



War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – February 2nd to 8th, 2026

Updated February 9th, 2026

Overview

For the week of February 2nd to 8th, 2026, 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.¹²

- This week battle events and rights violations were recorded in more than 35 woreda/city administrations across 13 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These zones included Wag-Hemra, North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, North Gojjam, Bahir-Dar, South Gonder, Central Gonder,

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 largely organized under a unified structure called the *Amhara Fano National Movement* (AFNM) organized under sub-regional commands based on geographic location which are comprised of divisions. The major sub-regional commands include the East Amhara Qetena - Menelik Command (MC), North Amhara Qetena - Belay Command (BC), West Amhara Qetena - Tewodrose Command (TC), South Amhara Qetena - Asaminew Command (AC), Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command (AFSPC), the Amhara Fano Gonder Province Command (AFGPC) and the Amhara Fano Wollo Bete-Amhara Province Command (AFWPC).

West Gonder and North Gonder Zones. In Zata Woreda of Wag-Hemra Zone, fighting occurred between Tigrayan factional forces. In Raya-Bala Woreda of North Wollo Zone, fighting took place between TPLF and regime security forces. Developments were also recorded in Horo-Guduru-Wollega and North Shewa Zones of Oromia Region.

- Civilian casualties were recorded in 7 woreda/city administrations across 6 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Wegdi, Debre-Markos, Quarit, Dembecha, Bahir-Dar-Zuriya, Bahir-Dar, and Gonder-Zuriya Woredas in South Wollo, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, North Gojjam, Bahir-Dar and Central Gonder Zones. Civilian casualties were also recorded in Guna and Abe-Dongoro Woredas of East Arsi and Horo-Guduru-Wollega Zones in Oromia Region implicating Oromia Region Commando Forces and *Oromo Liberation Army* (OLA) militants.
- Arrests were recorded in Meket, Wegdi, Tehuledere and Jabi-Tehnan Woredas of North Wollo, South Wollo and West Gojjam Zones of Amhara Region. Abductions were recorded in Efratana-Gidim Woreda of North Shewa Zone in Amhara Region involving regime allied forces including ethnic Oromo militants from the Oromo Special Zone in Amhara Region. In addition, abductions were recorded in Honqolo Woreda of East Arsi Zone in Oromia Region. In Alamata City of North Wollo Zone, *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF) forces carried out forced military conscription of youths.
- A deadly drone attack resulting in civilian casualties was conducted in Meket Woreda of North Wollo Zone in Amhara Region.
- This week, mobile and telecommunications blackouts were carried out in 24 woreda/city administrations across 5 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Wegdi, Jama, Kewet, Ankober, Menz/Menz-Mama-Midir, Tarmaber, Merhabete, Efratana-Gidim, Berehet, Minjar-Shenkora, Asagirt,

Hageremariam-Kesem, Enarj-Enawga, Enemay, Shebel-Berenta, Enbise-Sar-Midir, Goncha-Siso-Enese, Bibugn, Dejen, Jawi, Takusa, West Dembiya, Alefa, and Qwara Woredas in South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam, Central Gonder and West Gonder Zones. In addition, services were shutdown in Dera Woreda of North Shewa Zone in Oromia Region.

- This week, public demonstrations were held in Humera and Kobo cities of Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera and North Wollo Zones in Amhara Region condemning recent military incursions in surrounding areas by TPLF forces. In Kobo City, demonstrators included *internally displaced persons* (IDPs) from Alamata City, Raya-Alamata, Raya-Bala, Ofla, Zata and Korem City Woredas.
- This week, numerous political prisoners appeared in court in Addis-Ababa City. Among the individuals brought before court were religious figures and opposition figures accused under terrorism-related charges.

Northeastern Amhara (Wollo Bete-Amhara Subregion)

- Between January 31st and February 2nd, reports indicate a continued and intensified wave of defections from regime forces to Fano forces.
 - These defections reportedly involved members from different units and reflect an ongoing erosion of cohesion within regime security forces in multiple areas. According to reports, between January 31st and February 1st, five ENDF soldiers defected and joined the Maregu Temare Division (operating under the AFNM-MC Lasta-Asaminew Corps). The defecting soldiers were members of the 61st ENDF Division and upon joining the Fano forces, they reportedly brought military equipment with them including Kalashnikov rifles and ammunition, explosives, body armor and other supplies.

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- Similarly, on February 2nd, additional defections were reported in other operational areas. Seven ENDF soldiers defected and joined the Hawjano Division (operating under the AFNM-MC East Amhara Corps One). The defecting soldiers reportedly stated that they refused to “die to preserve the seat of the Prosperity Party regime” and emphasized that they would not fight against their fellow citizens. The defectors were identified as members drawn from multiple ENDF units, including the 2nd Regiment of the 802nd Division and the 4th Regiment of the 83rd Division under the 11th ENDF Command.

Wag-Hemra Zone

Zata Woreda

- On February 2nd, an internal armed confrontation among Tigrayan factional forces was reported in Zata Woreda.
 - According to reports, the fighting began at approximately 6 am and took place in multiple locations, including Dara and Beqada areas. The clashes were reportedly initiated by TPF forces, with the apparent objective of cutting and gaining control of the Korem–Alamata main road and exerting influence over Alamata City. Sources further indicated that hostilities extended beyond Zata Woreda, with additional fighting reported along the Wajirat front. The confrontation reportedly continued until midday, indicating a sustained engagement between the rival forces. As of the time of reporting, casualty figures remain unverified, and independent confirmation of losses on either side has not yet been obtained.

Gazgibla Woreda

- Between February 4th and 5th, intense fighting took place between Fano forces and regime security forces in Gazgibla Woreda.
 - According to reports, the confrontation began when regime forces attempted to encircle and suppress Fano units operating in the area. In response, units from the General Hailu Kebede Division (operating under the AFNM-MC Lasta-Asaminew Corps) engaged the advancing forces. Reports indicate that on February 4th, regime troops advanced from Lalkiw town toward Zew-Mariam Kebele, moving simultaneously from three different directions. During this advance, the regime forces reportedly employed heavy weaponry, including artillery, mortars, and hand grenades. The fighting remained intense and continuous until 12 pm on February 5th, indicating a prolonged and heavy engagement. The Fano later launched a counter-offensive, which disrupted the regime's coordinated advance. As a result, some regime units were reportedly forced into disarray, while others, particularly artillery units, were compelled to withdraw and retreat toward their original positions. According to reports, the clashes resulted in 23 regime soldiers killed and more than 30 wounded. In addition, the Fano reportedly captured military equipment, including nine Kalashnikov rifles, approximately 540 rounds of Kalashnikov ammunition, 16 hand grenades, seven chest armor vests, and five waist armor pieces.

North Wollo Zone

Meket Woreda

- On February 2nd, Fano forces carried out coordinated offensives against regime security forces in the Agrit area.

