



## War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – December 22nd to 28th, 2025

Updated December 29th, 2025

### Overview

For the week of December 22nd to 28th, 2025, fighting between the *Amhara Fano self-defense force* (Fano) and *Oromo 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 42 woreda/city administrations across 11 zonal administrations in Amhara Region.

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

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

<sup>2</sup>The Fano are organized under sub-regional commands based on geographic location which are comprised of divisions. The major sub-regional commands operate under a consolidated structure known as the *Amhara Fano National Force* (AFNF) which includes the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) [AFW] or East Amhara Qetena (Menelik Command; MC), Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder (AFUG) or North Amhara Qetena (Belay Command; BC), Amhara Fano in Gojjam (AFG) 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), the Amhara Fano Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Province Command [AFWC] and the Amhara Fano Gojjam Province Command (AFGJPC).

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West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder, North Gonder and Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zones. Developments were also recorded in Jimma and East Wollega Zones of Oromia Region, and in Addis-Ababa city.

- Civilian casualties were recorded in 6 woreda/city administrations across 5 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Raya-Kobo, Bugna, Lasta, Enemay, Jabi-Tehnan, Guagusa-Shikudad and Setit Humera Woredas in North Wollo, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, Awi and Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zones. In addition, civilian casualties were recorded in Gida-Ayana Woreda of East Wollega Zone in Oromia Region, implicating *Oromia Region Special Forces* (OSF).
- Drone activity was recorded in 3 woreda/city administrations across 3 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Ambassel, Kewet and Bure-Zuriya Woredas in South Wollo, North Shewa and West Gojjam Zones. Civilian casualties were reported in one of the incidents.
- Arrests were recorded in Jimma Zone of Oromia Region and in Addis-Ababa city. In Jimma Zone, arrests targeted ethnic Amhara farmers who faced property loss from local Oromo merchants working alongside Oromia Region authorities. Furthermore, abductions were reported in Alamata city and Raya-Alamata Woreda of North Wollo Zone in Amhara Region implicating *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF) forces. TPLF forces targeted ethnic Amhara communities and religious figures affiliated with the *Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church* (EOTC).
- This week reports indicate that the OPP regime has begun implementation of a civil service restructuring initiative in Addis-Ababa city, which has led to mass dismissals and demotions of ethnic Amhara employees.

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## Northeastern Amhara (Wollo Bete-Amhara Subregion)

- On December 25th, Arbegna Mihret (Miré) Wodajo, Commander of the AFNF-MC delivered a public statement addressing current political and security developments.<sup>3</sup>
  - In his address, Commander Arbegna Miré condemned the regime’s plan to deploy religious and traditional leaders to engage Fano forces under the banner of so-called peace negotiations. He stated that the regime has deliberately sought to involve religious and traditional leaders, including priests and sheikhs, in an attempt to approach Fano forces. He emphasized that Fano deeply respect the religious, cultural, and social values represented by these elders, acknowledging their long-standing contributions to resolving personal and communal disputes. He recalled that during the initial outbreak of the war, Fano forces allowed such leaders to negotiate safely and return home, honoring their moral authority. However, he noted that the regime subsequently attempted to besiege and abduct them, exposing what he described as the regime’s lack of good faith. Accordingly, he asserted that the Amhara cause cannot be resolved through regime-orchestrated false negotiations, and urged religious and traditional leaders to refrain from participating in what he described as a false and politically motivated process. He argued that the regime’s true objective in deploying these leaders is to manipulate public perception and politically undermine Fano, rather than to pursue genuine dialogue. It was recalled that, in recent meetings held by regime officials across various parts of the Amhara Region, officials openly spoken, and in some cases issued orders, about the need to “*negotiate*” with Fano forces, disarm them, and force them to return home. Hence, the current

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<sup>3</sup>See December 25, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio News.

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attempt to send religious and traditional leaders is merely a continuation of this agenda, aimed at coercion rather than sincere negotiation.

- Another key issue raised in the statement was Commander Arbegna Miré’s condemnation of the *African Union (AU)* and *Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)* for what he described as their endorsement of a misleading agreement allegedly reached between the Amhara Regional State and AFPO on December 4th. He noted that the endorsement of a single individual, Masresha Setie, as a representative of Fano reflects the absence of unified institutions and a deep erosion of trust in these regional bodies.
- Commander Arbegna Miré also addressed serious human rights violations, including the rape of a female student at Woldia University by regime forces, which he stated was accompanied by orders to suppress reporting and silence the victim.
- He warned the public to remain vigilant against the regime’s recent propaganda campaigns, urging communities to distinguish truth from misinformation.
- He called on the public to protect their land, warning that the regime has allegedly been selling land to finance drone warfare. He advised citizens to safeguard their savings, property, and produce, and to avoid unnecessary extravagance during this period of crisis.
- Commander Arbegna Miré further emphasized that the Amhara struggle is inclusive, stating that Fano intends to struggle alongside all Ethiopians who genuinely love their country, while making it clear that Fano has no intention of fighting against any ethnic group. He condemned the deployment of OSF against the Amhara population and urged unity against what he described as an oppressive regime.
- He also warned civilians and business owners to protect themselves from

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looters and criminals operating under the false name of Fano, alleging that some of these acts are carried out by regime-backed elements and other criminal groups. He encouraged the public to report such incidents directly to Fano forces.

## **North Wollo Zone**

### **Alamata City and Raya-Alamata Woreda**

- Between December 22nd and 25th, TPLF forces reportedly abducted more than 118 civilians in Alamata city and Raya-Alamata Woreda.
  - The wave of abductions reportedly affected a wide range of areas including Ayer-Marefiya, Timuga, Waja, Selen-Wuha, Harile, and Bedena-Leko, among other localities. These abductions reportedly targeted civilians known for being vocal advocates for expression of Amhara identity, forced disarmament aiming to confiscate legally registered firearms from residents, and religious and cultural repression, including arrests of numerous religious leaders affiliated with the EOTC, closures of schools, and forced imposition of Tigrayan language instruction in schools in place of the community’s native language of Amharic. Furthermore, sources report the destruction and takeover of public institutions, alongside ongoing efforts to disarm civilians of legally held firearms, further undermining community security and local governance structures.
    - \* On the evening of December 23rd, 15 civilians were abducted from Timuga (Raya-Alamata Woreda) and Kebele 04 (Harkisa) of Alamata city. Names of six abducted individuals were identified as follows:
      1. Solomon Tsegay Amare;
      2. Mengesha Ararsa;

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3. Maregu Legasu;
  4. Amare Debash;
  5. Molla Zinabe; and
  6. Getahun (last name unknown).

