



War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – October 21st to 27th, 2024

Updated October 27, 2024

Overview

For the week of October 21st to 27th, 2024, fighting between *Amhara Fano freedom fighters* (Fano) and *Prosperity Party regime joint forces* (regime forces) has continued in various parts of Amhara Region in Ethiopia.¹

- This week battle events and rights violations were recorded in 52 woreda/city administrations across 11 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These zones included North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder, West Gonder and North Gonder Zones. There were also developments recorded in the East Wollega, Horo Guduru Wollega and West Shewa Zones of Oromia Region, Gurage Zone of Central Ethiopia Region and in Addis-Ababa city.

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

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- Battle events were recorded in over 8 urban administrations across 6 zonal administrations. These urban administrations included Woldia, Kobo, Debre-Birhan, Shewa-Robit, Finote-Selam, Bahir-Dar, Debre-Tabor and Gonder cities in the North Wollo, North Shewa, West Gojjam, Bahir-Dar, South Gonder and Central Gonder Zones.
 - Civilian casualties were recorded in more than 27 woreda/city administrations across 10 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Woldia, Raya-Kobo, Meket, Borena, Basona-Werena, Tarmaber, Debre-Birhan, Hageremariam-Kesem, Merhabete, Ensaro, Moretena-Jiru, Shebel-Berenta, Enemay, Enarj-Enawga, Debre-Elias, Jabi-Tehnan, Dangila, Fagita-Lekoma, South Achefer, Ibrat, Dera, Gonder, East Dembiya, Gonder-Zuriya, Wegera, Metemma, and West Armachiho Woredas in the North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder and West Gonder Zones.
 - Use of airstrikes and drones were recorded in 6 woreda/city administrations across 3 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Debre-Elias, Enarj-Enawga, Raya-Kobo, Basona-Werena, Moretena-Jiru, and Kewet Woredas in the East Gojjam, North Wollo and North Shewa Zones.
 - Widespread arrests were reported in 9 woreda/city administrations across 2 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These include Woldia, Raya-Kobo, Meket, Basona-Werena, Mojana-Wadera, Debre-Birhan, Merhabete, Ensaro, and Antsokiyana-Gemza Woredas in the North Wollo and North Shewa Zones. In addition, arrests were reported in Abeshige Woreda of Gurage Zone in Central Ethiopia Region and in Addis-Ababa city.
 - The ENDF alongside the *Oromia Special Forces* (OSF), Oromo militias and militants of the *Oromo Liberation Army* (OLA) are reportedly preparing for a new

wave of forced disarmaments targeting Amhara communities in various parts of Oromia Region. Clashes were reported in Ameya Woreda of West Shewa Zone (Oromia Region).

North Wollo Zone

Habru Woreda

- The Amhara Fano in Wollo, specifically the Bale-Shiritu and Lij Eyasu Divisions, launched a fierce attack against regime forces on October 20th, continuing throughout the day until 10 pm. The Fano forces achieved a decisive victory over regime forces in areas such as Girana, Fifam, Gube, and Wurenie. As a result, Fano took control of Girana town, a strategically important area that connects the main road from Addis Ababa-Dessie-Woldia-Raya-Tigray.

Woldia City

- On October 22nd, the Amhara Fano Wollo under Fano Mihret Wodajo launched a swift guerrilla attack near Bahir-Dar Mewcha in Afriker, targeting regime forces stationed at a checkpoint.
 - The attack which was orchestrated by the Asaminew Division resulted in several casualties and injuries among regime forces. In response, regime forces indiscriminately fired ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, injuring civilians, including an elderly woman on her way to the market and another woman at Kalim-Megbiya Abo Church. The number of regime forces killed by Fano's guerrilla attacks on October 22nd, near Afriker has risen to 11.
- On October 24th, at around 10 pm, the Amhara Fano in Wollo's Asaminew Division reportedly attacked regime forces' meeting points in Woldia city, including Lal Hotel in Piassa, with explosive devices.

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- On October 27th, regime riot dispersal forces arrested a civil servant (former regime administration member) who had held various positions in Woldia city.

Lasta Woreda

- According to Ethio-News, on October 15th, regime forces gang raped a 20-year-old girl identified as Tiruye Alemnew, and then beheaded her in the Number 2 area of Lalibela town.² Her funeral was held on October 16th, after her remains were sent to her family in the countryside.

Raya-Kobo Woreda

- On October 23rd, a regime drone strike targeted Keyu-Gariya at 7 am, resulting in significant casualties.
 - 3 people were killed, and more than 4 others were injured during the strike.
 - The attack also destroyed a local school.
 - Following the drone strike, the regime indiscriminately launched heavy weaponry from the Hormat River near Kobo, targeting the Keyu-Gariya and Zobel areas, causing damage to crops in the area.
- On the evening of October 23rd, regime forces intimidated and beat civilians, accusing them of not carrying kebele identity cards and retaliating for Fano forces' attacks in Kobo city.
- On October 24th, regime forces launched heavy artillery, including cannons and ZU-23 guns, towards the Zobel Mountain area targeting residential areas such as Tero-Ber, Rama, Keyu-Gariya, and Tebisa.

²See October 22, 2024 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

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- The regime's offensive was conducted from Workie and Dibi, and forces attempted to advance toward Zobel town.
 - The Amhara Fano in Wollo led by Fano Mihret Wodajo, defended the area, particularly around Dingay Kebele.
 - Artillery fire from Chore, near Kobo city, has prevented local farmers from harvesting their crops.
 - On the same day, regime militias in Workie, led by the administrator of Worike Kebele, Bekaris Gobie, brutally murdered 2 children in Addis-Alem Kebele, east of Kobo city. The victims were identified as 9-year-old Haymanot Mariye Sisay and 6-year-old Samrawit Mariye Sisay.
- On October 25th, regime forces conducted over 17 arbitrary detentions against farmers in Zobel.
 - These arrests occurred during a funeral gathering, where many civilians were present.
 - The detained farmers were transported to the Kobo area, and there is suspicion that they may be taken to Kombolcha, referred to by many as the "Guantanamo" of Amhara Region.
 - Notable arbitrarily detained individuals include:
 - * Assefie Teka - severely beaten and detained, later released on October 26th.
 - * Arbisie Nega - forced to identify other individuals' homes before being detained, later released on October 26th.
 - * Temesgen Ayalew - arbitrarily detained.
 - * Mengistu Ayene - severely beaten and arbitrarily detained.

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- Regime forces looted food supplies and pepper from the community, alleging that these items were meant for Fano fighters.
 - Additionally, they burned clothing and confiscated personal belongings in the residential home of Fano Mulat Mengesha.
- On October 26th, regime riot dispersal forces detained a musician named Fikirte Kassahun in Kobo city.

Meket Woreda

- Regime forces have continued arbitrary arrests of civilians in Taja (34) Kebele with a total of 70 people arrested. On October 24th, the Municipal Manager in Taja, named Girma Moges Abera, was arrested by regime forces. Following the mass arrests regime forces also targeted disabled women in Taja Kebele. Abayinesh Moges, a disabled woman who made her living by selling tea, along with another disabled woman, were arrested and taken to Kombolcha.

