



## War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – August 18th to 24th, 2025

*Updated August 25th, 2025*

### Overview

For the week of August 18th to 24th, 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 33 woreda/city administrations across 11 zonal administrations in Amhara Region.

These zones included the Wag-Hemra, North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa,

---

<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].

---

West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder, West Gonder and North Gonder Zones. Developments were also recorded in East Arsi and North Shewa Zones of Oromia Region and in Addis-Ababa city.

- Civilian casualties were recorded in 9 woreda/city administrations across 6 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Kombolcha, Merhabete, Wemberima, Jabi-Tehnan, Sekela, Ibnat, Tach-Gayint, Qwara and Dabat Woredas in South Wollo, North Shewa, West Gojjam, South Gonder, West Gonder and North Gonder Zones. Civilian casualties were also recorded in North Shewa and East Arsi Zones of Oromia Region. The attack in East Arsi Zone was attributed to suspected *Oromo Liberation Army* (OLA) militants with alleged involvement of other armed factions.
- Arbitrary arrests were recorded in Raya-Kobo, Kobo, Antsokiyana-Gemza and Qwara Woredas of North Wollo, North Shewa and West Gonder Zones in Amhara Region. Mass arrests were also recorded in Addis-Ababa city. In addition, *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF) forces carried out abductions in Telemt Woreda of North Gonder Zone in Amhara Region. Lastly, abductions were also recorded in Were-Jarso Woreda of North Shewa Zone in Oromia Region.

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

- On August 18th, additional defections from the ENDF to Fano forces were reported, continuing a pattern of increasing disillusionment within the ENDF's ranks.
  - According to sources, members of the ENDF 12th Division, 4th Battalion, defected to the Tekeze Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Lasta General Asamine Tsige Corps). At least three soldiers joined the unit, bringing with them military equipment including four Kalashnikov rifles, 12 hand grenades,

---

285 rounds of ammunition, and three units of waist and chest armor.

- The defecting soldiers expressed their gratitude for the warm reception. They reportedly stated that they felt the ongoing conflict has turned the ENDF into a battleground of “brother against brother,” solely to preserve Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed’s grip on power.
- On August 20th, reports confirmed a significant defection of regime forces, including senior military leaders, to the AFNF-MC.
  - According to sources, four members of the ENDF North-Eastern Command’s 49th Division, including senior (Shambel) leaders and a centurion-level officer, defected and officially joined the Asaminew Division (part of the AFNF-MC East Amhara Corps 1). These defections are not isolated incidents; rather, they are part of a broader trend in which both leaders and rank-and-file soldiers are switching sides, either in organized groups or as individuals. The defectors brought with them military equipment, including 4 black Kalashnikov rifles, over 1,000 rounds of ammunition, and more than 10 hand grenades.
  - This development is viewed as a strategic gain for the Fano forces, strengthening their combat capability and morale while simultaneously weakening the regime’s operational cohesion in the region. The inclusion of high-ranking officers in the defections also underscores growing discontent within regime ranks, likely stemming from battlefield losses, internal divisions, or political dissatisfaction.
- This week, sources affiliated with the Fano movement reported a significant defection of regime forces to Fano forces in Amhara-Sayint Woreda.
  - According to these reports, at least 24 individuals from regime-aligned forces recently joined the Fano ranks. Among them were 21 local militias and three

---

ENDF members. The reports suggest that the defections were motivated by dissatisfaction with the regime's handling of the ongoing conflict and related political developments.

- These defections are viewed by sources as a sign of growing discontent within the regime's security apparatus and an indication of shifting allegiances on the ground in the Amhara Region.

## **Wag-Hemra Zone**

### **Dehana Woreda**

- On August 17th, reports Fano forces recovered a large quantity of fertilizer allegedly stolen by local regime officials in Arbit (Kebele 04).
  - The fertilizer, originally intended for smallholder farmers in Arbit, was reportedly being diverted for illegal sale to private traders. The operation was conducted by the Wagshum Brigade (part of the AFNF-MC Lasta Asaminew Corps) based in Arbit. During the raid, Fano forces reportedly seized 30 quintals of fertilizer from regime cadres who were preparing to sell it on the black market. According to sources, the recovered fertilizer with an estimated market value of 200,000 ETB. The Fano forces reportedly redistributed the fertilizer at no cost to poor farmers in Arbit, aiming to return the stolen resource to its rightful beneficiaries.
  - Following the seizure, regime security forces reportedly mobilized in an attempt to reclaim the fertilizer and suppress the Fano presence in the area. However, according to local accounts, the security forces were ambushed and repelled by Fano fighters, suffering multiple casualties. The exact number of those killed or wounded has not been confirmed. In retaliation, upon retreating, some members of the regime forces allegedly looted more than 25

---

mobile phones and physically assaulted civilians they encountered in the surrounding areas.

## **North Wollo Zone**

### **Raya-Kobo Woreda**

- Between August 17th and 18th, regime forces carried out a wave of mass arrests targeting farmers in Gobiye town and surrounding areas of Raya-Kobo Woreda.
  - According to sources, the number of arrested farmers is estimated to exceed fifteen. The individuals targeted in these operations were primarily farmers whose weapons were previously taken by TPLF forces during the TPLF's invasion of the region between 2020 and 2022. At the time, these farmers had reported the issue to authorities after regime forces returned to the area, and the loss of weapons occurred during a period when the regime itself had temporarily vacated the region due to the conflict. Despite the context being known to authorities, regime forces are now reportedly using this issue as a pretext to detain farmers. Detainees are being transported to Kobo city, where they are allegedly being pressured to either pay money in exchange for their release or agree to fight alongside regime forces. Many local residents and critics have condemned this as a form of extortion and corruption under the guise of law enforcement.
  - Furthermore, these arrests have occurred during a critical period in the agricultural calendar. The forced removal of farmers from their land is expected to negatively impact ongoing farming activities, potentially leading to food insecurity for their families and the broader community.
  - Similar incidents have been observed in other parts of North Wollo Zone, including Lasta and Wadla Woredas, as well as in Lalibela city. The arrests

---

have raised serious concerns among the local population and observers.

