

# War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – August 11th to 17th, 2025

Updated August 17th, 2025

## **Overview**

For the week of August 11th to 17th, 2025, fighting between the *Amhara Fano* self-defense force (Fano) and *Prosperity Party regime joint forces* (regime forces) has continued in various parts of Amhara Region in Ethiopia.<sup>12</sup>

 This week battle events and rights violations were recorded in more than 50 woreda/city administrations across 12 zonal administrations in Amhara Region.

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>The Fano are organized under sub-regional commands based on geographic location which are comprised of divisions. The major sub-regional commands operate under a consolidated structure known as the *Amhara Fano National Force* (AFNF) which includes the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) [AFW] or East Amhara Qetena (Menelik Command; MC), Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder (AFUG) or North Amhara Qetena (Belay Command; BC), Amhara Fano in Gojjam (AFG), Amhara Fano in Shewa (AFS) or South Amhara Qetena (Asaminew Command; AC). The remaining sub-regional commands operate under the *Amhara Fano People's Organization* (AFPO) which are mainly comprised of the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command (AFSPC), the Amhara Fano Gonder Province Command (AFGPC) and the Amhara Fano Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Command [AFWC].

West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, Bahir-Dar, South Gonder, Central Gonder, West Gonder and North Gonder Zones. Developments were also recorded in East Wollega Zone of Oromia Region and in Addis-Ababa city.

- Civilian casualties were recorded in 7 woreda/city administrations across 4 zonal
  administrations in Amhara Region. These included Raya-Kobo, Kobo, Alamata,
  Meket, Antsokiyana-Gemza, Bahir-Dar and Gonder Woredas in North Wollo, North
  Wollo, Bahir-Dar and Central Gonder Zones. In Alamata city, an attack on civilians
  was carried out by armed Tigrayan settlers with ties to the *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF).
- Arbitrary arrests and abductions were recorded in Raya-Alamata, Raya-Kobo,
   Lalibela and Gidan Woredas of North Wollo Zone in Amhara Region. Mass arrests
   were also recorded in Addis-Ababa city. In the majority of instances, arrests are
   believed to be tied to forced military conscription targeting youths by the regime.

# Northeastern Amhara (Wollo Bete-Amhara Sub-Region)

On August 14th, six regime soldiers reportedly defected to the Fano forces.
 According to sources, the defectors were members of the ENDF North-Eastern
 Command's 48th Division of the regime's armed forces. They joined the Kalakorma
 Division of the East Amhara Corps 2 (operating under the AFNF-MC). The
 defecting soldiers were reported to have brought with them two Kalashnikov rifles,
 405 rounds of ammunition, and two hand-grenades.

## North Wollo Zone

## Raya-Kobo Woreda

- On August 9th, regime militias reportedly injured two religious leaders in Raya-Kobo Woreda, sparking serious concerns about religious tolerance and the growing risk of sectarian violence in the area.
  - The incident occurred during active clashes between Fano and regime forces near Addisu-Sefer, where regime militias, mainly drawn from Workie Kebele intercepted two priests who were traveling from Kalim to Kobo. Upon being stopped and questioned about their origin, the priests informed the militias that they had come from a distant area. Despite their religious affiliation evident from their clerical attire, the militia accused them of supporting or reinforcing the Fano. Without investigation or evidence, the militia opened fire on the civilians, injuring both of them. Witnesses and local sources claim that the attack was deliberate, as the militia members ignored visible signs indicating the victims' religious status.
  - This act of violence deeply alarmed local communities, with growing fears that religious leaders are becoming collateral or even intentional targets in the escalating conflict. Reports suggest that the regime has been actively recruiting individuals from the Muslim religious community, particularly from Workie Kebele, and spreading a narrative that portrays Fano forces as a Christian-dominated group seeking to impose Christian identity on Muslims. This alleged propaganda campaign paints Fano fighters as hostile toward Muslims, labelling them as intolerant aggressors. Such narratives have had a polarizing effect on the region, which has historically been known for peaceful coexistence between religious groups. This trend has led to accusations that the regime is attempting to weaponize religious affiliations to foster mistrust

- and fear between communities for military and political gains.
- Another recent incident that illustrates the severity of the religious dimension in the current conflict. In an earlier report, regime militias from Workie Kebele were accused of entering St. Mikael's Church in Kobo city and killing an elderly civilian inside the religious compound.1 This deadly incident, committed in a sacred space, has been seen as a grave violation of religious sanctity and further escalated tensions between religious communities.
- On August 12th, Fano forces carried out a targeted ambush against regime militias near Gobiye-Ber.
  - The operation was conducted by units operating under the AFNF-MC.
     According to sources on the ground, the ambush took place as regime militias were returning from Workie Kebele, where they had been deployed to provide security for regime officials.
  - As a result of the ambush, at least two regime militias were killed. The precise number of injured personnel remains unconfirmed. The attack appears to have been part of a broader strategy by Fano forces to disrupt regime movements and challenge their presence in contested rural areas.
- On August 15th, a fresh military deployment took place near Gobiye-Ber as both Fano fighters and regime forces positioned themselves in close proximity.
  - According to sources, regime forces were observed deploying along the main Woldia–Kobo asphalt road, specifically between the towns of Gobiye and Robit towns, a strategic corridor for transportation and military movement in the region. In close proximity, Fano forces reportedly descended from the surrounding highlands and established positions along the same stretch of road, effectively bringing the two opposing sides into a tense standoff within a