South Wollo Zone

Legambo Woreda

- Since October 22nd, the Amhara Fano Wollo's Nigus Mikael Division has successfully broken an attempted encirclement by regime forces in Legambo, inflicting heavy casualties on them. Regime forces had aimed to surround and decimate Fano forces from multiple directions, but the Fano fighters managed to break through the siege.

Amhara-Sayint Woreda

- On October 26th, an armed clash broke out around Ajibar between the Amhara Fano in Wollo and regime forces. The fighting began in the early morning and

continued throughout the day.

Borena Woreda

- On October 26th, indiscriminate mortar shelling by regime forces around Mekane-Selam in Dili-Wuto led to civilian casualties, including the death of a four-year-old child.

Jama Woreda

- On October 26th, the Amhara Fano in Wollo's Nigus Mikael Division launched an attack on regime forces in the Keyi-Afer and Abwold areas of Dagolo. The Fano forces attacked regime militias who were on patrol, resulting in 7 fatalities and 5 injuries among regime forces.

Ambassel Woreda

- Restrictions on medical facilities and healthcare professionals have severely impacted rural areas within Ambassel Woreda, affecting mothers and children who face untreated illnesses and maternal health complications. For example, residents in Robit, Golbo, Marye, Delbana, and Mila are suffering due to a lack of emergency and medical services at local health centers. On October 26th, in the Robit and Didi-Hora areas, there was significant gunfire; however, the exact number of casualties remains unconfirmed.

North Shewa Zone

- Regime forces, under the pretext of monitoring the movement of Prosperity Party officials across the region, have conducted widespread arbitrary arrests across various woredas in North Shewa Zone.

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- The Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command are assisting local farmers with harvests in areas such as Rasa-Zuriya (Kewet Woreda), Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda, and Gundo-Meskel (Dera Woreda, North Shewa Zone, Oromia Region). This support aims to strengthen relationships between the Fano and local farmers, demonstrating their alignment with the rural community.

Minjar-Shenkora Woreda

- On October 20th, an armed conflict broke out between regime forces and the Amhara Fano Shewa Command where Fano forces achieved a decisive victory against regime forces.
 - In retaliation, regime forces arbitrarily detained more than 200 daily laborers who had come to the area to harvest teff in Arerti town.
 - Teff is a major crop in Minjar, attracting large numbers of seasonal laborers each year.
 - According to sources, regime forces opened fire on these laborers, killing at least 2. On the other hand, some sources increased the number of victims to 8.
 - The regime forces are reportedly preparing to transport detainees to unknown locations. Some sources suspect they may be taken to either Awash-Arba, widely known as Ethiopia’s “Guantanamo,” or Shewa-Robit.

Basona-Werena Woreda

- On October 20th, the joint forces of the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command’s Mohammed Bihonegn Division and the Amhara Fano Shewa Command conducted a successful guerrilla attack against regime forces in Worike Kebele located 30-km from Debre-Birhan city. Numerous regime soldiers were killed in the Fano assault.

In retaliation, retreating regime forces killed a civilian named Tizazu Gezahegn, a wood seller.

- On October 21st, the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command launched another swift attack against regime forces near Debre-Birhan city, in an area known as Atakilt-Abo. As they retreated, regime militias arbitrarily arrested around 25 bajaj drivers and daily laborers, detaining them at the Debre-Birhan Police Station.
- On October 22nd, mass arrests were conducted in areas such as Gudo-Berete and Keyit under allegedly suspecting them of leaking information about the transportation of Prosperity Party officials.
- On October 23rd, regime forces launched a drone strike on a residence in the Zendogur area of Bazo Kebele. The strike destroyed the house and caused civilian casualties, including children.

Mojana-Wadera Woreda

- On October 22nd, regime forces arrested multiple individuals in Sela-Dingaye, allegedly suspecting them of leaking information about Prosperity Party officials. Among those arrested was a bajaj driver named Kebede Awuraris.

Tarmaber Woreda

- On October 22nd, regime forces arrested civilians across several locations in the woreda for allegedly leaking information regarding party officials.

Debre-Birhan City

- On October 22nd, 6 civilians were arrested under accusation of passing information about Prosperity Party officials in Chacha sub-city.

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- On October 24th, regime forces carried out mass arbitrary arrests of youths in the city, targeting public places such as Karambula House and grocery stores.

Hageremariam-Kesem Woreda

- On October 21st, the Amhara Fano Shewa Command's Kesem Division launched an attack against regime forces in Nifas-Amba Kebele's Wolad, Mesno-Ber, and Ambo-Tsebel as part of their campaign named *Aser-Aleqa Behailu*.
 - Fano forces, utilizing guerrilla tactics and single-combat operations, inflicted heavy casualties on regime forces.
 - According to sources, the regime transported their dead and injured to Shola-Gebeya, the administrative center of Hageremariam Woreda.
 - The Kesem Division's brigades contributed three battalions to the campaign including the Asmare Dagne Brigade from Asagirt, the Tesfa Gebreselassie Brigade from Berehet, and the Haile-Mariam Mamo Brigade from Hageremariam.
 - In retaliation, regime forces executed 3 civilians.

Shewa-Robit City

- On October 22nd, the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command's Dessalegn Negash and Anbesaw Brigades, executed a swift guerrilla attack on regime forces in the Asfachew and Wanza areas, near Shewa-Robit guarding political and military leaders, resulting in significant damages.
- On October 25th, regime forces reportedly killed two young men in Kebele 06, alleging they were involved in organizing Fano two months prior.

Merhabete Woreda

- On October 22nd, Fano forces launched a swift guerrilla attack against regime forces transporting civilians who had been arbitrarily arrested around Beroka Megeniteya. On the same day, in Jema Dildiy at Atiberbir, the Amhara Fano Shewa Command's Ras Abebe Aregay Brigade and Mekdela Brigade's 3rd Battalion, executed another rapid guerrilla attack against regime forces guarding Prosperity Party officials returning from training in Bahir-Dar city. The attack took place between 1 pm and 2 pm.

Ensaro Woreda

- On October 22nd, Fano forces conducted a guerrilla operation against the guards of civilians who had been arbitrarily arrested and were being transported to Shewa-Robit town.

Kewet Woreda

- The number of regime forces killed by Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command's Dessalegn Negash Brigade in the October 22nd, attack in Asifachew and Wanza has increased to 9. Sources also indicated that an unidentified leader of the regime forces was among the dead.
- On October 24th, at midday, regime forces launched a drone strike in the Rasa-Zuriya area of Sefiberet Kebele, destroying a residence.
 - The death toll is estimated to be 5 including a 6 year old child identified as Dawit Mekasha and a close family member named Asgelil. Additionally, 4 women were injured. The attack caused extensive property damage.
 - Just before the strike, the drone had surveyed the area where local Amhara and Afar communities had gathered for an inter-communal meeting. After the

meeting ended, the drone returned and launched the attack.

Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda

- On October 23rd, a fierce battle erupted between Fano fighters and regime forces near the regime's camps in Antsokiya-Gemza. The regime forces have been using heavy weaponry, though the exact number of casualties has not yet been confirmed.
- On October 23rd, Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command's Fitawrari Gebeyehu Brigade, launched a significant attack on regime forces stationed in Mekoy, resulting in substantial casualties.
 - In response, regime forces used heavy weapons, including ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, indiscriminately.
 - During the night of October 23rd (into the morning of October 24th), Fano forces executed a swift guerrilla attack against regime forces.
 - Following the attack, regime forces entered the town and arbitrarily arrested several youths. Their whereabouts remain unknown.