- \* On the night of December 25th alone, approximately 26 civilians were abducted.
  - \* Families of abducted civilians were asked to pay ransom payments ranging from 150,000 to 500,000 ETB in exchange for the victims' release.
  - \* Due to fear of further abductions, a significant number of civilians reportedly fled from various parts of Raya-Alamata Woreda, and Alamata city, toward Kobo city and surrounding areas.
- Sources further indicated that the ongoing pattern of abductions, arbitrary arrests, killings, and forced displacement in the area has largely gone undocumented and unaddressed by human rights bodies. Local actors stated that repeated communications and formal complaints submitted to the *Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC)* have not resulted in any visible response or intervention.
  - In addition to human rights concerns, sources also reported new military developments on this front. During the same reporting period, TPLF forces deployed heavy weaponry in the area, with some weapons reportedly stationed within residential houses, raising concerns about the safety of civilians and potential escalation of violence.

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## **Lasta Woreda**

- On December 21st, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime security forces in Lasta Woreda.
  - According to reports, the confrontation was initiated by regime forces, which advanced from four separate directions. The advancing forces reportedly moved from Enjafat and Zegit toward Addis-Alem; from Tegu Kebele toward Difkua-Feres-Megalabia; from Bilbila-Mezard toward the Tseda River area; and from Lalibela toward Gurdu-Ber-Dagus. In response, units from the Maregu Temare Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Lasta Asaminew Corps) launched a counter-offensive against the advancing regime forces. The fighting reportedly lasted from approximately 6:30 am to 2:30 pm. In Addis-Alem alone, the clashes resulted in more than 54 regime soldiers killed and over 71 wounded.
  - In related developments, a unit under the General Hailu Kebede Division (operating under the same structure) intercepted regime forces advancing from an opposing direction. This engagement resulted in more than 20 additional fatalities and over 32 wounded among regime forces.
- On December 25th, regime forces carried out an attack on a local church causing civilian casualties and property destruction in Lasta Woreda.
  - According to reports, the incident occurred following intense fighting between regime forces and the Tekeze Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Lasta Asaminew Corps). The clashes reportedly began after regime forces advanced to the area on two fronts. One advance was launched from Kulmesk toward Zuabiya (Zuhaba), while a second advance was from Lalibela toward Genetemariam-Zuabiya (Zuhaba). Sources indicated that the regime deployed

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significant military assets during the operation, including units of the 48th ENDF Division positioned in Kulmesk and three battalions operating from Lalibela. During the fighting, regime forces reportedly utilized heavy weapons, including ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns and mortars. In response, Fano forces launched a counter-offensive, which reportedly resulted in substantial casualties among regime forces.

- On the regime side, at least 15 soldiers were killed and more than 34 others were wounded during the confrontation. Following these losses, regime forces allegedly carried out indiscriminate retaliatory artillery shelling targeting civilian areas. This shelling reportedly led to the destruction of the Zuhaba-Kidanemihret Church in Lasta Woreda and injured to at least six civilians. Among the victims was a female schoolteacher and her infant child, an elderly man and his son who served as a deacon, and two Chinese CCI road construction project employees in an area known as Shalay. The civilians were reportedly wounded by bullets and shrapnel from heavy weapons.

### **Habru Woreda**

- On December 24th, Fano forces coordinated an offensive against regime forces near Wurgessa town.
  - According to sources, the attack conducted by units of the AFNF-MC targeted a regime patrol unit that was moving through the area. The confrontation took place around the Gollo River and lasted for approximately 30 minutes. As a result of the fighting, the regime forces reportedly suffered significant casualties, including the death of a senior military commander and several of his bodyguards. Sources further indicated that killed and wounded regime personnel were later transported to Wurgessa following the clash.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup>See December 24, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

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- Between December 25th and 27th, intense fighting was reported between Fano forces and regime forces across multiple fronts in Habru Woreda.
    - According to sources, a major confrontation occurred on December 27th, when the Baleshiritu Division (operating under the AFNF-MC East Amhara Corps One) carried out an ambush operation targeting regime forces including high-ranking military commanders. The regime military commanders were reportedly traveling from Girana toward Faji, accompanied by patrol units and armed escorts. The ambush took place at approximately 5:30 pm in the Faji area.
    - Sources indicated that the ambush resulted in the killing of a senior military commander, along with additional casualties among the escorting soldiers. Several regime soldiers were also injured, and military assets were damaged during the engagement.
    - Following the ambush, there was a noticeable collapse in morale among the remaining troops. Unable to withstand continued pressure and losses, the surviving forces reportedly withdrew back to Girana, abandoning their operations in the area. Sources further reported that, in the aftermath of the fighting, the regime forces were primarily engaged in evacuating wounded personnel to the Girana Health Center using ambulances.

### **Raya-Kobo Woreda**

- On December 25th, fighting was reported between Fano and regime forces in and around Robit town.
  - According to reports, the engagement involved the Kalakorma Division (operating under the AFNF-MC East Amhara Corps Two). The confrontation began after regime officials travelled to the area to convene local residents, an

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action that reportedly heightened tensions and triggered the outbreak of hostilities. During the fighting, regime forces were observed conducting artillery shelling directed toward western areas of Robit while the fighting continued throughout the day in and around Robit. Sources indicated that the fighting was eventually disrupted and brought to a halt, after which regime officials fled the area, retreating to Kobo city to escape the advancing hostilities.

- During the confrontation, Fano forces inflicted more than 40 fatalities against regime soldiers and seized a significant quantity of military equipment including firearms and ammunition. In addition, three regime combatants were reportedly captured. In the aftermath of the battle, regime forces responded with indiscriminate heavy-weapons fire directed at nearby villages, an action that continued into December 26th. The attacks resulted in civilian casualties and damages to livestock, residential houses, and property.
- Between December 26th and 27th, intense fighting continued between Fano forces and regime forces in Raya-Kobo Woreda.
  - According to sources, the clashes extended across a wide covering areas from Aterisha to the outskirts surrounding Robit town. The fighting reportedly began on the evening of December 26th, and continued into the following day (December 27th), indicating a sustained and escalating confrontation. On the Fano side, units under the AFNF-MC were actively engaged in battles against regime forces across multiple positions.

### **Meket Woreda**

- On December 25th, Fano forces carried out coordinated attacks against regime forces amid reports of internal clashes among regime-affiliated forces in Meket

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Woreda.

