



War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – January

5th to 11th, 2026

Updated January 14th, 2026

Overview

For the week of January 5th to 11th, 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 27 woreda/city administrations across 11 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These zones included Wag-Hemra, North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, Awi, South Gonder, Central Gonder, West Gonder and North

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

²The Fano are organized under sub-regional commands based on geographic location which are comprised of divisions. The major sub-regional commands operate under a consolidated structure known as the *Amhara Fano National Force* (AFNF) which includes the East Amhara Qetena - Menelik Command (MC), North Amhara Qetena - Belay Command (BC), West Amhara Qetena - Tewodrose Command (TC), 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).

Gonder Zones. Developments were also recorded in North Shewa Zone of Oromia Region and in Metekel Zone of Benishangul-Gumuz Region.

- Civilian casualties were recorded in 5 woreda/city administrations across 5 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Korem, Sede, Jabi-Tehnan, Jawi, and Debre-Tabor Woredas in North Wollo, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, Awi and South Gonder Zones. Civilian casualties were also recorded in Dangur Woreda of Metekel Zone in Benishangul-Gumuz Region, which implicated Gumuz militants.
- This week drone activity was reported across numerous woredas in southwestern Amhara, including the majority of woredas in West Gojjam and North Gojjam Zones, and several woredas in East Gojjam Zone.
- Arrests were recorded in Debre-Markos city in East Gojjam Zone in Amhara Region. Abduction incidents were recorded in Alamata city of North Wollo Zone in Amhara Region and in Were-Jarso Woreda of North Shewa Zone in Oromia Region.
- This week several international NGOs were suspended from operating in Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zone of Amhara Region following allegations of involvement in illegal activities including human trafficking and intelligence operations on behalf of the *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF).

Northeastern Amhara (Wollo Bete-Amhara Subregion)

- On January 6th, Fano forces launched *Operation Rambo* across multiple city/woreda administrations in South Wollo Zone.
 - Initial reports suggest significant strategic advances by Fano forces across multiple areas. The AFNF-MC deployed units under its Nigus Mikael Ali Corps, Lij Iyasu Corps, and Yedegaw-Mebreq Corps, along with the

command's Belago Tewelwari Battalion (special operations unit). These forces, together with units under the AFPO, conducted coordinated offensives across numerous woreda and urban centers throughout South Wollo Zone.

- According to initial reports, the following city/woreda administrations came under Fano control as a result of the operation: Jama, Kelela, Liguama, Debre-Zeyit; Genete (Legehida Woreda), Densa (Amhara-Sayint Woreda) Tenta and Ajibar. The Fano forces reportedly captured over 141 POWs and a substantial quantity of military assets, including military vehicles, HMGs, LMGs, sniper rifles, assault rifles and ammunition.
- On January 7th, Fano forces captured individuals identified as regime intelligence operatives.
 - The capture was undertaken by units under the Yedegaw-Mebreq Corps (operating under the AFNF-MC). According to reports, the operatives had disguised themselves in traditional dress and adopted local movement patterns in order to avoid suspicion. They reportedly infiltrated Estayish town under the pretext of participating in Christmas (Genna) celebrations. However the individuals were engaged in activities intended to carry out targeted attacks against members of the Amhara community. The report further states that three ENDF intelligence personnel entered areas under Fano control and were apprehended by Fano units before they could execute their plans. The captures were described as part of ongoing counter-intelligence and security measures implemented by Fano forces in response to heightened security threats during the holiday period.
- On January 8th, Fano forces announced an intensification in defections among regime forces.

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- According to sources, four ENDF members defected and joined the Baleshiritu Division (operating under the AFNF-MC East Amhara Corps One). The defectors were reportedly formerly assigned to the 11th Command (operating under the 104th Corps, 35th Division, 4th Battalion). Reports described the defections as part of a broader and ongoing trend affecting regime forces. The report further stated that the multi-front campaign to dismantle the regime, including military operations, has continued to intensify.
 - On January 9th, the Tsehafe-Tizaz Akilu Habtewold Political Officers Training Center announced the graduation of the second round of Political Officers in Western Wollo.
 - The AFNF-MC called for strengthened political mobilization in liberated areas, recruitment of new forces, protection of public institutions, organization of civil structures, and enhanced political engagement. The training program was described as part of broader preparatory efforts to build a competent, disciplined, and politically conscious force capable of implementing the command’s directives with knowledge and integrity.
 - Trainees who successfully passed the exit examination qualified for graduation. The training was delivered by experts assigned by the Education and Training Department and combined political and military components. The program aimed to ensure that political officers are competent in both political leadership and military affairs. The curriculum emphasized that the current struggle is a political struggle supported by armed resistance, requiring politics to guide the use of force. It stressed adherence to the principles of a just war, protection of civilian interests and dignity, leadership based on knowledge and truth, reform of financial and material support systems through transparency and accountability, and the creation of a political environment in

which civil administration can function independently. Over a two-week period, more than 20 public forums were conducted as part of the training.