Menz-Keya-Gabriel Woreda

- On the night of October 23rd (into the morning of October 24th), the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command's Atse Menelik Division, attacked regime forces in Menz-Zemero, inflicting significant human and material losses.

Moretena-Jiru Woreda

- On October 23rd, regime forces carried out two drone strikes in Jihur town.
 - The first drone strike targeted Jihur Secondary School killing at least 11 people and injuring many others.

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- The second drone strike targeted civilian residences, causing further civilian deaths and widespread destruction of property.

Asagirt Woreda

- On October 25th, regime forces allegedly killed a youth named Fikru Mandefro, accusing him of passing information to Fano forces. Witnesses report he was forced to dig a grave before being killed.

Menz-Mam-Midir Woreda

- On October 26th, 4 regime militia members were killed during inter-militia conflict in Molale.

East Gojjam Zone

Shebel-Berenta Woreda

- On October 20th, regime soldiers which had moved from Shebel-Berenta toward Banja-Sherir Kebele in Enemay Woreda to disarm legal firearms from civilians were ambushed by Fano fighters. This surprise attack, executed by the Aba-Kostir and Shifferaw-Gerbaw brigades of the Belay Zeleke Division, occurred in Worgo Kebele, specifically in Yetuch village. The clash resulted in significant losses for the regime, forcing its soldiers to retreat.

Enemay Woreda

- On October 20th, regime soldiers moving from Shebel-Berenta toward Banja-Sherir Kebele in Enemay Woreda to disarm civilians were ambushed by Fano fighters. This surprise attack, executed by the Aba Kostir and Shifferaw Gerbaw Brigades of

the Belay Zeleke Division, occurred in Worgo Kebele, specifically in Yetuch village. The clash resulted in significant losses for the regime, forcing its soldiers to retreat.

- On October 26th, regime soldiers mobilized from Bichena to Lemchen and Seqla Kebeles to suppress the Aba-Kostir Fano Brigade under the cover of darkness.
 - Reports indicate that Fano fighters confronted the regime soldiers in this area. Despite suffering casualties, regime soldiers managed to enter these kebeles. Subsequently, Fano fighters reattacked the regime soldiers, forcing them to retreat to Bichena. The regime’s effort to mobilize reinforcement units from Debre-Work was unsuccessful, as Fano groups from the Soma Brigade repeatedly ambushed them before they reached the battle areas. In retaliation, shortly before their withdrawal, regime soldiers carried out various violations, including killing two civilians and looting private property.
- On October 27th, regime soldiers mobilized from Bichena and Debre-Work in an attempt to enter Dima and suppress Fano fighters in their stronghold. Forewarned about the regime’s mobilization, the Aba-Kostir Brigade confronted the regime soldiers, repelling the attack and inflicting casualties. Fano fighters also entered Bichena and Debre-Work towns, launching gunfire possibly to disrupt the regime’s reinforcement mobilization towards the Dima area.

Sinan Woreda

- On October 21st, Fano fighters executed consecutive attacks against regime soldiers moving from Debre-Markos city and Rebu-Gebeya town for logistical support. These assaults were attributed to the Negus Tekle-Haymanot Brigade and the Sinan-Abajime Brigades, part of the Kegn-Geta-Yoftahe-Nigussie Division. The first ambush by the Negus Tekle Haymanot Brigade occurred in the Enerata area, resulting in heavy casualties for the regime and compelling a retreat. Similarly, the

Sinan-Abajime Brigade ambushed regime soldiers traveling from Rebu-Gebeya for logistical exchanges, inflicting significant casualties and severely disrupting the operation.

- On the night of October 23rd, the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Sinan-Abajime Brigade successfully seized riot dispersal police along with two firearms.

Enarj-Enawga Woreda

- On October 21st, fighting occurred in the Felege-Birhan area. Regime soldiers mobilized to this Fano stronghold to disarm residents. In a surprise offensive, Fano fighters engaged in heavy gunfire exchanges, ultimately defeating regime soldiers.
- On October 22nd, the regime conducted successive drone strikes targeting Neway-Mariam Primary School in Felege-Birhan town.
 - Sources reported that the drone bombs fell inside the school which left two people killed and three more injured by the attacks.
 - Reports indicate that drone bombs fell outside the school, resulting in numerous additional casualties.
 - In an interview with ABC TV, the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's spokesperson Yohannes Alemayehu, stated that the regime conducted five rounds of drone strikes, killing one combatant and injuring 13 civilians who were enroute to the market. According to Yohannes, women and children were among the casualties.
- Between October 23rd and 24th, intense fighting broke out in villages neighboring Debre-Work.
 - This confrontation is part of the recently begun military operations by regime

forces aimed at suppressing Fano fighters in the area, involving drones and artillery strikes.

- The clashes commenced on the morning of October 23rd when regime troops mobilized from Debre-Work towards Yegosa Kebele and launched an attack against Fano fighters. In response, the Amhara Fano in Gojjam Belay Zeleke Division’s Soma and Aba-Kostir Brigades engaged fiercely, inflicting significant casualties on regime soldiers.
- The fighting continued into October 24th as additional reinforcements were sent by the regime from Debre-Work. Despite the regime’s efforts, Fano fighters successfully defended against the assaults, causing further losses to regime forces. Reports indicate that the conflict spread to the outskirts of Debre-Work town, where Fano fighters pursued and attacked retreating soldiers.
- On October 26th, fighting took place in Debre-Work town. The fighting was launched when Fano fighters suddenly infiltrated into Debre-Work town at around 9 am. The fighting lasted until midday, with casualties from both sides which remain unknown.

Debre-Elias Woreda

- On October 22nd, the regime executed successive drone strikes in Elias town, which has long been under Fano control.
 - The drone strikes targeted Yeqegat Secondary School, located in the suburb of Elias town. According to AAA’s sources, the drone attack caused partial destruction of the school, with 7 casualties reported. AAA’s investigation revealed that at least 5 unarmed farmers were killed and 2 others injured by the drone attacks. AAA identified the names of the five killed victims as follows:

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- * Meskerem Addis
 - * Alehegn Wubserah
 - * Masresha Sewagegnhu
 - * Mulu Andualem
 - * Kassahun Asrade
- In an interview with ABC TV, the Amhara Fano in Gojjam’s spokesperson reported that more than 16 civilians were killed and several others were injured.