- According to reports, the operation was conducted by members of the Ansha Sayed Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Yedegaw-Mebreq Corps). The attack reportedly targeted regime forces that had departed from Filaqit and were preparing to launch an operation around Hana-Mekuat area. The Fano launched a surprise offensive, forcing the regime troops to retreat back to fortified positions.
- Following an apparent breakdown in coordination, clashes subsequently erupted among the regime forces' ranks, specifically between regional and ENDF units. These internal confrontations reportedly escalated into intense fighting, resulting in casualties among the regime forces.

### **Bugna Woreda**

- On December 25th, Fano forces carried out an ambush against regime forces in Bugna Woreda.
  - According to reports, regime forces operating from Ayina town had been deployed to Kebele 05 (Qidus Harbe) with the stated objective of suppressing Fano and forcibly gathering residents of the kebele. In response to this operation, units under the Tefera Mamo Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Lasta Asaminew Corps), launched a surprise offensive. Sources indicated that the ambush disrupted the regime military operation and the planned assembly. Following this development, regime forces reportedly reverted to going door-to-door, beating children and elderly civilians, and other abuses targeting locals under the pretext of supporting Fano.

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## **South Wollo Zone**

### **Dessie-Zuriya Woreda**

- As of December 21st, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime security forces in Dessie-Zuriya Woreda.
  - The Belawo-Teworwari Battalion (operating under the AFNF-MC), engaged regime forces in multiple locations throughout the day, in close proximity to Dessie city, administrative center of South Wollo Zone. As a result of these clashes, Fano forces gained control of numerous strategic towns in the woreda including Ayata, Fala, Tsid-Gebeya, and Atint-Mesberiya.
  - During the fighting, regime forces sustained heavy casualties. Reports indicate that remaining regime forces collected the dead and injured, loaded them into vehicles, and transported them to Dessie.

### **Kelala Woreda**

- On December 24th, Fano forces conducted an offensive against regime forces in the Korke area.
  - According to reports, the operation conducted by units of the AFPO-AFSPC targeted a regime patrol vehicle transporting key regime officials operating in the area and took place in the Gologadisa area (Terie Kebele). According to sources, the attack resulted in casualties among regime forces with more than six regime forces killed, while over seven others sustained serious injuries. No casualties or material losses were reported on the Fano side during the operation.

### **Legambo Woreda**

- On December 21st, Fano forces carried out an offensive operation near Genete town.

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- According to reports, the operation was conducted by units of the Aba Nadew Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Corps). The attack reportedly targeted regime officials traveling toward Wegdi and Mekaneselem. The operation reportedly left several senior Prosperity Party officials wounded. Among those injured was Borena Woreda Administrator Ato Gebeyaw Bekele, sustained serious head injuries; Ato Alemnew Siyum, Head of the Borena Woreda Peace and Security Office, suffered severe injuries to his waist; and Ato Muhammed Gizaw, was also injured. Furthermore, Ato Abdurohman, Head of the Borena Woreda Prosperity Party Office, managed to escape by hiding in a private residence during the incident. In addition to the injured officials, other casualties were reported among military personnel assigned to guard the officials at the time of the attack.

### **Ambassel Woreda**

- On December 25th, Fano forces successfully repelled a coordinated offensive by regime forces across several fronts in Ambassel Woreda.
  - According to sources, the fighting began after regime forces launched an offensive under the pretext of retaking areas under control of Fano forces. In response, the 23rd and 24th Divisions and Qagni unit (operating under the AFNF-MC Lij Eyasu Corps) mounted counteroffensive operations, engaging in intense fighting that reportedly resulted in significant human and material losses for the regime forces and ultimately forced them to retreat to their original positions. On one front, the Fano halted the regime troops' advance from Gishen toward Delba and Jigodo, compelling them to withdraw. On another front, regime forces advancing from Wuchale and Marye launched a large-scale attack against Fano forces. This assault was reportedly supported by mechanized units and artillery on the ground, as well as aerial (drone)

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strikes. Despite the intensity of the attack, sources indicated that the Fano forces launched a counteroffensive.

- The previous day (December 24th) Fano forces carried out an offensive on regime forces around Wurgessa town. The attack reportedly targeted regime troops being transported from Mersa to Wuchale, resulting in multiple fatalities and injuries among regime forces.
- On December 26th, Fano forces carried out an offensive in Ambassel Woreda.
  - According to reports, the attack was undertaken by units under the 24th Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Lij Eyasu Corps) which utilized artillery to target a regime artillery position. The strike reportedly destroyed an artillery cannon along with its ammunition, rendering the position inoperable. As a result of the strike, four regime artillery gunners stationed at the site were reportedly killed.

### **Tenta Woreda**

- On December 26th, Fano forces launched an offensive operation and took control of Ajibar town.
  - According to sources, the operation was conducted in the early morning hours by the Belago-Teworwari Battalion and the 23rd Division under the Lij Eyasu Corps (operating under the AFNF-MC). The Fano advanced into Ajibar and carried out an offensive targeting regime militia units.
  - As a result of the offensive, sources reported significant casualties among regime forces, while several military assets were seized. The remaining regime forces were reportedly forced to flee the town, retreating toward Gimba and Tenta. Sources further indicated that between 15 and 20 regime militia

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personnel were killed and an unspecified number were reportedly injured. In addition, Fano forces captured numerous firearms during the operation.

### **Wegdi Woreda**

- On the night of December 27th (extending into the early morning hours of December 28th), Fano forces conducted a nighttime operation targeting regime para-commando and police forces in Wegdi Woreda.
  - The night-time operation was conducted by units from the Mebreq Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Ali Corps). According to reports, the operation was carried out in the Kabi area, located in Lemi town, approximately 17-km from Wegdi town. During the engagement, the Fano launched a sustained and intense assault against regime forces stationed in the area, resulting in significant casualties. Sources indicated that a total of 13 regime forces were killed including ten para-commando and three police. In addition, more than five para-commandos were wounded. Reports further noted that 22 para-commando forces fled into the Shinet gorge amid the fighting, and it was later confirmed that many did not survive.
  - In response to the situation, the 105th Airborne Commando Division was deployed to Wegdi Woreda with the objective of rescuing the para-commando and police units in the area. However, sources reported that the rescue attempt was unsuccessful, as Fano forces had secured and controlled access routes through sustained fire, preventing intervention. Following the engagement, regime forces sustained heavy losses, and the remaining survivors dispersed into surrounding rural kebeles.