- Participants received instruction on the meaning of politics, the role of government, citizen rights and freedoms, state-society relations and various other matters.
 - The command expressed its expectation that graduates, entrusted with safeguarding the people and nation, will apply the knowledge acquired at the center, act as problem solvers, and strengthen trust and engagement between the forces and the public.
- On January 11th, Fano forces announced the graduation of special commando cadets trained under its Special Operations Department following several months of intensive training.

Wag-Hemra Zone

Korem City

- On January 5th, suspected TPLF militants carried out deadly attacks on civilians in Korem city.
 - These incidents occurred amid escalating tensions linked to attempts to alter the existing structure of the EOTC administration in the area through the imposition of *Menbere-Selama*, a Tigrayan nationalist secessionist group. According to sources, a young man identified as Amare Alemayehu Arega, a hospital worker, was found dead in the Korefe-Tera area of Korem city. The circumstances surrounding his killing remain unclear, but sources attributed TPLF forces operating in the area. In a related incident, another civilian was found seriously wounded after reportedly being stabbed with a knife. The

victim, a former water development worker, sustained severe injuries and was referred to Maichew Hospital for medical treatment.

- Furthermore, reports indicate that TPLF forces have established a new Sebeka Gubae (Parish Council) in the area. This move is widely perceived as an effort to forcibly replace religious leaders affiliated with the EOTC with individuals aligned with Menbere-Selama. Sources describe this as part of a broader campaign of religious interference and repression, undermining the long-established religious institutions and practices of the community.

Dehana Woreda

- On January 11th, an intense armed confrontation took place between Fano forces and regime security forces in Dehana Woreda.
 - The fighting erupted after regime militia and police units advanced from Amdework town. In response, units under the Wagshum Brigade (operating under the AFNF-MC Lasta Asaminew Corps) launched a counter-offensive operation against the approaching forces in the Abam-Abo. According to reports, the battle began at approximately 8 am and continued until around 2:30 pm. The confrontation reportedly resulted in 20 militia and police personnel killed and 15 others captured. In addition, the Fano forces seized a significant quantity of firearms.

North Wollo Zone

Gubalafto Woreda

- On January 3rd, Fano forces reportedly achieved decisive military victories against regime forces in Gubalafto Woreda.

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- The fighting involved units under the Asaminew and Zobel-Amba Divisions (operating under the AFNF-MC) and took place near Woldia city, administrative center of North Wollo Zone. According to sources, the operation resulted in the destruction and burning of a regime anti-aircraft gun (ZU-23), but also in the defeat of an entire battalion of regime forces.
 - This battalion was reportedly rendered combat-ineffective due to significant casualties, including deaths, injuries, and captures. During the engagement, Fano forces allegedly captured 15 regime soldiers, among them the commander of the ZU-23 unit and several other officers. In addition to personnel, the operation led to the seizure of substantial military equipment including firearms, ammunition, and assorted military supplies.

Alamata City

- On January 6th, TPLF forces have continued abductions targeting religious leaders in Alamata city.
 - According close with the EOTC Raya Diocese, a church servant at Debre-Medhanit-Eyesus Cathedral, Deacon Yakob Woldesenbet, was abducted at approximately 8:35 am. The incident reportedly occurred in the vicinity of the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia (Kebele 02) after which he was taken to an unknown location. Sources indicate that the abduction of clergy and religious educators has intensified in Alamata city and its surroundings, occurring in a sustained and systematic manner. These incidents have generated growing fear among religious communities and raised serious concerns regarding freedom of religion, personal security, and the protection of civilians.
 - Residents and local monitors have repeatedly called for urgent attention and intervention by relevant human rights bodies, religious institutions, and other

national and international stakeholders to investigate these incidents, ensure accountability, and secure the safe release of those abducted.

- On January 8th, TPLF forces have reportedly continued abductions of civilians in Alamata city.
 - According to residents, on the morning of the incident, armed individuals abducted a young man identified as Fitsum Reda from within the city. Witnesses reported that the victim was physically assaulted and beaten during the abduction, raising serious concerns regarding his safety and well-being.
 - That night, the TPLF forces abducted a young man identified as Zinabu Gebeyaw. The militants reportedly went to his residence and took him away under the pretext that he was required for questioning. Since his abduction, his whereabouts remain unknown, raising serious concerns regarding his safety and well-being.
 - Residents further expressed strong condemnation of the command post stationed in Alamata, accusing it of failing to provide protection for civilian population. Community members allege that security forces have been either unwilling or unable to prevent recurrent killings, arrests, and abductions local residents by the militants.
- On the night of January 10th (extending into the early January 11th), churches in Alamata city remained closed, and Sunday Holy Mass (Kidassie) was not conducted.
 - According to reports, no clergy or worshippers reportedly attended church services, marking what sources described as an unprecedented occurrence in the city. According to multiple sources, nearly all seven churches in Alamata were closed, and the local population abstained from Sunday worship. This

development was reportedly triggered by the intervention of the Tigrayan settler administration, in coordination with members of the Menbere-Selama.

