



War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – October 20th to 26th, 2025

Updated October 27th, 2025

Overview

For the week of October 20th to 26th, 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.¹²

- This week battle events and rights violations were recorded in more than 40 woreda/city administrations across 9 zonal administrations in Amhara Region.

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

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

²The 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) or West Amhara Qetena (Tewodrose Command; TC), 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) Province Command [AFWC].

West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, South Gonder and West Gonder Zones.

Developments were also recorded in Addis-Ababa city, West Shewa and North Shewa Zones of Oromia Region, and Metekel Zone of Benishangul-Gumuz Region.

- Civilian casualties were recorded in 11 woreda/city administrations across 5 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Alamata, Raya-Alamata, Raya-Kobo, Debre-Birhan, Antsokiyana-Gemza, Gonji-Qolela, Bahir-Dar-Zuriya, North Achefer, Lay-Gayint, Guna-Begemidir and Qwara Woredas in North Wollo, North Shewa, North Gojjam, South Gonder and West Gonder Zones. In Alamata city and Raya-Alamata Woreda in North Wollo Zone of Amhara Region, *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF) forces were implicated in attacks on religious leaders with affiliation to the *Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church* (EOTC) and theft of EOTC property. Civilian casualties were also reported in Nono Woreda of West Shewa Zone in Oromia Region.
- More than 4 drone attacks were recorded resulting in civilian casualties in 4 woreda/city administrations across 3 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Gonji-Qolela, Bahir-Dar-Zuriya, Lay-Gayint and Qwara Woredas of North Gojjam, South Gonder and West Gonder Zones. Drone surveillance activity was also reported in these areas resulting in disturbances to normal activities.
- Arbitrary arrests were reported in Alamata, Dejen and Jabi-Tehnan Woredas of North Wollo, East Gojjam and West Gojjam Zones in Amhara Region. In Alamata city of North Wollo Zone, arrests were undertaken by TPLF forces against civilians including religious leader with affiliation to the EOTC. In addition, abductions were undertaken by regime forces in Guagusa-Shikudad Woreda of Awi Zone in Amhara Region.
- This week numerous political prisoners including the Honorable Yohannes Buayalew were brought before the Federal Higher Court in Addis-Ababa city.

Reports indicated criticisms from legal experts and observers of injustice in the hearing and allegations of gross mistreatment of detainees up to torture by multiple regime security and prison officials.

Northeastern Amhara (Wollo Bete-Amhara Sub-Region)

- On October 25th, more than 70 regime combatants including police, militia, and woreda leaders, captured during Operation Aba Nadew reportedly defected to Fano forces.
 - The announcement follows the conclusion of Operation Aba Nadew which took place between September 24th and to October 10th. These 70 individuals received “*reform and political*” training during this period and expressed satisfaction with the training provided. The POWs reportedly acknowledged having wronged the Amhara people, whether knowingly or unknowingly and expressed gratitude that their lives were spared, pledging to “*fight together*” with Fano forces as a form of restitution. They called on remaining regime fighters and leaders to abandon what the captives described as a destructive system and to join the Fano.

North Wollo Zone

Meket Woreda

- On October 19th, Fano forces launched an attack against regime positions in the Agrit area. The operation was conducted by units under the AFNF-MC. As a result of the offensive, regime forces sustained casualties with three riot dispersal and militia personnel confirmed killed and five others wounded.

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- On October 23rd, Fano forces announced the establishment of a temporary civil administration in Meket Woreda.
 - According to the announcement, the new structure is designed to enhance local governance, restore administrative services, and ensure stability in areas recently brought under control of the AFNF-MC. The temporary civil administration has reportedly organized the 36 kebeles of Meket Woreda into three sub-woredas. To manage key governance functions, seven core committees have been formed to oversee justice, peace, political coordination, social affairs, and resource management. It was noted that additional committees, have also been formed which are said to be structured in accordance with the organization’s civil administrative guidelines and will operate in coordination with the community-based structures at the sub-woreda (sub-district) level.
 - On October 26th, intense fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime military units in the Ras-Dejen area (Arbit).
 - The engagement involved the Ansha Sayed Division (operating under the AFNF-MC). The confrontation began when regime forces, mobilized from Kon to Gashena with mechanized units, launching an offensive aimed at breaking into Meket. In response, the Fano carried out a coordinated counter-offensive, engaging the advancing troops in heavy combat. After sustained fighting, the Fano forces successfully repelled the assault, forcing the regime units to retreat toward Gashena.

Alamata City

- On October 20th, TPLF forces continued arbitrary arrests of civilians in Alamata city.

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- On that day, a young man named Tariku Lezaw was reportedly arrested from his home by TPLF forces and taken to the Mehoni detention camp. Despite his family promptly reporting the incident to the area's command-post commander, no response has been received as of this writing. Tariku's condition and whereabouts have become a growing concern among both his family and the local community. Residents have expressed frustration and anger toward the local Prosperity Party command post, accusing it of failing to prevent such actions by the TPLF and of neglecting its responsibility to enforce the terms of the Pretoria *Cessation of Hostilities Agreement* (CoHA).
 - As of October 21st, TPLF forces have continued their campaign of arbitrary arrests targeting civilians in Alamata city.
 - Notably, arrests have included religious leaders and community figures, raising concerns about the nature and intent of the ongoing crackdown. On the morning of October 21st, at around 10:30 am, TPLF forces reportedly detained Memhir Haregwoyin Ayalew, head of financial for the EOTC Raya Diocese, and a respected religious teacher. The arrest took place near the Wonchif-Adebabay area in Kebele 02, as he was on his way to work. Eyewitnesses reported that the arrest was carried out with involvement of physical assault and threats, indicating a pattern of intimidation and abuse during these detentions.

Gazo Woreda

- On October 23rd, an armed confrontation reportedly took place between Fano fighters and regime forces in the Shera-Genet area.
 - The engagement was described as intense and lasted for approximately two hours in the afternoon. According to sources, the clash began when regime

troops advanced toward Shera-Genet. The fighting was led by the Mebreq Division (operating under the AFNF-MC). Reports indicate that regime forces suffered heavy casualties during the engagement. A military patrol unit was reportedly ambushed and fired upon.

- During a subsequent house-to-house search conducted by Fano fighters, two ENDF members were allegedly found disguised in civilian clothing. Additionally, eight Kalashnikov rifles and over 300 rounds of ammunition were reportedly seized. Wounded individuals from the fighting were initially taken to a local health center in Estayish. Due to limited medical capacity, they were later transferred to Woldia Hospital for further treatment. In retaliation, regime forces reportedly carried out indiscriminate attacks using heavy weapons, including mortars. These strikes were said to have caused collateral damage, killing and injuring livestock and destroying property. According to reports, medical equipment at the Shera-Genet health facility was also destroyed by regime forces, allegedly to prevent Fano fighters from receiving treatment.