West Gojjam Zone

- The Amhara Fano in Gojjam’s Jawi Division recently crossed into Benishangul-Gumuz Region and launched repeated assaults on regime forces stationed in various kebeles in the Metekel Zone.
 - These attacks have reportedly been conducted in coordination with armed groups from Benishangul-Gumuz. A notable offensive occurred on October 21st in the Mender 24 Kebele area of Metekel Zone, resulting in significant casualties among regime troops. In retaliation, regime forces allegedly committed various violations against civilians, including extrajudicial killings, physical assaults, and looting. AAA’s sources have identified three killed victims: (1) 48-year-old Yeshiwas Getu, (2) 40-year-old Mezgeb Dessalegn, and (3) 29-year-old Mitiku Birru.
 - Sources also reported that the Fano offensive in the region also continued into October 24th, with detail is yet to be investigated.
- In separate development, credible reports indicate that Amhara Fano in Gojjam leaders met with counterparts from Dera North Shewa on October 24th to discuss

ongoing operations and coordination efforts.³

Jabi-Tehnan Woreda

- On October 21st, regime forces that had mobilized from Finote-Selam and Jiga aimed to engage Fano fighters in the Maksegnit area. However, Fano fighters ambushed these troops prior to their arrival. As a result, regime soldiers were forced to retreat after sustaining casualties. Additionally, regime forces fired artillery indiscriminately, targeting residential and mountainous areas, leading to civilian casualties and property damage, the extent of which is currently under investigation.
- On October 27th, a similar confrontation occurred in the Hodanshi area, where regime soldiers fired heavy artillery and attempted to mobilize to disrupt the Fano meeting. Reports indicate that Fano fighters fiercely resisted and defeated the regime soldiers before they could reach Hodanshi Kebele.

Dembecha Woreda

- On the afternoon of October 23rd, a brief exchange of gunfire occurred in Dembecha town. Reports suggest that the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Kiber Temesgen Brigade entered the town, initiating the confrontation. The skirmish was short-lived, with Fano fighters managing to capture firearms before withdrawing quickly.
- On October 24th, regime soldiers mobilized from Dembecha, attempting to advance toward Gelila Kebele with heavy artillery support. However, before making significant progress, Fano fighters initiated gunfire that compelled regime soldiers to return to their camps.
- In separate developments, reports indicate that the Engineer Kiber Temesgen Fano

³See October 24, 2024 [update](#) from Ashara Media.

Brigade completed the training of special commando forces this week. The brigade also announced receiving at least 20 defected regime soldiers and militia members over the past month.

Finote-Selam City

- On October 24th, gunfire erupted on the outskirts of Finote-Selam city, initiated by the Arenzaw Damot Fano brigade, aiming to disrupt a meeting attended by regime cadres, public servants, and community members. The Fano fighters successfully disrupted the meeting, forcing participants to disperse.

Bahir-Dar City

- From October 24th to 26th, a series of bomb explosions occurred in various locations within Bahir-Dar city.
 - On the night of October 24th, explosions were reported near the entrance of Amhara Media Corporation (regional state media) premises.
 - On October 25th, additional bombs were detonated in Kebele 13 and the Abay-Mado areas, targeting regime forces. The Fano group claimed responsibility for these attacks, asserting that it resulted in casualties among police and regime militia members, and the destruction of a regime vehicle.
 - On October 26th, heavy fighting erupted in the Tis-Abay area, initiated by regime soldiers who mobilized to confront Fano's stronghold as part of an effort to suppress the first division of Amhara Fano in Gojjam. The confrontation persisted for an extended period, with further details remaining unclear.

Awi Zone

Banja-Shikudad Woreda

- On October 24th, intense fighting occurred near Injibara town, initiated by regime soldiers mobilizing from Injibara and Azena towns in an effort to encircle and suppress Fano fighters entrenched in the Ehudit area and surrounding regions. Anticipating the regime's movements, Fano forces executed a surprise attack in the Simbera area before regime troops could reach their encampment, resulting in protracted confrontations that lasted throughout the day. Fano fighters claimed to have inflicted heavy casualties on regime forces. Despite the regime's attempts to reinforce their troops for an advance, Fano fighters successfully repelled these efforts, forcing the regime soldiers to retreat.

Dangila Woreda

- On October 25th, Fano fighters launched a surprise attack against regime soldiers at Chiro Kebele, as they were traveling from Dangila to Durbeti. Confirmed reports indicate that Fano inflicted casualties among regime troops. In retaliation, regime forces reportedly targeted civilians, including a priest and an elderly man, whom they encountered in the area. Sources identified the victims as Ato Sinte Yeshanew (in his 70s) and Girma Bitew (in his 40s).

Fagita-Lekoma Woreda

- On October 27th, intense battles took place in Addis-Kidam and surrounding villages.
 - According to sources, on that day, regime soldiers mobilized a large force from Addis-Kidam towards Delkez and other rural neighborhoods. Fano fighters from various brigades of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Third

(Agew-Midir) Division fiercely resisted and repelled the attack. Fano fighters also entered Addis-Kidam town at some point and launched an attack on the regime's encampment. Sources indicated that Fano fighters defeated the regime soldiers in the battles, killing over 31 and wounding several others.

- On the same day, Fano fighters launched gunfire on the outskirts of Dangila town to prevent the regime's mobilization of reinforcement soldiers to the battles in Addis-Kidam. In retaliation, regime soldiers killed and injured civilians in Addis-Kidam town, with detail is currently under investigation.

North Gojjam Zone

South Achefer Woreda

- On October 21st, Fano fighters launched a sudden attack on regime troops mobilizing from Wetet-Abay towards the Yismala area. This assault was attributed to the Abe-Gubegna Brigade of the Agew-Midir Division and took place in Guber and around the Kilti River. Fano claims indicate heavy casualties inflicted upon the regime, suppressing over 30 soldiers and capturing an ambulance vehicle. Sources confirmed that regime soldiers shot and injured a civilian farmer in the same incident. The farmer was killed while at work, and reports indicate that the injured victim was sent to Bahir-Dar city, currently undergoing medical treatment. AAA's sources identified his name as Wase Ambaye.

Bahir-Dar Zuriya Woreda

- On October 21st, fighting erupted in the Andasa area, specifically in the Tankuaber village, between Fano combatants and regime forces.
 - The conflict began when regime soldiers were deployed to the area to suppress the Fano fighters in their stronghold. The regime forces reportedly utilized

heavy artillery in their attacks. Fano fighters mounted a vigorous counteroffensive, causing significant casualties among regime soldiers. Ultimately, the Fano fighters succeeded in overpowering the regime forces, forcing them to retreat to Bahir-Dar city.

- Fighting also erupted between October 23rd and 24th in various areas on the outskirts of Bahir-Dar city.
 - On October 23rd, regime forces launched an attack from Bahir-Dar city towards the Zenzelima area, targeting entrenched Fano fighters. In a strong response, Fano fighters engaged heavily, inflicting casualties on regime troops and reportedly repelling the attack while capturing both small and heavy weaponry. The conflict continued on October 24th, with Fano fighters penetrating Bahir-Dar city and attacking regime soldiers in an area known as Geter-Menged.

North Achefer Woreda

- Fighting broke out on October 22nd in the Estumit and Wabiya areas.
 - Regime soldiers mobilized from Bahir-Dar city and advanced toward Qunzila. In response, Fano fighters launched an offensive against regime troops in Estumit and Wabiya, leading to intense confrontations. Reports indicate that Fano fighters inflicted casualties on regime soldiers. Subsequently, the regime mobilized additional reinforcements from Durbeti, which returned with dead bodies and wounded soldiers.

Gonji-Kolela Woreda

- On October 22nd, clashes occurred in Gonji town. The fighting was initiated by Fano fighters who entered the town and launched an attack on regime soldiers

stationed there. The Fano fighters quickly withdrew after inflicting casualties and capturing one soldier.