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- According to reports, the operations involved units under the Ras Anchim Brigade and Checheho Brigade (operating under the AFNM-MC and AFNM-AFGPC, respectively). The joint operation resulted in the killing of regime snipers and Bren LMG users, along with 39 infantry personnel. These reportedly included nine militia, 13 strike-force, and 17 ENDF personnel. On the Fano side, two fighters were confirmed killed. In addition, a quantity of Bren LMGs and other military equipment was reportedly captured by the Fano. The same sources indicated that regime forces subsequently transported their dead and wounded to Filakit town, while reports from the area suggested that fear and unrest spread among residents of Filakit following the fighting.
 - In the aftermath of the fighting, sources reported that regime security forces carried out mass arrests and intimidation of civilians in the Agrit Market. More than 100 youths were reportedly detained during market hours. Security forces also subjected civilians to beatings, harassment, and other forms of mistreatment, contributing to heightened fear among the local population.
 - On February 7th, regime forces conducted a drone strike in the Serko area (Kebele 011).
 - According to reports, the strike struck a civilian residential house. As a result, one young man was killed, while three other civilians sustained injuries of varying severity, ranging from minor to critical in severity. The attack also left numerous livestock killed, and at least six residential houses destroyed, further exacerbating the humanitarian impact on the local population.

Raya-Bala Woreda

- On February 2nd, fighting between TPLF forces and regime security forces reportedly continued in Bisober and surrounding areas of Raya-Bala Woreda.

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- According to reports, the regime has been conducting artillery shelling from positions located in Afar Region, targeting areas near the active frontlines. Sources further indicated that Afar regional forces have been placed on a heightened state of readiness and are reportedly prepared to engage TPLF forces.
 - In addition, on February 2nd, TPLF forces reportedly deployed additional troops to the Bisober front. At the same time, sources alleged that TPLF units have been positioning heavy weapons within or in close proximity to civilian residential areas. As a result, civilians have reportedly begun fleeing the area due to heightened security risks.
 - In parallel, sources reported an increase in disappearances among TPLF forces. Approximately 18 fighters reportedly disappeared on the Bisober front.

Kobo City

- On February 3rd, IDPs from Alamata City, Korem City, Raya-Alamata Woreda, Raya-Bala Woreda, Ofla Woreda, and surrounding areas held a public demonstration in Kobo City.
 - The protest was held in response to the recent invasion of these areas by TPLF forces. During the demonstration, participants strongly condemned the incursion, describing it as a continuation of the violence and insecurity that had previously forced them from their homes. The demonstrators emphasized that many of them were already displaced as a result of earlier TPLF military operations and expressed deep concern over the renewed threat to their safety and livelihoods. Furthermore, the protesters called on federal authorities and other relevant stakeholders to take immediate action to halt the invasion and ensure that their areas are administered under the Amhara Region. They also

demanded protection of their Amhara identity, which they stated has been repeatedly targeted during successive conflicts.

- The demonstration was carried out peacefully by IDPs currently residing in displacement camps in the city, most of whom were forcibly displaced following the latest TPLF incursion. The protest reflected both their frustration over continued displacement and their demand for security, recognition, and durable solutions.

Bugna Woreda

- On the night of February 2nd, regime forces reportedly carried out acts of looting against civilian property in Bugna Woreda.
 - According to reports, senior officials of the woreda Prosperity Party administration were involved in the confiscation of agricultural produce belonging to local residents. Among the victims was a 65-year-old resident (a father of seven) of Kebele 01/Ayina-Eyesus town. Over 13.5 quintals of wheat were forcibly seized from the household on allegations that he was a supporter of, or had ties with, Fano forces. No legal warrant or formal judicial process was reported in connection with the confiscation. Witnesses stated that the operation was carried out during nighttime hours and involved the coordinated removal of livestock, including cattle and donkeys, belonging to civilians. The action was allegedly organized under the supervision of the Woreda Militia Office and involved several local officials, including the Woreda Chief Administrator Getaye Kassaw; Wubet Genanu, Head of the Organization Sector; Shambel Asresse Molla, Head of the Peace and Security Department; Wuletaw Misge, Head of the Organization Sector; Colonel Zewdu, Head of the Militia Office; as well as other militia members. The looting of grain and livestock is expected to have severe consequences for the livelihood and food

security of victimized residents, further exacerbating vulnerability of civilians in the area.

Gubalafto Woreda

- On February 4th, Fano forces carried out a counter-offensive operation against regime forces in Jarsa town.
 - A counter-offensive was undertaken by units under the Asaminew Division (operating under the AFNM-MC East Amhara Corps One) after regime joint forces, which had departed from Woldia City, advanced toward Jarsa with a large number of infantry troops. In response to this advance, Fano forces engaged the attacking forces and successfully repelled the offensive, subsequently launching a counter-attack. According to reports, the confrontation resulted in significant casualties, with many regime soldiers reported killed or wounded.

Alamata City

- As of February 6th, TPLF militants have reportedly undertaken forced military conscription of youths in Alamata City and surrounding areas.
 - According to reports, this practice intensified following the occupation of the area. The militants posted names of targeted youths in streets, on buildings, and in other public places, ordering them to report for military service. Those targeted reportedly include individuals who were previously subjected to forced military training and participation during the northern war. The notices reportedly warn that failure to comply will result in forcible conscription. Sources further report that youths who are no longer present in the area due to forced displacement, migration, or other reasons have also been targeted. In

such cases, the militants threatened to conscript family members and sought information about the current whereabouts of the targeted individuals.

- In addition, residents expressed concern that the current phase of conscription is only the beginning, and that broader mass conscription is likely to follow once those already listed are taken. As a result, there are youths which reportedly joined the militants out of fear that their family members would otherwise be forcibly conscripted. Others have gone into hiding to avoid recruitment. At the same time, the militants are reported to have imposed strict movement restrictions. Routes that civilians might normally use to flee Alamata City and surrounding areas such as Raya-Alamata Woreda have reportedly been closed, severely affecting freedom of movement. Residents are allegedly prohibited from traveling from Alamata and surrounding areas toward Afar Region or Kobo City, effectively trapping civilians inside the area.
- It is recalled that residents of Alamata City and surrounding areas, including Raya-Alamata, Raya-Bala, Ofla, and Zata Woredas, as well as Korem City, who were previously forcibly displaced by the TPLF incursion and are currently residing in IDP camps in Kobo City, held demonstrations on February 3rd. The demonstrations condemned the invasion of their home areas and raised alarm over the risk of forced conscription.

Habru Woreda

- Between February 3rd and 4th, Fano forces carried out a successful counter-offensive against regime security forces in Habru Woreda.
 - According to reports, the confrontation began when regime forces launched an operation advancing simultaneously from five directions including from Gubisa toward Koleb, Chis-Abalima toward Silko, Girana toward Guba, Mersa

toward Habru, and Faji toward the same axis. In response, units under the Baleshiritu Division (operating under the AFNM-MC East Amhara Corps One) launched a counter-attack. On February 3rd, at approximately 7:30 pm, the Fano conducted a breakthrough at Meneyo-Kelina, inflicting significant casualties on the advancing regime forces. The clashes resulted in 50 regime soldiers killed and 78 others wounded. Fighting reportedly continued the following day (February 4th), beginning at around 6:30 am. The counter-operations reportedly caused heavy human and material losses to the regime forces, further weakening their positions in the area.

- Following these developments, regime forces detained over 450 youths, farmers, and daily wage laborers in the Silko area of Tehuledere Woreda. The detainees were reportedly taken to a training camp under the pretext of providing military training and “national protection.” Internal sources indicate that the regime intends to use these forcibly detained youths for propaganda purposes, including staging a documentary falsely claiming the capture of Fano fighters. Additionally, reports indicate that regime forces have intensified house-to-house searches, accompanied by beatings and intimidation, in an effort to forcibly disarm civilians accused of possessing private weapons. These actions have reportedly raised serious concerns regarding arbitrary detention, forced recruitment, and abuses against civilians in affected areas.

