



Preliminary Report on the February 19, 2024 Drone Attack in Sasit (Gawna Kebele) of North Shewa Zone, Amhara Region, Ethiopia

Updated February 24, 2024

The Amhara Association of America (AAA) has verified that on February 19, 2024, a drone attack launched by Abiy regime forces indiscriminately killed at least 41 civilians and injured 18 others in a place called Sasit, Gawna Kebele, located an estimated 20-km from Sela-Dingay, the administrative center of Mojana Wedera Woreda (North Shewa Zone, Amhara Region, Ethiopia). The drone attack primarily targeted a FSR truck carrying civilians. The victims were predominantly family members and close acquaintances who were returning home after attending the baptism of an 80-day-old infant, a tradition in the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo faith.

The victims included children, women, the mother of the baptized baby (Emebet Emishaw), and the priests who baptized the baby. There were no Fano combatants present during the attack. All the victims were unarmed civilians, dressed in traditional and ceremonial white cotton clothing for the baptism. Among the killed victims, nine of them

were from a single family (household) and the baptized infant was miraculously found alive amidst the carnage. Among the victims identified by AAA's investigations were young children including 13-year-old Kidus Awraris, 8-year-old Eleni Awraris, and 17-year-old Leul Awraris.

Names of 20 identified victims of the February 19, 2024 drone attack in Sasit, Gawna Kebele (North Shewa Zone, Amhara Region, Ethiopia).

No.	Victim Name	Sex	Age	Outcome of Attack	Address (Kebele)
1	Kidus Awraris	M	13	Killed	
2	Eleni Awraris	M	8	Killed	
3	Leul Awraris	M	17	Killed	
4	Nigussie Moges	M	42	Killed	Gawna
5	Almaz Getachew	F	36	Killed	Gawna
6	Wubagegn Admas	F	52	Killed	Gawna
7	Emshaw Desta	F	28	Killed	Kirakir
8	Qes Abeje Tilahun	M	36	Killed	Zorola
9	Tilahun Admas	M	26	Killed	
10	Woynshet Desta	F	22	Killed	Kirakir
11	Woynshet Fikrie	F	42	Killed	
12	Tila Gebrie	M	32	Killed	
13	Emebet Emishaw	F		Killed	
14	Asebech Emishaw	F		Killed	
15	Atilabachew Emshaw	M		Killed	
16	Shewales Desta*	F		Killed	
17	Yeshewatay Kefelegn	M		Killed	
18	Wondwossen Neway	M		Killed	
19	Tayu Emshaw	F		Seriously injured	

20 Mekuanint Emshaw M Seriously injured

**Shewales Desta was killed alongside her children*

About Amhara Association of America (AAA)

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

- Contact us via Email: info@amharaamerica.org
- Visit our website at www.AmharaAmerica.org
- Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)
- Subscribe to our [Telegram Channel](#) and contact us on Telegram via:
+1-404-458-7046
- To make donations: <https://www.amharaamerica.org/get-involved>