- few kilometers of one another, particularly around the Gobiye-Ber area. The confrontation is said to have occurred during the afternoon hours.
- While there were no confirmed reports of direct engagement or casualties at the time of reporting, the close deployment of both forces in such a narrow and strategic area has raised fears of imminent clashes. Local sources have stated that this type of military buildup could serve as a flashpoint for renewed fighting between Fano and regime forces, particularly given the broader pattern of escalating hostilities in recent weeks.
- On August 16th, regime forces reportedly carried out a violent house-to-house campaign in Gobiye.
  - One of the most serious incidents involved the killing of a 26-year-old youth, Muhammed (Endris) Molla, in the Alula-Meqabir area. According to sources, the regime forces forcibly entered Muhammed's family home and took him to the backyard where they shot him in the leg, disabling him. When family members and neighbors attempted to transport him for medical care, the regime soldiers prevented them from doing so. Subsequently, they executed him by shooting him in the head, killing him on the spot.
  - In addition to the killing, Moges Tefera, another civilian, was severely injured
    after being repeatedly beaten on his leg with sticks by regime forces. Similar
    beatings and arbitrary arrests were reported in Gobiye town and surrounding
    kebeles, including Gendetis and Wacho.
  - The violence appears to be part of a broader campaign of repression targeting youth and suspected Fano supporters. These systematic abuses have pushed many young people to flee the area, seeking refuge either in dangerous forested areas or by attempting risky migration to middle eastern countries, often under life-threatening conditions.

 In a related development, regime forces have reportedly been gathering local residents in Gobiye, Wacho, and neighboring areas to pressure them into persuading their sons, who have joined the Fano resistance, to abandon the struggle and return home. However, residents have resisted these efforts, responding with firm and truthful statements. According to participants: "just as you, the regime soldiers, did not seek your fathers' permission before joining the regime, our sons did not ask our permission to join Fano. Therefore, we cannot simply order them to return." They further emphasized that without high-level political negotiations, expecting local families to convince their sons to surrender is both unrealistic and meaningless. The community has also set preconditions, stating that: "regime forces must withdraw from our area first. Only then can discussions about the return of our sons begin. Otherwise, we will not hand over our children to armed forces." Despite attempts by regime representatives to enforce these gatherings, reportedly under orders from higher-level authorities, they have struggled to gather the local population.

## Kobo City

- On the night of August 12th, an unidentified woman was reportedly abducted from her residence near the Technical and Vocational Training College in Kobo city.
  - According to sources, the perpetrators have demanded a ransom exceeding one million ETB. As of August 13th, no group has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping. This incident has further deepened fear among the local population, particularly among individuals perceived to be financially well-off. The growing number of such abductions has led to heightened insecurity and anxiety in the area.
  - Reports suggest that regime forces have engaged in politically-motivated

- abductions as part of a broader strategy in the ongoing conflict. Regime militias have targeted individuals suspected of supporting the Fano movement, sympathizing with opposition groups, or civilians perceived to be wealthy.
- On the other hand, Fano groups have been accused of abductions targeting regime agents, intelligence operatives, and local officials. In many cases, these individuals are held for ransom rather than being executed or imprisoned, with ransoms sometimes reaching millions of birr. The Fano have used this tactic as a form of non-lethal punishment for known regime affiliates.
- On the night of August 15th, regime militias reportedly killed a 17-year-old civilian youth in the Tena Tabiya (Health Center) area of Kobo city.
  - According to local sources, the killing was carried out in a brutal manner.
    After executing the young man, regime militias allegedly confiscated his mobile phone and called his family directly. During the call, they informed the relatives that their child had been killed and warned them that they would not be allowed to retrieve or bury his body. The victim's body was left exposed overnight, reportedly mutilated by stray dogs and soaked by rain.
  - This act has caused widespread shock and condemnation among residents of Kobo city and surrounding communities. The denial of burial and the desecration of the body are seen as a severe affront to community values and traditions, where proper funeral rites are deeply respected. The act has sparked intense outrage and public grief, contributing to the growing anger toward regime forces in the region.

## **Alamata City**

 On the night of August 12th, armed Tigrayan settlers carried out an attack targeting the Abune Aregawi Church in Alamata city. According to accounts, the settlers, which hold ties with the TPLF, intimidated and assaulted the church guards before proceeding to loot various religious properties within the church premises. This incident is part of a pattern of human rights abuses and attacks on religious institutions targeting indigenous Amhara residents.

## Raya-Alamata Woreda

- On August 12th, armed Tigrayan settlers have continued a widespread pattern of abuses of civilians, and looting of private property in Raya-Alamata Woreda.
  - According to accounts, armed Tigrayan settlers with ties to the TPLF, were seen detaining an individual in an inhumane manner, binding his hands and legs, while forcibly transporting him from the Waja area toward remote desert areas. Locals expressed deep concern that such actions are taking place without any oversight or intervention, including from the Federal Command Post in the region. In addition to these acts, looting of residential homes have become increasingly frequent.
  - These continued violations have created an atmosphere of fear and insecurity among the local population. Residents are calling on relevant authorities, human rights organizations, and stakeholders to take urgent action against ongoing abuses being committed by the armed settlers. These developments highlight not only a breakdown in rule of law and civilian protection but also an urgent need for a coordinated response to prevent further escalation and restore basic human rights in the affected areas.

## Meket Woreda

 On August 13th, Fano forces conducted a planned urban operation in Filakit-Gergera.

