia forces, escorted by heavily armed joint forces, to cultivate plots of land belonging to other militia members. The Andabet Brigade, part of the Guna Division (under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps), launched an offensive against the regime forces.
  - The regime joint forces sustained heavy casualties and were ultimately forced to retreat, abandoning their attempts to carry out their farming activities.

#### **Ibnat Woreda**

- On July 16th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Selamaya town.
  - The regime forces launched an offensive attack at 10:30 am local time, prompted by intelligence regarding the location of the AFPO-AFGPC leaders, who were stationed in Selamaya town. The regime forces, deploying a combined force of mechanized army and infantry units, moved out of Ibnat town and encircled the Fano leaders. The regime forces deployed towards Selamaya town utilized nine heavy military trucks. However, despite their numerical and equipment advantage, the Fano forces launched a coordinated counter-offensive, preventing any of the regime forces from escaping. All weapons carried by the regime forces were seized by the Fano. The fighting unfolded across four distinct fronts converging on Selamaya town, with the

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Fano forces capturing a significant arsenal including a mortar, a machine gun, four sniper rifles, and eight light machine guns, in addition to over 100 kalashnikov rifles. In a strategic maneuver, the General Fanta Belay Division of the Fano unit encircled Ibnat town, potentially cutting off any reinforcements or escape routes for the remaining regime forces in the area. Five divisions confronted the regime forces in this intense engagement including the Etege Tehaytu, Begemidir, Atsewochu, Anbesaw-Gayint and General Fanta Belay Divisions.

- While the regime forces deployed over 300 personnel to encircle the Fano, the majority of them were either killed or sustained critical injuries as a result of the Fano counter-offensive. A large number of regime joint forces were also captured by the Fano.
- On July 17th, fighting which began the previous day between Fano forces and regime forces continued in Ibnat Woreda.
  - The Fano forces successfully cleared the Selamaya and Dega-Melza areas, and by the early morning of July 17th, had begun to establish control over the main sections of Ibnat town, infiltrating from three different directions. By the morning hours, the Fano forces had fully regained control of Ibnat town, prompting regime forces to retreat to Nech-Dingay Kebele, abandoning Ibnat town to the Fano. The Fano forces then encircled regime forces in Nech-Dingay and launched a coordinated offensive. The military camp in Nech-Dingay was the location where Ibnat Woreda top officials were stationed. The Fano forces initiated heavy shelling of the military camp using mortars and machine guns. Following the Fano's seizure of Ibnat town, numerous political prisoners escaped from the Ibnat town prison center, with over 107 detainees released. The Ibnat Woreda administration bureau was set on fire,

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- with the Fano forces claiming that the bureau was deliberately set ablaze by retreating regime forces. In the aftermath, the Fano forces captured a large number of political cadres associated with the Ibnat Woreda administration.
- In the fighting in Selamaya town alone, the Fano seized a significant arsenal of weapons, including 15 heavy weapons and more than 200 kalashnikov rifles. Out of the 300 regime soldiers deployed, only 15 managed to escape, and 100 soldiers and militia forces were captured during the battle in Selamaya town. Colonel Musa, who was leading the regime forces, was severely injured in Melza and fell into an abyss; his body has not yet been recovered.
  - In response to the escalating crisis, regime reinforcement forces were deployed from Debre-Tabor city and Kimir-Dingay town to assist the encircled regime forces. However, reinforcement forces from Debre-Tabor city were ambushed by Fano forces in Buro-Qantona Kebele on July 16th. Intense fighting ensued in Buro, lasting for several hours. Despite initial success in breaking the Fano's resistance in Buro-Qantona, regime forces were subsequently confronted by other Fano forces in Beqlo-Maneqiya Kebele. As a result of the renewed fighting, military urals carrying regime soldiers were capsized, resulting in the deaths of the majority of the soldiers.
  - On July 19th, a military ual truck, carrying over 40 regime soldiers, careened into a deep abyss in Qonjo-Maneqiya-Gedel. The overturning of the truck resulted in the immediate deaths of the majority of soldiers onboard. A small number of soldiers survived the accident, but sustained critical injuries. The deceased soldiers were subsequently buried in a mass grave in Tunjit-Ber village, located just outside Ibnat town. This tragic incident occurred following a surprise attack launched by Fano forces, suggesting that the loss of control of the vehicle may have been a direct result of the Fano's action.