- Sources stated that members of Menbere-Selama entered church compounds and attempted to impose the conduct of religious services in the Tigrigna language, prompting resistance from clergy and worshippers. These actions reportedly occurred amid ongoing incidents of abduction and looting targeting religious leaders affiliated with the EOTC Raya Diocese, further heightening fear and insecurity. As a result of the forced intervention, church authorities and congregants reportedly chose to close churches and refrain from attending services to avoid confrontation. Community members expressed deep distress and sadness, emphasizing that the closure of churches and the absence of worshippers on a Sunday is without precedent in the area.

Lasta Woreda

- On January 9th, heavy fighting was reported between Fano and regime forces in Lasta Woreda, while public consultations were held in various localities.
 - According to reports, the confrontation began when regime forces, originating from Bilbala town, launched a coordinated military operation advancing in three separate directions such as Zora, Arbaratu-Ensessa, and Amora-Ber. In response units under the Maregu Temare Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Lasta Asaminew Corps) initiated a counter-offensive extending from Bilbala toward the Yimrahane area. The fighting reportedly lasted for approximately two hours, between 6 and 8 pm, and involved intense armed clashes. Following sustained pressure from the counter-attack, regime forces were forced to retreat, withdrawing back toward their point of origin in Bilbala
 - As a result of the counter-offensive, 25 regime soldiers were killed, while 13

others were wounded. In addition, Fano forces reportedly seized numerous Kalashnikov rifles and some ammunition.

- On January 10th, Fano forces undertook public consultations in numerous parts of Lasta Woreda.
 - According to reports, a community discussion was held by the AFNF-MC with residents of Dibko Kebele. The consultation addressed several key thematic areas, including core political and security issues; the current stature of the regime (assessed in terms of military capacity, political legitimacy, and diplomatic standing); self-governance and community security, focusing on the roles of elders, peace committees and youth responsibilities.
 - During the meeting the Lasta Woreda Interim Administration formally confirmed and appointed civil leadership structures at kebele and got levels. This included the reaffirmation of some previously serving administrators and the appointment of new leaders. Community representatives reportedly welcomed the newly appointed kebele and got leaders, expressing satisfaction with the changes.

Dawunt Woreda

- On January 9th, Fano forces carried out an offensive against regime forces in Kurba town.
 - According to reports, the operation began at approximately 6 pm, when units under the Yedegaw-Mebreq Corps (operating under the AFNF-MC) entered and penetrated Kurba, administrative center of Dawunt Woreda, launching coordinated attacks against regime positions. During the course of the operation, Fano forces reportedly advanced into several key locations within the town, including the police station, Moqat, Kidane-Mihret, and Menehariya

areas. In response to the offensive, regime forces reportedly conducted indiscriminate artillery shelling, which allegedly targeted civilian areas.

- The fighting resulted in significant casualties among regime forces. In addition, numerous regime militias and affiliated forces defected or were captured by Fano fighters.

South Wollo Zone

Amhara-Sayint Woreda

- On the night of January 4th (extending into the early morning hours of January 5th), Fano forces conducted an offensive operation against regime forces stationed in Ajibar town.
 - According to reports, the operation was carried out by units under the Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Ali Corps) which infiltrated Ajibar under the cover of darkness and launched a surprise attack on a regime military camp in the Nehor-Meda area. During the operation, the regime camp was reportedly destroyed with numerous regime personnel killed or wounded leading to an influx of injured regime soldiers admitted to Sayint-Ajibar Primary Hospital for treatment.

Legambo Woreda

- On January 5th, Fano forces reportedly carried out an ambush against joint regime forces near Genete town.
 - According to reported, units under the Aba Nadew Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Ali Corps) targeted units under the 45th Division (operating under the ENDF North-East Command's 801st Corps), and were

operating jointly with strike force, regular police, and paramilitary commando units. These combined forces were reportedly traveling in vehicles with the objective of enforcing compulsory land tax collection from residents of three kebeles in the area. The ambush was reportedly conducted through a shelling attack as the convoy moved along a route close to Genete and resulting in significant casualties. Initial reports indicate at least three regime personnel killed and five others wounded in the attack.