### **Kobo City**

- On the night of August 19th, gunfire was reported in Kobo city, specifically near the police station, amid a wave of intensified arrests throughout Kobo city and Raya-Kobo Woreda.
  - The gunfire reportedly began around 9:30 pm and continued for approximately one hour. While the exact cause of the incident remains unclear, it coincided with widespread security operations and heightened tensions in the area.
  - According to local sources, the regime has been conducting targeted arrests of farmers, many of whom were formerly militia members before the outbreak of the ongoing conflict between Fano forces and the regime military. Many of those detained had reportedly resisted orders to rejoin the fight on the side of the regime.
  - The arrests have been carried out across multiple kebeles in both Kobo city and Raya-Kobo Woreda, suggesting a coordinated crackdown on individuals perceived as disloyal or non-compliant.
  - This act of forced conscription, particularly targeting civilians, including former militia-turned-farmers, is a clear violation of international humanitarian law.

### **Wadla Woreda**

- Between August 19th and 20th, intense fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime troops across multiple locations in Wadla Woreda.
  - The clashes primarily occurred in and around the town of Hamusit, which lies along the vital Gashena–Woldia corridor, a key route for both logistics and

---

military movement. In addition to Hamusit, Fano units also secured the Boyan and Shara-Genet junctions, further tightening control over critical transport and communication lines in the area. These coordinated offensives appear to have disrupted regime supply chains and movement along the corridor.

Confronted with a determined and coordinated offensive, regime forces were unable to maintain their positions and subsequently retreated to the nearby town of Stayish. The retreat suggests a breakdown in command or logistical exhaustion on the part of the regime troops in that sector.

- According to sources, the operation inflicted heavy casualties on regime forces with 27 regime personnel killed (including 13 members of the ENDF and 14 militia fighters) and more than 20 regime combatants wounded. In addition, the Fano captured equipment including 15 Kalashnikov rifles, one sniper rifle, and multiple rounds of ammunition.
- On August 23rd, an intense and strategically significant battle took place between Fano and regime forces in the Meqosqos area.
  - The engagement was initiated by the Degaw-Mebreq Division (part of the AFPO-AFWPC) in the early hours of the morning, at around 5:30 am, in Meqosqos town, which is situated approximately 2 kilometers from Gashena.
  - According to sources, the regime forces suffered heavy casualties, and the Fano forces successfully achieved their objectives in the engagement. The Fano fighters reportedly overran regime positions, capturing more than 10 personal weapons, including several rifles. In terms of casualties, at least 19 regime soldiers were wounded, including five riot dispersal members and militias, and over 14 ENDF personnel.

---

## **South Wollo Zone**

### **Kombolcha City**

- On August 17th, an armed member of the regime militia reportedly opened fire on civilians in Kombolcha city.
  - According to local reports, the incident led to the death of one civilian and left five others injured. Sources allege that the militia member was intoxicated at the time of the shooting and acted without provocation. The victims were unarmed and not engaged in any hostile activity.<sup>3</sup>
  - This incident has sparked fear and anger among residents, raising serious concerns about the conduct, discipline, and accountability of regime forces operating in civilian areas. As of August 17th, authorities have not yet released an official statement regarding the incident or whether any measures will be taken against the perpetrator.

### **Hayk City**

- Between August 17th and 18th, regime forces reportedly obstructed the movement of humanitarian aid vehicles in Hayk city, preventing the delivery of critical supplies to areas in northern Amhara Region.
  - According to local sources, more than 45 vehicles carrying humanitarian aid were stopped near St. Mikael's Church, at the southern exit of Hayk city, and were forced to turn back and remain within city limits. The obstruction was carried out jointly by Hayk city local police and regime militias. The vehicles were held for approximately 28 hours, from 8 am on August 17th until 11 am the following day (August 18th). After the delay, the convoy resumed its journey toward Gonder, Adarkay and surrounding areas.

---

<sup>3</sup>See August 18, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.



- 
- Sources allege that the order to block the aid convoy was issued by Ato Ali Mekonen, the administrator of South Wollo Zone. The motive behind the obstruction, according to sources, was to provoke international condemnation by creating the false impression that the Fano forces were responsible for halting humanitarian operations. However, independent accounts confirm that Fano forces were located approximately 19 kilometers away from the area where the vehicles were stopped and had no involvement in the incident.
  - This incident has raised serious concerns about the politicization of humanitarian aid and the potential impact on vulnerable populations dependent on these essential supplies.

### **Amhara-Sayint Woreda**

- On August 19th, an intense battle took place between Fano and regime troops in the Tedibabe-Mariam area.
  - The conflict began when regime forces launched an offensive, advancing into the area with the aim of encircling and neutralizing Fano positions. On the Fano side, the fighting was carried out by the Tabot-Terara Brigade of the Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division (part of the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Ali Corps). Upon detecting the regime's manoeuvre, Fano forces quickly responded with a powerful counter-offensive. The battle raged from 8 am until mid-night, during which Fano fighters engaged fiercely to repel the attacking forces.
  - Despite the regime's initial advantage in launching the assault, their plans were effectively disrupted. Fano fighters managed to break the attempted siege, halting the regime's offensive momentum. The confrontation escalated into close-quarters combat, during which both sides reportedly used explosives. In

---

the course of the fighting, more than 15 regime soldiers were killed, over 19 were wounded, and the remaining regime forces were forced to retreat from the area. Additionally, during the height of the battle, two regime soldiers surrendered, citing the intensity of the conflict as the reason.