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### **Debre-Tabor City**

- On July 16th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Telda, Melo, and Gedeb Kebeles. The Guna Division, specifically the Gebremesqel Brigade, and the Major General Wubante Abate Tewelwari Division, notably the Asaminew Brigade (all under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps) initiated an offensive attack against regime forces in these areas. The regime forces, en route to Ibnat town, were ambushed by Fano forces, indicating a strategic effort to disrupt the regime's operations and potentially to prevent the deployment of reinforcements.

### **Lay-Gayint Woreda**

- On July 17th, Fano forces executed a surprise attack against regime forces in Mado-Megenteya village. The ambush took place as regime forces were travelling from Welela-Bahir town to Megenteya town and resulted in significant casualties for the regime forces. Among the casualties were the regime regiment leader and a number of soldiers. The Anbesaw-Gayint Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC) was responsible for carrying out this operation against the regime forces, demonstrating a clear intention to disrupt the regime's movements and inflict damage upon its military capabilities.

### **Tach-Gayint Woreda**

- On July 18th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces across numerous locations within Lay-Gayint and Tach-Gayint Woredas.
  - The conflict, which began early in the morning of July 18th, builds upon earlier clashes in Arb-Gebeya town (Tach Gayint Woreda), which began the previous day (July 17th) and intensified significantly since then. The Gebriye Division (under the AFPO-AFGPC) launched an offensive against regime forces,

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approaching Arb-Gebeya from four different directions since the afternoon of July 17th, with the strategic objective of regaining control of Arb-Gebeya town, which serves as administrative center of Tach-Gayint Woreda. Following the death of prominent figure Fano Kefyalew Dessie, the Gebrye Division is now led by Fano Addisu Debalqe, and the new offensive has been named *Operation Kefyalew Colonel Memorial*. After two days of fierce fighting, the Fano successfully recaptured Arb-Gebeya town. The fighting unfolded across multiple fronts, including Qenefa-Megbiya, Mashlut-Megbiya, Gebeta-Dinga-Megbiya, and Qusquam-Megbiya, all converging on Arb-Gebeya town. The Fano forces seized control of the police station and the military armaments depot, capturing a substantial amount of weaponry.

- Regime forces stationed in Taliyan-Mishig, continued to shell the town with heavy weapons. Simultaneously, fighting also commenced in Gobgob in Lay-Gayint Woreda, early in the morning, with the Anbesaw-Gayint Division (under the AFPO-AFGPC) initiating an offensive attack against regime forces in that area.
- On July 18th, intense fighting continued in the area from Awdna to Shegaw-Marye Kebele (outside Arb-Gebeya town).
  - During this fighting, Teju Dessie, the younger brother of the late Kefyalew Dessie, was killed. Despite this loss, the Gebriye Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC) successfully regained complete control of Arb-Gebeya town. The Fano forces destroyed 12 heavy military trucks during the clashes, with some of the trucks seized and repurposed by the Fano. Furthermore, a significant arsenal of weaponry, numbering in the hundreds, was captured by the Fano forces. The Gebriye Division deployed its four brigades in this fierce battle including the Bitwedded Gessesse Retta Brigade, Alula Brigade, Abba



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Kentir Shifferaw Brigade, and Ras Gayint Brigade, launching a coordinated offensive in four different directions towards Arb-Gebeya town. The Ginbot 6 Sematat Brigade also played a role in defending against regime reinforcement forces arriving from Simada and Sedemuja Woredas, demonstrating the Fano's strategic planning and defensive capabilities.

- Following the successful recapture, the Fano forces established a command post in Arb-Gebeya town to secure and maintain control. However, the regime forces stationed on Awnda Mountain subjected Arb-Gebeya town to indiscriminate shelling, resulting in civilian casualties. One incident involved the death of three members of a family while they were inside their home: Wasu, the family's breadwinner (whose father's name was not specified), his wife Kasu, and their infant child. A daily laborer was also injured by ZU-23 shrapnel.
- In addition to the recapture of Arb-Gebeya, the Anbesaw-Gayint Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC) successfully regained control of Gobgob town, located in Lay-Gayint Woreda, on July 18th, inflicting heavy casualties on regime forces stationed there. The following day (on July 19th), Fano forces ultimately withdrew from Arb-Gebeya town following the arrival of heavily armed reinforcement forces dispatched from Nefas-Mewcha town and Debre-Tabor city. This indicates a strategic decision by the Fano, likely to avoid further civilian casualties and conserve resources in the face of overwhelming military strength.