- The operation was carried out by units of the Lasta Asaminew Corps (which
  operates under the AFNF-MC) including the Major-General Wubante Abate
  Division, and Ayisha Sayed Brigade. The operation commenced at
  approximately 11 pm.
- As a result of the operation, the regime forces reportedly suffered significant
  casualties. According to sources, five regime personnel were killed, including
  three riot dispersal forces and two militia members. Additionally, three other
  regime forces were injured during the engagement.
- In response, regime forces reportedly retaliated by killing a civilian in the city, an act described by witnesses as brutal and targeted, further intensifying tensions in the area.
- On August 17th, multiple sources confirm that defections from regime forces to the Fano resistance continue to rise in Meket Woreda and neighboring areas.
  - According to reports, two local militia and two riot dispersal personnel
    recently defected, bringing their weapons and equipment with them, and
    joined the Wubante Abate Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Lasta
    Asaminew Corps). Sources suggest that these defections are primarily driven
    by growing disillusionment and outrage over the regime's ongoing oppression
    and mistreatment of the Amhara people.
  - Sources have reported between 40 to 50 regime personnel are defecting daily to the Fano in northeastern Amhara, a trend seen as a reflection of eroding morale and internal dissent within the regime's ranks. These continued defections are expected to bolster the Fano forces' manpower while simultaneously weakening the operational capacity and cohesion of the regime forces in the region.

## Lasta Woreda

- On August 16th, Fano fighters carried out an ambush against regime forces in Kulmesk.
  - The ambush was executed by fighters from the Tekeze Division (under the AFNF-MC Lasta Asaminew Corps). The regime convoy, which was en route to deliver rations, was targeted at Kulmesk, near a location locally known as Chenna Camp, at around noon. In response, the Fano forces launched a well-coordinated surprise attack, which resulted in the destruction of the regime unit and the seizure of military assets. During this ambush, the Fano forces captured 2 machineguns, 15 kalashnikov rifles, 2 military communication radios, 15 sets of chest armor, and approximately 1,650 rounds of ammunition for machineguns and kalashnikov rifles.
  - In addition to the equipment, three regime soldiers who survived the firefight
    were captured, while the rest of the unit was reportedly neutralized. The total
    number of regime casualties remains unspecified, but sources describe the unit
    as entirely destroyed.

## Lalibela City

- Between August 16th and 17th, regime forces conducted a widespread campaign of forced military conscription and civilian intimidation in Lalibela town.
  - On August 16th, regime forces reportedly carried out mass arrests targeting
    youth, forcibly conscripting them into military service. According to multiple
    eyewitness accounts, these arrests were conducted without due process and
    involved aggressive house-to-house searches and the detention of individuals
    in public spaces, including markets and roads.

- In addition to the forced conscription, regime troops allegedly beat and harassed civilians, including persons visiting Lalibela town for market shopping from rural areas, and elderly individuals and religious figures attending church services. Such actions were reportedly carried out without any provocation, arbitrarily targeting civilians in public areas.
- The incident has caused deep concern among the local population and religious community, especially given Lalibela's status as a sacred and historic site, recognized internationally for its cultural and spiritual significance.

#### Gidan Woreda

- As of August 17th, regime forces have reportedly intensified forced military conscription campaigns through mass arrests and detentions in Muja town and surrounding areas.
  - According to multiple sources, officials affiliated with the ruling Prosperity Party at the woreda level are actively involved in the abduction of young men, forcing them into militia service. These actions are allegedly accompanied by widespread looting and intimidation of the local population. The following individuals have been named by sources as key actors in these activities:
    - 1. Gedef Feleke Militia Office and Deputy Woreda Administrator
    - 2. Alene Biyargling Prosperity Party Office Representative
    - 3. Temesgen Asnake Peace and Security Office
    - 4. Zenebe Tizazu Kebele Administrator
  - These officials are accused of coordinating the abduction and forced recruitment of youth, who are then transferred to the militia base in Muja-Mariam town.

In a related development earlier this week (specific date unconfirmed), forces associated with the regime reportedly carried out a coordinated nighttime raid in Muja-Mariam town. During this operation, one individual was robbed of 6,000 ETB and a smartphone, a local businessman lost two quintals of coffee, and another resident was reportedly robbed of 17 smartphones and 90,000 ETB in cash.

## Gubalafto Woreda

- On the night of August 16th, Fano forces launched a targeted operation against regime security personnel in Sanqa town.
  - The attack was executed by the Asaminew Division (operating under the AFNF-MC East Amhara Corps 2). According to sources, the operation targeted regime police officers who were off duty and consuming alcohol at local establishments in the town. Fano fighters entered Sanqa over night and took direct action against the officers. As a result, two police officers were killed and one was wounded.
  - In the course of the operation, the owner of the grocery establishment where
    the police were drinking was also shot and injured. Reports indicate she was
    accused, without evidence, of providing a tip-off about the officers' presence.
     She is currently receiving medical treatment at a nearby hospital.

## **South Wollo Zone**

## **Ambassel Woreda**

 On August 11th, regime forces reportedly deployed and launched heavy weaponry in Ambassel Woreda.

- According to sources, heavy weapons positioned in Kebele 05 were fired towards the Kolet and Dibit areas.
- On the same day, active fighting broke out in the Golbo-Kenteri area between
  the Fano forces (operating under the AFNF-MC), and regime forces, whose
  units were reportedly stationed nearby. The fighting reportedly lasted
  throughout the day. Details regarding casualties or damage on either side have
  not yet been confirmed.
- This situation indicates continued military escalation in Ambassel Woreda, including the use of heavy weapons in civilian-populated areas and sustained clashes between opposition and regime forces.

# Southeastern Amhara (Shewa Sub-Region)

## **North Shewa Zone**

## Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda

- On August 10th, regime forces reportedly carried out the extrajudicial execution of eight civilians in Fecho-Megentiya, located near Mekoy town.
  - The victims were targeted due to their alleged lack of support for the ruling party and familial associations to Fano fighters. These developments indicate a deliberate and escalating policy of repression that may amount to state-sponsored terror, raising serious human rights and legal concerns.
    According to sources, eight civilians were killed by regime forces in Mekoy town. Some victims were reportedly severely beaten during interrogation, while others were deliberately shot while working. The victims included self-employed individuals and day laborers, including fathers, sons, and brothers, who were arrested arbitrarily and summarily executed.