- On January 6th, Fano forces conducted an ambush targeting regime forces near Genete town.
 - The offensive targeted a moving regime security vehicle. Following the ambush, regime forces reportedly responded with artillery shelling in and around the area. The shelling raised concerns over potential civilian harm, given the proximity of the incident to populated locations.

Mekdela Woreda

- On January 6th, Fano forces conducted an offensive against regime forces in Mekdela Woreda.
 - As a result of this offensive multiple towns and strategic locations across the woreda reportedly fell under the control of Fano forces (operating under the AFNF-MC). Among the towns captured were Masha, administrative center of Mekdela Woreda, as well as Koreb and Debrezeyit. According to sources, regime military camps stationed in these areas were overrun and came under Fano control. By approximately 4 am, most parts of the woreda were reportedly under Fano control, and fighting continued until around 11 am. Over seven regime military vehicles were captured during the clashes and subsequently put to use by Fano forces. In Masha, two police stations located

around the Piassa area were reportedly set on fire and destroyed. Following the offensive, regime forces withdrew from the town, dispersing toward remote rural areas in an attempt to seek protection and evade further attacks. In Genatit, witnesses reported that a military outpost previously used by regime militia units was destroyed by Fano forces.

- According to reports, at least 22 regime security personnel were killed (including 14 militia members, six ENDF soldiers, and two strike force members) during the clashes. However, the true number of casualties is expected to increase as numerous burial sites have reportedly been discovered in surrounding rural areas.
- On January 7th, bodies belonging to regime forces were discovered in Masha town.
 - The operation had been undertaken the previous day (January 6th) by units under the AFNF-MC.
 - According to sources, a total of eight additional regime soldiers were found dead, including seven militia members and one police officer. The bodies were reportedly discovered buried in the aftermath of the clashes, further indicating the scale of losses sustained by regime forces during recent fighting.
 - Reports also indicated destruction of three residential houses and civilian properties as a result of the regime’s indiscriminate artillery shelling during the confrontations, raising concerns over civilian harm and damage to private property. The number of discovered casualties among regime forces is expected to increase, as search and recovery efforts remain ongoing.

Mehal-Sayint Woreda

- Between January 5th and 6th, fighting was reported between Fano and regime forces in the Didicha area.

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- The fighting was conducted by the Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Ali Corps) near Densa town. According to reports, the operation targeted regime forces that were moving through the area in two separate patrol units. The Fano forces reportedly launched a coordinated attack that resulted in the complete destruction of both patrols and the deaths of their occupants.

Tenta Woreda

- On January 6th, Fano forces launched offensives targeting regime positions in multiple strategic locations across Tenta Woreda.
 - The offensives resulted in the capture of major towns and the seizure of significant military equipment from regime forces. The offensive initially focused on securing key strategic areas, including Chacha, Guna, and the Beshilo corridor, and later spreading to urban centers including Ajibar town, administrative center of Tenta Woreda. Subsequently, intense fighting was reported in Tenta, where clashes continued for several hours. According to sources, Fano forces gained full control of the town at approximately 10 am, including the capture of a heavily fortified regime military stronghold. With the fall of this position, Ajibar, Tenta, and Tenta-Mikael reportedly came under full control of Fano forces.
 - According to initial reports, at least 106 regime forces were killed or injured during the clashes, including 51 ENDF soldiers, 35 militia members, and 20 police personnel. Additional accounts reported dozens of fresh burial sites believed to belong to fallen regime forces, suggesting that casualty figures may increase. Fano forces also reportedly captured substantial military equipment during the operation, including Kalashnikov rifles, Bren LMGs, large quantities of ammunition sufficient, as well as additional explosives and

armaments. Furthermore, a number of regime forces were captured, while others reportedly fled toward Gimba to escape the fighting.

Kelela Woreda

- On January 6th, Fano forces launched offensives across several locations in Kelela Woreda.
 - The offensive resulted in intense armed confrontations, particularly in and around Kelela town. According to sources, heavy fighting erupted in the early morning hours. During the initial phase of the engagement, Fano forces reportedly gained control over large parts of Kelela town. However, they later withdrew from the town after inflicting significant human and material casualties on the regime forces.
 - Kelela Woreda Prosperity Party offices issued official condolence messages for regime officials who were reportedly killed during the fighting. As of the time of this report, the statements of condolence acknowledged the deaths of Ato Aminu Ahmed Hagos, Treasurer of the Woreda Treasury Office and Ato Ali Ahmed Yesuf, Head of the Woreda Civil Service and Human Resources Development Office.³⁴ Sources suggest that additional casualties among regime forces may have occurred.

Legehida Woreda

- On January 6th, Fano forces launched offensives across multiple locations in Legehida Woreda.