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## **Central Gonder Zone**

### **East Belessa Woreda**

- On June 15th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Dedeha Kebele.
  - The fighting commenced early in the morning and lasted for eight hours. The Fano forces, particularly the Mebreq Division (part of the AFNF-BC), initiated an offensive against regime joint forces deployed in the area. In response, the regime forces began firing heavy artillery from Degoma town towards Dedeha Kebele. This indiscriminate shelling caused civilian fatalities and the destruction of homes within Dedeha Kebele.
  - The militia forces engaged in close-quarters combat were eventually forced to retreat to Guhala town after sustaining heavy casualties. Notably, in this woreda alone, more than 25 members of the militia forces defected to the Fano forces, bringing with them their full military equipment, suggesting a shift in allegiance and a decline in morale among the regime's local forces.

### **Gonder-Zuriya Woreda**

- On July 17th, regime forces conducted house-to-house searches in Minzro, Burbuaks, and Macha Kebeles. These searches led to exchanges of gunfire between regime forces and the Gondere-Begashaw Division (part of the AFNF-BC 5th Corps) actively engaged regime forces in these locations, indicating a direct confrontation aimed at protecting local communities and hindering the regime's search operations.
  - In the aftermath of the intense fighting that occurred in Maksegnit town on July 18th, it has been confirmed that 52 regime joint forces personnel were killed by Fano forces.

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- This offensive was spearheaded by the Atsewochu Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC), who themselves sustained casualties, including two fatalities and three critical injuries.
  - Enraged by their defeat, the regime forces are alleged to have retaliated by killing four farmers in Sergaj Kebele. Among the victims were: Gobeze Dessie, a 50-year-old farmer and father of 10 children; Melese Atalo, a 42-year-old farmer and father of three children; and Adugna Melkamu, a 60-year-old man with nine children.

### **Taqusa Woreda**

- On July 18th, fierce fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Delgi town.
  - The fighting built upon the attack launched by the Adwa Division (under the AFNF-BC 2nd Corps) on the night of July 17th. The fighting, which escalated in ferocity on July 18th, was concentrated across numerous locations within Delgi town including the Giyorgis, Zebena and Mekonta areas.
  - The regime forces sustained heavy casualties during this intense fighting. Numerous regime joint forces personnel were killed or critically injured. During the fighting, two Fano fighters were killed (including a battalion commander) and three sustained minor physical injuries. The dead regime soldiers were visible in Gebera village.

### **West Gonder Zone**

#### **Metemma Woreda**

- On July 14th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Gudo and Adagn-Hager-Chaqqo.

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- The clashes in Gudo inflicted significant casualties on regime forces, lasting for six hours without interruption. The regime forces, who were deployed from Negade-Bahir town to Gudo Kebele, were intercepted by Fano forces.
  - This engagement resulted in over 16 regime forces personnel being killed or critically injured. The Fano forces seized 13 kalashnikov rifles, along with a substantial amount of ammunition and bombs. Additionally, five militiamen were captured by the Fano forces during the fighting, even with the regular army giving heavy weapon coverage to the local peace keeping forces. The Atanaw Wassie Division (under the AFNF-BC) was actively engaged in the fighting against the regime forces.
  - In addition to the fighting between the Fano and regime forces, Qemant militants killed five Amhara civilians in Gudo.
- On July 17th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces on Tariku Mountain. The engagement commenced early in the morning and involved the use of heavy weaponry, including machine guns and mortars, lasting for several hours. Ultimately, the regime forces were compelled to retreat back to Kokit town. The Karamara Division (part of the AFNF-BC) actively confronted the regime forces on Tariku Mountain, contributing to their military defeat. In a further blow to the regime's forces, 11 members of the riot dispersal forces stationed in Kokit town defected to the Fano forces, bringing with them their full military equipment, and joining the ranks of the Karamara Division.
  - On July 18th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces across multiple locations within Metemma Woreda.
    - Five Fano divisions actively engaged in this widespread conflict, encompassing a vast territory stretching from Addisalem to Wedigemzo, Shimelegara, Qutir 1, and Qutir 5. The offensive against regime forces was

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spearheaded by the Gobbe Melke, Arbegnoch, Tekeze, Remetu Dejen, Zeray, and Atanaw Wassie Divisions (under the AFNF-BC). The fighting raged for 10 hours and the campaign was named in honor of Colonel Shanqo Shibabaw, a renowned Fano leader who was killed the previous year. The offensive commemorated the anniversary of his death and served as a renewed effort against the regime forces. The regime forces stationed in Delelo-Qutir 1 suffered heavy losses to the Atanaw Wassie Division (under the AFNF-BC 2nd Corps). The Fano captured over 50 soldiers, along with a heavy machinegun and a significant number of light machineguns and sniper rifles.