Woldia City

- Between October 22nd and 24th, regime military leaders convened a series of public meetings with civil servants, university staff and other workers which was met with opposition in Woldia city.
 - On October 22nd, regime cadres including the city mayor and ENDF leaders, convened a meeting with staff at Woldia University under the theme of current affairs. During the meeting, the regime officials and military leaders attempted to defame the Fano and exert pressure on participants to align with the regime's narrative. However, many participants expressed strong opposition to the officials' statements. They raised concerns regarding the inhumane acts

committed by the regime and criticized the ENDF for serving the interests of a single individual rather than upholding their institutional and constitutional duties. Participants also denounced the ongoing human rights violations in the region. Furthermore, several speakers emphasized that the Fano had broad social legitimacy and popular support among the public, despite the regime's efforts to discredit them by labeling them with derogatory terms such as “*Shifta*.” According to sources, the city mayor became visibly angered by these strong responses from the participants. Sources added that the meeting backfired on the regime, as it inadvertently highlighted growing support for the Fano among the public and civil institutions.

- In a related development, on October 24th, regime representatives and ENDF commanders held another meeting with federally accountable civil servants, including employees from the *Commercial Bank of Ethiopia* (CBE), the Electric Power Corporation, and the Water Authority. During this meeting, ENDF commanders reportedly pressured and intimidated CBE employees for checking bank accounts and financial transactions of ENDF members, ordering them not to monitor or question the commanders' financial activities. According to sources, the civil servants also condemned the regime's inhumane actions and reaffirmed that the Fano maintain legitimacy and moral support within society.

Raya-Kobo Woreda

- On October 24th, regime forces reportedly conducted indiscriminate artillery shelling toward the areas of Addis-Kign and Dingay Kebeles.
 - According to sources, the shelling originated from Chorrie-Gariya, and was directed toward Buku and Dingay Kebeles. The attack was allegedly part of the regime's broader attempt to gain territorial access and control in the area.

However, reports confirm that the shelling occurred in the absence of any active armed confrontation, suggesting that civilians were deliberately or recklessly targeted. One of the artillery shells struck a civilian residential house in Dingay, severely injuring multiple family members. The father and mother sustained critical injuries and were referred to a medical facility for advanced treatment, while their children also suffered injuries in the incident.

Raya-Alamata Woreda

- On the night of October 25th, TPLF forces carried out intimidation, looting, and harassment targeting religious leaders, institutions, and properties across several churches in Raya-Alamata Woreda and Alamata city.
 - According to reports, religious leaders were beaten, threatened, and harassed, and church properties, including official items such as the church stamp, were looted in Ayer-Marefiya and three other churches in the area. In total, six church administrators suffered physical assaults, intimidation, and other human rights violations during the incidents.³
 - It was also noted that a prominent local religious figure from Alamata city, arrested on October 21st, has remained in detention without release, raising further concerns about the ongoing suppression of religious voices in the region.

South Wollo Zone

Legambo Woreda

- On October 20th, intense fighting erupted between Fano and regime forces in the Laftobelo and Teket areas.

³See October 26, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

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- The confrontation began when regime forces launched a surprise operation aimed at besieging and attacking Fano units stationed in the Laftobelo and Teket areas, near Genete. Their objective was to suppress Adem Ali Division of the Nigus Mikael Corps (operating under the AFNF-MC). However, the situation quickly turned against the regime. After entering the area, their forces were themselves encircled and subjected to a swift and coordinated counterattack by the Fano fighters. This maneuver inflicted heavy human and material losses on the regime side. In response, the regime deployed reinforcements and escalated the battle using heavy weaponry. Despite these efforts, they faced significant setbacks. When the regime forces attempted to retrieve fallen soldiers from the battlefield, they reportedly suffered further losses. Ultimately, sources confirmed that the regime was only able to evacuate the wounded using four ambulances.

Albuko Woreda

- On October 19th, Fano forces carried out a targeted ambush against regime forces in the Chacho area. The operation was carried out by the Mekit Battalion, under the Yegof Division (operating under the AFNF-MC). The ambush specifically targeted riot dispersal members escorting a political official through the area. According to reports, one riot dispersal member was killed on the spot, while more than five others sustained injuries. The wounded were reportedly transported to Dessie Hospital for treatment.

Kelela Woreda

- Between October 18th and 20th, active fighting between Fano forces and regime troops was reported in Kelela Woreda.
 - On the night of October 20th, intense clashes broke out in the Deger area. The

confrontation was initiated by regime forces in an attempt to launch a nighttime siege against units of the Nigus Mikael Corps (operating under the AFNF-MC). However, the Fano mounted a strong counteroffensive, inflicting losses on the regime side.

- According to reports, significant casualties were sustained by regime riot dispersal and militia personnel, including battalion commanders. The riot dispersal commander was killed instantly in the fighting, along with his bodyguards. Additional personnel later died from their injuries after being taken to the hospital.

Ambassel Woreda

- On the afternoon of October 19th, regime forces conducted artillery shelling towards the Ambassel Mountains. According to sources, the regime had been shelling the mountainous region from multiple directions but later pulled back its forces to the towns of Hayk, Mersa, and Kuntiro. This withdrawal led to a temporary calm in the area. As a result, no active fighting was reported on October 20th, marking a brief pause in hostilities.

Delanta Woreda

- On October 25th, Fano forces launched a coordinated offensive operation in Tsehay-Mewucha.
 - According to sources, the operation was conducted by the Tsinat Division (operating under the AFPO-AFWPC) and specifically targeted regime positions in the Hamusit area. The engagement reportedly began at 3:30 pm and continued until approximately 6:30 pm, lasting around three hours. During the confrontation, intense fighting occurred between Fano units and regime forces.

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- The regime reportedly suffered heavy casualties, with numerous wounded personnel subsequently transported to the Wogel-Tena Health Centre for medical treatment.

Dessie-Zuriya Woreda

- On October 22nd, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime troops in Dessie-Zuriya Woreda.
 - The clashes began when regime strike forces, supported by militia units from four surrounding districts including Dessie city, Dessie-Zuriya, Kutaber, and Tenta Woredas, in coordination with ENDF units launched a coordinated offensive. Their objective was to retake areas in Dessie-Zuriya that had previously been captured by Fano forces. The attacking forces advanced toward Tsedi-Gebeya, Ayata, Befala, and Mumi. Fighting broke out at dawn and continued intensely until approximately 7 pm. In response, Fano fighters from the Belago Battalion (operating under the AFNF-MC Teworwari) mounted an intensive counteroffensive. After hours of intense battle, they successfully repelled the regime forces, forcing them to retreat to their original positions while carrying their dead and wounded.

Southeastern Amhara (Shewa Sub-Region)

- On October 22nd, reports indicated a significant escalation in the defection of regime forces to Fano. According to reports, both leadership and members of the 84th ENDF Division defected and joined the Tesfa Brigade of the Kesselem Division (operating under the AFNF-AC). This development is being viewed as a major blow to the regime's military cohesion, and a potential indicator of deepening internal divisions within the ENDF.