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

### **North Shewa Zone**

#### **Menz-Gera-Midir Woreda**

- Since the evening of August 17th, fighting between Fano and regime forces has intensified in the Darigegn (Kebele 016).
  - According to sources, a coordinated military operation was launched at 6 pm on August 17th by the Biruke Demissie Brigade of the Atse Yekuno-Amlak Division (part of the AFNF-AC). The operation targeted a regime stronghold in a specific area known as Darigegn, within Kebele 016. As a result of the offensive, regime forces reportedly numerous significant losses. At least eight soldiers were killed, with several others wounded. Sources have confirmed that among those killed were four regime commanders. Fano sources also reported that one senior officer holding the rank of colonel whose name remains undisclosed, was critically injured during the fighting and was initially treated at Mehal-Meda Hospital but was later airlifted to Addis-Ababa city for further medical attention.
  - On the morning of August 18th at 6 am, regime officials were seen traveling from Molale, Zemero, and Menz-Gera to Debre-Berhan city in a convoy of three armored vehicles, which is believed to be part of an emergency evacuation. The Menz-Gera-Midir Communication Office has officially denied

---

that the movement was linked to the ongoing conflict, claiming instead that the officials were en route for a training event.<sup>4</sup> However, local observers and the Fano believe the move was a direct response to the sustained and intensifying Fano offensives in the area, which have entered their fifth consecutive day.

### **Merhabete Woreda**

- On August 18th, Fano forces carried out a targeted operation against a leading militia figure aligned with the regime in Remesht-Workaba Kebele.
  - The operation took place at approximately 7:30 pm and was led by the Nadew Division (part of the AFNF-AC) and specifically targeted Burqa Gurmes, a known militia leader who had become a key collaborator with regime forces. Burqa was reportedly in the area for a social visit when he was intercepted in the operation and had his weapons confiscated.
  - According to sources, the target was previously affiliated with the former unified Fano structure, “*One Amhara Fano*”, and held a position related to intelligence and security. However, following a series of warnings and internal disciplinary actions within the movement against individuals who were covertly providing intelligence to the regime, Burqa Gurmes openly defected. After his defection, he became a direct asset of the regime, acting as a paymaster and informant. His collaboration reportedly led to the arrest and persecution of civilians in the region. Additionally, he is said to have coordinated campaigns by regime forces, playing a significant role in suppressing resistance in key areas.
- On August 23rd, intense fighting occurred between Fano forces and regime troops in Merhabete Woreda.

---

<sup>4</sup>See August 18, 2025 [statement](#) from the Menz-Gera-Midir Woreda Communications Office.

- 
- The conflict began at approximately 4 am, following the movement of the regime’s 101st Air Force Commando units advancing from the directions of Alem-Ketema and Menz-Keya Woreda. These units converged on Kolash Kebele, specifically targeting an area known as Amibat. Fighting involved the Atse Dawit Division (part of the AFPO-AFSPC Atse Amdetsion Corps). The corps’ special operations unit also played a significant role in the confrontation. As the fighting intensified, the regime began reinforcing its troops with additional forces deployed from Mida-Rema, including units equipped with ZU-23 anti-aircraft artillery systems. As a result of the intense fighting, regime forces suffered significant casualties. One of the regime’s ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, which was being transported from Alem-Ketema, was struck and disabled by a Fano heavy machinegun fire at a location known as Doba-Giyorgis.
  - According to sources, 27 regime soldiers were killed in the engagement, and more than 30 wounded personnel were later admitted to Alem-Ketema Hospital.
  - Upon returning, in what appears to be a retaliatory action following their losses, regime troops reportedly committed acts of violence against civilians in Doba-Giyorgis. According to sources, two civilians (both women) were killed, allegedly as retribution for the military defeat. In addition, regime forces reportedly destroyed the property of local farmers and killed livestock.

### **Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda**

- On August 24th, regime forces reportedly carried out a coordinated act of intimidation, harassment, and arrest against educational professionals who were traveling to participate in a meeting organized to discuss the reopening of schools in Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda.

- 
- Fano forces under the AFPO-AFSPC have been actively engaging with local educational leaders to reopen schools and create a conducive learning environment in areas under its control. As part of this effort, the Mohammed Bihonegn Corps, specifically the Aste-Guma-Terara Division, had organized a consultative meeting with school principals and supervisors.
  - The meeting was scheduled to take place at Ambo-Wuha Primary School and aimed to discuss plans and strategies for resuming teaching and learning activities. However, according to sources, as soon as the invited educators arrived at the venue on the morning of August 24th, 10 school principals were arrested by regime militias, acting on orders from the Woreda Chief Administrator, Ato Demis Abera.
  - This incident is being interpreted by observers and Fano sources as a deliberate attempt by regime forces to disrupt efforts to restore the education system in liberated areas. Despite such obstruction, Fano forces and local administrations aligned with the AFPO have been actively working to resume education and stabilize basic services in the region.

### **Menz-Keya Woreda**

- On August 24th, Fano forces launched a coordinated and pre-planned offensive in Zemero town.
  - The operation began at 6 am, after Fano forces advanced into regime-controlled areas overnight and prepared for the engagement. The operation specifically targeted regime defense forces that had been stationed in Zemero. During the offensive, Fano fighters from the Atse Menelik Division (part of the AFPO-AFSPC Atse Amdetsion Corps) approached the town from two strategic directions, successfully breaching regime fortifications and

---

managing to partially take control of Zemero. Key positions, including regime strongholds, were taken under Fano control. Regime forces mobilized reinforcements from the town center in an attempt to counter the Fano offensive and reclaim lost positions.

- The AFPO-AFSPC emphasized that this operation was part of a broader campaign to remove regime forces from key strategic areas and restore security and self-governance under local control.

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

- Between August 19th and 20th, several troops defected from the military and reportedly joined Fano forces under the AFNF-AFG.
  - On August 19th, nearly 25 troops, the majority of them militias, defected from the regime encampment in Durbete (South Achefer Woreda, North Gojjam Zone), and joined the Abe-Gubegna Brigade.
  - On August 20th, more than 30 troops defected from the military encampment in Quarit Woreda (West Gojjam Zone) and joined the Geremew Wendawek Brigade.

## **West Gojjam Zone**

### **Wemberima Woreda**

- On August 18th, Fano fighters conducted a sudden operation in the Kokit area.
  - The Shindi Wemberima Brigade, under the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (under the AFNF-AFG), reportedly carried out this operation. Sources reported that a militia was killed and a key regime intelligence

---

operative was injured during the operation. In retaliation, regime soldiers executed a civilian named Atinkut Milikit, a resident of Marquma Kebele, by dragging him from his home.