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## **Southeastern Amhara (Shewa Subregion)**

### **North Shewa Zone**

#### **Kewet Woreda**

- On December 22nd, Fano forces carried out a targeted operation in Kewet Woreda.
  - According to reports, the operation targeted a regime patrol vehicle transporting key regime officials operating in the area and took place in the Gologadisa area (Terie Kebele). As a result of the operation woreda militia commander Mohammed Sayed was reportedly killed along with the patrol vehicle's driver. Sources indicated that the commander had been actively leading military operations against Fano forces in Kewet and surrounding areas. He was further accused of being responsible for serious human rights violations in Kewet and Shewa-Robit city, including extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests, and other abuses targeting civilians.
  - The operation was described as part of a broader counter-operation aimed at resisting recent regime military advances in the area. Additionally, sources reported that regime forces have increasingly withdrawn from the area during nighttime, including from Tarmaber Woreda, indicating growing pressure and reduced daytime mobility.
- On December 27th, regime forces carried out a drone strike in Embuay-Bad Kebele.
  - According to sources, the strike occurred at approximately 10 pm and involved two successive strikes, which struck the same area within a short interval. As a result of the strikes, more than 36 individuals were killed, including POWs, personnel assigned to guard the detainees, and at least six civilians in the vicinity.

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## **Basona-Werana Woreda**

- On the night of December 23rd (extending into the early morning hours of December 24th), a fierce battle erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Basona-Werana Woreda.
  - According to sources, the confrontation began when regime forces moved from Debre-Birhan city toward Wayu Kebele. The regime forces advanced under the cover of darkness, approaching the area from two different directions in an attempt to encircle and suppress the Fano forces. In response, units of the 3rd Battalion of the Tayitu Division (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC Mohammed Bihonegn Corps), launched a counter-offensive, engaging the advancing regime forces and successfully disrupted their operation. The counter-offensive forced the regime forces to retreat back to their points of origin.
  - According to reports, at least five regime forces were killed, while more than seven others were seriously wounded during the fighting. The sources further indicated that the attempted siege was disrupted.

## **Shewa-Robit City**

- On the night of December 24th (extending into the early morning hours of December 25th) Fano forces carried out an operation targeting a regime military camp in Shewa-Robit city.
  - According to reports, the operation was conducted by the Qagni unit of the Aschalew Dessie Division (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC Mohammed Bihonegn Corps). During the operation, Fano forces reportedly breached the city and launched a coordinated attack on regime forces while they were stationed inside their camp. The assault involved the use of explosive devices

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and sniper fire. Following the operation, Fano forces withdrew from the city. Regime forces reportedly responded by firing artillery toward multiple exit routes of the city, an action that raised concerns about potential risks to civilians in surrounding areas.

- Sources reported that the operation resulted in casualties among regime forces.

### **Efratana-Gidim Woreda**

- On December 27th, Fano forces launched coordinated military offensives against regime forces across several fronts in Efratana-Gidim Woreda.
  - According to reports, units under the Sebat-Leseba Division (operating under the AFNF-AC 1st Corps), engaged forces under the 103rd ENDF Airborne Division along the frontline stretching from Feredwuha to Feraj-Tereter. In parallel, units of the 7-70 Division (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC Atse Amdetsion Corps), launched parallel offensives covering an area extending from Abasiber-Guba and Jenber-Mewucha Terara to Alala Kebele. The fighting reportedly began at approximately 4 pm and continued throughout the day.

## **Southwestern Amhara (Gojjam Subregion)**

### **East Gojjam Zone**

#### **Machakel Woreda**

- On December 21st, intense fighting was conducted in Amanuel town and surrounding rural areas within Machakel Woreda.
  - The firefights reportedly began when the regime army, which moved out of Amanuel and deployed ground and mechanized units toward Debre-Kelemo

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Kebele. In response, the Belay Zeleke unit, part of the 99th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 109th Corps), confronted regime troops. This firefight was characterized by its intensity and duration, beginning at dawn and persisting until nightfall. In a concurrent engagement within the woreda, Fano forces launched an offensive inside Amanuel. During the engagements, Fano forces overwhelmed the regime troops, eventually compelling them to seek shelter in a nearby church to escape the Fano counteroffensive. Sources reported casualties on both sides during these engagements, though regime forces reportedly suffered a higher number of losses.

- The following day (December 22nd), Fano forces completely cleared regime troops from the Debre-Kelemo area, after which the regime army reportedly retreated to Amanuel.

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

- On December 21st, a firefight took place in the vicinity of Ginde-Weyn town.
  - The engagement was reportedly initiated by Fano forces targeting regime troops and officials which had gathered from Yebuchir and Qura-Arasma Kebeles for a public meeting. A unit from the 74th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 201st Corps) opened heavy fire with the intent to disperse the assembly.
  - The Fano forces inflicted considerable casualties against regime troops in the offensive, disrupting the meeting and ultimately clearing regime forces from both kebeles.

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## **Shebel-Berenta Woreda**

- On December 22nd, Fano fighters carried out a sudden operation in the neighborhood of Yedoha town.
  - During the night of December 21st (extending into the early morning hours of December 22nd), the regime army departed from Yedoha and mobilized toward Qutquat Kebele. Later on the morning of December 22nd, the regime army deployed additional reinforcements from Yedoha to Qutquat Kebeles. At this time, the Shifferaw Gerbaw unit, part of the 64th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 201st Corps), conducted a surprise operation targeting two regime vehicles carrying reinforcement soldiers and military officers. Fano forces carried out this attack in the Derek-Wenz area.
  - During this operation, at least four regime soldiers were confirmed killed, including ranking officers, and more than three others were wounded. Additionally, the regime vehicles were reportedly rendered inoperable.

## **Aneded Woreda**

- On December 23rd, heavy fighting took place in the neighborhood of Jama town.
  - A few days earlier, it was reported that the regime army withdrew from Jama, while Fano forces took control. On December 23rd, the regime army—specifically state militias and riot dispersal forces—departed from Amber town overnight to conduct a raid on Jama. In response, Fano forces launched an offensive against the regime troops that had entered the Jama area. Units from the 34th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 206th Corps) were reportedly involved in this confrontation. This firefight was intense and characterized by severe casualties. The fighting lasted for a prolonged period,

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starting in the morning and continuing until midday for approximately 3 to 5 hours.

- Sources confirmed that three Fano fighters were killed in this firefight, while on the regime side there were 45 fatalities and more than 22 injuries, state militias and riot dispersal units accounted for many of the casualties.

Subsequently, the ENDF army, supported by mechanized forces, mobilized to the battle area and managed to rescue the encircled regime troops. The Fano forces reportedly captured more than 20 firearms during the engagement.