³See January 7, 2026 [statement](#) regarding the passing of Ato Aminu Ahmed Hagos from Kelela Woreda Communication Affairs.

⁴See January 7, 2026 [statement](#) regarding the passing of Ato Ali Ahmed Yesuf from Kelela Woreda Communication Affairs.

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- According to reports, the offensives led to heavy fighting particularly in the Liguama and Woyinamba areas. During these engagements, units under the AFNF-MC reportedly gained control over both localities. As a result of the fighting, regime militia and strike force camps in these areas were captured and brought under the control of Fano forces. At the time of reporting, the nature and scale of human and material casualties remain unverified.

Degolo City

- On January 6th, intense armed clashes erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Degolo city.
 - The fighting took place in the early morning hours, beginning at approximately 5 am and continuing until around 8 am. The fighting involved units under the AFNF-MC. According to reports, the clashes were concentrated in several key locations within the city. These areas reportedly witnessed heavy exchanges of fire. Preliminary reports suggest that Fano forces were able to gain control over large parts of the city during the course of the fighting. However, the situation on the ground remains fluid.

Ambassel Woreda

- As of January 11th, regime forces have continued to detain more than 30 civilians in inhumane conditions in Wuchale town.
 - According to sources, the detainees, who include traditional leaders, community activists, religious leaders, and other influential community members, were confined together in a single, small room, under conditions described as degrading and inhuman. Sources emphasized that the individuals were not arrested on criminal grounds. Rather, their detention reportedly

followed their refusal to comply with demands by regime forces to engage in false propaganda and defamation against Fano forces during a meeting previously convened by local authorities. The arrests were reportedly carried out and enforced by local administrative officials.

- Sources further indicated that regime forces have prevented families from visiting the detainees, in violation of international human rights standards, including the right to family contact and information regarding the conditions of detention. As a result, relatives have been unable to verify the health and well-being of those detained. At the time of reporting, the detainees had been held for more than fifteen days without access to family visits or transparent legal procedures, raising serious concerns regarding arbitrary detention and ill-treatment.

Hayk City

- On January 11th, reports indicated that regime officials were involved in actions perceived as supporting religious factions while marginalizing others within the Muslim community in Hayk city.
 - According to the report, regime security forces and civil administration officials were allegedly working to take control of an established and historically recognized mosque from the long-established Muslim community and transfer its administration to Wahhabi-affiliated followers. This intervention reportedly heightened existing religious tensions within the community. Sources further indicated that regime security forces, including ENDF, police, special strike forces, and militias, were actively involved in enforcing or facilitating these actions, thereby exacerbating the situation. Specific officials, identified by sources were Commander Mohammed, Commander Kindu, and Hayk City Mayor Ato Kedir, were publicly criticized

and condemned by community members for their alleged role in intervening in religious affairs.

- In response, local residents and Muslim community members reportedly called for the respect of religious freedom and urged regime authorities to refrain from interference in religious institutions and practices. Community representatives emphasized the need for the state to uphold secular principles and ensure the equal treatment of all religious groups.⁵

Southeastern Amhara (Shewa Subregion)

North Shewa Zone

Minjar-Shenkora Woreda

- On the night of January 4th, Fano forces conducted a coordinated nighttime operation against regime forces in Balchi town.
 - According to sources, the attack was conducted by units under the Nebelbal Division (operating under the AFNF-AC Kessem Corps). The targeted regime forces were reportedly mobilizing and traveling at night however before they were able to launch their planned operation, Fano units reportedly initiated a pre-emptive attack at approximately 10:35 pm. The assault resulted in multiple regime personnel killed or wounded.

Southwestern Amhara (Gojjam Subregion)

- Between January 7th and 8th, the regime conducted extensive drone surveillance over vast areas. This reconnaissance reportedly encompassed a few woredas in East

⁵See January 11, 2026 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

Gojjam Zone and the majority of woredas in West Gojjam and North Gojjam Zones, although no drone strikes were confirmed to have occurred.

- Fano forces operating in the Gojjam Subregion announced it has completed military reorganization and structural improvements following months of reforms.
- According to the AFNF-TC, following the completion of organizational restructuring of the military command, they stated that Fano forces in this subregion have been organized into a more formal military hierarchy, including five corps, 15 ground force divisions, and one commando division, along with various battalions. The Fano forces report this restructuring has already led to military gains, including the capture of mechanized weapons and heavy artillery from regime forces.
- The Fano also announced the creation of an interim administrative structure at every local level to establish a functioning civil administration in the areas they control, clearly separating military duties from public administration.
- On January 11th, units under the 109th Corps (operating under the AFNF-TC) reported the successful completion of an operation to neutralize criminal elements.
 - Fano forces stated that the mission targeted groups and individuals which had been carrying out attacks and predatory crimes against the local population under the guise of Fano. These groups were accused of establishing illegal checkpoints along the main road from Amanuel to Bure-Shindi to rob travellers and merchants, abduct drivers for ransom, and looting millions of birr. The operation spanned Jiga, Wan-Gedam, and Bir-Sheleko, to target these elements. During this operation, Fano forces arrested several individuals, while others reportedly surrendered to the regime army or were killed in confrontations.