South Gonder Zone

Debre-Tabor City

- On October 20, 2024, Fano fighters successfully ambushed regime forces traveling from Debre-Tabor city to Ibnat town. The convoy, which was escorting Prosperity Party officials, suffered significant casualties during the attack. At least 10 soldiers were killed, and eight others sustained critical injuries, highlighting the effectiveness of the Fano's tactics and their ability to disrupt the regime's movements. This ambush demonstrates the Fano's growing strength and their determination to challenge the regime's authority in the region, even targeting those associated with the ruling party.
- On October 22nd, a high-ranking regime general, stationed at the command post in Bahir-Dar city, addressed a gathering of Debre-Tabor city residents and Prosperity Party officials.
 - He declared that a major offensive operation against the Fano fighters would commence on October 29th. The objective, he claimed, was to reclaim territories seized by Fano in South Gonder Zone. The general urged residents to rally behind regime forces and support their campaign against the Fano, mocking and belittling the Fano.
 - Under the cover of darkness, regime forces stealthily infiltrated Alem-Saga forest, launching a surprise attack against Fano fighters early one morning, departing from Debre-Tabor city. The ensuing battle raged for six hours, with neither side giving ground.

Ibnat Woreda

- On October 21st, regime forces in Ibnat town detained over 20 civilians, transporting them to undisclosed locations. This act of arbitrary detention targeted individuals previously affiliated with the Prosperity Party. The regime's actions specifically targeted former Prosperity Party officials from the Ibnat Woreda, who had been dismissed from their positions.
- On October 22nd, a significant blow was dealt to the regime's forces in Ibnat town, as over 12 soldiers, fully equipped with their military gear, defected to the Fano fighters. This act of defiance highlights the growing dissatisfaction with the regime amongst its own ranks. In response to this defection, regime forces stationed in Ibnat town implemented a strict search operation, deploying soldiers to various checkpoints throughout Ibnat Woreda, in a desperate attempt to track down defecting soldiers and force their return.
- Regime forces deliberately severed roads connecting Ibnat town to surrounding communities in Qualisa, Belessa, and Melza, by imposing a blockade on the roads linking these areas.
 - These roads represent crucial transportation routes, providing access to Ibnat town from three distinct directions. The regime's decision to block these roads stems from a fear of attack by Fano fighters. This blockade has effectively isolated the residents of Qualisa, Belessa, and Melza, preventing them from traveling to Ibnat town for essential needs or returning to their homes.
 - The consequences of this blockade are dire, as residents are now unable to access essential medical care at the Ibnat town hospital, placing their health and well-being at risk.

Estie Woreda

- On October 25th, a massive deployment of regime forces, primarily based in Debre-Tabor and Bahir-Dar cities, commenced, converging on Estie Woreda from multiple directions.
 - This significant military operation aims to wrest control of several woredas in South Gonder Zone, which have been held by Fano fighters for the past two months.
 - The regime forces have been advancing on Estie Woreda along three distinct axes:
 - * *Axis 1:* Originating from Bahir-Dar, this force is heading towards Hamusit (Dera), Arb-Gebeya, Simada, and Andabet (Estie) Woredas.
 - * *Axis 2:* Departing from Debre-Tabor, this force is targeting Mahdere-Maryam, Andabet (Estie) Woreda, and Sedemuja Woreda.
 - * *Axis 3:* Also originating from Debre-Tabor, this force is focused on securing the main road to Gasay town, Lwaye, and Estie and Simada Woredas.
 - In response to these military movements, Fano fighters launched a surprise attack on advancing regime forces in Lwaye Kebele. This ambush resulted in significant casualties for regime forces, forcing them to retreat back to Gasay town by the afternoon.

Dera Woreda

- On October 26th, a series of intense battles erupted between Fano fighters and regime forces.
 - The regime attempted to penetrate Dera Woreda from three different locations.

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- * The first clash occurred near Ambesame town, where the Fano successfully ambushed the advancing regime forces. This ambush resulted in significant casualties for the regime. Following the ambush, the fighting transitioned to close-quarters engagement.
 - * Another fierce battle took place in Wanzaye, specifically at Fil-Wiha. This encounter involved close-quarters combat.
 - * The third major confrontation occurred within Gelawdewos town, located near Arb-Gebeya. This battle raged for four hours, demonstrating the intensity of the fighting.
- Across all three engagements, regime forces sustained significant losses, while the Fano emerged largely unscathed. Notably, there were no casualties reported among the Fano, and there were no civilian casualties. The Fano units involved in these battles included the Ambesaw Brigade, Tana-Gelawdewos Brigade, and the Guna Division.
 - The following day, October 27th, fighting continued, shifting to Licha, a location near Dera Woreda. This sustained engagement underscores the ongoing intensity of the conflict in the region, with both sides committing significant resources and manpower to the battles.

Central Gonder Zone

Gonder City

- On October 20th, intense fighting erupted between Fano fighters and regime forces on the outskirts of Gonder city.
 - The battle centered on the villages of Fenter and Kidanemihret, located near the Angereb River, resulting in significant losses for the regime forces.

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- A key casualty in this engagement was the police commander, whose name has not been publicly released, who was killed by Fano fighters. The commander, who led the riot dispersal forces, was fatally wounded in the fighting, despite receiving immediate medical attention. 8 members of the riot dispersal force, including five of the commander’s personal security guards, were also killed in the fighting. The battle began at approximately 2:30 am local time and lasted for five hours.
 - Simultaneously, in the Azezo direction, multiple clashes occurred, with the Fano fighters engaging regime forces in various locations. A significant incident occurred near the Azezo’s Fifth Police Station, where a timed explosive device detonated, resulting in the deaths of several unnamed police officers.
 - On October 21st, a wave of anger swept through Gonder city following the assassination of two high-ranking officials of the riot dispersal forces.
 - The Jan-Tekel Fano brigade claimed responsibility for the deaths of Commander Enyachew, believed to be the commissioner of the riot dispersal forces, and an unnamed police commander. These commanders, along with their 8 bodyguards, were killed in Fenter Kebele.
 - The assassination of these officials, who had been tasked with calming the situation and spreading misinformation about the Fano forces’ supposed defeat, inflamed the riot dispersal forces. In a display of rage, the soldiers fired a barrage of gunfire into the sky, creating an unprecedented level of chaos and fear within the city.
 - The incident further fueled the regime’s brutality against civilians, marking a resurgence of hostage-taking in Gonder. On October 20th alone, over 17 civilians were confirmed to be taken hostage, including a 9-year-old girl who

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- had been held captive for 50 days before being found dead. This act of brutality ignited public outrage and fueled widespread fear within the city.
- The hostage-taking also targeted vulnerable groups like Qolo Temari (religious students) who rely on daily begging for survival.
 - Regime forces launched a house-to-house search campaign, confiscating over 139 legally-registered weapons from residents. In a defiant act of resistance, an unidentified man, residing in Kebele 18, refused to comply with the regime’s forced disarmament order in Gonder city. When soldiers arrived at his home to confiscate his legally registered weapons, he fought back, killing 6 of them before successfully escaping.
- This week, a critical meeting convened in Gonder city, bringing together high-ranking regime officials from various zones and woredas within the Gonder sub-region.
 - The primary topic of discussion centered around the regime’s ongoing struggles against the Fano fighters, with officials grappling with their inability to decisively defeat the opposition forces.
 - After analyzing their setbacks, the officials reached a disheartening conclusion of their own weaknesses, including a lack of coordinated leadership and effective strategies, were hindering their military operations. To address this, a plan of action was devised, focusing on increased information gathering and direct involvement by regime officials.
 - The officials resolved to implement the following measures:
 - * *Data Collection*: All officials were mandated to actively gather data and intelligence to assist military forces in targeting and defeating the Fano.
 - * *Swift Elimination and Detention*: Individuals suspected of having any connection with Fano were to be swiftly eliminated or detained.