### **Debre-Elias Woreda**

- On December 23rd, a firefight was reported in Marzeneb Kebele.
  - The fighting was initiated by the regime army, which mobilized a large force toward Marzeneb at early dawn. Combined units from the 14th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 206th Corps), reportedly confronted the regime army to hinder their entry into Marzeneb.
  - According to reports, at least 23 regime soldiers were killed, with regime troops reportedly observed transporting bodies and injured soldiers using two patrol vehicles. Reports also indicated that regime troops which entered Marzeneb looted civilian property, including several pieces of pharmaceutical equipment and grain crops, among other items.
- On December 25th, fighting took place in Marzeneb Kebele.
  - The fighting was initiated by combined units of the 14th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 206th Corps). Before dawn, the Fano forces reportedly conducted an offensive operation which led to a firefight lasting hours, during which the regime army persistently employed heavy weaponry.

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- According to reports, the regime troops suffered heavy casualties, with one Isuzu truck used to transport the deceased, while three ambulances and three patrols were seen transporting the wounded to medical facilities in Debre-Elias town.

### **Sinan Woreda**

- Between December 24th and 25th, firefights were conducted in Sinan Woreda.
  - On December 24th, the fighting was launched when Fano forces carried out an ambush against the regime army on a route from Debre-Markos city towards the Choke Mountains. The 24th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 206th Corps) reportedly carried out an ambush leading to a firefight which lasted for a few hours. Sources reported that the fighting took place in the Yeted and Yedeman areas, where Fano fighters fiercely resisted the regime's advance, disrupting the regime army's progress, which compelled them to enter Rebu-Gebeya town. According to reports at least 30 regime soldiers were killed during the operation.
  - The following day (December 25th), the regime army, reinforced by additional ground and mechanized forces, mobilized towards the area before dawn. Since early morning, Fano forces reportedly confronted the regime troops in the Weleke area of Nebir-Gedel. This confrontation was intense, involving a prolonged close-quarters firefight that led to casualties among combatants from both sides. According to reports, the regime troops were pushed out of the area while sustaining significant human and material losses.

### **Sedie Woreda**

- On December 24th, a firefight took place in the neighborhood of Afkara Kebele.

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- The fighting was reportedly initiated by the regime army, which departed from Sedie and moved towards Afkara Kebele. According to sources, the 54th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 201st Corps) confronted the regime troops to hinder their advancement. The firefight primarily took place in the Kesate-Mariam area, where Fano forces confronted the regime army for at least three hours. During that day’s confrontation, regime forces persistently fired artillery from Sedie, where indiscriminate mortar shelling reportedly targeted the Addis-Alem Primary School, causing considerable damage.
  - During this confrontation, sources reported that both sides suffered casualties, with at least 11 regime soldiers killed including military officers.

#### **Enarj-Enawga Woreda**

- On December 24th, a firefight took place in Diyateba Kebele. The engagement reportedly occurred between joint regime forces and local farmers who resisted regime troops attempting to disarm civilians. The confrontation lasted for a brief period and left four militia members critically wounded.

#### **Enemay Woreda**

- On December 25th, regime soldiers executed one civilian and injured two others in Bichena town. According to reports, the incident occurred in Kebele 04 at around 7 pm, when regime troops opened fire on three drivers (civilians) leaving one person killed, two others injured, and their bajaj vehicles destroyed.

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## West Gojjam Zone

### Dega-Damot Woreda

- Between December 22nd and 24th, intense fighting took place in various locations across Dega-Damot Woreda.
  - On December 22nd, Fano fighters engaged in a fierce confrontation with regime troops in the Sekela and Defer areas. The fighting began as regime troops mobilized to the area and in response, the Dega-Damot unit, part of the 99th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 109th Corps) conducted a counter-offensive. Sources indicate that Fano forces gained the upper hand, repelling the regime offensive after inflicting casualties on the soldiers.
  - The following day (December 23rd), fighting resumed in the Sekela area as regime forces received reinforcements and launched another offensive against Fano positions. Although the full extent of the losses remains unknown, regime troops reportedly withdrew from the area after suffering further casualties.
  - On December 24th, a firefight took place in Dama-Markos Kebele. Similar to previous incidents, the regime army initiated the confrontation by mobilizing from Feres-Bet town toward the area. This led to heavy combat involving machine gun fire and close-quarters fighting. According to sources, the Fano side suffered one confirmed death and a few injuries, while casualties on the regime side were described as numerous.
  - On the same day (December 24th), firefights took place in rural areas. Fighting was also conducted on the outskirts of Feres-Bet. Units from the 99th Division, reportedly launched an offensive against the regime presence in the Kidame-Gebeya area. During this operation, Fano fighters overwhelmed the

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regime troops, leading to their quick retreat from fortified positions.  
According to reports, the regime troops suffered several casualties.

### **Quarit Woreda**

- On December 23rd, fighting took place in various locations within Quarit Woreda.
  - The engagement was reportedly initiated by the regime army, which mobilized mechanized units and ground troops from neighboring bases. The regime army reportedly departed under the cover of night to conduct the operation, a unit under the 33rd Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 102nd Corps) then engaged the regime troops in a series of counteroffensives. The confrontations reportedly took place in the Leba-Gedel, Yemada, and Talia River area. Sources indicate that the firefight resulted in casualties on both sides, with a considerable number of casualties reported from the regime army.

### **Bure-Zuriya Woreda**

- On December 25th, tension escalated in the neighborhood of Derekua Kebele.
  - Since the night of December 24th, the regime army, departing from neighboring woredas, reportedly deployed large ground and mechanized forces towards the kebele. On December 25th, the regime army reportedly carried out a drone strike at pre-dawn in the Derekua area, with the resulting casualties remaining unreported. Following the drone strike, the regime army persisted with prolonged drone surveillance in Bure and other woredas in West Gojjam Zone.

### **Wemberima Woreda**

- On December 26th, fighting took place in Chirar Kebele.

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- The engagement was initiated by the regime army, which moved out from Quchi town in Bure-Zuriya Woreda toward Chirar. Regime troops reportedly mobilized toward this kebele before dawn at 4 am and in response units from the 88th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 109th Corps) engaged regime forces, disrupting a public meeting in Quchi.
  - According to reports, over 43 regime soldiers were killed and 27 others were wounded. The Fano forces also captured multiple firearms in the operation.