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- On October 22nd, Fano representatives conducted a comprehensive community engagement session with educators, healthcare workers, and public workers in Efratana-Gidim and Gishe-Rabel Woredas.
 - The meeting in Efratana-Gidim Woreda was led by representatives from the Sebat-Leseba and Atse Yekuno-Amlak Divisions under the Atse Zera-Yacob (1st) Corps (operating under the AFNF-AC). The engagement included staff from several schools, such as Arada, Dija, Meskelber, Addis-Alem, Jat, and Silmeda—as well as personnel from the Meskelber Health Center and employees of the Meskelber Kebele administration. The discussions were wide-ranging and focused on several key themes. Participants were briefed on the role of civilians, especially professionals in education and health, in serving their communities. Dialogue centered on the role of scholars, public servants, and institutions in supporting the security of the Amhara people. The conversation addressed ongoing oppression and suffering of the Amhara people under the current regime led by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed. Participants discussed systematic attacks on the Amhara population and the need for enhanced security. The session also emphasized the importance of aligning public institutions with the objectives of the ongoing resistance, and creating sustainable platforms for ongoing dialogue and collaboration. At the conclusion of the meeting, participants shared ideas and proposals aimed at strengthening intra-communal ties, and there was a shared understanding that public sector workers have a crucial role to play in public security.
 - In a continued effort to build political awareness and strengthen coordination with public institutions, the Fano organized a structured political training session in Gishe Rabel Woreda. The training was conducted by the Biruk Demissie Division and targeted public service institution workers, including employees from sectors such as education, health, and the kebele

administration. The objective was to align civil servants with the strategic direction of the Fano. The curriculum focused on several key thematic areas including the ongoing war, intellectualism, identity, and future direction. Participants shared insights, asked questions, and discussed strategies for future engagement. Fano representatives took note of feedback and pledged to maintain active dialogue with civil servants in the region. This initiative is part of a wider campaign by the Fano to foster political education, grassroots participation, and stronger collaboration between the social movement and the public sector in areas under their control.

North Shewa Zone

Hageremariam-Kessem Woreda

- On October 19th, Fano forces launched a coordinated offensive against regime positions in Hageremariam-Kessem Woreda.
 - The assault was carried out by multiple regiments of the Hailemariam Mamo Division including the Beza, Dagnachew, Selamsew, and Bogale Regiments (operating under the AFNF-AC). These units successfully entered the regime camp located in Koremash, approximately 60-km from Addis-Ababa city. Upon engagement, they encircled the entrenched regime forces, leading to intense combat. In an attempt to reinforce their positions, the regime began mobilizing additional troops from nearby towns including Sheno, Chacha, and Alelitu.
 - As a result, the regime forces suffered significant casualties. Observers reported that the regime was transporting its wounded using two ambulances.

Mida-Woremo Woreda

- On October 21st, Fano forces carried out an ambush targeting regime military units traveling through Mida-Woremo Woreda.
 - The operation was reportedly part of a coordinated effort by the Atse Dawit Division of the Atse Amde-Tsion Corps (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC). The ambush targeted elements of the regime's 101st Airborne Division. According to reports, the Fano received advance intelligence regarding the movement and objectives of the regime troops, who were traveling from Rema town toward Shefere-Amba Kebele, located near the town, early that morning at approximately 5 am. Armed with this intelligence, the Atse Dawit Division's 2nd (Tadele Tana) Battalion, launched a surprise offensive. The strike was described as swift and forceful, causing significant disruption and reportedly inflicting heavy losses on the regime forces. The initial ambush quickly escalated into a fierce, direct confrontation lasting approximately 30 minutes. According to reports, the fighting intensified further as additional regime forces were deployed to the area. While the full extent of casualties remains unconfirmed at this time, reports suggest that the regime forces suffered substantial losses.
- On October 22nd, community forums were held by Fano, as part of a series of public discussions, in Mida-Woremo Woreda.
 - The forum took place in areas surrounding Rema town, where the Atse Dawit Division (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC Atse Amde-Tsion Corps), conducted an extensive public discussion with residents from Qara-Mejit and Alabo-Biraba Kebeles. The meetings reportedly brought together more than 2,000 participants. The discussions were led by Fano representatives centered

on dialogue, community engagement, and awareness-building. The conversations were described as extensive, open, and mature, allowing residents to raise a wide range of questions and concerns. Community members reportedly posed numerous inquiries and the representatives responded to each question, offering explanations and insights into the strategic and social aspects of their activities. Participants expressed emotional reactions during the session, emphasizing their pride in the efforts and bravery of the Fano. The participants remarked, “*we are proud of the heroism of our children. We have witnessed with our own eyes the real battles they fought, just like the scenes shown in the film you produced recently.*”

- As of October 23rd, sources reported that family members of Fano fighters have been arrested, detained, and subjected to intimidation and abuse by regime forces in Mida-Woremo Woreda.
 - The arrests reportedly occurred following a series of military offensives by the AFPO-AFSPC Atse Amde-Tsion Corps, which inflicted significant losses on regime forces. According to sources, a clandestine taskforce was established in Mida-Woremo Woreda to coordinate arrests and repressive measures against family members of suspected Fano fighters. The group is allegedly led by Ato Daniel Mamo, Deputy Head of Peace and Security for Mida-Woremo Woreda, Colonel Mathiws Madebo, Commander of the 101st Airborne Division operating in the area; and Ato Sayed Ibrahim, Chief Administrator of Mida-Woremo Woreda. These officials are reportedly responsible for overseeing mass arrests, hostage-taking, and violent abuses targeting relatives of suspected Fano combatants.
 - * One documented case includes family members of Abebe Alayu, Head of Public Relations for the Atse Amde-Tsion Corps. On the night of October

23rd, his wife was reportedly abducted along with their two children, aged 2 and 5-years-old, by regime forces. Ato Daniel Mamo allegedly summoned Abebe's younger sister to his office and verbally threatened her with sexual violence, saying *"it is not simply as reported in the media, but in the dark, our militia or ENDF soldiers can rape you. No one will save you; the power to do this is all mine."* Abebe's younger brother, Yeshiwas Alayu, was reportedly arrested, tortured, and held in solitary confinement at Awash-Arba for about four months. Their mother's livestock (a cow and newborn calf) were also taken between October 17th and 19th, and forced to remain in the police compound with livestock (a cow and newborn calf).

- * Another case was the family members of Engineer Tewodros Amsew, Head of the Political Department of the AFPO-AFSPC. His wife was detained for several days along with their two-month-old, unbaptized baby, a 19-year-old sister, Ms. Fanos Amsew, was arrested, beaten, and reportedly forced to abort her pregnancy while in detention, and his brother, Memhir Birku Amsew, was also arrested and held under harsh conditions in an ENDF detention camp, being told repeatedly to *"bring your brother."*
- * Another case was the family of Endale Dejene, Logistics Leader of the AFPO-AFSPC. According to sources, his wife was arrested and tortured along with their 2-year-old and 6-year-old children. In addition, his elder brother, Ato Ashagir Dejene, was detained in Awash-Arba for about four months, and after repeated arrests and beatings, was forced to flee his home and workplace.
- * Fourthly, family members of Belete Beshaw, Head of Human Resources for the Atse Dawit Division, including his wife was recently arrested and

detained along with their two children, ages 2 and 5-years-old.

- * Another case was the 85-year-old mother of Commander Endashaw Mamuye, Head of Research and Development for the AFPO-AFSPC, who was arrested and physically abused by regime security forces.
- * Lastly the 68-year-old father of Endale Ewaye, Deputy Commander of the Atse Dawit Division, was reportedly threatened and intimidated, being told, “*we will kill you.*”

- In recent months, numerous families have been forced to abandon their homes and farmland after continued harassment and violence from regime forces under accusation of familial affiliation to Fano fighters. Reports indicate a systematic pattern of targeting, including arbitrary arrests and detention of family members; physical and psychological abuse, including threats of sexual violence; use of minors, spouses and elderly persons as hostages; and forced displacement from homes and livelihoods.

Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda

- On October 21st, a regime-launched mortar attack caused severe injury to a 9-year-old child in Aselele-Kelebet-Wonber Kebele.
 - The attack targeted the Ambo-Wuha area, in Aselele-Kelebet-Wonber Kebele. During the incident, a young boy was struck while playing and herding goats in an open field. As a result of the explosion, the boy tragically lost all his fingers, leaving him with permanent disability.
 - This incident sparked renewed condemnation from human rights advocates and local observers, who have noted an escalation in the targeting of civilian populations, including children, across the Amhara Region. Witnesses and regional analysts have raised alarms over what they describe as systematic and

unlawful attacks that violate both domestic and international humanitarian laws. The attack on Murad is not an isolated case but part of a wider trend of civilian harm caused by heavy weaponry used in populated or non-combatant areas. Human rights observers have called for urgent investigations into the incident and increased international scrutiny of the regime's military conduct.

Debre-Birhan City

- On October 21st, a local business owner was found dead outside his residence under suspicious circumstances in Debre-Birhan city.
 - The incident occurred in Tebase Sub-City at approximately 6 pm, while the victim was reportedly on a phone call near his residence. According to accounts, the victim had received a demand, either a threat or directive, to hand over money. Witnesses and sources familiar with the case suggest that the victim had questioned the identity and legitimacy of those making the demand shortly before he was killed. Although the perpetrators remain unidentified, reports from sources suggest the possible involvement of actors linked to state or regime-affiliated structures.⁴
 - This incident adds to a growing pattern of similar cases in which business owners and civilians are reportedly being targeted by unknown individuals or groups demanding money, often under the threat of violence. Observers have raised concerns about increasing lawlessness in areas like Debre-Birhan and the potential complicity, or at minimum, the negligence, of regime-affiliated networks in facilitating or tolerating such attacks. These incidents are contributing to growing insecurity and fear among local communities, particularly among entrepreneurs and professionals. Human rights monitors and community leaders are calling for an independent investigation into this

⁴See October 22, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

incident and other similar incidents, to promote accountability and restore public trust in the rule of law.

Moretina-Jiru Woreda

- On October 23rd, a public discussion was held by Fano forces in Wollo-Gan-Mariam Kebele.
 - The event was organized by the Nadew Division (operating under the AFNF-AC 1st Corps) under the theme “*we will discuss, and we will progress.*” According to reports, the forum brought together local residents and Fano representatives. Speakers reportedly provided extended explanations and teachings about the resistance and delivered political analyses. The sessions were described as wide-ranging, focused on political context, organizational goals, and strategic perspectives. The participants reportedly raised a number of substantive and ideas. Attendees reportedly expressed strong support for continuing and intensifying political mobilization, and called for continued vigilance and engagement in the social movement.

Shewa-Robit City

- On October 24th, Fano forces conducted an urban military operation in Shewa-Robit city. The operation was carried out at 7:30 am by units under the AFPO-AFSPC Atse Amde-Tsion Corps. The objective of the mission was to target key security officials within the city’s security structure believed to be involved in various abuses against the local population. Among those killed in the operation were Ato Lemma Wondaferew, Head of Security and Safety for the city administration and at least three security escorts that were accompanying him. The escorts were identified as militia members Ibro Abebe Muhe, Mohamed Siraj, and Tadele Hailu.

Merhabete Woreda

- On October 26th, intense fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime troops in Merhabete Woreda and neighboring areas of Moretina-Jiru and Enewari Woredas.
 - The confrontation began when regime forces launched a three-pronged offensive. A large contingent, composed primarily of members from the 101st Airborne Commando Division and allied militia units, moved along several routes including from Enewari and Beyilo, advancing westward; from Merhabete through Afezez, and from Lemi, descending particularly toward the Jema River area. In response, Fano units under different commands mounted a coordinated counter-offensive. The operation involved the Atse Zera-Yacob (1st) Corps (operating under the AFNF-AC), and the Ras Abebe Aregay Division (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC). The joint Fano units reportedly engaged the attacking forces, attempting to repel the multi-directional advance from the regime troops. As of October 27th, heavy fighting has continued across multiple fronts.

Southwestern Amhara (Gojjam Sub-Region)

- The regime has cut off salaries of teachers throughout the Gojjam Sub-Region, affecting teachers across almost all rural areas. The salary cut specifically targeted teachers who have been unable to resume teaching due to the ongoing war. In the majority of affected areas, this withholding of pay has been in effect since September 2025. Regime administrators reportedly explained that salaries would not resume unless the teachers “*negotiated with Fano forces.*” This punitive action has reportedly deprived teachers of their means of livelihood, preventing them from supporting their families.

East Gojjam Zone

Dejen Woreda

- Since October 20th, the regime soldiers reportedly carried out a mass arrest campaign in Dejen town and surrounding kebeles.
 - Sources confirmed that several farmers (civilians) were arrested and subjected to physical abuses by regime militias under accusation of having affiliation with Fano forces. Sources confirmed that the campaign was conducted in apparent reprisal to recent casualties the regime forces suffered from a Fano offensive a week ago.
 - Names of eleven arrest victims from Dejen town and Tik Kebele were identified as follows:
 1. Abebaw Damin, Dejen town;
 2. Temesgen (last name unknown), Dejen town;
 3. Fekadu (last name unknown), Dejen town;
 4. Markosew (last name unknown), Dejen town;
 5. Mekuriyat (last name unknown), Dejen town;
 6. Yilkal (last name unknown), Dejen town;
 7. Yibeltal Werke, Tik Kebele;
 8. Gerbachew Werke, Tik Kebele;
 9. Abreham Tadele, Tik Kebele;
 10. Abebe Bante, Tik Kebele;
 11. Alebachew Mekuriyaw, Tik Kebele.

Debre-Markos City

- On October 23rd, Fano fighters conducted an operation in the suburbs of Debre-Markos city.
 - This operation was reportedly carried out by the Jibela-Mutera Brigade under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). Reports indicated that the operation was conducted in the Wenka area, during which riot dispersal police were targeted while moving in two patrol vehicles.
 - The Fano surprise offensive reportedly resulted in the killing or injury of all troops inside, including critical injuries to at least one police in a command position, identified as Inspector Endalew Alamir. Fano forces reportedly rendered two vehicles inoperable.

Gozamin Woreda

- On October 26th, Fano fighters conducted an operation in the neighborhood of Debre-Markos city. This operation was reportedly carried out by the Tedla Gualu Brigade, under the Haddis Alemayehu Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). The Fano fighters conducted this surprise offensive beginning on the evening of October 25th (continuing into the early morning hours of October 26th), by approaching the regime presence in the Yejube-Megenteya area. Fano forces reportedly confronted the regime troops using HMGs and explosives, during which they killed at least five soldiers and injured seven others.

Aneded Woreda

- On the night of October 25th (continuing into the early morning hours of October 26th) Fano forces carried out an offensive against regime forces in Amber town. The offensive was undertaken by the Tedla Gualu Brigade, under the Haddis

Alemayehu Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). In this offensive the Fano fighters inflicted one fatality and three injuries among the regime soldiers.