- On August 23rd, Fano fighters reportedly launched an offensive in Shindi town. The Guagusa and Shindi-Wemberima Brigades, both from the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), were reportedly involved in this fighting. The fighting in Shindi aimed to disrupt the movement of regime reinforcements and divert their attention.

### **Sekela Woreda**

- On August 18th and 20th, fighting took place in Abesken Kebele.
  - Fano forces initiated fighting against regime forces who had recently deployed in the area. Since August 16th, regime forces had reportedly deployed a large number of ground and mechanized troops from nearby bases.
  - During their time in the Abesken area, regime soldiers reportedly carried out multiple violations against civilian residents, including causing civilian casualties, and looting and destroying property. Sources reported that at least four civilians killed, including a woman and a teenager. According to Fano sources, one of the killed victims was identified as 85-year-old Ato Muluneh Aniley. The soldiers reportedly killed him after taking 120,000 ETB from him. Regime soldiers also reportedly shot and injured a person with a mental illness identified as Eniyew Gedamu during their occupation of the area. In addition to the human casualties, regime soldiers also looted and destroyed the Gule Health Station, claiming that Fano fighters had been using the facility.
  - After days of occupation in the area, Fano fighters reportedly regrouped and launched an offensive for consecutive days between August 18th and 20th.

---

This offensive was reportedly conducted by the Giyon Brigade, under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). Sources reported that both sides suffered casualties during the days of fighting in the area. Fano fighters claimed to have overwhelmed the regime soldiers after days of fighting, stating that they pushed the regime forces out of Abesken on August 20th. According to sources, at least nine soldiers were killed and others were injured during the successive operations. In addition, numerous soldiers and firearms were captured by the Fano forces.

### **Jabi-Tehnan Woreda**

- On August 21st and 22nd, escalating tensions and sporadic gunfire were observed in and around Finote-Selam and Jiga.
  - Sources reported that Fano forces are deploying a significant number of fighters near Finote-Selam and Jiga. A light exchange of gunfire was also reported in the Gwecha area, with the resulting casualties remaining unconfirmed. Having received intelligence about the Fano forces' movement, regime forces stationed in Jiga and Finote-Selam are holding their positions to hinder the advance.
  - Since the afternoon of August 21st, the regime has been persistently and indiscriminately shelling nearby areas with heavy artillery. Sources reported that one civilian was killed on August 21st in the Mankusa neighborhood during an artillery strike by the regime.
- On August 23rd, intense fighting took place in multiple locations within Jabi-Tehnan Woreda.
  - The fighting was initiated by Fano fighters in all cases after two days of heightened tension with regime forces. The combined Fano brigades from the



---

Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division and two brigades from the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (all under the AFNF-AFG) were reportedly involved in the confrontations. The clash was intense, characterized by the use of heavy artillery from both sides, and it covered several areas, including Finote-Selam, Jiga, Mankusa, and Hodanshi, with the most intense fighting seen in Jiga and Hodanshi. In Jiga, the battle occurred both in the morning and afternoon. Fano fighters also fiercely countered regime forces in Hodanshi and the suburbs of Finote-Selam. Fano fighters entered Jiga, Hodanshi, and Finote-Selam at some point before subsequently withdrawing.

- During this offensive, Fano fighters overwhelmed the regime soldiers and inflicted numerous casualties. From the battle in Jiga, one Fano fighter was confirmed dead. Sources also reported that Fano fighters managed to capture more than one hundred weapons from regime forces.
- In retaliation for the Fano offensive, regime soldiers in Jiga executed at least three civilians, one of whom was a person with mental illness, and assaulted civilians by dragging them from their homes.

### **Bure-Zuriya Woreda**

- On August 23rd, a gunfire exchange took place in Bure town. The fighting was reportedly initiated by the Bure-Damot Brigade, under the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). Sources reported that Fano fighters approached Bure town from multiple directions and opened fire on the regime forces present. The fighting in Bure town was connected to the battle in Jabi-Tehnan Woreda, aiming to disrupt regime reinforcement movements from Bure and nearby bases. The number of casualties resulting from this operation remains unreported.

---

## **Awı Zone**

### **Fagita-Lekoma Woreda**

- On August 16th, fighting took place in Fagita Kebele. Regime forces initiated the fighting, during this confrontation, the Ephrem Atnafu Brigade, part of the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), fiercely resisted the regime forces with a counteroffensive. Sources reported that both combatants suffered casualties. In particular, regime soldiers captured two Fano fighters, and reportedly executed them on August 18th in Addis-Kidam town.
- Between August 17th and 18th, light gunfire exchanges were reported in Addis-Kidam town.
  - Fano fighters reportedly launched the firefight in both cases, infiltrating the regime’s presence to conduct their operations. During the August 17th operation, Fano fighters killed and injured some regime soldiers, primarily militias and police, with the exact number remaining unconfirmed. The Fano fighters withdrew from the town after completing the operation. On August 18th, Fano fighters once again infiltrated Addis-Kidam town and launched gunfire targeting the regime’s presence. Sources reported casualties on both sides during this firefight. Specifically, sources reported that the regime captured two Fano fighters during this gunfire exchange.
  - In a separate development on August 18th, fighting took place in the Sharata neighborhood. Regime forces initiated the fighting by mobilizing ground and mechanized forces from nearby regime bases. The Ephrem Atnafu and Simeneh Desta Brigades, under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), reportedly confronted the regime forces in the nearby mountainous areas. The fighting was intense and lasted for nearly three hours. During this confrontation, sources reported that both sides suffered casualties.

---

Sources reported at least 20 regime soldiers killed, including one in a command position, and 35 others injured.

### **Dangila Woreda**

- On August 20th, Fano fighters conducted an operation in Dangila town. The operation was reportedly executed by the Bitwedded Mengesha Jembere Brigade, a unit under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). Reports indicate that Fano fighters covertly infiltrated the town overnight and conducted an offensive before the early morning hours. This offensive was sudden and intense, and the Fano fighters reportedly inflicted considerable casualties during the short-lived operation.