### **Jabi-Tehnan Woreda**

- On December 28th, intense fighting took place in Maksegnit town and its surroundings in Jabi-Tehnan Woreda.
  - The firefight was reportedly initiated by the regime army, which deployed large forces overnight from three directions including Genet-Abo, Jiga, and Finote-Selam, supported by heavy mechanized weapons, to launch an offensive at dawn. In response units from the 77th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 109th Corps) confronted the regime army in a counteroffensive. This confrontation was intense, characterized by close-quarters combat, the use of HMGs and shelling, and several hours of fighting from dawn until the late afternoon. Fano forces reportedly gained the upper hand during this engagement, with reports of numerous casualties suffered by the regime army. When the regime attempted to bring in reinforcements from Jiga, the Fano forces conducted an ambush, halting the movement. In the evening, regime troops reportedly withdrew from Maksegnit toward their points of departure, leaving behind several bodies.
  - According to reports, regime troops suffered over 40 casualties (including a captain and a company commander), while two fatalities were reported on the

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Fano side. In addition, one civilian was killed in gunfire by regime troops. Sources reported that six bodies of fallen regime soldiers were found the following day in the area of the confrontation, while the majority of injured personnel were transported in three vehicles toward Finote-Selam.

## **Awı Zone**

### **Jawı Woreda**

- On December 22nd, a firefight took place in the vicinity of Jahimala Kebele.
  - On that day, sources reported that the regime moved out from Fendika town toward Jahimala to deliver logistics. According to sources, Fano fighters conducted a surprise attack in the Selen-Wiha area. The attack was conducted by units under the 66th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 105th Corps). This ambush led to an exchange of gunfire that lasted for a brief period. Sources reported one confirmed death from the regime side during the firefight, while no casualties were reported among the Fano fighters. In a related incident, sources reported that a regime vehicle transporting soldiers and logistics overturned, leading to the deaths of numerous soldiers inside.
  - In total, at least 34 regime soldiers were killed, and over 20 sustained injuries ranging from minor to critical in severity. In addition, a Ural military vehicle, along with its loaded logistics, was completely destroyed. The Fano forces also targeted a crane vehicle brought by the regime forces to recover the damaged military vehicle, burning the crane and capturing its driver.

### **Wemberıma Woreda**

- On December 26th, fighting took place in Chırar Kebele.

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- The engagement was initiated by the regime army, which moved out from Quchi town in Bure-Zuriya Woreda toward Chirar. Regime troops reportedly mobilized toward this kebele before dawn at 4 am and in response units from the 88th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 109th Corps) engaged regime forces, disrupting a public meeting in Quchi.
  - According to reports, over 43 regime soldiers were killed and 27 others were wounded. The Fano forces also captured multiple firearms in the operation.

### **Guagusa-Shikudad Woreda**

- On December 26th, regime soldiers executed a civilian in Addisalem Kebele.
  - According to reports, the deceased civilian was a bajaj driver identified as Abebaw Andualem. While the exact reason for the killing has not yet been determined, reports indicate that regime soldiers halted his vehicle and shot him as he began work at dawn that day in Addisalem, located near Tilili town. In addition to the killing, the soldiers set fire to the victim’s vehicle.<sup>5</sup>

### **North Gojjam Zone**

#### **South Achefer Woreda**

- On December 25th, Fano forces reportedly conducted an ambush in the Dagsa-Abo area. This surprise operation was reportedly conducted by the 55th Division (Commando Unit) [operating under the AFNF-TC 105th Corps], which targeted regime forces transporting rations from Dilamo to Zihvst Kebele. According to reports, over 17 regime soldiers were killed and several others were wounded.

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<sup>5</sup>See December 26, 2025 [update](#) from Ashara Media.

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## **Northwestern Amhara (Gonder Subregion)**

### **South Gonder Zone**

#### **Tach-Gayint Woreda**

- On the night of December 23rd, regime forces initiated a covert deployment towards Aqeto Kebele.
  - The regime troops were stationed in Arb-Gebeya town and mobilized to conduct a surprise night offensive against units of the Gebriye Division (operating under the AFPO-AFGPC). In response, the Fano forces carried out a counter-offensive. The ensuing engagement was fierce and prolonged, lasting throughout the entire night and into the early hours of the following morning (December 24th). While specific casualty figures for either side were not confirmed, the regime joint forces were ultimately compelled to withdraw back to Arb-Gebeya.

#### **Farta Woreda**

- On the afternoon of December 25th, a series of intense and coordinated engagements erupted across multiple strategic locations within Farta Woreda.
  - At approximately 9 pm local time, units under the Wubante Abate Tewelwari Division (operating under the AFNF-BC), launched a surprise offensive against regime forces. This initial ambush rapidly escalated into a prolonged period of fierce close-quarters combat lasting for several hours. The epicenter of these hostilities spanned across various areas, including Mahdermaryam town and the adjacent Meteren, Emawetet, Nada, Chebba, and Dewa Kebeles. The concentrated and sustained Fano assault inflicted heavy casualties upon the regime forces. As the regime forces found themselves entrapped and under

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pressure from the Fano offensive, emergency reinforcement units were dispatched. These reinforcements were mobilized from surrounding regions, including Dera Woreda, Estie Woreda (specifically from Gindatemem), and Debre-Tabor city.

## **Central Gonder Zone**

### **West Belessa Woreda**

- On December 21st, intense fighting took place between Fano forces and regime forces in Wuzaba Kebele.
  - The engagement commenced following a deployment by regime forces, which had initiated their movement from Degoma town under the cover of darkness towards Wuzaba Kebele. In response, the Gondere-Begashaw Division (operating under the AFNF-BC), launched a counter-offensive operation. The ensuing confrontation was fierce and protracted, lasting approximately three hours. During this engagement, regime forces reportedly sustained heavy casualties. Overwhelmed and having suffered severe setbacks, the regime forces were compelled to withdraw from Wuzaba, retreating back to Degoma.

### **Chilga Woreda**

- On the morning of December 24th, Fano forces conducted an offensive against regime forces stationed in Chandiba town.
  - The offensive was conducted by the Begemidir Division (operating under the AFPO-AFGPC) on a temporary regime military encampment housing a composite force of regular army units, riot dispersal forces, and local militia. During the ensuing engagement, the regime joint forces suffered significant casualties. Following the offensive, the Fano forces withdrew from Chandiba.

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- According to sources, a substantial number of their personnel were killed, while many others sustained critical injuries and a multitude of minor physical wounds.