East Gojjam Zone

Debre-Markos City

- On January 8th, Fano forces launched an operation on the outskirts of Debre-Markos city.
 - This operation was reportedly carried out by units under the 206th Corps (operating under the AFNF-TC) which conducted a targeted explosive detonation on the night of January 7th (extending into the early morning hours of January 8th), approximately between 8-9 am. The assault reportedly targeted a regime vehicle (an Obama model truck) while it was transporting militia and riot dispersal forces from Gotera toward the Wonka area.
 - According to reports, at least seven personnel were killed and nine others sustained critical injuries and were subsequently transported to Debre-Markos Hospital.

- On the night of January 10th (extending into the early morning hours of January 11th), a series of three explosions was reportedly in Debre-Markos city.
 - According to reports, these attacks were conducted at around 1:45 am by units from the 206th Corps (operating under the AFNF-TC). Fano fighters claimed that the operation targeted three specific locations concurrently. The first attack allegedly struck a regime patrol vehicle traveling from the central square toward the Wuha-Gan area, resulting in four reported deaths among riot dispersal soldiers. The second attack targeted militias stationed at the Gozamin Woreda Health Office, where four regime personnel were killed, including a commander. The third targeted a police officer who was in his private residence and critically injured. Following these incidents, regime forces began conducting mass arrests, leaving city residents in a state of high tension.

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- The following day (January 11th), regime soldiers detained more than 200 teachers, supervisors, and school directors in the vicinity of Debre-Markos. According to sources, the teachers and directors were traveling to Yebokla town in Gozamin Woreda before they were intercepted and detained by regime soldiers.

Sede Woreda

- On January 7th, regime forces opened fire on children in Sede Woreda.
 - According to reports, regime troops, specifically militias, reportedly shot and injured five children. The incident occurred on the day of the Gena (Christmas) festivity, when militia forces opened fire on children who were participating in traditional games. This gunfire resulted in serious injuries to five children, all under the age of 12.
 - In a separate development on the same day, units under the 54th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 201st Corps) captured two regime-affiliated individuals including a Kebele administrator and a spy. The Fano forces accused them of involvement of espionage activities and involvement in previous abuses committed against civilians. The individuals were identified as Lomi Alamne and Yabibal Gashaw, from Sede and Bibugn Woredas respectively.

West Gojjam Zone

Jabi-Tehnan Woreda

- On January 10th, fighting took place in the vicinity of Finote-Selam city.
 - The firefights were initiated by the regime army, which mobilized from Finote-Selam toward the Goref and Hamusit areas. Sources reported that the

regime army began moving at night, between 2 and 3 am, advancing from two directions overnight and arriving before dawn. In response to the regime's movement, units under the 77th Division (operating under the AFNF-TC 109th Corps) engaged them at dawn. Reports indicate the combat was intense, involving HMG shelling and close-quarters firefights. During this confrontation, initial reports indicate more than ten fatalities and several injuries among the regime troops, and two injuries on the Fano side. Sources also reported that the regime soldiers killed four civilian farmers whom they encountered on their route or by dragging them from their homes. Sources from Finote-Selam also reported hearing heavy artillery fire in the evening, though the circumstances were unclear.

Awi Zone

Jawi Woreda

- Between January 6th and 7th, regime forces perpetrated multiple violations against civilians in Fendika town.
 - According to sources, regime militias in particular engaged in killings, looting, and physical abuse of civilians. On January 6th, militia members killed a civilian named Habtamu Demelash while he was working at a cattle market. In a separate incident on January 7th, the militias killed another young civilian, identified as 18-year-old Tadele Zemenu, near the town secondary school. The militias killed Tadele after he allegedly refused to comply when soldiers intimidated him to pay a large sum of money.
 - Furthermore, the militias looted money and private belongings from civilians through coercion and severe beatings. Sources reported that two other civilians were severely beaten and had their property and money stolen by militias.