- The victims were identified by name as follows:
  - 1. Eshete Damene;
  - 2. Wasu Eshete (son of Eshete Damene);
  - 3. Temesgen Wosine;
  - 4. Shewa Wosine (brother of Temesgen Wosine);
  - 5. Basazin Getu;
  - 6. Shambel Bekele;
  - 7. Sine Mengiste; and
  - 8. Tadesse Jemaneh.
- On August 11th, the Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda Peace Council issued a statement appearing to justify past killings by regime forces and outlining future actions that include extrajudicial executions, mass arrests, surveillance, asset confiscation, and detention without due process.<sup>3</sup>
  - The statement outlines numerous key directives addressed to the general public, institutions, and local authorities within the woreda:
    - \* No individual, institution, or group is permitted to engage in any form of interaction with members of the designated "extremist group." This includes appearing together in public, gathering, eating, drinking, or spending the night with such individuals. The statement warns that any person found engaging in such activities will be subjected to the same "action" imposed on members of the extremist group.
    - \* All telephone or electronic communication with the leadership or members of the group is strictly forbidden. The statement notes that any contact traced via "technology-assisted surveillance" will lead to punitive action.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>See August 11, 2025 statement from the Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda Communications Office.

- \* Participation in meetings, campaigns, or any event organized by the group is prohibited and will be met with consequences.
- \* Providing food, money, ammunition, clothing, or any form of material support to the group will be defined as an act of "extremism." A security monitoring system has reportedly been established to trace both the provider and the recipient of such support. Strict punitive measures are promised against violators.
- \* Individuals appointed by the group to administrative or leadership positions, such as kebele administrators, village chiefs, or logistics coordinators, are instructed to resign immediately and report their resignation in person or by phone to district authorities. Failure to comply, the statement says, will result in action, as these positions are not considered separate from the group itself.
- \* The public is strongly advised not to provide directions to the group, offer food or clothing, spread information that causes public fear, share security-related information with the group, offer transportation or technical assistance or any party found engaging in these acts will face undisclosed punitive measures.
- \* The statement declares that using state-issued private, or group-owned weapons against the state is illegal and will result in "*irreparable*" consequences.
- \* Transportation, storage, or concealing items such as medical supplies, ammunition, clothing, or weapons for the group is strictly prohibited. Any vehicle caught transporting such items will be confiscated, and severe action will be taken against those involved.
- While condemning the group's actions, the statement also appeals to those
   willing to surrender, urging the broader community to stop supporting what it

views as a destructive conflict. It stresses that continued war will hinder development, destabilize families, and jeopardize education and public services. The state officials, it claims, remains open to reintegration for those who accept the "option of peace", but will intensify its enforcement campaign against anyone who refuses.

The language and directives in the statement reflect a strategy of collective punishment, mass surveillance, and community-wide enforcement. Repeated threats of "irreparable action" signal a zero-tolerance policy without due process that risks triggering further civilian harm, arbitrary punishment, and widespread human rights violations. This statement, combined with recent killings and arrests in the region, suggests a coordinated and aggressive campaign to suppress dissent and opposition through fear, public pressure, and legal ambiguity. It may also serve as a formal justification for past and future extrajudicial actions by regime forces. It draws parallels to historical acts of political terror and repression, such as the Red Terror (undertaken by the Derg military junta regime), and raises alarm over the potential for further atrocities.

#### Merhabete Woreda

- As of August 11th, clashes between Fano and regime forces has continued for a second consecutive day in Merhabete Woreda.
  - The conflict has intensified significantly, covering multiple fronts and involving heavy weaponry. The fighting primarily involved the Atse Dawit Division of the Atse Amdetsion Corps (part of the AFPO-AFSPC), engaging with the 101st ENDF Air force Commando Unit, supported by regime militia and police units. Hostilities escalated when regime forces, originating from Alem-Ketema, launched an assault on Fano positions at 2 am, initiating the battle under the cover of night. In response, the Fano forces deployed units

from two directions, Serg and Warign, starting at 4:30 am. Intense fighting followed in the Garda, Chigur, and Kimtet areas. Regime forces deployed ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, 107-mm mortars, and other heavy artillery in their offensive. However, they suffered significant losses during the Fano counter-offensive, particularly within the 101st Commando Unit. In response to these losses, regime forces called for reinforcements from multiple nearby towns, including Lemi (Ensaro Woreda), Zemero (Menz-Keya Woreda), and Meragna and Rema (Mida-Woremo Woreda). The battlefront subsequently expanded from Mida-Meragna toward Gora Kebele and Lebika Kebele, which borders South Wollo Zone. This geographical spread has placed regime-held towns in the woreda under intense pressure and panic, as Fano forces gain ground.

- As of August 11th, additional regime troops were being deployed in response to the heavy losses sustained including three Sinotrucks carrying personnel, and one patrol vehicle equipped with a ZU-23. These forces are en route from Rema to Alem-Ketema, signaling a continued escalation. Meanwhile, ENDF reinforcements sent from Zemero town (Menz-Keya Woreda) were intercepted and repelled by the Menelik Division in the Ahaba area, further disrupting regime reinforcements and weakening their ability to regain control.
- In earlier fighting, at least 25 regime soldiers were confirmed killed and several more were seriously wounded and transported in a single military truck to Enat Hospital in Alem-Ketema town (Merhabete Woreda). The hospital has reportedly been locked down, with civilian patients barred from entering or moving within the facility, indicating a severe military emergency response.
- On the night of August 17th, Fano forces executed a coordinated and planned night-time assault targeting a regime military encampment in Kolash.