### **East Belessa Woreda**

- Since December 26th, protracted combat has been underway between Fano forces and regime units in East Belessa Woreda.
  - On the night of December 26th, regime forces were deployed to Qola-Hamusit Kebele under the cover of darkness to launch a surprise offensive against units under the Nisir-Belessa Division (operating under the AFNF-BC). In response, Fano forces carried out a counter-offensive which inflicted heavy casualties on the regime troops. According to reports, an entire regime company unit was reportedly killed. However, the Fano forces also sustained heavy casualties during this fighting.
  - The fighting continued unabated on December 27th and eventually subsided on December 28th, following the complete disbandment and rout of the regime forces in the area. During these days of continuous combat, reinforcement forces from Arbaya were reportedly deployed in an attempt to assist the embattled regime units. Despite these efforts, the Fano forces ultimately secured control of the area.

### **North Gonder Zone**

#### **Dabat Woreda**

- On December 23rd, intense hostilities erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in multiple areas of Dabat Woreda.

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- In this fighting, units of the Zeray and Gondere-Begashaw Divisions (operating under the AFNF-BC) launched a two-pronged offensive against regime troops in the woreda. The Shegaw Wubet Brigade under the Zeray Division initiated a direct offensive against regime forces in Qarha Kebele. According to reports, the majority of the regime personnel were either killed or sustained critical injuries during the engagement while the surviving regime forces were ultimately forced to retreat. They dispersed, seeking refuge in the nearby towns of Weqin and Dabat. In coordination, the Yitayew Brigade under the Gondere-Begashaw Division launched an offensive from another direction. As a result of the two-pronged offensive, regime forces suffered heavy casualties and were dislodged from strategic areas in the woreda.
  - On December 25th, a series of engagements took place between Fano forces and regime units across multiple fronts in Dabat Woreda.
    - A fierce confrontation erupted in Ajire-Janora (Qola-Wegera Subworeda), involving units from the Amoraw Wubneh Corps (operating under the AFNF-BC) and regime units which had been deployed from Dabat town in the afternoon. The hostilities commenced at approximately 10 pm local time, characterized by sustained exchanges supported by heavy weaponry, indicating a high-intensity engagement.
    - The situation in Qarha Kebele (located east of Dabat town), also saw renewed and heavy fighting on December 25th. This engagement followed a significant and particularly destructive encounter the previous day (December 24th) in the area. In the prior clash, the Zeray and Gondere-Begashaw Divisions (operating under the AFNF-BC) had launched a coordinated assault against regime forces. This earlier operation resulted in severe losses for the regime with reports indicating over 86 regime forces killed or sustaining physical injuries

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ranging from minor to critical in severity. Furthermore, the Fano forces seized a significant quantity of firearms during that engagement. On December 25th, regime forces again suffered heavy casualties during the renewed fighting in Qarha. In an attempt to regain the initiative and encircle the Fano forces, regime units deployed from both Dabat and Gedebye towns, attempted a clandestine maneuver under the cover of darkness. In response, the Fano forces conducted a counter-offensive operation. The regime joint forces were ultimately compelled to abandon their attempt and withdrew back to Gedebye and Dabat.

## **Welkai-Tegede-Setit Humera Zone**

### **Setit Humera Woreda**

- On December 22nd, significant public unrest was reported, initiated primarily by “*Werqegnoch*”, traditional gold miners operating within the zonal administration, in Humera city.
  - The miners had historically engaged in artisanal gold extraction across various locations, specifically in Adigoshu, Daktan, and areas extending into the Adebay Kebeles, all situated within the expansive Tekezze desert region. Their traditional methods of gold extraction and subsequent transaction had been a long-standing economic activity for these communities.
  - The catalyst for the widespread riot was a recent intervention by regime regular army forces, who, since December 18th, had been deployed to the Tekezze region and effectively halted mining activities of these youths. In direct protest against this cessation order, the *Werqegnoch* instigated a riot within Humera. The demonstrators engaged in acts of vandalism, including the destruction of building mirrors and targeting various business facilities

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across the urban landscape. As the protesting youths advanced towards Mesqel Square, a central area within the city, "peacekeeping forces" deployed by the regime responded with a barrage of indiscriminate gunfire directed at the crowd. This forceful suppression resulted in casualties among the protestors.

- As of December 23rd, two youths have been confirmed killed, while three others sustained critical injuries and were subsequently admitted to Humera Hospital for urgent medical treatment. Additionally, an unspecified number of individuals suffered minor physical injuries during the confrontation.
- Prior to their full-scale march into Humera, an attempt at de-escalation was made by Atalay Tafere, administrator of Setit Humera Woreda. He reportedly communicated with the rioters, offering assurances that they would be permitted to continue their gold extraction activities through lawful channels. However, these promises were met with rejection by the miners, who vehemently stated their demand to engage directly with the top officials of the zone concerning the enforced cessation of their livelihood.
- The broader context surrounding these gold miners is complex, with long-standing suspicions of their involvement in illicit gold transactions, reportedly including dealings with high-ranking former TPLF generals such as Migbey Haile. Conversely, it is also acknowledged that a segment of these miners has historically supplied gold to the National Bank of Ethiopia, indicating a mixed portfolio of their economic operations, both formal and informal.

## **Areas Outside Amhara Region**

- As of December 26th, reports have emerged alleging that authorities in Oromia Region are implementing practices aimed at forcibly assimilating non-Oromo

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communities through the traditional system known as Mogassa.

- According to sources, residents are reportedly compelled to submit written declarations recognizing an Aba Geda as their “*Yetut Abat*” (ritual father) and “*Yewotet Abat*”, and to formally pledge Oromo identity through Mogassa. Sources claim that individuals who refuse to comply are threatened with expulsion from the area by regional security forces. Reports indicate that this practice has recently been observed in the Wolenchiti area. Local residents allege that those who resist face severe consequences, including forced displacement, destruction of property, and, in some cases, killings.
- Additional reports suggest that members of the Rastafarian community have been fleeing Shashemene to neighboring African countries. These individuals reportedly migrated to Ethiopia 70 to 80 years ago, viewing the country as a sacred homeland. Traditionally, they express their identity through cultural symbols such as the green, yellow, and red colors, which they regard as symbols of freedom and spiritual connection. According to sources, they are now being pressured to adopt Geda-associated symbolic attire, which they perceive as an imposition on their religious and cultural identity. Members of the Rastafarian community have reportedly raised their concerns with federal offices; however, sources claim that no substantive response or protective measures have been taken. Observers interpret these developments as part of a broader pattern of imposing a singular Oromo identity on non-Oromo populations within the region.<sup>6</sup>
- Analysts and community representatives have further argued that such practices reflect a continuation of historical patterns of forced assimilation. Some have characterized the ongoing violence, displacement, and identity-based coercion in Oromia, particularly against Amhara communities,

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<sup>6</sup>See December 26, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

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as part of a broader pattern of mass atrocities. Citing previous studies and documentation, they contend that past massacres and widespread violence against Amhara populations in the region meet the threshold of genocide under international law. From this perspective, the reported imposition of identity through coercion and associated abuses is viewed as a continuation of these genocidal practices.