Shebel-Berenta Woreda

- On October 26th, Fano forces announced the completion of training for new special commando units in Shebel-Berenta Woreda. According to reports from the Shifferaw Gerbaw Brigade, under the Belay Zeleke Division (operating under the AFNF-TC), the graduation occurred after six months of training.⁵

West Gojjam Zone

Jabi-Tehnan Woreda

- On October 21st, regime forces reportedly arrested the father of the late Balemlay Wase in Jabi-Tehnan Woreda.
 - Balemlay Wase, a female Fano member, was killed by regime forces on October 12th in the neighborhood of Mankusa town. Following the killing, her body was reportedly mutilated, including her breast, before regime soldiers left her remains in the street. After news of the atrocity spread, a considerable number of people gathered for a public mourning ceremony as her body was laid to rest.
 - On the morning of October 21st, sources reported that regime soldiers took the father of the late Balemlay into custody from his residence in Arbis Kebele and transported him to a nearby military camp. He was detained for several hours, during which he was subjected to physical and verbal abuse. Media reports later confirmed he was physically beaten and questioned in an apparent attempt to force a false testimony. The regime soldiers reportedly tried to force

⁵See October 26, 2025 [report](#) from Ashara Media.

him to confess that Fano fighters were responsible for his daughter's death, a claim he refused to confirm. The regime soldiers ultimately released him, reportedly compelled to do so after the news of his arrest rapidly circulated on social media.

Dega-Damot Woreda

- Between October 21st and 22nd, intense fighting took place in various locations in Dega-Damot Woreda.
 - The fighting was initiated by regime forces, who mobilized a large ground and mechanized force towards the Arefa-Debtera and Awsa areas. According to sources, the fighting was intense, covering multiple locations, involving the use of HMGs, and persisting for a long period, resulting in considerable casualties. Sources reported that the firefight began before dawn on October 21st, and continued until the evening. The fighting reportedly continued into October 22nd, expanding its coverage into the woreda's center. The Dega-Damot Brigade under the Tefera Damte Division (operating under the AFNF-TC) reportedly was involved during this firefight.
 - On October 22nd, the Fano launched an offensive in Feres-Bet town. Sources reported that both combating parties suffered casualties during the two-day firefight, with a significant number of casualties reported particularly on the regime side. Sources reported that at least four Fano fighters were killed and others injured during this firefight.

Awî Zone

Guagusa-Shikudad Woreda

- On October 14th, regime soldiers (militias) abducted a 25-year-old female shopkeeper in Tilili town. Sources reported that she was taken hostage while walking home from work that evening. The soldiers held her in a military camp for approximately four days. Later, the victim's family negotiated with the kidnappers to secure her release. And on October 18th, the abductors released her after receiving a ransom of 100,000 ETB. During her captivity, the young woman was gang-raped by her captors in the camp until her release. As a result of the assault, she is currently in a severe health condition, reportedly unable to sit or move properly. The victim was reportedly planning her wedding for the following January.
- On October 24th, fighting took place between Fano and regime troops in Tilili town.
 - The fighting was reportedly launched by units of the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). The fighting started at early morning when a coordinated Fano force infiltrated the regime's presence. Upon the Fano fighters' entry, the regime forces reportedly retreated and confined themselves to their fortifications, during which the Fano confronted them with HMG shelling and a close-quarters firefight. The firefight reportedly continued for at least three hours and subsided when the Fano fighters withdrew, upon observing frequent drone surveillance in the battle area. The Fano offensive reportedly caused regime forces to mobilize reinforcements from Bure and Injibara towns.
 - The fighting reportedly caused several casualties among the combatants, with greater casualties reported among the regime militias and riot dispersal soldiers. During this firefight, one confirmed death was reported on the Fano

side, while at least 20 regime troops were killed and several others were injured.

Fagita-Lekoma Woreda

- On October 22nd, fighting took place in Chiguali town. The fighting was initiated by the Ephrem Atnafu Brigade, under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). During this operation, Fano fighters claimed that they managed to push regime forces from Chiguali and fully captured logistics that had been used by the regime. Fano fighters also reportedly killed regime targets and injured several militias and riot dispersal soldiers.

Ayo-Guagusa Woreda

- On October 23rd, Fano fighters carried out an operation in the Azena town neighborhood. This operation was reportedly carried out by the Werk-Abay Brigade, under the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). Fano fighters undertook this operation by infiltrating the regime's presence in the area specifically known as Chala, located in close proximity to the woreda's center. The Fano fighters reportedly pushed the regime forces out of the area. During this operation, Fano fighters reportedly killed and injured several regime soldiers; particularly local militias including militia commander Alganesh Ayen. The Fano also captured two Kalashnikov firearms.

North Gojjam Zone

North Achefer Woreda

- On October 19th, a mother who resisted a militiaman's attempt to rape her daughter was killed in Yismala town.

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- According to sources, the incident took place that day at around 1 pm in the area commonly known as *Derg Camp*, in Yismala. The perpetrator was a 50-year-old militia who attempted to rape a 19-year-old girl, and who subsequently killed her mother due to her resistance.
 - Sources reported that regime forces allowed the perpetrator to temporarily take refuge in the forest; the regime forces did not detain him, claiming that he had escaped. Sources also added that the deceased mother is survived by another four-year-old child.⁶

North Mecha Woreda

- On October 21st, Fano fighters conducted an operation in Merawi town. This operation was reportedly carried out by the Colonel Tadesse Muluneh Brigade, under the 1st Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). According to sources, the operation was conducted using explosive detonations in the municipal administrative premises. The explosion reportedly resulted in casualties among several regime cadres and officials.

Bahir-Dar-Zuriya Woreda

- On October 21st, Fano fighters conducted a surprise operation in the neighborhood of Bahir-Dar city. This operation was reportedly carried out by the 1st Division's Tanaw Mebrek Brigade (operating under the AFNF-TC). The operation reportedly targeted regime soldiers and federal police troops who were deployed to guard the airport area. During this operation, at least four soldiers were killed and two more were injured. In addition, the Fano managed to capture a radio communication device.

⁶See October 20, 2025 [report](#) from Ashara Media.

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- On October 24th, an intense firefight took place between Fano and regime troops in Dehna-Mariam Kebele.
 - The fighting was reportedly initiated by the 1st Division Bahir-Dar and Tanaw-Mebrek Brigades, which conducted a coordinated offensive on regime troops in the Quarit-Amba area, located near Bahir-Dar city. This firefight was intense, characterized by the use of HMGs and the resulting casualties over a prolonged period. Sources reported that the engagement began in the morning at around 8:30 am and subsided in the afternoon at around 10 pm.
 - During this engagement, sources reported that the Fano fighters overwhelmed the regime forces, inflicting human and material losses. Reports indicated that over 50 regime soldiers were killed and wounded and several others were captured, along with small and heavy firearms. Among the casualties and captured combatants were riot dispersal units in command positions. According to sources, nearly 60 firearms were captured, including four Bren LMGs, three Sniper rifles, and 51 Kalashnikov rifles.
 - The Fano listed names of nine captured combatants as follows:
 1. Engineer Tadesse Tamiru (Deputy Battalion Leader)
 2. Eyaya Dires (Former Special Forces Battalion Leader)
 3. Lewtnew Melese (Battalion Logistics)
 4. Birhan Mandefro (Team Leader)
 5. Endris Yimer (Team Leader)
 6. Amare Jenberu (Member)
 7. Zemene Mulate (Member)
 8. Jenberu Getaneh (Member)
 9. Manchelot Yenew (Member)

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- On October 25th, regime forces carried out a drone strike in Dena-Mariam Kebele. Sources confirmed the drone strike incident in Robit-Megenteya area, carried out at around midday. The attack targeted a truck that was transporting POWs, specifically regime riot dispersal soldiers which had been captured during fighting with Fano fighters earlier in the same area. Sources confirmed seven POWs sustained fatalities and three others were injured. In addition, two other individuals were killed and a third was injured.