Comprehensive lists of individuals perceived to have links to the Fano were to be provided to the military for immediate action. There is no discrimination among social status. The officials agreed to eliminate or detain individuals with perceived connections to the Fano who are wealthy, traders, civil servants, or residents of cities or towns, particularly young people, for immediate elimination or detention.

* *Direct Involvement*: Regime officials were ordered to take a more active role in the military campaign, leading from the front and guiding the military forces. They were tasked with identifying the whereabouts of the Fano and actively participating in combat, rather than merely observing from the sidelines.

- Furthermore, the officials reached a consensus that the Fano had infiltrated their political institutions, including the Prosperity Party. To address this perceived threat, they resolved to subject these institutions to unprecedented scrutiny and cross-examination, with the aim of identifying and eliminating any individuals believed to be collaborating with the Fano.
- This meeting underscores the regime’s growing desperation and its resort to increasingly drastic measures in an attempt to suppress the Fano resistance. The focus on intelligence gathering, eliminating suspected sympathizers, and direct involvement by regime officials reflects a shift towards a more aggressive and potentially even more brutal campaign against the Fano and their perceived allies.

East Dembiya Woreda

- On October 20th, Fano fighters staged a successful ambush against regime forces traveling from Qoladiba town towards Gonder City.

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- The ambush, carried out in Deresge Kebele, resulted in the deaths of at least 20 regime soldiers, marking a significant victory for Fano forces. The Fano fighters also seized eight small arms and a light machine gun from the defeated regime troops.
 - On October 20th, a heavy artillery shell struck a residential house in Simra Kebele, killing 3 civilians and critically injuring 4 others. The regime forces also committed atrocities in Maryam-Debr Kebele, engaging in a fierce battle with Fano fighters and brutally killing 6 unarmed civilians. In Robit town, the regime forces killed 3 civilians, including a woman.
 - The regime’s actions extend beyond violence, including widespread arbitrary detentions. Over 45 civilians were detained from Robit, Guramba, and Deresge, transported to Qoladiba town by regime forces. The majority of these detainees were elderly women and men, accused of having sons who are members of the Fano fighters. This pattern of targeting civilians and their families highlights the regime’s disregard for human rights and its ruthless tactics to suppress any opposition.

Gonder-Zuriya Woreda

- On October 22nd, intense fighting erupted between Fano fighters and regime forces in the areas of Minzro and Qulqual-Ber.
 - The clash, which commenced in the early morning hours, highlights the escalating conflict in the region and the ongoing struggle for control between the two sides. The location of the fighting, in these strategically significant areas, indicates that the conflict is intensifying and spreading throughout Gonder. In the early morning hours, regime forces launched an offensive attack on a Fano checkpoint located in Qulqual-Ber. The Fano fighters,

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- however, mounted a strong defense, successfully repelling the attack and forcing the regime forces to retreat.
- Undeterred, the regime later that afternoon deployed reinforcements to Qulqual-Ber, arriving from Maksegnit town with a heavy arsenal of weaponry, including ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, mortars, and heavy machineguns. Despite this considerable firepower, the Fano forces once again repelled the attack, inflicting significant casualties on regime reinforcements.
- On October 23rd, intense fighting erupted between Fano fighters and regime forces across multiple locations in Gonder-Zuriya Woreda.
 - Battles raged in Ambo-Ber, Burbuaks, Macha, and Wesenge Kebeles, lasting throughout the morning. The regime forces, armed with heavy weaponry including ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, mortars, heavy machineguns, and other heavy artillery, unleashed a barrage of fire on Fano. Despite their firepower, regime forces suffered significant casualties during the engagements.
 - The regime retaliated against civilians with a four-year-old child and numerous other civilians being struck by heavy artillery fire. The indiscriminate shelling also resulted in widespread destruction of residential villages, leaving behind a trail of devastation.
 - On October 23rd, a series of intense battles erupted across multiple locations in Gonder-Zuriya Woreda, pitting Fano fighters against the regime forces.
 - The regime, employing a tactic of human wave attacks, deployed thousands of soldiers, predominantly ethnic Oromo, many of whom were inadequately equipped with weaponry. Despite their overwhelming numbers, regime forces suffered a devastating defeat at the hands of Fano fighters. The fierce

resistance resulted in heavy casualties among regime forces, including the death of a lieutenant, a high-ranking military leader.

- The fighting spanned several key locations including Ambo-Ber, Wesenge, Macha, Jiga River, and Burbuaks Kebeles. While the Fano sustained some injuries, the regime’s losses were far more substantial, owing to their ill-prepared “*human wave*” tactics. Desperate to support their trapped forces, regime troops stationed in the mountains near the Megech River unleashed a barrage of heavy artillery fire, including 107-mm heavy artillery and rocket launchers, targeting the aforementioned kebeles. This indiscriminate shelling, aimed at providing cover for their retreating forces, resulted in tragic civilian casualties. Livestock grazing in the open fields were killed by explosive blasts of rockets and heavy artillery, highlighting the regime’s reckless disregard for civilian lives and property. The Fano’s tactical prowess and the regime’s heavy losses underscore the escalating conflict, characterized by brutality and the tragic consequences for the civilian population.
- Intense fighting erupted on October 26th, between Fano fighters and regime forces in the areas of Ambo-Ber and Qulqual-Ber. The clashes commenced early in the morning, with the fighting in Qulqual-Ber persisting into the afternoon. The intensity of the battles in Qulqual-Ber continued into the following day, October 27th, indicating a protracted and fierce struggle for control of this strategic location.

Wegera Woreda

- On October 22nd, the Amhara Fano Gonder Command, led by Fano Wana Emuhay, has taken control of Wegera town.
 - This was confirmed by Fano Hageru Tade, head of the Political Affairs Department of the Brigade. In a battle two days prior, on October 20th, the

Amhara Fano Gonder Command's Nahusenay Brigade, Nisir Squadron, and Ras Dejen Brigade, in a joint operation inflicted a heavy defeat on enemy forces, resulting in 18 fatalities and over 25 injuries. This was also confirmed by Fano Hageru Tade. Reports indicate that the regime has suffered significant setbacks due to the Fano's attacks and has perpetrated widespread targeted killings of civilians.

West Gonder Zone

Metemma Woreda

- Following the fierce fighting held between Fano fighters and regime forces in Masker near Metemma-Yohannes town, more than 82 regime soldiers crossed to the Ethio-Sudan border and asked for asylum in Sudan. These soldiers had delivered their weapons to the Sudan military forces stationed on the checkpoints. The fighting was held on October 18th. This indicates that the regime forces were exhausted from fighting which compelled them to abandon their military posts and seek refuge in Sudan which also suffers from insecurity. The fighting resulted in heavy casualties for regime forces.
- A fierce battle erupted between Fano fighters and regime forces in Metemma Woreda early on October 24th, and has continued throughout the day, spanning a vast territory from Mender 6 to Kokit town.
 - The fighting commenced at Mender 6, where intense clashes raged, forcing the regime forces to retreat to Kokit town by midday. The Fano maintained control of Mender 6 following the withdrawal of regime forces.
 - In an attempt to regain lost ground and stem the tide of the Fano advance, the regime deployed reinforcements from Metemma-Yohannes and Genda-Wiha towns, escalating the fighting to a new level of intensity. The confrontation has

drawn in numerous Fano divisions, indicating a significant mobilization of their forces. The battles in Metemma Woreda are indicative of a crucial clash between the Fano and the regime, with both sides committing significant resources and manpower to the conflict. The outcome of this struggle will likely have a substantial impact on the overall conflict in the region.