- The operation was conducted by members of the Atse Dawit Division (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC Atse Amdetsion Corps). The targeted unit was identified as the 101st Airborne Division of the regime forces. Taking advantage of heavy overnight rainfall to conceal their movements, the operation was carried out between 4 pm and 6 am. The adverse weather conditions were strategically used to surprise and disorient the camped forces.
- As a result of the assault, several regime fighters were reportedly killed or wounded. A significant number of the injured are currently being transported by ambulance to Enat Hospital in Alem-Ketema for emergency treatment. In response to the attack, regime forces appeared shaken and began mobilizing reinforcements from Mida and Rema to Alem-Ketema, possibly in preparation for a counter-response or to bolster weakened positions.

## **Asagirt Woreda**

On August 11th, Fano forces conducted a planned and targeted military operation
against regime forces in Ginager town. The attack was carried out at 4 am by
fighters from the Negodguad and Kessem Divisions (both under the AFNF-AC).
The operation was launched in the early hours of the morning, aimed at weakening
regime presence in the area. Sources report significant casualties among regime
forces. Multiple ENDF personnel, local militia members, and military commanders
were reportedly killed or wounded during the operation.

## **Shewa-Robit City**

- On August 11th, Fano forces executed an urban operation in Shewa-Robit city.
  - The operation was led by the Aschalew Dessie Division's 2nd Battalion
     (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC Mohammed Bihonegn Corps). The Fano

- reportedly infiltrated the city up to the Addisu-Gebeya area at approximately 7:30 pm, targeting regime forces stationed in the area.
- As a result, several regime forces sustained injuries. The wounded personnel
  were reportedly taken to Shewa-Robit Hospital for treatment. Although no
  fatalities have been officially confirmed from the operation, regime forces
  responded with heavy artillery shelling in and around the city, signalling a
  forceful retaliation.

## **Efratana-Gidim Woreda**

- On August 15th, coordinated offensives were launched by various units of the Fano forces against regime positions in Efratana-Gidim Woreda.
  - The attacks were carried out on multiple fronts and involved several military divisions under different command structures.
  - The first engagement began in the early hours of the morning, around 5 am, in and around Bergbi Kebele. This offensive was spearheaded by Fano forces operating under the AFNF-AC, particularly Atse Yekunoamlak, Negodguad, and Nadew Divisions, each contributing to the multi-pronged assault. Reports from the area indicate that clashes between Fano and regime forces were intense. Although the precise number of casualties remains unconfirmed at this time, sources suggest that the regime side in particular sustained losses.
  - Later the same morning, around 9 am, a second front was opened in Abober-Wotaga Kebele, specifically in the vicinity of Ameja Gebriel Church. This assault was led by the 7/70 Division (part of the AFPO-AFSPC Atse Amdetsion Corps). This operation reportedly targeted the 103rd Airforce Unit of the regime and its allied ground forces. As with the earlier engagement, the full extent of casualties has not yet been independently verified.

- As of August 16th, intense clashes between Fano forces and regime troops have continued to escalate in Efratana-Gidim Woreda, following a renewed military campaign launched by the regime in retaliation for its earlier defeat.
  - The latest round of fighting reportedly erupted on August 16th, after regime forces mobilized reinforcements from several nearby towns and woredas, including Ataye, Mehal-Meda, Zemro, Molale, and Menz-Gera. This movement appears to have been a direct response to heavy losses suffered by regime units on August 15th, during a major Fano offensive in the area.
  - In response, multiple divisions and battalions under the AFNF-AC, launched counter-offensives targeting the advancing regime troops. According to sources, the Demelash Battalion of the Sebat-Leseba Division and the Anisha Sayed Battalion of the Atse Yekunoamlak Division were involved. These battalions reportedly engaged regime forces in Meskel-Ber Kebele and Mehal-Wonz Kebele, both situated within Efratana-Gidim Woreda.
  - Sources reported that regime forces suffered significant losses in personnel and equipment during the engagements.

## Menz-Gera-Midir Woreda

- As of August 16th, heavy clashes between Fano and regime forces have intensified in Menz-Gera-Midir Woreda.
  - The renewed fighting was reportedly initiated by regime forces, who began mobilizing and deploying units from multiple surrounding areas to confront Fano fighters operating in and around Menz-Gera. This build-up of regime forces is believed to be a continuation of operations launched in response to earlier defeats suffered during engagements in Efratana-Gidim Woreda and its surrounding areas on August 15th.

- In response, Fano forces launched a wide-scale counter-offensive, expanding their operational coverage across a large area, from Darge to Sefed-Meda in Kebele 016. Fano fighters were able to surround and lay siege to these areas, effectively cutting off regime forces and preventing them from moving in or out of the besieged areas. The counter-offensive was led by battalions under the Negodguad and Atse Yekunoamlak Divisions (under the AFNF-AC).
- Between August 14th and 16th, Fano forces continued to engage regime forces across multiple fronts in Menz-Gera-Midir Woreda.
  - Beginning at approximately 5 am, coordinated attacks were launched across several fronts. The Siber Battalion of the Sebat-Leseba Division, along with the 4th Battalion of the Atse Yekuno-Amlak Division (part of the AFNF-AC), led a successful advance into regime-held positions on the Dingay-Wodima front. The Demelash Battalion from the Sebat-Leseba Division and the Mebrequ Brigade from the Negodguad Division carried out a well-coordinated strike that penetrated deep into regime defensive lines on the Gulo front. The 5th Battalion of the Atse Yekuno-Amlak Division launched an offensive on the Kermakie-Tereter front, further intensifying pressure on regime forces. In a broader three-day military engagement aimed at halting the regime's advancement from the Menz front, Fano forces successfully mounted a strong resistance and inflicted significant damage on the regime forces.
  - According to field reports, regime troops suffered substantial losses, including the complete destruction of three vehicles. Among these, two patrol vehicles were destroyed beyond repair, and two Isuzu transportation trucks were heavily damaged. Additionally, more than 40 regime fighters sustained injuries during the clashes. Most of the wounded were later transported and admitted to a hospital in Mehal-Meda for medical treatment.