Gonji-Qolela Woreda

- On October 24th, regime forces carried out a drone attack in the Shebele area. The regime targeted the Shebele School during the attack. The casualties resulting from this drone strike are yet to be verified by sources. According to reports, the attack was carried out in the absence of any Fano activity, and resulted in the killing of three civilians and damage to the school.

Yilmana-Densa Woreda

- On October 25th, Fano fighters carried out an operation in Adet town. This operation was reportedly carried out by the 1st Division's Animut Yazachew Brigade. The Fano fighters, consisting of a few members, reportedly infiltrated the regime's presence in Adet town and launched a surprise attack before dawn. This offensive involved close-quarters firefights and explosive detonations, where the Fano fighters gained the upper hand within a brief period of fighting. Reports indicated at least five militias killed and several others injured during this operation, with two of the militia leaders confirmed to have sustained critical injuries.

South Achefer Woreda

- On October 26th, heavy fighting took place between Fano and regime forces in Durbeti town.
 - This fighting was reportedly launched by the Abe Gubegna Brigade, a unit under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). According to sources, the Fano fighters covertly infiltrated the town overnight and commenced an offensive before dawn on the regime encampment. The offensive led to an open firefight involving HMGs and close-quarters exchange. The firefight reportedly subsided within a two-hour period during which the Fano fighters reportedly overwhelmed the regime forces, inflicting human and material losses before they withdrew from Durbeti town.
 - During this firefight, one injury was reported on the Fano side. The regime forces, on the other hand, suffered at least eighteen fatalities and several injuries, with the exact figure unidentified. Fano forces also reportedly destroyed two regime patrol vehicles and captured more than twenty-five firearms along with a significant quantity of ammunition. Additional regime soldiers and administrative officials were also reportedly captured.

Northwestern Amhara (Gonder Sub-Region)

South Gonder Zone

- On October 19th, Fano forces carried out a widespread offensive against regime forces spanning Estie, Farta, Andabet, and Dera Woredas.
 - The Fano offensive unfolded across five distinct fronts, demonstrating a coordinated and multi-pronged approach.

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- The primary engagement commenced in Sholekt and Dengolt Kebeles within Estie Woreda. The fighting in these initial locations quickly intensified and expanded to encompass broader areas. The Estie-Densa and Hagere-Bizen Brigades (operating under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps Guna Division), confronted regime forces with considerable success. During these clashes, more than 100 regime joint forces personnel were confirmed killed, while over 30 sustained physical injuries, ranging from minor to critical in severity. Of the recorded casualties, 84 consisted of militia, riot dispersal, and regular police forces. Furthermore, the Fano successfully captured over 20 regime personnel during the fighting. The Fano also seized a significant cache of weaponry, including four Bren LMGs, more than 30 automatic rifles, and over 15 manual rifles from the regime forces. Beyond the direct engagements, the Fano forces' operations had a profound impact on the administrative and security infrastructure of Estie Woreda. In Mekane-Eyesus town, the woreda police commander was killed. Following this, the local prison center was breached, leading to the release of all illegally detained prisoners. Further demonstrating the Fano's control and disruption of regime authority, the militia secretariat office in the area was set ablaze, and a substantial amount of military logistics belonging to the regime was seized by the Fano forces. These combined actions represent a significant blow to the regime's presence and operational capacity within Estie Woreda.
 - The second front of this extensive operation unfolded in Gasay and Maynet Kebeles (Farta Woreda) where the Meqdela-Amba Brigade confronted regime forces. The most intense fighting on this front occurred in Maynet Kebele, where regime forces sustained heavy casualties. In a significant development, a regime DShK HMG which had been deployed by regime forces was destroyed by the Fano forces.

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- The third front was established in Zigora Kebele (Andabet Woreda), where the Andabet Brigade engaged regime units in this location. Their primary objective was to block and prevent regime reinforcement forces from reaching Estie Woreda, where their forces were already engaged in heavy fighting. This crucial interdiction successfully cut off potential support for the beleaguered regime forces in Estie Woreda.
 - The fourth front encompassed a vast territory, stretching from Gelawdewos-Aferwanat to Gewoch Kebele (Dera Woreda). On this front, the Tana-Gelawdewos Division and the Wubante Abate Tewelwari Division (both operating under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps) intercepted regime forces advancing from Dera Woreda, who had traveled via Arb-Gebeya town. The Wubante Abate Tewelwari Division launched a sustained attack against these regime forces, covering a wide area. Fierce fighting erupted across multiple locations within Dera Woreda, including Wubante Terara, Moshe Terara, Gidib Terara, Gelawdewos town, Tele, Fetlo, and Islam Meqabir. During these intense engagements, the regime forces sustained critical injuries, indicating the severity of the clashes. A particularly significant outcome on this front was the successful blockage and eventual forced retreat of the regime's 77th Division back to Ambesame town. Furthermore, the Fano inflicted heavy losses on this division, with the division's ordinance and other personnel reportedly killed during the fighting, severely crippling its operational capacity.
 - Finally, the fifth front was opened in Dera-Demba Kebele (Dera Woreda) where the Tana and Ambeso Brigades launched a coordinated attack against regime forces, further extending the multi-directional pressure on the regime's military presence in the region.

Lay-Gayint Woreda

- On October 19th, regime forces launched a coordinated assault on Checheho Kebele.
 - The offensive commenced under the cover of darkness, with regime units advancing from Gangan village and initiating attacks from three different directions towards Checheho, beginning in the middle of the night with the objective of re-occupying the strategically vital location. However, the Ambesaw-Gayint and Gebrye Divisions (operating under the AFPO-AFGPC), were prepared and launched a robust, coordinated counter-offensive. The intense fighting concentrated in the strategically important areas of Zewg-Amba and the Shodeb directions, both leading towards Checheho-Medhanealem.
 - During these engagements, regime forces sustained heavy casualties as a result of the Fano counter-offensive. Colonel Asega, a military commander of the regime forces deployed from Checheho-Tena-Tabiya, found himself caught off guard by the Fano offensive. He narrowly escaped capture, reportedly shielded by the suppressive fire of a ZU-23 anti-aircraft gun. The regime forces under Colonel Asega's command suffered significant losses and were ultimately forced to retreat, falling back to Aguat-Wiha and Gito mountain. Sources reported a large number of regime forces killed and critically injured. Heavily mechanized army forces were deployed to retrieve the fallen soldiers, they also came under fire from Fano units. Despite the retreat and heavy losses, regime forces positioned on Gito mountain continued to fire their ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns. However, these efforts proved unsuccessful in regaining control of Checheho. The Fano forces, in an attempt to capture Colonel Asega and seize DShK HMGs, engaged the retreating regime forces in close-quarters combat.