### **Banja Woreda**

- On August 20th, fighting took place in the Satma-Dangiya neighborhood. The fighting was initiated by regime forces who mobilized from neighboring bases. The Simeneh Desta Brigade, under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), fiercely countered the offensive. The confrontation reportedly took place on Asem mountain, where the Fano fighters had been encamped. During this confrontation, casualties were reported on both sides, with greater casualties among the regime soldiers. Sources indicated more than 10 regime soldiers killed and several others injured.

## **North Gojjam Zone**

### **North Mecha Woreda**

- On August 18th, gunfire exchanges took place in the Wetet-Abay (Pikolo) and Bachima areas.

- 
- In the first exchange, Fano fighters infiltrated the Wetet-Abay area and conducted a sudden operation. The Tadesse Muluneh Brigade, under the 1st Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), reportedly conducted this operation. This operation was conducted in the afternoon, where Fano fighters launched a gunfire exchange targeting the regime's presence in the area. The fighting was brief and light, with reports of one fatality and two injuries among the regime soldiers.
  - In the second exchange, regime forces mobilized toward the Bachima Kebele in search of Fano fighters. Another unit of the Tadesse Muluneh Brigade confronted the regime soldiers and eventually pushed them from the kebele. The casualties of combatants from this firefight remain unreported.

### **South Mecha Woreda**

- On August 20th, Fano fighters conducted a sudden operation in two locations.
  - The first operation targeted regime forces which were en route from Mehal-Genet (Gerchech) town towards Abro-Menor Kebele. The operation was reportedly conducted by the Tadesse Muluneh Brigade, under the 1st Division (part of the AFNF-AFG) in the Midre-Genet area.
  - The second operation targeted regime forces mobilizing from Mehal-Genet (Gerchech) to the Wetet-Abay (Pikolo) area. This operation was reportedly carried out when the regime forces reached the Deremene-Mariam area and was executed by another unit of the Tadesse Muluneh Brigade. In both cases, Fano fighters managed to disrupt the movement of regime forces and inflict human and material losses, with the full extent remaining unidentified.

---

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

- On August 21st, a gunfire exchange took place in the Tis-Abay area.
  - The gunfire was launched by regime forces as they attempted to encircle Fano fighters from two directions. The Bahir-Dar Brigade, under the 1st Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), reportedly moved to counter the regime's offensive. The confrontation specifically took place in the Tankuaber area, where regime forces unexpectedly moved from Tis-Abay and Arb-Gebeya. After hours of confrontation, Fano forces reportedly managed to break the blockade and escape with minimal casualties. The Fano forces reportedly pushed the regime forces back to Tis-Abay after inflicting casualties, with at least two regime soldiers killed and six others injured during this confrontation.

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

### **South Gonder Zone**

- On August 16th, intense fighting erupted in multiple woredas within South Gonder Zone.
  - The fighting in South Gonder Zone encompassed eight woredas and 13 different locations, highlighting the breadth and intensity of the conflict
  - South of Debre-Tabor city, fierce clashes were reported in five woredas: Estie, Dera, Andabet, Fogera and Farta, encompassing a vast territory.
    - \* Regime forces attempting to encircle Fano fighters were met with resistance in Werqe, Mahderemaryam, and Gena-Mewcha Kebeles within Farta Woreda. In Farta Woreda, fighting extended from Mahderemaryam

---

town to Werqe Kebele, just two kilometers from Debre-Tabor city, beginning on the night of August 15th and intensifying on August 16th.

- \* Fano forces launched offensive attacks in Ambesame town in Dera Woreda and Mekane-Eyesus town in Estie Woreda, aiming to disperse the regime's forces.
- \* Fighting in Dera Woreda was centered around Sene-Maryam, Goha, Krecher-Mefcha, China camp, and Ambesame town, where the Tana-Gelawdewos Division (part of the AFNF-BC 1st Corps) engaged regime forces. These engagements resulted in heavy casualties for the regime. In Ambesame town, the Migbaru Kebede Hospital was overwhelmed with critically injured regime joint force personnel, with 20 admitted soldiers confirmed dead. A several Fano fighters were also killed during the fighting.
- \* In Estie Woreda, intense clashes took place in Mekane-Eyesus town, Sholekt, and Dengolt Kebeles, causing significant losses to the regime. The Fano forces entered Mekane-Eyesus town, effectively disbanding the local militia, causing the Woreda's civil and military authorities retreated to Gasay town. A surprise Fano attack in Gindatemem, near Mekane-Eyesus town, further inflicted heavy casualties on the regime. The fighting heavily relied on heavy weaponry, including ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, mortars, and heavy machineguns. Regime forces attempting to attack Fano positions in Estie Woreda were confronted in Licha and Gindatemem Kebeles, suffering significant losses. The regime forces, including the 74th ENDF Division, militia forces, riot dispersal forces, and mechanized units, launched a coordinated offensive under the cover of darkness against the Wubante Abate Tewelwari Division (under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps) in these locations. The Fano responded with a

---

coordinated counter-offensive, expanding the fighting into Mekane-Eyesus town, Ambesame and Arb-Gebeya town in Dera Woreda, and Mahderemariam in Farta Woreda. Regime reinforcements were deployed from Gasay and Debre-Tabor city to these areas. Fano forces, including the Guna, Nebelbalu-Fogera, Wubante Abate Tewelwari, and Tana-Gelawdewos Divisions (part of the AFNF-BC 1st Corps), were actively engaged in the intense fighting.

- North of Debre-Tabor city, intense clashes erupted in the areas between Addis-Zemen town (Libo-Kemkem Woreda) and Ibnat Woreda, particularly in Ambo-Meda and three other locations near Ambo-Meda town. The General Fanta Belay Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC) engaged the regime forces in these areas, beginning in the afternoon of August 16th.