Northwestern Amhara (Gonder Subregion)

South Gonder Zone

Debre-Tabor City

- On January 6th, a civilian identified as Dr. Ligu Wolde, a highly respected and prominent radiologist, was murdered in Debre-Tabor city.
 - The victim was a cornerstone of the local medical community, having served for 30 years at Debre-Tabor Hospital. The incident occurred at approximately 1 pm local time in Kebele 03, specifically in the vicinity of Selassie Church. According to reports, the victim died as a result of a severe beating.
 - The location of the murder raised significant alarm and scrutiny, as it is situated in the immediate vicinity of a regime military encampment. This area is known to be a high-security zone, under constant and heavy guard of regime forces. The military presence in this specific sector is overt, with regime forces having publicly positioned ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns and other heavy weaponry throughout the neighborhood. Given that the crime took place within a strictly controlled and militarized perimeter where civilian movement is closely monitored, the circumstances have sparked widespread suspicion among the local population. The prevailing sentiment suggests that such a violent act could not have occurred in so heavily guarded an area without the involvement or tacit complicity of the regime forces stationed there.
 - The loss of the seasoned medical professional has left the community in mourning and intensified the atmosphere of fear and distrust surrounding the regime's military presence in the city. He was buried in Selassie Church the next day (January 7th) with a multitude of processions throughout the city.

Lay-Gayint Woreda

- On January 10th, a fierce military engagement took place between Fano forces and regime military units in Hageregenet Kebele.
 - The confrontation centered around Awdet village, where units under the Anbesaw-Gayint Division (operating under the AFPO-AFGPC) launched a calculated offensive against a regime infantry column. These regime forces were in the process of transitioning from Denguat Kebele toward Hageregenet when they were intercepted. The intensity of the initial strike and the ensuing combat resulted in significant casualties for regime joint forces. Overwhelmed by the assault and unable to maintain their forward momentum, the surviving regime forces were compelled to abandon their objective, and they ultimately retreated from the area, returning to their original base in Denguat.
 - According to reports, the confrontation resulted in 18 regime personnel were either killed in action or sustained physical injuries ranging from minor to critical in severity.

Central Gonder Zone

Wegera Woreda

- On January 7th, Fano forces conducted an offensive against regime infantry units in the vicinity of Gedebye town.
 - The engagement occurred while a contingent of regime infantry was conducting a patrol operation, transiting from their base in Gedebye toward Mito Kebele. As the patrol moved through the rural outskirts, they were intercepted by units under the Gondere-Begashaw Division (operating under the AFNF-BC) in Fiqrye village. The assault resulted in a fierce exchange of

fire. During the encounter, the regime infantry reportedly sustained heavy casualties, struggling to mount an effective defense.

East Belessa Woreda

- On January 9th, Fano forces carried out a coordinated offensive against regime troops in Taymen town.
 - The offensive involved units under the Atse Eyasu, Zoz-Amba-Nigussu, Nisir-Belessa, and Gondere-Begashaw Divisions (operating under the AFNF-BC) launched a multi-pronged offensive against a regime military encampment. According to reports, 37 regime forces were confirmed killed (including several high-ranking military officers), while 35 others sustained physical injuries and 25 others were taken prisoner alongside their full military kits. In addition, the Fano forces seized an extensive cache of weaponry and equipment including Bren LMGs, Kalashnikov rifles, F1 grenades, military-grade radio devices and significant quantities of ammunition.

Tegede Woreda

- On January 9th, Fano forces conducted a series of operations against regime positions, resulting in significant engagements in both the Addisalem and Segalo town.
 - The operation was undertaken by units under the Wawa Gobe Melke Division (operating under the AFNF-BC) targeting two regiments of the 92nd ENDF Division stationed in Addisalem Kebele. As a result of this strike, 12 regime personnel were confirmed killed and 52 others sustaining physical injuries ranging from minor to critical in severity.

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- A separate and protracted confrontation took place in Segalo town. Regime forces deployed to the area at 10 am to target Fano units. In response, the Fano conducted a counter-offensive leading to an intense engagement that lasted for ten hours unabated. The combat resulted in losses on both sides. Ultimately, the Fano forces succeeded in breaking the regime’s lines and repelling the assault, while the regime forces were compelled to abandon their objective and withdraw from Segalo.

West Dembiya Woreda

- On January 10th, Fano forces conducted an ambush against regime joint forces in the vicinity of Chuahit town.
 - The engagement occurred while the regime units were in transit, traveling from Delgi town toward Chuahit, when units under the Begemidir Division (operating under the AFPO-AFGPC) launched a sudden surprise attack that rapidly transitioned from an initial strike into intense, close-quarters combat. While the engagement was relatively brief, lasting approximately thirty minutes, its ferocity resulted in heavy losses for the regime.
 - According to reports, more than 25 regime personnel were either killed in action or sustained critical injuries. Among the fatalities was a military captain who was leading the column, along with his entire personal security detail.
- On the night of January 11th, Fano forces conducted an offensive against regime units in Sufanqara Kebele.
 - The confrontation was precipitated by a regime attempt to conduct a nocturnal offensive. Utilizing the cover of darkness, regime forces were deployed to Sufanqara. In response, units under the Begemidir Division (operating under the AFPO-AFGPC) conducted an ambush along the regime forces’ route of

transit. The ensuing engagement resulted in heavy casualties for the regime joint forces. Notably, the military officers overseeing the deployment were confirmed killed during the ambush, leaving the remaining units without clear leadership and effectively thwarting the regime's planned offensive in the region.