The intense engagement resulted in further fatalities and critical injuries. On the Fano side, four members were killed during these actions, and two others sustained critical injuries.

- On October 23rd, regime aerial forces conducted a drone strike in Zagoch town.
 - The strike took place at approximately 4 am local time and targeted a residential house situated in the center of town, an area densely populated by civilians. The targeted house was completely destroyed in the attack. Three civilians (all women) inside the residence sustained physical injuries which were critical in severity.
 - Following the drone strike in Zagoch, the regime's aerial activity continued with prolonged reconnaissance. A drone conducted surveillance over the entire zone for a period of 55 minutes, presumably assessing the aftermath of the strike and gathering intelligence. In the wake of the aerial assault, regime infantry forces were subsequently deployed into Zagoch town. However, this ground deployment prompted a swift and strategic counter-response from Fano forces. In a coordinated move, Fano units encircled both Kimir-Dingay and Nefas-Mewcha towns. This maneuver effectively cut off and isolated the regime infantry forces that had just been deployed to Zagoch, placing them in a precarious and vulnerable position.

Estie Woreda

- On October 21st, Fano forces carried out a strategic infiltration into Mekane-Eyesus town.
 - This operation involved units under the Guna Division (operating under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps) entering the town from two distinct points. The primary objective of the operation was to provide gunfire coverage and a secure

environment for regime riot dispersal forces, enabling them to defect to Fano forces.

- This operation was set against a backdrop of significant internal strife and demoralization within the regime’s local security apparatus. The Estie Woreda militia forces had already been largely dispersed following recent heavy casualties inflicted upon both riot dispersal and militia units by Fano forces. More than 100 of these regime personnel had lost their lives in the preceding fierce fighting, severely weakening their ranks and morale. A critical catalyst for the defections was an inflammatory comment made by a leader of the regime’s regular army. This captain reportedly made a derogatory remark regarding the deaths of these regime forces, suggesting that the regular army had sustained no casualties, and that the losses incurred by the riot dispersal and militia forces were, in fact, a “*desired result*.” This callous statement provoked intense anger among the riot dispersal and militia forces, leading their own leader to reportedly attempt to kill the offending captain. This profound outrage and internal conflict directly led to a mass defection. Consequently, all riot dispersal and militia forces decided to join the Fano forces in large numbers. Over 60 members of the militia forces subsequently defected to the Fano in the woreda, effectively leading to the complete disbandment of the entire militia system in the area. This “*21st campaign*” was not merely an opportunistic attack but rather a pre-arranged operation, facilitated by an agreement between the Fano forces and the defecting riot dispersal units. As a direct outcome of this special campaign and the prior agreement, more than 52 members of the riot dispersal forces, bringing their full military equipment with them, officially joined the Fano forces.
- In addition, four top Prosperity Party officials from the Estie Woreda leadership were reported missing from their positions on the same day. There

is strong suspicion that these officials have also defected to the Fano, reflecting a broader sentiment of despair and disillusionment within the regime among local woreda officials.

Guna-Begemidir Woreda

- On October 23rd, regime militia forces opened fire on a private residence leading to a shootout in Mendi Kebele.
 - The militias were pursuing Defersha Werqneh, who had found his residence encircled by the militias, who demanded his surrender and the relinquishment of his private (registered) firearm. However, the man refused to yield, instead choosing to defend himself and engaging the militias in a firefight. In his last stand, he managed to kill three militias and critically injured two others before being overwhelmed by a barrage of gunfire from the remaining militia forces, ultimately succumbing to his wounds.
 - Unbeknownst to the militiamen, his daughter, Bizunesh Defersha, had been a hidden witness to the incident. Fueled by grief, she took up her father's firearm and continued firing on the militia forces. Her unexpected counter-attack created significant confusion among the militias, who apparently believed they were facing a larger, unknown force within the residence. This led them to panic and begin fleeing the scene. Seizing this opportunity, the young woman observed their retreat and, slipped out the back door of the house. She made her escape into the nearby forested area, carrying her father's firearm. By the evening of the same day, she reached and joined nearby Fano forces. Upon joining the Fano she publicly vowed to fight against the regime until her last drop of blood, driven by a resolve to avenge her father's killing. Her story stands as a powerful testament to the deep-seated resistance and personal sacrifices fueling the conflict.

Simada Woreda

- On October 26th, Fano forces carried out a surprise offensive against a contingent of regime forces in Shimiya-Azmach village. The operation was carried out by the Guna Division's Hager-Bizen Brigade (operating under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps). The targeted regime forces were in transit, traveling along the route connecting Mikre to Wegeda town. The ambush took place near Mikre in Shimiya-Azmach village. Following the initial, unexpected assault, the engagement quickly escalated into intense close-quarters combat between the Fano and regime personnel. In this operation, regime forces reportedly suffered heavy casualties.

West Gonder Zone

Metemma Woreda

- On October 21st, a fierce and extensive battle erupted between Fano forces and regime forces, spanning a significant geographical area in Metemma Woreda.
 - The conflict covered a vast territory stretching from Qutir 1, through Shimelegara, and extending to Addisalem Kebeles. The Arbegnoch and Atanaw Wassie Divisions (operating under the AFNF-BC) jointly engaged regime forces across these contested locations. The fighting was characterized by heavy exchanges of fire, with both sides extensively utilizing heavy weapons, indicating a high-intensity engagement. As the day progressed into the evening, the Fano forces achieved a significant tactical victory. The regime forces were compelled to withdraw from the strategically important areas of Addisalem and Qutir 1, effectively ceding control. Consequently, the Fano forces successfully regained full command of these key locations.
 - However, the following day (October 22nd), regime forces initiated a bombardment of the newly recaptured Addisalem and Qutir 1. This shelling

operation utilized ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, suggesting an attempt to dislodge Fano forces from their positions or to inflict casualties from a distance, following their tactical retreat.

- On October 25th, Fano forces launched a surprise attack targeting a gathering of regime political and military officials in Shimelegara Kebele.
 - The officials had convened a public meeting, bringing together local residents, presumably to disseminate information how to defeat Fano forces in Metemma Woreda. The Fano involved in this operation were specifically the Atanaw Wassie Division and the Arbegnoch Division (both operating under the AFNF-BC), indicating a coordinated effort by experienced units. Their sudden assault effectively disrupted the meeting, forcing its immediate dispersal as attendees and officials scattered.
 - Beyond the disruption of the gathering, the surprise offensive also inflicted military casualties on regime forces present. Reports confirm that ten members of the regime's joint forces were killed during the engagement, and an additional thirteen sustained physical injuries, ranging from minor to critical in severity.
 - The meeting itself had been organized collaboratively by officials from West Gonder Zone and Metemma Woreda, alongside representatives of the regime joint forces, underscoring the importance the regime placed on this public engagement. The Fano not only prevented the meeting from proceeding but also served as a direct challenge to the regime's authority and presence in the area.