### **Tach-Gayint Woreda**

- On August 17th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Tach-Gayint Woreda.
  - The primary locations of the clashes were Werqut, Feres-Megriya, and Awonda villages, indicating a concentrated area of conflict. The Gebriye Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC) spearheaded the offensive attack against the regime forces. The fighting persisted for hours, demonstrating the determination of both sides. Reportedly, the regime forces had received advance information regarding the movement of the Fano forces and had strategically positioned themselves in anticipation of an attack. However, this information was then leaked to the Fano, allowing them to launch a coordinated surprise attack against the regime forces from multiple directions, turning the tables on their adversaries.

- 
- In a related development, two civilians were killed by the regime forces during the fighting. A woman was killed as a result of mortar fire. Another incident involved a pregnant woman traveling on a bajaj (an auto-rickshaw). The victim was forcibly removed from the vehicle and severely beaten by regime forces personnel. The justification for this brutal assault was the accusation that she had disclosed information about the regime forces' presence in the area to the Fano.
  - On August 18th, Fano forces launched a surprise attack targeting regime forces in Agona Kebele.
    - The regime forces sustained heavy casualties as a result of the ambush. Following the initial surprise attack, an intense firefight erupted in Agona Kebele (a strategically significant area located along the border between Lay-Gayint and Tach-Gayint Woredas), lasting for approximately one hour between the Fano and the responding regime forces. The Fano offensive was strategically aimed at regime forces transporting injured soldiers from Simada and Estie Woredas to Debre-Tabor city for medical treatment, indicating an effort to further cripple the regime's capabilities. The Guna Division (part of the AFNF-BC 1st Corps) spearheaded this offensive operation.

### **Ibnat Woreda**

- On August 22nd, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces near Qualisa.
  - The regime forces, having mobilized from Ibnat town and Belessa (Central Gonder Zone), initiated an offensive attack targeting Fano forces in the area. However, the Zoz-Amba-Nigus Division (part of the AFNF-BC 5th Corps) had received prior intelligence regarding the regime's military plan, allowing them



---

to strategically position themselves and launch a surprise attack against the approaching regime forces.

- The resulting ambush inflicted heavy casualties on the regime forces, significantly disrupting their offensive. As of August 22nd, the fighting remains ongoing, and the full extent of casualties on both sides is not yet known.
- On August 23rd, the intense fighting between Fano forces and regime forces in Ibnat Woreda continued for a third consecutive day, showing no signs of abating.
  - On August 23rd, Fano forces launched a surprise attack against regime forces in Gela-Matebiya Kebele. The offensive was carried out by the Etege Tehaytu Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC). The targeted regime forces were en route to reinforce the ongoing fighting in Qualisa, indicating a strategic attempt to disrupt the regime's supply lines. The Fano fighters encircled the trucks from two different directions, trapping the regime forces in a crossfire with no opportunity for escape. The surprise attack occurred outside Ibnat town at around 11:30 am local time. The Fano attack was exceptionally effective, resulting in the complete destruction of regime forces transported in two heavy military trucks. It is reported that no regime combatants survived the ambush.
  - This operation coincides with continued fighting in Qualisa Kebele, which has persisted into August 23rd, demonstrating the ongoing and intense nature of the conflict in the region. The regime, acting on intelligence suggesting that Fano forces from four woredas were planning to converge in Qualisa Kebele, deployed a full army division from Debre-Tabor city, Addis-Zemen town, Ibnat town, and Belessa in an attempt to preempt the gathering and suppress the Fano presence. However, the Fano forces strategically allowed the regime forces to advance deep into Qualisa Kebele before cutting off their retreat

---

routes and launching a fierce counter-attack. This maneuver caught the regime forces off guard and resulted in significant losses. The Fano fighters seized a large quantity of weaponry from the defeated regime forces. On August 22nd alone, more than 60 small arms and heavy weapons were captured by the Fano. A regime reinforcement unit was deployed from Debre-Tabor city to assist the entrapped regime forces in Qualisa. However, this reinforcement was ambushed by the General Fanta Belay Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC) at Rib Kebele, forcing the regime forces to retreat back to Debre-Tabor city, demonstrating the Fano force's effectiveness in disrupting regime operations. The Etege Tehaytu Division (also part of the AFPO-AFGPC), having deployed from Dega-Melza, encircled the regime forces in Qualisa, further intensifying the pressure and contributing to heavy casualties for the regime.

- It is reported that more than 75 regime soldiers were buried in a mass grave in Qualisa, reflecting the scale of the losses. During the fighting, nine regime soldiers were captured by the Fano forces. The influx of casualties has overwhelmed local medical facilities. In Ibnat Hospital, 57 injured soldiers have been admitted, while 25 critically injured soldiers have been admitted to Debre-Tabor Hospital, and 16 injured soldiers have been admitted to Addis-Zemen Hospital. The Fano forces also experienced losses, with a machinegun operator killed and five other Fano fighters sustaining injuries. Lastly, at least thirteen regime soldiers were captured by the Fano forces during the fighting.
- In a related development, regime forces shelled Qualisa town with mortars, resulting in the confirmed deaths of five civilians (including at least one woman), highlighting the indiscriminate nature of the fighting and the impact on the civilian population. The indiscriminate shelling with mortars and machineguns has caused damage, with numerous residential houses destroyed,

---

raising serious concern about civilian protection.

- In response to these heavy losses, the regime forces have completely blocked all telecommunication services in the woreda, further isolating the area and hindering the flow of information.

## **Central Gonder Zone**

### **Wegera Woreda**

- On August 18th, Fano forces executed a surprise attack targeting regime forces in Deldalit village.
  - The offensive was carried out by the Atnafa Brigade of the Gondere-Begashaw Division (part of the AFNF-BC 5th Corps). The primary target of the ambush was a military patrol, traveling from Gedebye town to Ambagiyorgis town, comprised of riot dispersal forces personnel. The attack was strategically timed for early in the morning, commencing at approximately 12 am local time, to maximize the element of surprise. The attack was followed by a period of intense close-quarters combat lasting for roughly half an hour, demonstrating the ferocity of the engagement.
  - The ambush inflicted significant casualties on the riot dispersal forces, resulting in numerous deaths and critical injuries. Initial reports indicate that at least seven members of the riot dispersal forces were killed and five others sustained critical injuries.