### **Addis-Ababa City**

- Between December 20th and 23rd, regime forces have conducted intensified mass arbitrary arrests targeting civilians, particularly youth and elderly individuals, in Addis-Ababa city.
  - Unlike previous arrest waves, the current operations targeted elderly civilians as well, marking a notable escalation in both scope and severity. The arrests reportedly intensified since December 20th and have been observed across multiple sub-cities, including Yeka, Bole, Kirkos, Kolfe-Keranyo, and Nifas-Silk. The whereabouts of the detainees remains unknown, raising serious concerns about enforced disappearance, denial of due process, and the safety of the affected individuals.
- As of December 26th, the OPP regime has begun implementing a civil service restructuring process that aims to dismiss approximately 40% of civil servants in Addis-Ababa city.
  - According to sources, those most affected by this measure are ethnic Amhara civil servants. The restructuring, commonly referred to as the “60/40 % *reconfiguration*” (*mititin*), has resulted in the dismissal of ethnic Amhara employees, including individuals with strong academic qualifications and long

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professional experience. Some affected civil servants reported that, instead of immediate dismissal, they were instructed to accept positions significantly below their previous ranks and responsibilities. In several public offices, however, the process has already escalated to outright termination of employment.<sup>7</sup>

- This development was further reinforced by recent remarks made by Adem Farah, Deputy President of the Prosperity Party, during an interview with Fana TV (state media). In his statement, he asserted that following the mititin restructuring, public institutions had become more “*like Ethiopia.*” Observers and affected communities have interpreted this remark to mean that the removal of ethnic Amhara civil servants was viewed by the ruling party as a means of making public offices more representative of the country - an interpretation that has raised serious concerns about ethnic discrimination.
- According to sources within the civil service, while ethnic Amhara employees have been demoted or dismissed, Oromo civil servants with comparatively lower academic credentials and limited professional experience have been promoted to senior positions. In many cases, highly qualified Amhara professionals have reportedly been placed under the supervision of less-qualified appointees or removed entirely from the public service. Observers note that since Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed assumed power, key state institutions at the federal level and within the city Administration have increasingly been dominated by individuals from a single ethnic group. The current civil service restructuring is viewed as a continuation of this broader pattern, extending ethnic-based exclusion into the wider public service sector.

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<sup>7</sup>See December 26, 2025 [report](#) from Meseret Media.

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## Jimma Zone (Oromia Region)

### Gera Woreda

- As of December 23rd, reports indicate that ethnic Amhara farmers have been subjected to systematic human rights violations in Guranfalo Kebele.
  - According to sources, abuses included mass arrests and property loss, associated with orders reportedly issued to ethnic Oromo merchants from local authorities instructing them not to pay Amhara farmers for agricultural products sold in local markets. Farmers report that after delivering their goods, primarily coffee, buyers have refused to make payments. The stated justification for withholding payment is the allegation that the money would be used to purchase military equipment or to support Fano forces. Merchants further claim that officials instructed them to register the names of Amhara farmers and delay or deny payment. As a result, numerous farmers who sold products valued between 700,000 and 2 million ETB have been denied payment, leaving them economically devastated.
  - In addition, mass arrests have been reported in Guranfalo following the closure of two main exit roads, effectively placing the area under siege by OSF. Reports also indicate that artillery shelling has occurred under what residents describe as a false pretext of targeting Fano presence in the area.<sup>8</sup> Sources warn that these actions form part of a campaign aimed at forcibly displacing ethnic Amhara residents from the area.

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<sup>8</sup>See December 23, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

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## East Wollega Zone (Oromia Region)

### Gida-Ayana Woreda

- On December 23rd, intense firefight took place in Andode-Dicho Kebele.
  - The engagement was reportedly launched by combined units of Wollega Fano (Bizamo) forces, which began their operation at dawn. According to sources, the confrontation took place across three specific fronts, where Fano forces overwhelmed regime soldiers on two of them. On the regime side, the Oromo Special Commando Force, known as the Geda Commando, was involved. On one front, regime troops reportedly fled and took shelter in a nearby church, where they continued to fire while confined within the building. The Fano forces, which refrained from firing toward the church, reportedly suffered casualties as a result. Sources reported at least four Fano fighters killed, and more than ten others sustained injuries ranging from minor to critical in severity.
  - On the other two fronts, Fano fighters inflicted considerable human and material losses. According to reports over 200 regime soldiers were killed and injured. Additionally, Fano forces reportedly captured small arms, HMGs, and various types of ammunition. Reports indicate that the fighting subsided when the ENDF arrived to assist the regional forces and rescue the encircled soldiers. In reprisal for the Fano attack, sources reported that regime troops burned and destroyed numerous residential homes, grain stores, and household equipment within Andode-Dicho.
- Since December 23rd, it has been reported that fighting and violence have escalated in various kebeles within Gida-Ayana Woreda.
  - These developments followed a large-scale military deployment by joint

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regime forces targeting locations predominantly inhabited by ethnic Amharas. Specifically, in Andode-Dicho Kebele, during a confrontation with Wollega Fano forces, it was reported that the regime army, particularly OSF commando units, suffered significant casualties and material losses.

- During this firefight and its aftermath, regime soldiers perpetrated retaliatory acts, including the killing of civilians and widespread property destruction. Between December 23rd and 27th, reports indicate at least 19 civilians were killed and several others were injured in these acts. The indiscriminate attacks targeted ethnic Amhara residents and were characterized as brutal including burning of residents while they were inside their homes and the use of firearms and bladed weapons. The material destruction in the area was also extensive; where OSF, reportedly resulted in the burning of 562 residential homes, grain warehouses, and small businesses. Transportation and agricultural materials were also targeted, with 29 motorcycles, three bajaj vehicles, and a maize-shelling combiner destroyed. Sources reported displacement of the majority of kebele residents, as security forces continue acts of killing and abductions targeting residents who remained in the area.

### **Limu-Gelila Woreda**

- Since the night of December 25th, the regime army deployed a large number of troops towards the Waja area. The deployment has led to tensions and displacement of residents from neighboring villages with fighting expected to commence. As of December 26th, tensions have continued to escalate in various woredas of East Wollega Zone, particularly in areas predominantly inhabited by ethnic Amhara residents.

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## About the Amhara Association of America (AAA)

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

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