- On October 25th, a fierce battle raged between Fano fighters and regime forces in Metemma Woreda, specifically at Daskulo village, near Shinfa town.
 - The fighting, which lasted for a grueling 10 hours, resulted in significant casualties for regime forces. At least 22 regime soldiers were confirmed killed, while another 17 suffered critical injuries.
 - While the Fano fighters also endured casualties, their losses were considerably less severe. One Fano member was killed in the fighting, while two sustained critical injuries and five suffered minor physical injuries.
 - Following their defeat, regime forces engaged in reprisal attacks against civilians, targeting the community where the fighting took place. 3 civilians were killed in Daskulo village.

West Armachiho Woreda

- On October 22nd, regime forces unleashed a barrage of heavy artillery fire towards the Gwang River, indiscriminately targeting the surrounding area. This reckless act of violence resulted in the tragic deaths of two innocent civilians. Furthermore, the indiscriminate shelling claimed the lives of over 100 cattle, which were tied up and left to graze overnight in the path of the regime's artillery fire.
- On October 23rd, regime forces launched a major offensive in West Armachiho Woreda, aiming to seize control of the strategic road between Abrahajira and Soroqa towns, which had been blocked by Fano fighters for an extended period.

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- The primary objective was to force open the vital artery and re-establish the regime’s control over the area. The fighting centered around the town of Ergoye, located near to the Welkait Tegede Setit Humera Zone, where intense clashes erupted between the two forces.
 - Despite initial advances, regime forces faced fierce resistance from the Fano, who employed ambush tactics and engaged in close-quarters combat. After hours of intense fighting, regime forces managed to penetrate Ergoye town. However, their victory came at a heavy price, as they sustained significant casualties in the face of the Fano’s determined defense. The Amhara Fano in Gonder Tekezze Division, led by Commander Abebaw Amare, under the banner of the Netsanet Fano Brigade, has achieved a resounding victory in a fierce ambush operation near Ergoye town particularly at Qutir 5 village located on the road leading from Soroqa to Abrahajira on October 24th.
 - The regime’s joint forces, were decisively routed, suffering heavy casualties in terms of both personnel and equipment. In addition to this, the Fano secured a victory in Gobe, repelling the regime’s advance.
 - On the same day (October 24th), the regime’s joint forces, attempting to capture Gobe town, met with a crushing defeat at the hands of the Fano. The Goytom-Risqey and Bisotegnyaw Abebe Kasse Brigade, both under the Tekezze Fano Division, executed a coordinated operation, achieving a resounding victory. The regime’s forces were forced to retreat in defeat.

North Gonder Zone

Debark Woreda

- The Amhara Fano in Gonder’s Ras Dejen Division has emerged as a formidable force against the regime in North Gonder. While regime forces attempted to

advance from Gedebye town, they were ambushed near Finote-Selam, a location near Woqen town on October 24th. The Ras Dejen Divisions's Bitwedded Adane Mekonnen Aba Defar Brigade, inflicted a decisive defeat, showcasing their tactical prowess and unwavering resolve.

East and Horo Guduru Wollega Zones (Oromia Region)

- In recent developments over the past week, the ENDF and OSF, in collaboration with the regional administrative cabinet, have engaged in multiple violations against civilian Amhara residents in various woredas and towns across the East and Horo Guduru Wollega Zones.
 - Sources indicate that tensions escalated following a series of meetings initiated by the regime's joint forces in several towns.
 - One notable meeting took place in Gida-Ayana Woreda, led by General Amsalu, who demanded that all Amhara residents surrender their firearms, including those that are legally registered. The General accused the Amhara community of supporting the Fano extremist group and threatened indiscriminate violence against them unless they complied by disarming and severing ties with Fano fighters. Regime officials further intimidated local Amhara residents, warning that they would be prohibited from harvesting crops if they failed to submit their firearms by October 28th.
 - Similar meetings were conducted in other areas including Tulu-Gana, Andido Dicho and elsewhere, primarily to intimidate Amhara residents. Following these events, the regime reportedly engaged in widespread arrests, targeting economically well-off individuals, the elderly, and prominent members of the Amhara community. Over 100 civilians have been detained from various kebeles, and family members of these detainees have faced intimidation and

arrests when visiting police stations.

- Tensions remain high in areas inhabited by Amhara communities, as the regime persists in its intimidation and campaign of mass arrests and disarmament.
- Multiple sources including Ethio News and local residents report that the ENDF, Oromo militias, OLA, and other allied and newly recruited forces are planning an armed campaign to disarm Amhara civilians in parts of the Oromia Region.⁴
 - According to sources, this campaign is set to begin on October 29th, in Gutin and other areas of East Wollega Zone, with threats of attacks against civilians, including the use of drone strikes to intimidate residents.
 - The campaign is reportedly targeting six woredas in East Wollega Zone including Diga, Sewa-Sere, Sasiga, Guto-Gida, Nekemte, Gida-Kiremu, Nunu-Kumba and surrounding areas. Residents in East Wollega Zone, particularly, are opposing these planned operations, which are reportedly being led by General Amsalu Kumsa, tasked with overseeing the campaign in the zone.
 - Further operations are planned in Abe-Dongoro, Jardega-Jarte, Amuru, Jima-Arere, Shambu town, and adjacent woredas of Horo Guduru Wollega Zone.
 - In West Shewa Zone, areas with significant Amhara populations, such as Bako, Gida, Gudor, Ambo-Shenen, Fenchu, Gindeberet, and Wayu, are also marked for these campaigns.
 - Oromia Region leaders including regional president Shimelis Abdisa, appear to be using the distraction of the ongoing conflict in the Amhara Region to target Amhara civilians within Oromia Region.

⁴See October 27, 2024 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

Gida-Ayana Woreda

- Amhara civilians, together with stakeholders like the Enat Party, have issued an urgent appeal for assistance to prevent escalating violence in Andodie-Dicho Kebele (East Wollega Zone).⁵
 - During a kebele meeting with regime security officials on October 22nd, residents were ordered to surrender their weapons.
 - Despite civilians’ requests for the official to consider the threat posed by nearby OLA militants, the official reportedly responded, “*you should comply or face the consequences.*”
 - Residents voiced their fears, pointing out that OLA militants, which have committed numerous massacres in Oromia Region, are stationed only 20-km away. They expressed that disarmament would leave them vulnerable to severe attacks.
 - Civilians and stakeholders are urgently calling for immediate intervention to prevent a potential crisis.