South Wollo Zone

Kelela Woreda

- On the morning of February 2nd, Fano forces carried out a planned ambush against regime security forces in Kelela Woreda. The operation was conducted at approximately 9 am by the units under the Aba Nadew Division (operating under

the AFNM-MC). The targeted regime forces were traveling along the route from Tirtira to Shafi when they were ambushed in the Tuliya area. According to reports, the ambush resulted in multiple casualties among the regime forces with at least one ENDF soldier and one militia confirmed killed.

- On February 3rd, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Kelela Woreda.
 - The confrontation formed part of a broader military engagement unfolding in surrounding areas. On the Fano side, the offensive was led by units from the Aba Nadew Division (operating under the AFNM-MC Nigus Mikael Ali Corps). The operation targeted advancing regime troops in Midir-Gebeya and Buso, located beyond Tirtira and Shafi towns. According to reports, the engagement resulted in significant casualties among regime forces, including militia, strike units and ENDF. The fighting reportedly forced the evacuation of numerous wounded soldiers to Wegdi and Dessie Hospitals and effectively disrupted and curtailed the regime’s planned military campaign in the area.
 - According to reports, more than 40 regime personnel were reportedly killed or injured during the clashes.

Wegdi Woreda

- Between February 3rd and 4th, intense armed clashes occurred between Fano forces and regime joint forces in Wegdi Woreda.
 - According to reports, the operation was led by the Deputy Commander of the 11th Command, Major General Zewdu Setarge, together with the Commander of the Airborne Commando Corps 2, Brigadier-General Mosisa Tolosa. The regime force was heavily equipped, deploying two artillery pieces, two 120-mm mortars, four ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, and more than 60 infantry

vehicles. The offensive aimed to advance from Wegdi toward neighboring areas of the Shewa Subregion, opening multiple battlefronts across Wegdi. In response, the Mebreq Division (operating under the AFNM-MC Nigus Mikael Ali Corps) launched a counter-offensive after regime forces attempted to push beyond Wegdi. During the ensuing confrontations, regime forces sought to regroup and conduct frontal counter-attacks from Ilala and Agamsa. These attempts, however, were met with strong resistance, resulting in heavy casualties and significant material losses for regime forces. Additional fierce fighting took place near the Belay Zeleke Fortress in the Shemene area, close to Sekoru town. Further engagements were also reported in Gorenj, Golele, and surrounding localities. In the two main battlefronts of Sekoru and Gorenj alone, more than 100 regime soldiers were killed and over 20 others were injured, in addition to the loss of military equipment.

- Separately, sources reported that during the course of the fighting in the woreda, regime security forces carried out arrests targeting local officials and civilians accused of providing information to Fano forces. Those reportedly arrested or abducted include Abiy Ayalew, Head of the woreda Prosperity Party Political Sector; Endalkachew Abi, Head of the woreda Audit Commission; an investor identified as Arebu Keyo; Tesfaye Jemal, a guard at Buna Bank; as well as several other civilians. These individuals were reportedly taken into custody on the same day.
- On February 5th, intense fighting between Fano forces and regime troops continued in Wegdi Woreda.
 - According to reports, the regime has been air-evacuating wounded and deceased military personnel from the battlefield using military helicopters. At approximately 11 am, a military helicopter landed in the Chaqata area, where

it reportedly evacuated a senior military commander wounded during the fighting, along with several injured line fighters and other military personnel, and transported them to Addis-Ababa City. In a related development, two additional military helicopters landed in Kombolcha City around midday. Sources confirmed that the helicopters loaded more than 47 wounded soldiers, including senior commanders and line fighters, before departing for Addis-Ababa. These repeated aerial evacuations indicate that ongoing clashes in Wegdi Woreda resulted in significant human and material casualties among regime forces, although losses were reported among Fano forces.

- On February 6th, regime forces carried out artillery shelling which led to significant civilian casualties in Wegdi Woreda.
 - This shelling occurred as fighting in the woreda entered its fourth consecutive day. The artillery shelling targeted civilian areas, resulting in more than 35 civilian casualties. The shelling is reported to have been carried out in retaliation for significant losses suffered by regime forces during ongoing clashes.
 - The fighting followed a large-scale military offensive launched by the regime under its 11th Command, led by General Admasu Alemu and General Zewdu Setarge, with the support of Republican Guard units. As part of this operation, regime forces reportedly imposed internet and mobile network shutdowns in several areas of Wegdi Woreda, restricting communications and access to information.
 - Regime forces encountered fierce resistance from units under the Mebreq Division (operating under the AFNM-MC Nigus Mikael Ali Corps). Reports indicate that the clashes resulted in heavy casualties among regime forces, including the killing of several high-ranking commanders whose identities

have not yet been confirmed. Hundreds of soldiers were reportedly killed or wounded, some with bodies and injured personnel transported by helicopter to Kombolcha and Addis-Ababa for evacuation and treatment.

- Amid this military setback, regime forces allegedly targeted civilian populations using heavy artillery. On February 6th, indiscriminate shelling struck multiple kebeles in Wegdi Woreda. In Kebele 016 of Gorenj, six members from a single family were killed when their home was struck. In Kebele 014 of Gorenj, an artillery round struck a residential house, killing a father instantly and leaving the mother and child seriously injured. In addition, more than 54 shells were fired in an apparent attempt to destroy a village. Beyond the loss of civilian lives, more than 40 houses were reportedly burned or destroyed by heavy weapons fire.
- Names of killed civilians were identified as follows:
 1. Alemu Getahun;
 2. Ahmed Derese;
 3. Atalay Mengesha;
 4. Abush Ashebir;
 5. Arebu Muhye;
 6. Ayelu Bushra; and
 7. Abraham Ashebir.

Southeastern Amhara (Shewa Subregion)

North Shewa Zone

- Between February 2nd and 5th, the regime has imposed a shutdown of mobile and internet services across several woredas and city administrations in North Shewa

Zone.

- The affected areas include areas in Kewet, Ankober, Menz-Mam-Midir, Molale, Tarmaber, Mezezo, Merhabete, and Efratana-Gidim Woredas, as well as their respective city administrations. The communications blackout has also extended to adjacent areas of North Shewa Zone within Oromia Region, further expanding the scope of the disruption.
- According to reports, the suspension of mobile and internet access appears to coincide with preparations for a region-wide regime military offensive across areas in North Shewa Zone and beyond. The shutdown has significantly restricted flow of information, disrupted civilian communication, and heightened concerns over access to emergency services and independent reporting amid escalating military operations.
- As of February 7th, the regime has continued the imposition of widespread shutdown of internet and mobile communication services across large parts of North Shewa Zone.
 - According to reports, the communication blackout has been implemented either fully or partially in the following areas: Berehet, Minjar-Shenkora, Kewwt, Asagirt, Hageremariam-Kessem, Ankober, Menz-Mama-Midir, Tarmaber, Efratana-Gidim, Merhabete, and Dera Woredas. The shutdown has significantly restricted the flow of information from these areas and limited residents' ability to communicate. Following the imposition of the blackout, the regime reportedly deployed additional commando forces, including units transported by helicopters. Sources further indicate that newly mobilized commando units have been moved by road and air to several locations, suggesting an escalation of military operations in the zone.