Qwara Woreda

- On October 25th, in the morning regime aerial forces conducted a drone strike on Tewodros town.
 - The attack took place at approximately 4 am local time and targeted Saliah village, a location known for its public gatherings. This particular Saturday was the designated market day, a crucial weekly event where residents of Tewodros town and numerous surrounding rural kebeles converged for commerce, trade, and social interaction. The drone strike directly struck the public gathering, resulting in civilian casualties.
 - Among those confirmed killed were a horse cart driver and a child, along with four other civilians, bringing the total fatalities to six. Additionally, eight other civilians sustained physical injuries, ranging from minor to critical in severity, as a direct consequence of the strike.
- On the night of October 25th, Fano forces launched an offensive operation against regime forces in Shinfu town.
 - Under the cover of darkness, units under the Karamara Division (operating under the AFNF-BC) successfully infiltrated Shinfu town, signaling the commencement of their assault. The Fano forces quickly moved to secure key objectives. They successfully regained control of two militarily strategic places within the town, positions that had previously been fortified with dugouts by regime forces during earlier engagements. This suggests a targeted effort to dismantle the regime's defensive infrastructure and reclaim vital ground. Following this, the Fano forces proceeded to reoccupy the majority of the town. As of October 26th, fierce fighting was ongoing within the town, suggesting ongoing military contestation by the regime forces.

Areas Outside Amhara Region

Addis-Ababa City

- On October 20th, the Honorable Yohannes Buayalew and 15 other political prisoners and prisoners of conscience were brought before the Federal High Court in Addis-Ababa city.
 - During the hearing, the appeal previously filed by the defense lawyers against a lower court's decision, allowing a key witness to testify behind closed doors, was officially rejected. The 15 individuals, all co-defendants in the case involving Yohannes and accused of terrorism-related charges, appeared in court. However, the 16th defendant, Amare Melese, was absent due to severe ill-treatment reportedly suffered during detention and interrogation.
 - This case, originally filed at the end of last year, had been paused pending the outcome of an appeal to the Supreme Court. Defense lawyers challenged the decision of the Lideta Division of the Federal High Court, which permitted the prosecution's request to conduct a closed-door witness testimony. As confirmed in the October 20th hearing, the appeal was denied, and the witness is now authorized to testify in a private session. Now 1 year and 8 months since the indictment was first issued, the proceedings continue amid rising concern. The court accepted the prosecution's request for a closed session, citing the significance of a key witness. This decision was met with strong opposition from the defendants, who issued an 11-point statement condemning the court's conduct. They warned that the judiciary is at risk of becoming a political instrument of the regime and cautioned that such actions undermine their ability to receive a fair trial. The defense lawyers also objected, arguing that the referral of the case to a special *Seber-Semi* court and the rejection of their appeal further indicate that political directives are being enforced from

higher authorities, rather than legal principles being upheld.

- The court scheduled the next hearing for October 28th. On this date, it will receive the formal Supreme Court appeal document and hear responses from the defense regarding various complaints. These include allegations of human rights violations implicating two officials: Head of Kilinto Police Station, Deputy Commissioner Tasew; and Head of the Security and Protection Department, Chief Inspector Diriba Sanbeto. The complaints cover issues such as denial of medical treatment, unlawful searches, and other forms of mistreatment.⁷

West Shewa Zone (Oromia Region)

Nono Woreda

- Between October 19th and 20th, a series of deadly attacks targeting civilians took place in Alodinki Kebele.
 - This incident resulted in the killing of numerous civilians from both the Amhara and Oromo ethnic communities allegedly involving numerous perpetrator groups.
 - This incident followed a series of previous attacks targeting Amhara residents, allegedly perpetrated by *Oromo Liberation Army* (OLA) militants, *Qeerro*, and regime troops.⁸⁹¹⁰¹¹ These earlier assaults in the woreda caused displacement and property losses for Amhara residents. A significant number of ethnic Amhara residents were frequently targeted, leading them to flee and seek shelter in the neighboring Abeshgie Woreda of Gurage Zone (Central Ethiopia

⁷See October 22, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

⁸See April 11, 2024 [report](#) from the *Amhara Association of America* (AAA).

⁹See April 12, 2024 [news article](#) from VOA Amharic (English translation available [here](#)).

¹⁰See July 22, 2024 [report](#) from the *Amhara Association of America* (AAA).

¹¹See August 23, 2024 [news article](#) from DW Amharic (English translation available [here](#)).

Region). Despite the displaced residents' pleas to negotiate and return to their former residential areas, local authorities reportedly refused. This refusal was accompanied by reports of their land and other properties being confiscated and transferred to ethnic Oromo residents.

- The situation remained highly tense for an extended period, and on the night of October 19th (extending to the early morning hours of October 20th) unidentified militants reportedly infiltrated Aludinki Kebele and initiated a firefight. This clash reportedly resulted in the killing of more than 20 ethnic Oromo residents. The Oromo residents and local administrators immediately accused the ethnic Amhara residents of the attack, claiming that Fano forces, which had crossed from Central Ethiopia Region, conducted the attack.
- The following day (October 20th), ENDF soldiers reportedly entered the area under the pretext of stabilizing the situation. However, in apparent reprisal for the previous night's attack, ethnic Oromo soldiers reportedly targeted ethnic Amhara residents living in the area, in the presence of other federal troops. Initial reports indicate that this attack resulted in the deaths of at least 12 ethnic Amhara civilians, with five of the killed victims belonging to a single family.

North Shewa Zone (Oromia Region)

Kembibit Woreda

- On October 26th, Fano forces conducted an urban operation targeting regime troops in Sheno town.
 - Sheno, located approximately 65-km from Addis-Ababa city, is among Amhara-majority districts that were districted under the Oromia Regional State, a political decision made without consultation from the local population. The objective of the operation was to engage regime forces stationed in the

area. The operation was carried out by units of the 3rd (Yeselamsew Andarge) Regiment of the Hailemariam Mamo Division (operating under the AFNF-MC). The Fano forces advanced into a location known as Weyira-Sefer where they carried out their tactical operation.

- During the engagement, the Fano launched a surprise attack against regime militia forces, inflicting numerous casualties. Reports indicate that at least two regime militia members were killed, while three others were wounded and subsequently captured. Among the deceased were two soldiers identified only as Haile and Sisay, with the latter reportedly succumbing to his injuries shortly after the encounter. In addition to neutralizing regime militias, the Fano captured three Kalashnikov rifles from the militia. The wounded captives were provided medical treatment in accordance with the Fano forces' operational code of conduct.

Metekel Zone (Benishangul-Gumuz Region)

Pawi Woreda

- On October 22nd, Fano fighters conducted an operation in Pawi.
 - This operation was reportedly carried out by the Abay-Metekel Brigade, a unit under the Jawi-Metekel Division (operating under the AFNF-TC) in an area connecting Amhara and Benishangul-Gumuz Regions. The Fano fighters, infiltrated Pawi town and reportedly targeted and launched an attack on the police station, during which they killed and injured several soldiers.
 - In a separate development, Fano fighters under the Jawi-Metekel Division, announced the completion and graduation of Fano commando forces. According to this report, this marked the third complete round of commando

training by the unit, following six months of training.¹²

¹²See October 22, 2025 [video](#) from Nisir Amhara Studio.

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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