## **Berehet Woreda**

- On August 15th, regime forces reportedly carried out an indiscriminate mortar attack in Mosobit, a rural area within Wesil Kebele.
  - The attack resulted in the death of several farm animals and caused distress and harm to local residents. According to sources, the incident occurred after regime forces failed in an attempt to engage the Tesfa Brigade, under the Kessem Division (part of the AFNF-AC). The regime troops had reportedly travelled from Meteh-Bila town, attempting to strike Fano positions. Unable to achieve their objective, they allegedly resorted to shelling nearby civilian areas. The mortar fire led to the killing of at least four cattle and ten goats, animals which were the property of local farmers. These livestock were critical to the farmers' livelihoods, making the loss not only material but deeply personal and economically damaging.
  - After carrying out the assault, the regime forces reportedly withdrew from the area, leaving behind destruction and fear among local residents. This incident adds to growing concerns over the use of indiscriminate force by regime troops in civilian-populated rural areas, particularly when military objectives are not achieved. Livestock are a vital part of the rural economy and daily survival for communities like Mosobit, and their destruction not only affects immediate sustenance but also deepens the humanitarian and economic crisis in the region.

# Southwestern Amhara (Gojjam Sub-Region)

## East Gojjam Zone

## **Enbise-Sar-Midir Woreda**

- On August 12th, intense fighting took place in the vicinity of Merto-Lemariam town.
  - The fighting was initiated by regime forces, which mobilized a large-scale ground and mechanized force toward the Fano fighters. The main fighting occurred in the Segno-Weriya area. According to sources, the regime offensive was unexpected and fierce. The Abay-Sheleqo Brigade, under the Samuel Aweke Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), confronted the regime forces to defend the area from regime control.
  - Sources reported that several casualties were inflicted on combatants from both sides during this confrontation. At least four confirmed deaths and a few more injuries were sustained on the Fano side, while casualties among the regime soldiers were described as numerous. Sources indicated at least 48 regime soldiers were killed and 18 others were wounded during this confrontation. Civilian casualties were also reported during this confrontation, with details will be identified through further investigation.

## Gozamin Woreda

 On August 12th, Fano fighters carried out a sudden operation in the Debre-Markos neighborhood. The operation was reportedly carried out by the Yebokla-Abay and Tedla Gualu Brigades, under the Haddis Alemayehu Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). This sudden offensive led to an open confrontation where Fano fighters overwhelmed the regime soldiers and inflicted numerous casualties, particularly among state militias and riot dispersal police. Sources reported at least 31 regime forces killed and 14 wounded during the operation. Sources also reported two police defected from the regime and subsequently joined the Fano.

## Machakel Woreda

 On August 14th, Fano fighters conducted an operation in the Yenech and Embuli areas.

The operation was reportedly conducted by the Belay Zeleke Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). The operation was aimed at the regime reinforcement forces who were mobilizing from Amanuel to the battlefront in Dembecha town. This operation led to an open confrontation where the Fano fighters managed to hinder their movements to reinforce the troops in the Dembecha battle. Fano fighters reported that they inflicted further casualties among the regime soldiers during this operation.

- On August 17th, heavy fighting was reported in the Emboli area.
  - The fighting was launched by the Belay Zeleke Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). According to sources, Fano fighters initiated the fighting by conducting a sudden offensive on the regime forces who were en route from Finote-Selam toward the Amanuel direction. This sudden offensive led to an open confrontation that continued for a prolonged period.
  - Sources reported one confirmed death and a few more injuries on the Fano
     side, while casualties among the regime soldiers were described as numerous.

## **Debre-Elias Woreda**

• On August 13th, Fano fighters conducted an operation in the Elias town area. The operation was reportedly carried out by the Qeste-Demena Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). According to sources, the Fano fighters covertly infiltrated the regime's presence in the Yeqegat area and launched an offensive, which led to an open confrontation. The fighting reportedly began in the morning and lasted for a brief period. The number of casualties resulting from this exchange of fire remained unconfirmed. The Fano fighters reportedly killed and injured several regime soldiers during this operation, claiming that the regime forces retrieved the deceased and injured soldiers, transporting them in two vehicles.

## West Gojjam Zone

#### Jabi-Tehnan Woreda

- As of August 11th, fighting that began earlier in the Finote-Selam neighborhood continued.
  - On August 10th, it was reported that heavy fighting took place in the Hodanshi area. During this operation, Fano fighters overwhelmed and pushed the regime soldiers out of the area. The following day (August 11th) regime forces mobilized reinforcements and launched an attack to regain control of the Hodanshi area. The Arenzaw-Damot Brigade (part of the AFNF-AFG), fiercely resisted in a counterattack. The regime forces reportedly employed heavy artillery indiscriminately, with much of the shelling falling on residential areas.
  - Although the exact figure remains unknown, sources reported that the Fano fighters inflicted considerable casualties among the regime soldiers.