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- Despite these deployments, intense fighting has been ongoing in several parts of the zone. However, due to continued internet and mobile service disruptions, the extent of human and material losses, including civilian casualties, remains unverified. The communication blackout has hindered independent confirmation of developments and raises concerns over transparency and civilian protection.

Minjar-Shenkora Woreda

- On February 4th, Fano forces carried out an ambush operation against regime forces in Minjar-Shenkora Woreda.
 - The ambush targeted regime militia and police units that were moving toward Iranbuti Kebele in the Kobo area, reportedly with the intention of conducting mass arrests of civilians. In response to this movement, units under the Nebelbal Division (operating under the AFNM-AC Kessem Corps) conducted an ambush against the advancing forces. Following the ambush, allied Fano forces launched an additional attack on regime forces that attempted to expand their operational zone around Iranbuti Kebele and advance in multiple directions. As a result of this secondary engagement, regime forces were forced to retreat, halting further advances in the area.
 - According to reports, the operation resulted in more than 27 regime personnel reportedly killed, and an unspecified injured. Among the fatalities was Chief Zelalem Asnake.
- On February 7th, Fano forces carried out a coordinated operation against regime forces in Sekacho Kebele. The operation was conducted by units under the Nebelbalu Division (operating under the AFNM-AC Kessem Corps). The resulting casualties were unconfirmed.

Menz-Mam-Midir Woreda

- On February 5th, intense fighting erupted in areas surrounding Bash town.
 - The clashes were initiated by regime forces, including ENDF, allied militia, and strike forces, which advanced toward Bash from Molale along two separate routes. The reported objective of this movement was to seize control of Bash. In response, units under the AFNM-AFSPC launched a counter-offensive operation aimed at maintaining control of the town. Fighting reportedly continued for several hours and involved heavy engagements around the town's outskirts.
 - According to reports, both sides suffered losses in this engagement. The clashes occurred amid a communications blackout, as the regime had shut down mobile and internet services in the area.

Efratana-Gidim Woreda

- On February 4th, regime allied forces launched coordinated attacks on neighboring areas of Efratana-Gidim Woreda.
 - The attacks were undertaken by ethnic Oromo militias from the Oromo Special Zone in Amhara Region, and regime forces and took place in several locations, including Arso-Amba and Zembo Kebeles, causing widespread fear among local residents. Sources further indicated that when local farmers attempted to defend themselves and their property, regime security forces intervened and reportedly targeted the civilians under accusation they had ties with Fano forces. As a result, civilians reportedly sustained injuries and suffered damage to their homes and livelihoods. In Arso-Amba, Zembo, and surrounding kebeles, the regime is also accused of deliberately exacerbating

ethnic and religious tensions. Local reports suggest that these actions appear aimed at provoking intercommunal conflict, further destabilizing the area.

- The attacks reportedly left civilian communities exposed, vulnerable, and without effective protection. At the time of reporting, the exact number of civilian casualties remains unconfirmed. The situation continues to raise serious concerns regarding civilian safety and the potential escalation of violence in the woreda.³
- On February 6th, regime allied forces conducted mass killing and abduction of civilians in Efratana-Gidim Woreda.
 - Sources indicated that ethnic Oromo militants operating from the neighboring Oromo Special Zone in Amhara Region in coordination with ENDF, carried out coordinated attacks against civilian populations using heavy weapons. One of the deadliest incidents occurred in the Gimb and Arso-Amba areas of Zembo Kebele, where more than 14 farmers were reportedly killed in a single attack. In addition to those killed, sources reported that more than 45 civilians, including children, pregnant women, and elderly persons, were abducted during the assault. Eyewitnesses and residents who later fled the area stated that many of the abducted civilians were subsequently killed.
 - The bodies of the 14 farmers killed in Zembo Kebele were buried at a local church on February 7th, according to community members. Residents further reported that the attacks occurred amid a deliberate shutdown of internet, mobile network, and electricity services in the woreda, severely limiting access to information and emergency assistance.
 - Sources allege that the violence represents a retaliatory campaign following significant losses reportedly sustained by regime forces in recent operations

³See February 5, 2026 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

against Fano forces. As part of this response, Oromo militants were reportedly deployed from the special zone into Efratana-Gidim Woreda with logistical and operational support from the ENDF. Sources accused the ENDF of providing cover for the militias during the attacks, including assaults on farmers who were allegedly targeted under the pretext of being affiliated with Fano forces.⁴

- On February 8th, Fano forces carried out an offensive operation against regime forces in Fered-Wuha Kebele.
 - According to reports, the operation involved units under the Sebat-Leseba Division (operating under the AFNM-AC Atse Zera-Yacob Corps) which launched a coordinated attack on a regime military camp in the area. As a result of the operation, the Fano took control of the area. The assault reportedly resulted in casualties among regime forces with more than six regime personnel confirmed killed, and an unspecified number sustaining injuries. The killed were identified as militias Cherinet Adefris, Chalew Tilahun, Damtew Getu, along with three other unidentified individuals. In addition, the Fano reportedly seized multiple Kalashnikov rifles, ammunition, and other military equipment from the camp.

Shewa-Robit City

- Between February 7th and 8th, intense fighting was reported between Fano forces and regime forces in Shewa-Robit City.
 - According to reports, the clashes erupted after regime forces launched a nighttime operation in the area. The operation involved coordinated advances from three directions, namely Kobo, Tere, and Wekfile Kebeles, in an apparent

⁴See February 8, 2026 [statement](#) from the *Amhara Fano National Movement* (AFNM).

attempt to overwhelm the command through multi-directional pressure. In response, units under the Dejazmach Tessema Ergete, Aschalew Dessie and Berara Divisions, and the Qagn Naser Battalion (operating under the AFNM-AFSPC) carried out a coordinated counter-offensive. Heavy fighting reportedly took place in and around the Mengist area, where Fano forces engaged regime units and inflicted significant losses. The confrontation began at approximately 5 am on February 7th and continued throughout the day, extending into the next day (February 8th).

- Sources further reported that regime forces used helicopters to evacuate and collect their dead and wounded from the battlefield. However, the exact number and nature of casualties on both sides is unconfirmed.

Southwestern Amhara (Gojjam Subregion)

- Since February 2nd, telephone and internet services have been suspended across woredas in East Gojjam Zone. Reports indicate that the disruption affected Enarj-Enawga, Enemay, and Shebel-Berenta Woredas. Sources reported that the disruption encompassed all telecommunication services, with the exception of landline phones.
- On February 5th, sources reported that services were restored in most areas, though they remained subject to frequent interruptions at the time of reporting.

East Gojjam Zone

Debre-Markos City

- On February 3rd, an attack was conducted against a civilian in Debre-Markos City.
 - The attack took place in the evening targeting a local businessman and hotel

owner, while returning from his place of business. The victim was admitted to Debre-Markos Hospital for emergency medical treatment for critical injuries sustained during the incident.

- On February 4th, Fano forces conducted an operation within Debre-Markos City.
 - This operation was reportedly carried out by units under the 24th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 206th Corps). Reports indicate that Fano units infiltrated the city to target a key regime official identified as Beyene Getinet in the Aba-Bizuneh-Gurd area. Sources described Beyene as a high-ranking official within the regional Command Post who served as a trainer for militia and police units. The targeted official was confirmed killed in this operation.