West Shewa Zone (Oromia Region)

Ameya Woreda

- On October 24th, armed clashes erupted between Amhara farmers and regime forces.
 - Since August 2024, forced displacements have been ongoing in Ameya Woreda and the Darge area.
 - Despite a temporary reconciliation during the Meskel celebration between September 26th and 27th, regime forces resumed attacks and forced

⁵See October 26, 2024 [update](#) from Enat Party.

displacements against Amhara civilians a week later.

- Regime forces aim to confiscate arms from Amhara civilians, rendering them vulnerable to attacks by the OLA.
- Regime forces have reportedly stationed armed groups wearing ENDF uniforms, who have reportedly attacked civilians.

Gurage Zone (Central Ethiopia Region)

Abeshige Woreda

- In Walga Kebele, arbitrarily detained Amhara individuals are reportedly facing severe torture in a special forces camp.
 - Detention methods allegedly include electrical torture, leaving some detainees critically injured or even at risk of death without urgent medical attention.
 - Names of detainees were identified by Ethio-News, as follows:
 - * Alelign Gizachew
 - * Adefris Assefa
 - * Addisu Worku
 - * Getachew Abebe
- On October 25th, in the Abeshige-Hudad area, over 29 Amhara civilians were arrested by regime forces.
 - The stated reasons for these arrests included possession of weapons and alleged connections to Fano.
 - It has been reported that arrests are being used as a means to extort money, with detainees asked to pay over 50,000 ETB for their release.

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- Sources added that another motive for these arbitrary arrests of Amharas is to seize control of their land and properties.
 - The pattern of arbitrary detentions has spread to Welkite (administrative capital of Gurage Zone), where several Amhara businessmen have also been arrested.
 - There is a growing population of IDPs in Welkite and Walga due to the attacks in the Oromia Region and the surrounding Gurage Zone.

Addis-Ababa City

- On the evening of October 21st, a fire broke out in Merkato Shema-Tera, the largest market in the country.
 - A significant portion of the market has been destroyed by the fire.
 - The regime has been repeatedly targeting and destroying several markets in Addis Ababa.
 - According to several sources, these acts are part of a broader strategy to control the economy by forcibly displacing merchants and, in extreme cases, burning down their market centers.
 - At the time of this report, the regime has been unable to control the fire, which continues to damage properties and buildings.
- Former OLF leader and current Prosperity Party cabinet member, Minister of Culture and Sport, and current Youth and Sport Advisor to Abiy Ahmed, Kejela Merdassa, made controversial remarks in an interview that undermined the rights of non-Oromo residents of Addis Ababa.
 - In the interview with Maleda, Kejela Merdassa claimed that Addis Ababa belongs to the Oromo people, disregarding the historical and legal claims of other ethnic groups.

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- His statement was particularly offensive to the Amhara community and other Ethiopians, who have longstanding ties to the city, dating back centuries before the historic Oromo migration.
 - Kejela Merdassa’s comments, widely considered racist and inflammatory, reflect the Oromo Prosperity Party’s divisive and ethnocentric ideology.
 - On October 21st, 14 individuals, including prominent figures such as Yohannes Buayalew (Amhara Regional Council member), Christian Tadele (House of Representatives member), and Dr. Kassa Teshager (Addis Ababa Council member), appeared before the Federal High Court on charges of constitutional and terrorist crimes.
 - The *Ethiopian Human Rights Commission* (EHRC) was set to report on alleged human rights violations committed by the defendants, with the next hearing scheduled for November 8th.
 - The defendants also filed a bitter complaint regarding the delay of the hearing process.
 - On October 21st, a fire broke out in Merkato neighborhood and largest market in Addis-Ababa at 7 pm, causing extensive damage to the Nebar Market Centre.
 - The fire persisted into October 22nd, though at a reduced intensity.
 - Some individuals, in an attempt to escape the flames by jumping from buildings, tragically died or sustained serious injuries.
 - Regime forces prevented residents and merchants from entering the area on October 22nd.
 - According to DW Amharic, local officials destroyed evidences gathered by their journalist related to the fire.⁶

⁶See October 22, 2024 [news article](#) from DW Amharic News.

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- The regime has yet to release an official statement on the cause of the fire, leading to widespread speculation and suspicion on social media and some resident informants in Addis-Ababa that the regime was involved in causing the incident.
 - Residents of Bole sub-city, Woreda 13, reported to Asham TV that they were being forced to vacate homes they had lived in for over 20 years, without legal recourse or compensation.⁷ Around 50,000 residences face the destruction of their homes with no clear alternatives provided. Residents also complained that their houses were not within designated development zones.
 - Reports indicate that regime forces are demolishing religious institutions and their properties in Addis-Ababa city and surrounding areas. Enat Party issued a statement condemning these actions.⁸
 - Sebeta Getesemani Betedenagil Tebebat Women’s Monastery reported the destruction of its property in an unholy manner, while Miskuye Hizunan Medhanialem Monastery suffered damage under *corridor development* projects.
 - Particularly, the Sebeta Getesemani Betedenagil Tebebat Women’s Monastery has appealed for support, as its dependents are facing humanitarian crises due to the destruction of schools, residences, and income-generating facilities.
 - Arbitrary arrests of Amhara civilians and businessmen by regime forces continues in Addis-Ababa city. Ethio-251 Media reported that Ato Mekdes Aklilu, a prominent businessman and owner of Z-Hub Hotel, as well as a stakeholder in Abyssinia Bank and Nile Insurance, was arrested on 22nd October while

⁷See October 24, 2024 [report](#) from Asham TV.

⁸See October 24, 2024 [\[press statement\]](#) from Enat Party.

undergoing medical treatment.⁹ His whereabouts remain unknown, violating international laws prohibiting enforced disappearances.

- Public transportation operators in Oromia Region, including those on routes to and from Addis-Ababa city, have been reportedly forced to pay for Oromo militia training in addition to standard traffic fines. Wazema Radio reports that drivers are required to pay a 5% fee through Sinke Bank for additional militia training fee, where no receipt is provided.¹⁰ High-deck transport vehicles face additional fees, known locally as “Kote,” at various checkpoints in Oromia.
- On October 25th, the Federal High Court Lideta Branch sentenced 74-year-old historian and journalist Ato Tadios Tantu to six years and three months in prison, along with a 20,000 ETB fine, citing hate speech and incitement.
 - Human rights advocates and social media users have expressed strong opposition to the court’s decision, citing concerns over its influence and manipulation by the regime.
 - Ato Tadios was known for his outspoken criticism of the regime’s policies, which he viewed as enabling genocidal practices.
 - He is also recognized for his advocacy for justice, human dignity, and particularly for championing the rights of the Amhara people. Tadios has highlighted the Amhara community’s contributions to building the Ethiopian state and their sacrifices in defending the country from foreign threats.
- Reports indicate that the Addis-Ababa city administration is planning to allocate condominium housing units to Prosperity Party officials from Sheger city, which is located outside Addis-Ababa and falls under the jurisdiction of Oromia Region.

⁹See October 24, 2024 [report](#) from journalist Mulugetta Anberber (Ethio-251 Media).

¹⁰See October 25, 2024 [report](#) from Wazema Radio.

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- This decision is controversial, as it involves distributing housing units to individuals from outside the city, despite many Addis-Ababa city residents having saved money and waited for condominium allocations.
 - Numerous residents are criticizing this move, viewing it as an act of discrimination and a disregard for the housing needs of city residents.

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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