### **Tach-Armachiho Woreda**

- On August 22nd, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Tach-Armachiho Woreda.

- 
- The fighting commenced early in the morning and continued throughout the day. The Arbegnoch Division (part of the AFNF-BC) was actively engaged in fighting against the regime forces. The primary area of conflict was Shanqura Kebele, which is located near Ashere town, suggesting a strategic importance to this location. As of 11:30 am local time, the regime forces had been forced to abandon three strategic locations in the face of the Fano offensive, representing a significant setback for their control in the area.
  - The regime forces sustained heavy casualties during these ongoing engagements.

## **West Gonder Zone**

### **Qwara Woreda**

- As of August 17th, regime forces suffered substantial losses after nine consecutive days of intense fighting in Qwara Woreda.
  - The battleground centered around the towns of Bemur, Dubaba, and Gelego, indicating a concentrated and prolonged conflict. The Fano forces entered Gelego town with a large influx and were warmly welcomed by the residents of the town on August 17th. In a demonstration of their military capabilities, the Fano forces seized a heavy machinegun and seven other heavy weapons from the regime forces, significantly bolstering their own firepower. In addition to the heavy weaponry, the Fano forces also captured a large quantity of kalashnikov rifles, further equipping their fighters. Adding to their gains, the Fano forces seized six military trucks used by the regime forces, severely impacting the regime's logistical capacity. The Adwa and Qwara-Omedla Divisions (part of the AFNF-BC 2nd Corps) played a central role in this protracted and intense conflict, actively engaging the regime forces and

---

securing these victories.

- On August 17th, intense fighting erupted between regime forces and Fano forces in Tewodros town.
  - This clash followed five consecutive days of fierce combat in Qwara Woreda, during which the regime forces sustained heavy casualties. The Fano forces seized a significant amount of weaponry, including over 78 small arms and 7 heavy military weapons, further weakening the regime's presence in the area. Numerous regime force personnel were killed or sustained physical injuries ranging in severity from minor to critical. The Fano also sustained casualties in this fighting.
  - During the fighting at least six civilians were killed and 11 were detained, highlighting the breakdown of law and order. The heavy casualties incurred during the fighting led to a breakdown in trust between the regime forces and civil authorities of Qwara Woreda. Civil authorities expressed their anger towards the regime military, questioning their competence in safeguarding the area, given the high number of casualties despite assurances of protection.

### **Metemma Woreda**

- On August 17th, intense fighting occurred in Aftit and Dil-Ber Kebeles, both of which are situated near Genda-Wiha town.
- On August 19th, Fano forces launched a surprise attack targeting a regime military camp in Mender 7 Kebele.
  - The attack was strategically timed to occur during the night, commencing at approximately 10:30 pm local time. The regime forces stationed at the camp sustained heavy casualties as a result of the unexpected assault, indicating the

---

effectiveness of the Fano forces' operation. Following the attack, a significant number of Kalashnikov rifles were seized by the Fano forces, bolstering their armaments.

- In a further blow to the regime's forces, numerous members of the riot dispersal forces, who were stationed at a military camp in Kokit town, defected to the Fano side during the attack. Seven riot dispersal force personnel joined the Fano forces, bringing their full military equipment with them, demonstrating a shift in allegiance and contributing to the weakening of the regime's control in this woreda.

## **North Gonder Zone**

### **Adarkay Woreda**

- On August 16th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces across multiple locations within Adarkay Woreda.
  - In a significant development, Fano forces converged on Zerima town from various directions, successfully encircling the local police station. The ensuing battle resulted in heavy casualties among the regular police forces stationed at the station. The police commander of the Zerima town police station was confirmed killed during the fighting. Overwhelmed and facing mounting losses, the remaining regime forces abandoned the police station, retreating to the mountainous terrain surrounding Ambera. The Dib-Telemt-Tekeze Division (part of the AFNF-BC 3rd Corps) spearheaded the offensive attack on Zerima town.
  - Intense clashes also occurred in Walka-Abbo and Dagusit Kebeles, with Fano forces successfully regaining control of these areas. The fighting began early in the morning, signaling a day of widespread conflict. There was also a

---

particularly fierce engagement in Chewber, where regime forces again sustained heavy casualties, further highlighting their weakening position in the region.

### **Dabat Woreda**

- On August 16th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces across a wide area stretching from Dabat to Zerima.
  - The preceding day, August 15th, saw fierce clashes in the vicinity of Dabat town, resulting in significant losses for the regime forces. More than 40 militia members and riot dispersal forces personnel sustained casualties, with the majority reportedly killed by the Gondere-Begashaw Division (part of the AFNF-BC 5th Corps). The leader of the riot dispersal forces was confirmed dead during the engagement. The Fano forces seized a significant quantity of ammunition, totaling 4,200 rounds, from the defeated regime forces.
  - Similarly, on August 16th, Fano forces targeted regime military trucks transporting ammunition and military supplies while they were en route from Dabat town to Ambaras, Dib-Bahir, and Zerima, disrupting their supply lines and logistical capabilities. The fighting has also spread to these locations, particularly in Ambaras, Dib-Bahir, Limalimo, and Telemt Woreda, indicating a broad and coordinated campaign by the Fano. The intense fighting in Dib-Bahir lasted for hours. Reportedly enraged by the severe attacks from the Fano forces, the regime forces, specifically militia members, launched a barrage of gunfire indiscriminately into a refugee camp located within Dabat town. This refugee camp primarily houses refugees from Eritrea, seeking safety and asylum. The extent of casualties among the refugees resulting from this reckless act of violence is currently unknown, raising serious concerns about the safety and protection of vulnerable civilian populations.