Aneded Woreda

- On February 5th, Fano forces conducted an operation in Amber town.
 - This operation was reportedly conducted by units under the AFNM-TC 206th Corps. The Fano fighters which covertly entered the town overnight, targeted two key regime security personnel. During the operation, the Fano reported the capture of two regime individuals, identified as collaborators. Fano forces identified the captives as Fenta Abeneh, a heavy weaponry gunner, and Getaneh Yayeh, who was accused of providing intelligence and reconnaissance for regime military operations.⁵

West Gojjam Zone

Dembecha-Zuriya Woreda

- On February 2nd, heavy fighting took place in Dembecha town.

⁵See February 6, 2026 [report](#) from Ashara Media.

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- The firefight began when units from the 99th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps) launched a coordinated offensive within Dembecha. The operation targeted regime joint forces, including riot dispersal police and militias. The Fano covertly infiltrated regime-held areas overnight, conducting a sudden attack before dawn and engaging in an open firefight which continued until midday. The firefight reportedly expanded across the town and its outskirts, with engagements primarily taking place in Wad-Gomedi, the Dembecha Gula-Mado Union, and surroundings. The fighting was intense, involving HMG fire and close-quarters combat that lasted for several hours. Both regime and Fano forces employed mortar shelling, leading to reports of combatant and civilian casualties. In this operation, at least 15 regime soldiers were killed (with some estimates placing the casualty toll at 30) and several others were injured. Sources on the ground confirmed that one Fano member was killed and another was injured during the firefight, while casualties among regime soldiers were described as numerous. In addition to human casualties, Fano forces captured firearms, including at least eight Kalashnikov rifles and over 800 rounds of ammunition.
 - In a related development, regime forces carried out retaliatory acts against civilians. Regime troops targeted a public transportation vehicle traveling from Wad-Addisalem toward the Yezeleka area by firing a grenade. This attack reportedly resulted in the immediate deaths of at least four civilians and left more than ten others with injuries of varying severity.

Quarit Woreda

- On February 6th, Fano forces conducted an operation in Gebeze-Maryam town.
 - The Fano targeted a militia official during the evening in Quarit Woreda. This operation was reportedly conducted by units under the 33rd Division

(operating under the AFNM-TC 102nd Corps). The Fano covertly infiltrated the town located and inflicted fatal injuries on a militia organizer identified as Hamsa-Aleqa Aychew Mulualem during the encounter, who passed away later that night.

- In a separate development between February 6th and 7th, the regime army conducted a late-night raid in the Addis-Amba locality of Biterfo Kebele. The regime troops departed from Hamus-Gebeya Kebele (Dega-Damot Woreda) and mobilized toward this location. During this raid, reports indicated that the regime soldiers extrajudicially killed a civilian identified as Ato Yesegat Sinshaw.
- In another development in the same woreda, on the night of February 6th, regime forces reportedly abandoned their positions in Bir-Adama and retreated toward Gebeze-Maryam.

Wemberima Woreda

- Between February 5th and 6th, regime forces stationed in Shindi town of Wemberima Woreda mobilized toward neighboring rural areas. The regime troops entered the Arbagel area on February 5th. The regime troops proceeded to loot civilian property. Reports indicate they forcefully entered private residences, during which they looted a solar battery and jewellery from one household. In a separate home, they also confiscated a smartphone. The following day (February 6th), regime forces moved to Shambola, where they entered a home and seized 19,000 ETB in cash.

Dega-Damot Woreda

- On February 6th, fighting took place in the Dama-Markos area.

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- The engagement was reportedly initiated by regime forces when the army departed from Feres-Bet town and mobilized toward Dama-Markos overnight at approximately 10 pm. In response, units under the 99th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps) conducted a pre-emptive strike against regime forces leading to open confrontation, where the Fano overwhelmed the regime troops. According to reports, the Fano inflicted several casualties among the regime soldiers, forcing them to abandon Dama-Markos without retrieving the bodies of deceased soldiers. Subsequently, Fano forces reportedly pursued the retreating regime troops to Feres-Bet, resulting in further casualties among the regime soldiers.

Sekela Woreda

- On February 7th, a firefight took place in the locality connecting Quarit and Sekela Woredas.
 - The fighting began when Fano forces targeted regime forces moving from the Abesken area (Sekela Woreda) toward the Bir-Adama area (Quarit Woreda). The fire exchange reportedly started in Abesken, and Fano forces pursued the regime army, continuing assaults until the regime unit reached its destination. Despite the Fano attacks, the regime troops reportedly entered Bir-Adama, where they had been stationed a few days prior. According to reports, the regime soldiers sustained multiple casualties while the Fano seized numerous firearms.

Jabi-Tehnan Woreda

- On February 8th, Fano forces conducted a coordinated ambush in the vicinity of Finote-Selam City.

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- Fano fighters carried out this operation against regime forces traveling from Finote-Selam toward Jiga town, when the regime forces reached the Hodanishi locality in the morning at approximately 6 am. The operation was reportedly carried out by units under the 77th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 109th Corps). This sudden strike targeted a vehicle carrying regime soldiers, which Fano fighters attacked using gunfire and explosives leading to an exchange of fire.
 - During this operation, at least nine regime soldiers were killed, and more than 15 others were injured. In the aftermath of this operation, regime soldiers arbitrarily detained two young civilian men, claiming they had provided information to Fano fighters. The soldiers reportedly subjected them to physical suffering, severely beating them and threatening them with execution.

Awı Zone

Jawı Woreda

- On February 1st, regime forces reportedly withdrew from Werk-Meda town. The regime left the area after more than one year and a half. Following the withdrawal, units under the 66th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 105th Corps) entered the town. The Fano conducted a consultative meeting on February 3rd attended by residents from the area and neighboring Pawı Woreda.
- On February 6th, Fano forces conducted law enforcement operations in Jawı Woreda.
 - According to reports, the operations targeted an individual engaged in robbery and other criminal activities, identified as Ashenafi. The suspect was described as a regime mercenary and agent operating in Jawı and Pawı Zones. He was accused of committing atrocities and inflicting suffering on community

members under the auspices of state security operations. The operation was conducted by a unit under the 66th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 105th Corps). As a result of the operation, the suspect was reportedly killed, and his firearm (a sniper rifle) was seized.

North Gojjam Zone

Bahir-Dar-Zuriya Woreda

- On the afternoon of February 2nd, Fano forces conducted a surprise offensive in Bahir-Dar-Zuriya Woreda.
 - This operation was conducted by units under the 22nd Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 102nd Corps). On that day, regime forces were moving from Chimba town toward Bahir-Dar City to return large-scale forces that had been aerially deployed to the area. Fano forces, which had taken up ambush positions, conducted a surprise offensive targeting a military convoy consisting of seven patrol vehicles and additional transport trucks. The ambush took place at approximately 3 pm when the regime troops arrived in the Eri-Bekentu area of the Yidogi Kebele neighborhood. In this operation Fano forces reportedly inflicted significant personnel and material losses on the regime army.
- On February 3rd, a firefight took place in the Robit locality of Dehna-Maryam Kebele.
 - The engagement was reportedly initiated by units under the 22nd Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 102nd Corps). The ambush targeted regime forces traveling from Sequelet Kebele toward Bahir-Dar City. The Fano ambush led to a brief confrontation lasting approximately 30 minutes. According to reports, the engagement took place specifically near the Tihuan

Mountain range, resulting in several casualties among regime forces and the seizure of military equipment by Fano forces. After the brief confrontation, the regime forces retreated toward Bahir-Dar, transporting the bodies of deceased and injured combatants.