West Gonder Zone

Adagn-Hager-Chaqa Woreda

- On January 4th, a significant military engagement occurred in Janola-Maryam Kebele.
 - The confrontation pitted regime forces against the Fitawrari Gebeyehu Division (operating under the AFNF-BC). The hostilities began when regime units, garrisoned in the administrative center of Negade-Bahir town, were deployed to Janola-Maryam. In response, Fano forces conducted a preemptive counter-offensive which inflicted significant losses prompting the regime forces to retreat to their base in Negade-Bahir.
 - Reports indicate 22 regime personnel killed, and 13 others sustaining critical physical injuries. In addition, the Fano seized seven Kalashnikov rifles and captured one militiaman in full military gear.

North Gonder Zone

Dabat Woreda

- On January 11th, a fierce military engagement took place between Fano forces and regime troops in Chenna Kebele.

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- The hostilities commenced as regime forces, which had been deployed from the nearby towns of Dabat and Weqin, were conducting a patrol operation across the Chenna area. In response, units under the Ayalew Birru Division (operating under the AFNF-BC) launched a coordinated surprise ambush against the patrolling units. The sudden and intense nature of the attack left the regime forces in a highly vulnerable position, struggling to mount an effective defense.
 - Preliminary reports indicate that more than 13 personnel were either killed in action or sustained critical injuries.

Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zone

- On January 11th, the Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zone administration formally executed an order to the *International Medical Corps* (IMC), a humanitarian organization primarily engaged in the healthcare sector, to immediately vacate the region.
 - The expulsion follows a series of grave allegations suggesting that the organization had significantly compromised its humanitarian mandate. While the IMC held a valid license for relief operations, zonal authorities accused the organization of clandestine involvement in illegal political, military, and human trafficking activities.
 - According to administrative reports, the organization was caught “*red-handed*” facilitating a sophisticated human trafficking operation. It is alleged that IMC staff utilized water tankers and NGO-marked vehicles—which are typically exempt from rigorous security frisks and checkpoints—to transport Eritrean immigrants from Humera city to Gonder city. For these services, workers reportedly extorted exorbitant fees, ranging from \$3,000 to \$5,000 USD per

individual.

- Beyond human trafficking, the administration alleged that the IMC was acting as a political and intelligence agent for the TPLF. Intelligence officers reportedly intercepted the organization with prepared dossiers intended for TPLF leadership in Mekelle.
- The administration underscored that this expulsion was not an impulsive decision but the result of a failed disciplinary process. An initial formal warning was issued to the organization to cease its extracurricular activities on November 2025. A second warning followed when activities continued. Following a third and final warning and the discovery of the aforementioned activities, the expulsion was finalized.
- Legal proceedings have already been initiated to hold the specific staff members involved in human trafficking and espionage criminally liable.
- The zonal administration further revealed that two other humanitarian organizations have been under surveillance for similar violations of their humanitarian neutrality. Notably, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) was also implicated in espionage on behalf of TPLF forces. Consequently, the NRC was summarily ordered to cease all operations and vacate the zone within a 24-hour window.

Areas Outside Amhara Region

North Shewa Zone (Oromia Region)

Were-Jarso Woreda

- On January 5th, militants abducted more than 40 civilians in the Alidoro area.

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- The targets were passengers traveling on an FM bus traveling from Addis-Ababa city to Amhara Region when the incident occurred in the Alidoro area. According to reports, the victims were en route to visit their families in the Amhara Region for the religious holiday (Ethiopian Christmas). The abduction reportedly took place around mid-day, while the bus was passing through the area. The militants intercepted the vehicle and forcibly abducted the passengers. Sources further indicate that such abductions and acts of violence against civilians traveling through this corridor have become systematic and recurrent. The attacks are reportedly ethnically targeted, with ethnic Amhara civilians being the primary victims.
 - Despite the repeated nature of these incidents, no effective or permanent security measures have reportedly been taken by security forces to protect civilians traveling in the area. As a result, travelers remain highly vulnerable to abduction and extortion. In many cases, abducted civilians are reportedly forced to pay ransoms exceeding one million ETB in exchange for their release.

Metekel Zone (Benishangul-Gumuz Region)

Dangur Woreda

- On January 2nd, ethnic Gumuz militants carried out an attack targeting civilians in Mambuk Kebele. According to reports, the attack targeted ethnic Amhara residents including women and children resulting in killings and injuries.

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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