---

## **Telemt Woreda**

- On August 19th, intense fighting erupted between local militia forces and TPLF forces in Mizikir Kebele (West Telemt Sub-Woreda). The militia forces sustained casualties, including fatalities and both critical and minor physical injuries. The extent of casualties on the TPLF side is currently unknown. However, after the fighting, the TPLF forces withdrew from Mizikir Kebele, retreating from the area.
- On August 20th, TPLF forces took family members of militia members hostage in Dil-Amba Kebele (East Telemt Sub-Woreda). Among those taken hostage was a militia member named Gebrewahid Fisseha and his children. This action was reportedly prompted by the discovery of gold mining activities on his farmland, suggesting a possible economic motive behind the abduction. There has been fierce fighting in the kebele between militia forces and a TPLF faction led by Yemane Hailesilassie. The primary objective of the TPLF unit has been to target and undermine the Amhara administration and those perceived as supporting it within the woreda, with the ultimate goal of facilitating the reannexation of Telemt Woreda to Tigray Region, thereby fueling ongoing conflict and instability in the region.

## **Areas Outside Amhara Region**

### **Addis-Ababa City**

- As of August 18th, the regime has launched a campaign to shut down pool playing stations across Addis-Ababa city, with notable actions reported in Yeka sub-city.
  - According to local sources, numerous pool stations have been forcibly closed in the Wossen area under the official pretext that these venues serve as gathering places for youth allegedly organizing anti-regime activities. Similar closures are reportedly ongoing in other parts of the city as well. However,



---

some sources suggest the closures are being selectively enforced. While establishments run by members of other ethnic groups have reportedly been allowed to reopen, those owned or frequented predominantly by ethnic Amhara residents remain shuttered. This has raised concerns about discriminatory practices and ethnically-targeted repression.

- This campaign appears to reflect the regime’s growing unease over potential youth mobilization in urban centers and its continued efforts to suppress any perceived dissent.
- On the night of August 22nd, regime forces carried out mass arrests targeting civilians in Addis-Ababa city.
  - This marks a repeated pattern of detentions carried out across multiple areas in the city. According to reports, those arrested were transported to Kality, specifically a location known as Kality Wuha-Limat-Jerba. The site, a former warehouse belonging to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, has gained notoriety in recent years as an informal detention center, where detainees have reportedly suffered from inhumane treatment, with some deaths alleged to have occurred due to abuse and neglect.
  - The arrests, which primarily targeted young people, were conducted not only in Addis-Ababa proper but also extended to towns surrounding the capital. Witnesses and community sources report that the detentions were carried out under the direction of city and federal security forces, largely dominated by Oromo political and security leadership.
  - Some local sources have drawn parallels between the current situation in Addis-Ababa and historical instances of racial oppression, comparing the atmosphere of fear, discrimination, and systemic abuse to the conditions experienced by Black South Africans under apartheid and the Derg regime of

---

Ethiopia. Arbitrary arrests, intimidation, and reported human rights violations have reportedly become a routine aspect of daily life for many residents of the capital.

- On August 23rd, regime forces reportedly prohibited the celebration of the Ashendiye, Solel and Shadey festivals in various parts of Addis-Ababa city.
  - These festivals, which hold deep cultural and religious significance for the Amhara people and are traditionally seen as a symbol of freedom and expression for girls, were interrupted by city police forces. According to eyewitnesses and community sources, police officers prevented hotels from hosting related events and barred participants from entering venues. Furthermore, attempts by young girls and celebrants to gather and celebrate in public spaces were forcefully dispersed, effectively banning public and communal observance of the holidays.
  - The regime's actions have drawn widespread criticism from human rights activists and observers, who condemned the suppression of the festivals as a violation of cultural rights and freedom of expression. Many have interpreted the move as part of a broader effort to undermine Amhara identity and silence public sentiment, particularly in the capital, where expressions of Amhara identity are often viewed with suspicion by the ruling elite. Observers warn that such targeted suppression of cultural identity could further inflame tensions and alienate communities already feeling marginalized by the regime's political program and policies.

---

## North Shewa Zone (Oromia Region)

### Were-Jarso Woreda

- On August 20th, an armed group carried out a violent attack on a public transportation vehicle in the Ali-Doro area.
  - The vehicle was traveling from Gindewoyin (East Gojjam Zone, Amhara Region) to Addis-Ababa city when the incident occurred. The attack resulted in multiple civilian casualties, including the death of the driver and injuries to several passengers, among them elderly women and children. According to reports, the attackers attempted to abduct passengers, a tactic that has become increasingly common in the area. When the bus driver tried to escape the ambush, the assailants opened fire, fatally shooting him. As a result, the bus, identified as a *Tata* model, lost control and overturned, leading to additional injuries and deaths among the passengers.
  - This incident is part of a broader pattern of insecurity in the area. The specific location, Ali-Doro, has experienced at least two similar abduction incidents within the last month alone. Despite its long-standing reputation for lawlessness and armed activity, dating back over seven years, the regime has failed to take adequate measures to secure the area or protect civilians traveling through it. The continued failure to address these attacks has raised serious concerns among local communities and travellers, especially given the repeated targeting of non-combatants, including women and children, in violation of humanitarian and national laws.

---

## East Arsi Zone (Oromia Region)

### Shirka Woreda

- On August 18th, armed groups carried out a violent attack on civilians in rural kebeles of Shirka Woreda.
  - The assault specifically targeted ethnic Amhara residents and members of the Orthodox Christian community, leading to fatalities, injuries, and widespread displacement.
  - Although the exact number of casualties remains unconfirmed, multiple individuals were reportedly killed, and a significant number of residential homes were burned. The attack has forced many residents to flee their homes, with some of the displaced people currently sheltering at Andeto-Debre-Mitimaq St. Mariam Church, located in the surrounding area.
  - Local sources indicate that the perpetrators are believed to include members of the OLA as well as other armed factions, possibly with links to Al-Shabaab. Some of these militants are reported to have received training from Al-Shabaab, and despite prior knowledge of their activities, the regime has not taken decisive action to neutralize their presence in the area.<sup>5</sup>
  - The incident is part of a pattern of religiously and ethnically-targeted violence in the region, raising concerns over the deteriorating security situation and the state's failure to protect vulnerable communities. The presence of radicalized and well-armed groups, operating with relative freedom, underscores the growing instability in parts of Oromia Region.

---

<sup>5</sup>See August 21, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

---

## 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>