Among the identified combatant fatalities were: Takele Ejigu (militia leader), Alemu Mellese, Getenew Muche, Mulu Sendegh, and Aleman Tebere.

- On February 6th, regime soldiers reportedly killed a civilian and critically wounded another in Andasa Kebele.
 - According to reports, the deceased was a priest serving at the St. George Church who was killed during an attempt to rescue his son. Earlier, his son had reportedly been detained by regime soldiers. The priest had gone to a detention area to check on his son, who was being held by the regime forces. Upon witnessing a soldier stabbing his son, the priest attempted to intervene, but regime forces struck him in the head with a wooden club, resulting in his death. His son was severely wounded and is currently receiving medical treatment for his injuries.

South Achefer Woreda

- On February 4th, a firefight took place in the vicinity of Ashuda Kebele.
 - The engagement reportedly began when Fano forces targeted regime troops which had mobilized from Ashuda toward the Mamala area and stationed themselves on Mosabit Mountain. According to reports, units under the 55th Division (operating under the AFNM-TC 105th Corps) conducted a surprise offensive, leading to an open confrontation with regime reconnaissance and engineering units that had deployed to the location. Following the

engagement, regime forces were compelled to retreat, after which Fano forces entered Ashuda.

- During this clash, regime forces suffered over 15 fatalities, including a military officer, and several additional injuries.

Yilmana-Densa Woreda

- On February 6th, regime forces targeted a private residence accusing a civilian of supporting Fano forces in Yilmana-Densa Woreda.
 - The regime forces targeted the residence of a local priest (Priest Haymanot Gebeye) and church administrator (of Goshiye-Hana Church). The incident reportedly occurred at approximately 12 pm, during which regime forces set fire to the home and engaged in extensive looting. The destruction and theft included destruction of household furniture and over 100 quintals of grain; looting of ecclesiastical property including church artifacts and over 100,000 ETB in cash from a forced safe; and the theft of two high-yield cows and one bull, with the total estimated value of the looted property reaching approximately 700,000 ETB.⁶

Bahir-Dar City

- On February 3rd, regime soldiers extrajudicially killed Dr. Tsegahun Simie in Bahir-Dar City.
 - The deceased was reportedly a resident of Kebele 14 in Bahir-Dar City and an employee of the Amhara Region Health Bureau. According to reports, the late Dr. Simie was detained by regime forces on the morning of that day while commuting to work. After a search of his residence, he was taken to the

⁶See February 6, 2026 [update](#) from the AFNM-TC 102nd Corps 33rd Division.

Bezawit area where he was discovered deceased. His family members were contacted via the doctor's personal phone and told to collect his body.

- The Amhara Region Health Bureau confirmed the death of Dr. Simie, stating that he died in an unexpected accident.⁷

Northwestern Amhara (Gonder Subregion)

South Gonder Zone

- Since February 7th, regime forces reportedly withdrew completely from large parts of South Gonder Zone.
 - Reports indicate that regime troops pulled out of 18 towns and 13 woreda administrations, many of which hosted the regime's main military camps, and that Fano forces have moved in to regain control of those locations as the regime withdrew. Key woredas from which regime forces reportedly withdrew include:
 - * Ibnat;
 - * Mena-Megetewa;
 - * Andabet;
 - * Simada;
 - * Sede-Muja; and
 - * Tach-Gayint.
 - Towns where regime military camps were located and which are now reported to be under Fano control include:
 - * Ibnat town;

⁷See February 4, 2026 [statement](#) from the Amhara Region Health Bureau.

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- * Hamusit;
 - * Meqetewa;
 - * Ajja;
 - * Aysa;
 - * Arb-Gebeya;
 - * Wegeda; and
 - * Welela-Bahir.

Ibnat Woreda

- On February 3rd, Fano forces conducted a surprise offensive against regime forces in Ibnat Woreda.
 - The operation was conducted by units under the Etege Tehaytu Division (operating under the AFNM-AFGPC) as regime forces were in transit, moving from Ibnat town towards Debre-Tabor City. The Fano forces launched their ambush in Melo-Hamusit Kebele, a location presumably chosen for its advantageous terrain or strategic choke points. This unexpected assault caught the regime forces off guard, likely disrupting their formation and hindering their ability to mount an effective defense.
 - As a direct consequence of this surprise attack, the regime forces reportedly sustained heavy casualties.

Simada Woreda

- On February 8th, fierce fighting was reported between Fano forces and regime forces in Wegeda town.
 - According to reports, units under the Guna Division (operating under the AFNM-BC) launched a coordinated offensive while regime forces were in the

process of withdrawing from Simada, in Wegeda, administrative center of Simada Woreda. The engagement reportedly lasted about 12 hours, during which regime fighters sustained heavy casualties. Following the battle, Fano forces regained control of the woreda, and remaining regime militia and riot-dispersal units withdrew toward Sheref-Gode Mountain near Wegeda.

- In the aftermath, Fano authorities announced curfews across recaptured woredas, citing the need to safeguard peace and security. Militia and riot-dispersal personnel have begun surrendering to Fano forces under negotiated terms.

Central Gonder Zone

- As of February 8th, regime forces withdrew from several woredas across Central Gonder Zone. They abandoned positions in West Belessa, East Belessa, Kinfaz-Begela and Central Armachiho Woredas. Following these withdrawals, Fano units reported regaining control of those areas.

Gonder-Zuriya Woreda

- On February 2nd, a significant defection occurred impacting local power dynamics in Gonder-Zuriya Woreda.
 - Local peace and security militia head Jedaw Nigusse abandoned his post and aligned himself with Fano forces. The defecting official joined the Gondere-Begashaw Division (operating under the AFNM-BC). Furthermore, Jedaw was accompanied by two of his security personnel, suggesting a degree of trust and influence he held within his former unit. They brought with them military assets, including Kalashnikov rifles and a substantial supply of ammunition.

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- On February 6th, regime forces carried out an operation killing civilians in Dasmariam Kebele.
 - Among the victims were a local priest and three farmers. According to the regime’s account, the killings were linked to accusations that these civilians had provided intelligence to Fano, and that the authorities were unable to locate Fano elements in the area as a result.
 - Two days later (February 8th), Fano fighters launched a surprise ambush against regime troops in the neighbouring kebeles of Chinchaye and Qeha. The regime personnel were moving through the area when the attack occurred; more than ten regime fighters were reported killed and several others sustained critical injuries. Fano forces also captured two regime soldiers and seized their military equipment during the engagement.

Alefa Woreda

- On the morning of February 2nd, a significant and intense armed confrontation erupted in Gengen Kebele. This fierce fighting involved units under the Adwa Division (operating under the AFNM-BC) and regime forces. The engagement commenced in the early hours of the day and continued without interruption over a five-hour period.

Central Armachiho Woreda

- On February 3rd, Fano forces conducted an ambush against regime forces in Central Armachiho Woreda.
 - The operation was conducted by units of the Tekeze Division (operating under the AFNM-BC) targeting regime forces that were deploying from Maserodenb town, with the objective of launching an offensive attack against Fano

positions in Jarsuma Kebele however their advance was intercepted. The Fano forces ambushed the regime convoy at Shimel-Ber Got while they were en route. This surprise attack quickly escalated into a prolonged and brutal close-quarters battle, which reportedly lasted for several hours. As a result, the regime forces who had been dispatched to Jarsuma were unable to achieve their mission or return safely to their base. The vast majority were either killed or wounded during the engagement. Only a small contingent of regime forces managed to escape the ambush and retreat back to Maserodenb.