- As a result of the intense fighting, the regime forces sustained heavy casualties. Over 40 regime joint force personnel were captured by Fano forces. In one specific combat area alone, the Fano seized a significant cache of weapons, including more than 100 kalashnikov rifles, one light machinegun, one mortar, and four heavy machineguns. The regime forces deployed from Qutir 1 to Shimelegara Kebele were completely eliminated by the Fano forces. The Karamara Division (under the AFNF-BC) sustained minor casualties, including two fatalities and three minor physical injuries. Civilians were also killed during the clashes.
- A separate fierce battle unfolded in Arsema Kebele, lasting for several hours, though the exact number of casualties remains unknown. In Tariku-Gora, particularly at Mendaya, regime forces sustained heavy casualties, with a significant number of regime joint forces personnel killed or injured. On the Fano side, there were three fatalities and four recorded physical injuries. Regime forces traveling from Kokit town to Shimelegara Kebele were ambushed by Fano forces, resulting in heavy casualties. Furthermore, the Fano forces launched a surprise attack against the military camp located in Korjemis, positioned north of Metemma-Yohannes town, inflicting heavy

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casualties on regime forces stationed there.

### **Qwara Woreda**

- On July 18th, regime forces detained over 275 farmers in Shinfa town.
  - These farmers were apprehended for the sole reason that they had defended themselves against an offensive launched by Qemant militants targeting Amhara communities. Despite the fact that these farmers were acting in self-defense, the regime forces accused them of supporting the Fano forces. Even after the woreda police commander informed regime forces that the farmers were merely defending themselves, the military commander reportedly intervened, instructing the police not to release the detained farmers. This action suggests a potential bias or agenda on the part of the military commander.
  - Meanwhile, Qemant militants remain stationed around Shinfa, poised to infiltrate the region, posing an ongoing threat to the local population. Despite the threat posed by these armed groups, the regime forces have reportedly failed to take any action against them, even after they looted more than 200 head of cattle from the farmers. This inaction raises serious concerns about the regime forces' impartiality and their commitment to protecting the safety and property of all citizens, particularly the Amhara community in the region.

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## Areas Outside Amhara Region

### *Statement from Enat Party (July 18, 2025)*

- On July 18th, opposition party Enat Party issued a public statement denouncing the execution of civilians in Jeju Woreda in Arsi Zone of Oromia Region.<sup>7</sup>
  - In its earlier message of condolence dated July 12th, Enat Party had drawn attention to the abduction of two civilians from the area identified as Priest Admasu Getaneh, who served at Sekora Kidane-Mihret Church, and his brother Wogene Getaneh. The party had expressed deep concern about their safety and called for their immediate release. However, according to new information received on July 18th, both Priest Admasu and his brother were taken back to their home by the perpetrators and executed. Enat Party condemned the killings as a grave violation of human rights and a tragic escalation of violence targeting civilians, particularly religious and community figures.

### **Addis-Ababa City**

- On July 14th, reports indicated that Ato Abayneh Alemayehu, a 63-year-old detainee, died in Kilinto Prison due to lack of medical care following severe mistreatment in Addis-Ababa city.
  - Ato Abayneh, originally from Bahir-Dar, was detained upon his arrival in Addis-Ababa city four months ago on allegations of affiliation with Fano militants. Despite testifying in court that he was tortured during interrogation by the Federal Police's Criminal Investigation Bureau, no adequate medical attention was provided. Sources confirm that Ato Abayneh repeatedly

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<sup>7</sup>See July 18, 2025 [statement](#) from Enat Party.

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requested treatment, stating, “*I am feeling sick, take me to the hospital,*” but prison officials denied the request citing lack of staff to accompany him. His family has confirmed his death. Although he was twice granted bail—initially 40,000 birr and later 30,000 birr—in separate terrorism-related charges, he remained in custody as new charges were filed. His death is attributed to complications from sustained injuries and medical negligence.<sup>8</sup>

- This case adds to growing reports of torture and abuse against detained ethnic Amharas under the regime in various detention centers across the country.

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<sup>8</sup>See July 14, 2025 [report](#) from Meseret Media.



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## 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.

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