- On August 13th, fighting took place in two locations in Jabi-Tehnan Woreda.
  - The first battlefront was in the Mircha area, where regime forces mobilized from Jiga town. The Geremew Wendawek and Arenzaw Damot Brigades, under the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), confronted the regime forces to defend against their advance into the Mircha area. Sources reported that combatants from both sides sustained casualties during this confrontation, with a greater number of casualties reported among the regime soldiers. After hours of gunfire exchange, the regime forces reportedly withdrew and returned to their base in Jiga town.
  - The second fighting took place in the Finote-Selam neighborhood. The fighting was reportedly initiated by the Arenzaw Damot Brigade, which approached the regime's position and conducted an offensive early in the morning. The fighting was specifically conducted in the Shembekuma area, located in the suburbs of Finote-Selam city. The confrontation reportedly lasted for a brief period, with the resulting casualties from both combatant parties remaining unreported.

## **Dembecha Woreda**

- On August 14th, heavy fighting took place in Dembecha town.
  - The fighting was initiated by the Engineer Kiber Temesgen Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). According to sources, the Fano fighters approached Dembecha town overnight and launched an offensive on the regime's presence early in the morning. This fighting was very intense, characterized by hand-to-hand confrontation and heavy machinegun fire, and it covered an expansive area. Reports indicated that the fighting took place at the regime's positions, particularly in the

Feres-Bet-Megenteya and Gelila-Megenteya areas, and around the Gabriel and Bahta Churches. During this confrontation, Fano fighters managed to control various regime positions and breached four regime forts in Dembecha town.

After hours of exchange, the fighting subsided around midday following the arrival of regime reinforcements from Finote-Selam and Jiga, and Fano fighters withdrew from the town.

Consequently, the regime forces suffered significant human and material losses during this operation. Military and non-military equipment were destroyed and captured by the Fano fighters. Among others, more than 60 firearms, including rifles, vehicles, and over 16 regime soldiers, were captured by Fano fighters. According to sources, at least four Fano members were killed and a few more injured during this confrontation. Fano fighters reported that they overwhelmed the regime forces in Dembecha town, claiming to have killed and injured numerous regime soldiers.

#### Wemberima Woreda

- On August 13th, a light gunfire exchange took place in Wemberima Woreda. The fighting was initiated by regime forces, who mobilized ground forces from Shindi town toward the Marquma and Koki areas. The Shindi-Wemberima Brigade, under the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), conducted an ambush before regime forces reached these areas. Disrupted by the Fano ambush, the regime forces returned to Shindi town without a significant confrontation. During this operation, Fano fighters reportedly captured at least three regime soldiers and three firearms.
- On August 16th, fighting took place in Shindi town and the surrounding area.
  - The fighting was initiated by regime forces who mobilized from Shindi town

and advanced toward the Heret and Qatlan areas. The Shindi Wemberima and Werkabay Brigades, under the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), fiercely resisted with a counteroffensive. Reports indicated that the Fano fighters had intelligence about the regime's movement and conducted an ambush before the forces reached these areas. This ambush led to an open confrontation, with reports of casualties on both sides. Sources reported at least eight regime soldiers killed and others injured during this confrontation.

 On the same day, Fano fighters launched gunfire in Shindi town, aimed at disrupting regime reinforcements to the battle areas.

## Awi Zone

## Banja Woreda

• On August 11th, fighting took place in the Gubala area. The fighting was initiated by regime forces who had mobilized towards a Fano presence. The Simeneh Desta Brigade, under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), reportedly confronted the regime forces to hinder their advancement toward the Gubala area. The exchange of gunfire occurred during midday and lasted for a brief period, less than an hour. The casualties from this confrontation remain unidentified. The Fano fighters reportedly overwhelmed and pushed the regime forces back, killing at least 5 soldiers and injuring 7 others.

## Jawi Woreda

- On August 12th, heavy fighting was conducted in and around Fendika town.
  - The fighting was initiated by Fano units from the Jawi-Metekel Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). According to sources, the Fano fighters began an

offensive against regime forces near the Gesho River, which is located close to Fendika town. In the afternoon, the fighting expanded into Fendika town, as the Fano fighters pursued the regime soldiers, leading to a prolonged confrontation. The exchange of fire continued until the evening, with both sides utilizing heavy machinegun fire. Due to the extended nature of the confrontation, the final outcome of the fighting was unconfirmed.

 Sources reported at least 24 regime soldiers killed and 11 more wounded during the confrontation.

## North Gojjam Zone

#### **South Achefer Woreda**

- On August 14th, intense fighting took place in Durbeti town.
  - The fighting was initiated by the Abe-Gubegna Brigade, under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). This operation primarily targeted the state militia and police encampment, with Fano fighters conducting an offensive against their presence early in the morning. Despite their camp being located nearby, ENDF soldiers did nothing to support the militias and police. After hours of fire exchange, the fighting subsided following the Fano fighters' withdrawal from the town upon completing their intended operation.
  - In this operation, at least 40 militias and police officers were killed and 19 others were injured. On the Fano side, one combatant was reportedly killed and four more were injured. Fano fighters reportedly captured several soldiers, as well as military and non-military equipment, including more than 10 firearms and hundreds of rounds of ammunition.

## North Mecha Woreda

- On August 15th, Fano fighters managed to control Dagi town. According to sources, Fano fighters had mobilized toward the regime presence in Dagi town with a plan to conduct an offensive. Having intelligence about Fano movements, the regime forces withdrew from Dagi and reportedly moved to neighboring regime bases in the Mehal-Genet and Afesa areas. On the evening of the same day (August 15th), heavy fighting was reported in Merawi town. Sources reported that the reason for the heavy gunfire was unclear.
- On August 17th, a light exchange of gunfire took place in the Wetet-Abay (Pikolo) area.
  - The gunfire was reportedly launched by the Tadesse Muluneh Brigade (part of the AFNF-AFG). As the Fano fighters were about to conduct an offensive, the regime forces withdrew and retreated to the Qoga area. Subsequently, Fano fighters were able to enter and take control of the Wetet-Abay area without significant fire exchange. Tensions continued in the area as the regime forces held their position in nearby bases.