- On the regime side, 70 joint forces personnel were either killed or suffered physical injuries ranging from minor to critical in severity.

Takusa Woreda

- On the night of February 3rd, Fano forces launched a coordinated offensive against regime elements stationed in Chewdiba town.
 - The offensive was conducted by units of the Begemidir Division (operating under the AFNM-AFGPC). The attack on the regime's temporary military camp took place between approximately 5 and 10 pm local time. According to reports, the Fano fighters struck the camp with explosive munitions and sustained gunfire, turning the assault into a heavy night engagement. As a result of the surprise offensive, the regime forces suffered heavy casualties and were forced to abandon their encampment. Survivors withdrew from Chewdiba and fell back to Chandiba (Chilga Woreda). The initial raid therefore produced an immediate tactical effect: loss of the temporary camp and a disorderly retreat by regime units.
 - The following day (February 4th), the conflict continued. Fierce fighting erupted in the corridor between Chewdiba and Chandiba and spread into

Chandiba. Additional Fano units were involved in the battles around Chandiba. That engagement was intense and sustained, continuing throughout the day.

- On February 4th, fierce fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime forces in Gazge Kebele.
 - The clashes occurred primarily in the villages of Robu-Gebeya and Ereft, as regime forces, having been deployed from Liben town (North Achefer Woreda, North Gojjam Zone) to Gazge. In response, they were confronted by units under the Adwa Division (operating under the AFNM-BC). The engagement was intense and sustained, with the regime forces suffering significant losses as the battle unfolded in these border-area locations. During the conflict telecommunication services were reportedly disrupted across Takusa, West Dembiya, and Alefa Woredas.
 - According to reports, regime forces sustained casualties, including 35 killed and more than 38 wounded, while five were captured. In the course of the fighting, the Fano side reportedly seized 10 Kalashnikov rifles and over 3,000 rounds of ammunition. In addition to the combat-related outcomes, the Fano secured the release of more than 20 detained farmers.
- On the night of February 7th, Fano forces launched a coordinated offensive against the regime military camp in Chewdiba town.
 - The operation was conducted by units under the Begemidir Division (operating under the AFNM-AFGPC) overnight, catching stationed regime troops off guard and inflicting heavy casualties on them. Following the assault, Fano fighters succeeded in seizing control of the military camp and its immediate surroundings. The remaining regime personnel withdrew from Chewdiba and retreated toward Chandiba town (Chilga Woreda). This

engagement marked the second surprise strike against regime positions in the area within the span of a week.

East Dembiya Woreda

- On February 8th, intense clashes broke out between Fano forces and regime troops in Seqelt Kebele. Regime militia and riot-dispersal units had gone to Seqelt to assemble residents when they were attacked by units under the Begemidir Division (operating under the AFNM-AFGPC). The confrontation began early in the morning and was centered around Mequame-Maryam village.

West Gonder Zone

Qwara Woreda

- On February 2nd, fighting between Fano and regime forces continued near Gelego town. The fighting was carried out by units of the Karamara and Qwara-Omedla Divisions (operating under the AFNM-BC). The fierce fighting persisted until 12 am in the morning. Another intense engagement erupted in the area situated between Bemur and Abay-Dar Kebeles.
- On February 2nd, intense fighting took place between Fano forces and regime forces across multiple locations in Qwara Woreda.
 - The battlegrounds were identified as Doqmit, Bemur, Firshewa, Agam-Wiha, and Abay-Dar Kebeles, indicating a coordinated and extensive engagement across the region. The fighting involved units from the Karamara, Qwara-Omedla, and Fitawrari Gebeyew Divisions (operating under the AFNM-BC). The intensity of the fighting was further amplified by the reported use of heavy weapons by both sides.

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- During the morning phase of these widespread engagements, the regime forces reportedly sustained heavy casualties with 28 regime forces confirmed killed, and an additional 34 suffering physical injuries.
 - On February 5th, fierce fighting broke out between the Fano forces and regime forces in Gang Kebele.
 - The regime forces mobilized to the area in the afternoon, and in response units under the Karamara Division (operating under the AFNM-BC) mounted a decisive counter-offensive. The engagement in Gang Kebele, located along the Ethio-Sudan border, lasted about four hours, with heavy shelling and sustained gunfire on both sides. The regime forces endured heavy casualties in their attempt to encircle the Fano which held their ground, with reports of mass burials for regime casualties in Gang. By the end of the confrontation, the Fano had seized 12 Kalashnikov rifles and 650 rounds of ammunition. On the Fano side, there were four confirmed fatalities and five injuries.
 - Another battle unfolded around Abadigisu Kebele, involving the Fitawrari Gebayehu, Karamara, Adwa, and Qwara-Omedla Divisions (operating under the AFNM-BC). The regime forces, which moved from Farsheba Kebele toward Abadigisu, found themselves fully encircled by the Fano on all sides, and fighting continued throughout the night. The regime forces sustained heavy casualties in Abadigisu, with 36 confirmed killed and more than 45 wounded.
 - The fighting also extended to Barbas town, where the regime attempted to regain control but faced a counter-offensive by the Fano, resulting in further five fatalities and 12 critical injuries. After the encirclement at Barbas, regime forces retreated first to Abadigisu and then to Farsheba, again suffering heavy casualties. The regime forces deployed to Gang to attack the Fano forces

eventually retreated to Bemur Kebele in the face of the Fano assault. During the conflict, telecommunications were completely blocked in the area.

Metemma Woreda

- On the morning of February 2nd, a fierce and ongoing conflict erupted between Fano forces and regime troops in Forgena Kebele. The engagement is characterized by the heavy exchange of fire, with both sides employing DShK HMGs and mortars.

Adagn-Hager-Chaqa Woreda

- On February 5th, Fano forces conducted a surprise offensive against regime forces in the vicinity of Negade-Bahir.
 - The operation was carried out by units of the Fitawrari Gebayehu Division (operating under the AFNM-BC) against regime troops moving from Chilga Woreda toward Negade-Bahir. The regime column was intercepted while in transit and the assault overwhelmed the convoy's ability, disrupting their movements.
 - In this operation, five regime fighters were confirmed killed and eight more sustained critical injuries.

North Gonder Zone

Tegede Woreda

- On the morning of February 2nd, Fano forces launched a surprise offensive against regime forces in Enbaga Kebele.
 - The offensive was conducted by units of the Arbegnoch Division (operating under the AFNM-BC) and inflicted heavy casualties on the regime's side,

with reports confirming over 25 fatalities and an additional five injuries of critical severity. In addition to this, Fano forces also captured 14 regime soldiers with their full military equipment. Furthermore, the Fano fighters seized a substantial cache of weaponry, including Kalashnikov rifles, Bren LMGs, and a large quantity of ammunition.

Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zone

- On February 2nd, a large-scale anti-TPLF public demonstration took place in Humera City.
 - The streets were filled with protestors carrying placards that conveyed messages of resistance and national identity. One prominent slogan read, “*the Tigray republic could not be realized under the debris of Ethiopia,*” underscoring their rejection of separatist agendas that would dismantle the unity of the nation. Demonstrators emphatically reiterated that the zone is an integral and inseparable part of the Amhara Region, directly challenging and condemning the electoral board’s controversial decision to include the zonal administration under the jurisdiction of the Tigray Region. Amidst the calls for territorial integrity and self-determination, another stark placard simply read, “*no to slavery,*” highlighting the deep-seated fear of subjugation and the demand for fundamental human dignity and freedom from oppression.

Areas Outside Amhara Region

Addis-Ababa City

- On February 3rd, three religious figures accused of terrorism appeared before a court in Addis-Ababa City.

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- The defendants were identified as Priest Lisanework Tesfaw, Kesis Kebede Mitiku, and Merigeta Liyewkun Abera. During the court session, the accused presented their defense and called defense witnesses. The three defendants informed the court that they have been held at Kilinto Prison for more than one year without conviction.
 - In their statements, they firmly denied the terrorism charges brought against them. The accused emphasized that they serve their communities in religious and educational capacities and that their teachings focus on love, tolerance, and peaceful coexistence. They further stated that their arrest and prolonged detention were not based on any criminal acts, but rather on their ethnic identity and religious affiliation. Accordingly, they pleaded with the court to grant their release.
 - To support their defense, the defendants presented witnesses before the court. However, as not all defense witnesses were able to testify during the session, the court adjourned the hearing and scheduled the next session for March 11th.
- On February 5th, defendants in the cases of Dr. Wondwossen Assefa and the Honorable Yohannes Buayalew appeared before the Federal High Court (Lideta Division) in Addis-Ababa City.
 - Out of 23 defendants prosecuted under terrorism-related charges in the case of Dr. Wondwossen Assefa, six defendants were decided to be released after nearly three years of unjust imprisonment, while two defendants were granted parole. After multiple adjournments, the Federal High Court delivered its decision on February 5th, following a review of testimonies of prosecution witnesses, and arguments presented by both the prosecution and the defense during the plasma hearing. Accordingly, the court acquitted six defendants including artist Yordanos Aleme, Tesfaye Mekuria, Biset Terefe, Dawit Ebabu,

Masresha Eniyew, and Abraham Getinet.

- The court further announced that Article 3(2) of the Anti-Terrorism Proclamation, under which two defendants had been charged, was amended, where Dr. Sisay Awgichew, charge amended to Article 9(1) and Molaleng Sisay, terrorism charge removed and reclassified under an illegal weapons-related offense. The amended charges are to be filed for bail consideration, and the remaining defendants were ordered to present and examine their defense witnesses from June 3rd to 7th. The court also ruled that Colonel Fentahun Muhaba, who recently defected to the regime, will be tried in absentia.
- Defendants in the case of Hon. Yohannes Buayalew also appeared before the Constitutional and Terrorism Crimes Chamber of the Federal High Court on February 5th. The court scheduled the next hearing for February 18th, to review the written submissions, examine the prosecutor’s response regarding documentary evidence, and deliver a ruling. During previous hearings, members of the House of Representatives, Hon. Yohannes Buayalew, Hon. Christian Tadele, and Hon. Dr. Kassa Teshager, requested official letters and minutes from their respective institutions confirming their membership, claiming that it was procedurally improper. In contrast, the court approved petitions filed by Hon. Christian Tadele, and Merigetta Belay Adamu, seeking the return of vehicles seized from them, which the court determined were unrelated to the prosecutor’s case. The vehicles were confirmed as exhibits and subsequently returned to their owners. The court ordered that any documentary evidence proving that phone hacking was conducted by court order must be presented. If such evidence exists, the prosecutor must identify, list, and submit it in writing through the defense lawyers by February 11th. The prosecutor was also ordered to submit a written response by February 6th.

The court scheduled February 19th, to examine submissions from both parties and issue a ruling.

- Defendant Hon. Yohannes Buayalew questioned why a previous court order directing an investigation into human rights violations committed by Federal Police against the defendants and their families had not been implemented. He further asked who would be held accountable for attacks and insults targeting their Amhara identity, including threats by armed individuals. He requested that the investigation be continued. The court responded that it would consider the matter upon receiving a written application. During the exchange, Yohannes asked the judge, “*isn’t the paperwork too much for you?*”, prompting a brief moment of levity in the courtroom. The judge replied, “*it is not too much for us.*” It is worth recalling that several months earlier, the head of Kilinto Police Station, along with the station’s security and protection head, Ato Diriba Senbeta, reportedly insulted defendants as “*Kizenam Amhara*”, a derogatory term. Despite allegations of gross human rights violations against the defendants and their families, the court has not yet issued a specific investigative order identifying responsible legal authorities.
- On the same day, defendant Desyibel Shita also appeared before the court. The court ordered that his case proceed without amendment under Article 3(2) of the Anti-Terrorism Proclamation and scheduled February 23rd, for defense lawyers to present their arguments along with documentary evidence.⁸

⁸See February 5, 2026 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

North Shewa Zone (Oromia Region)

Dera Woreda

- On February 1st, civilians which had been abducted by regime-backed armed robbers were rescued in Dera Woreda.
 - According to reports, the abduction occurred at approximately 10 am when seven Oromo civilians, five women and two men, were traveling from Gundo-Meskel toward Addis-Ababa City. While en route, and believing the road to be safe, they were abducted in the Wonchit area by armed individuals described as robbers deployed by the regime. In response, units under the Atse Dawit Division (operating under the AFNM-AFSPC Atse Amde-Tsion Corps) launched a targeted rescue operation. The operation continued throughout the day and by 7 pm, Fano forces successfully freed all seven hostages without any physical harm inflicted on them by the kidnappers. During the course of the rescue mission, an armed exchange occurred between Fano fighters and the kidnappers. As a result, one of the kidnappers was killed.
 - Similar criminal acts had reportedly been committed in the area by the same group. The hostages were released to their family members on February 3rd. Upon their release, the freed civilians expressed their gratitude to the Fano forces for their efforts.

East Arsi Zone (Oromia Region)

Honqolo Woreda

- On February 1st, reports have emerged of abductions of civilians in Lemu-Leman Kebele. On this day, at least 13 members of the Gurayo-Egziabher-Ab Church were reportedly abducted by unidentified assailants. As of the time of reporting, only one

of the abducted individuals was released. Among those kidnapped was a child who was reportedly taken when the abductors were searching for his father.

Guna Woreda

- On February 2nd, residents reported that civilians were killed in the Aseko area.
 - The incident involved unidentified militants however, due to security concerns and difficulties in accessing the affected areas, sources indicated that they were unable to identify the exact number of victims or confirm their identities. Families of the victims have also reported the looting or seizure of property belonging to the abducted children and their families. Despite repeated appeals to local security forces to intervene and facilitate the return of the children's property, residents stated that no action has been taken. As a result, affected families remain in severe distress and uncertainty.⁹

Horo-Guduru-Wollega Zone (Oromia Region)

Abe-Dongoro Woreda

- On February 3rd, regime joint forces deployed toward Wubanchi Kebele. According to sources, the regime suspended network services while the army was deploying to the area. After entering the kebele, the regime soldiers fired at an elderly civilian farmer, resulting in his injury. After remaining in the area for five consecutive days, the regime troops reportedly withdrew from Wubanchi on February 7th and retreated toward Tulugana town.

⁹See February 4, 2026, [report](#) from Enat Party.

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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