## Yilmana-Densa Woreda

- On August 15th, heavy fighting took place in Mestayet village (in Rebu-Gebeya Kebele).
  - The fighting was initiated by regime forces who mobilized from the Birakat and Densa-Bata areas. The Tanaw Meberek and Animut Yazachew Brigades, under the 1st Division (part of the AFNF-AFG), reportedly confronted the regime forces in defense against the offensive. The regime forces were observed indiscriminately shelling heavy artillery in different directions during

- this confrontation. The casualties and the final outcome of this gunfire exchange remained unreported.
- On the same day (August 15th), Fano fighters conducted a sudden operation in the Adet neighborhood. The operation was reportedly carried out by the Animut Yazachew Brigade, which targeted regime forces moving from Adet town to the Agita area. According to reports, Fano fighters, who were waiting in strategic positions, conducted an ambush in the Abka-Mariam area. This ambush led to an open confrontation that evening and lasted for a brief period. The fighting subsided when the regime forces, overwhelmed by the sudden Fano offensive, were compelled to retreat back to Adet town. Sources reported at least five regime soldiers killed and many others injured during this operation.

## North Achefer Woreda

- On August 15th, Fano fighters conducted a sudden attack in the Chimba neighborhood.
  - The operation was reportedly carried out by the Bitwedded Ayalew Brigade, under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-AFG). Reports indicated that the attack targeted regime forces who were en route from Chimba to the Legdiya area. Fano fighters reportedly hindered the regime's advance by conducting an ambush before the forces reached Legdiya. The Fano fighters reported that they overwhelmed the regime forces and compelled them to return to their point of origin in Chimba town.
  - Sources reported that the regime forces perpetrated various violations against civilians, including the looting and destruction of private property.
- On August 17th, Fano fighters reportedly took law enforcement actions in

Charman-Dusman Kebele. This operation was conducted by the Bitwedded Ayalew Brigade, under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-AFG) against individuals involved in looting and abduction crimes while impersonating Fano fighters. Consequently, Fano fighters captured at least two individuals who had abducted two civilians and were demanding payment of four million ETB to secure their release.

#### South Mecha Woreda

- On August 17th, fighting took place in South Mecha Woreda.
  - The conflict was initiated by regime forces who mobilized toward the Sangi area. The combined Fano brigades of the 1st Division (part of the AFNF-AFG) reportedly confronted regime forces to prevent their advance toward Sangi. The Fano fighters, having intelligence about the regime's movement, conducted an ambush near the Arade River, which hindered the advance. This ambush led to a heavy confrontation that lasted for a prolonged period.
     Reports also indicated that the Fano fighters deployed forces in the suburbs of Gerchech town in an attempt to disrupt the movement of regime reinforcements. The number of casualties and the final outcome of this confrontation remain unreported.

# **Bahir-Dar City**

- On August 16th, four civilians were found killed in the Abay-Mado area by unknown gunmen.
  - Sources reported that gunfire was heard on the evening of August 15, though
    the reason and outcome were unknown at the time. Early in the morning,
    people found the bodies on the street. Reports indicated the deceased were

killed brutally, with their bodily organs cut out and their bodies dismembered by the perpetrators. While the exact identity of the perpetrators remains unknown, sources speculated they were regime soldiers based on the manner of the killings and the overall context surrounding the incident. Three of the deceased victims were reportedly retrieved by their families; however, the identity of the fourth victim remains unknown, and his body was buried nearby at the cemetery of the St. Kidane-Mihret Church.

# **Northwestern Amhara (Gonder Sub-Region)**

## **South Gonder Zone**

## **Guna-Begemidir Woreda**

• On August 13th, Fano forces launched a surprise attack against regime forces in the vicinity of Kimir-Dingay town. The ambush, which took place in Meher village, resulted in numerous casualties for the regime forces, with at least 11 soldiers killed or critically injured. Following the engagement, the Fano forces seized 11 small arms from the regime forces. Additionally, three soldiers were captured by the Fano fighters. The Anbesaw-Gayint Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC) was responsible for planning and executing the surprise attack.

## Fogera Woreda

- On August 15th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in several locations within Fogera Woreda.
  - The newly unified unit, known as the Nebelbalu-Fogera Division (a result of the merging of the Atse Fasil and Engineer Simegnew Bekele Divisions) under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps, engaged in combat against the regime forces. The

fighting commenced early in the morning, with the Fano launching a coordinated offensive attack at approximately 12 am local time. The clashes persisted unabated for six hours in Zintil, Gumara, Nech-Afer,

Tankua-Gebriel, and Seqorta Kebeles. The regime forces were reportedly attempting to escort high-ranking political officials from Gonder city to

Bahir-Dar, indicating a strategic objective for the regime's movements.

However, the offensive launched by the Fano forces prevented them from breaking through in Fogera Woreda, thwarting their plans. In response, the regime deployed mechanized reinforcement forces from Debre-Tabor city and Addis-Zemen town, aiming to bolster their position and overcome the Fano resistance. Despite these reinforcements, the Fano forces destroyed a regime ZU-23 anti-aircraft gun positioned on the main road to Bahir-Dar city, further disrupting the regime's ability to secure the route and demonstrating the Fano's continued strength and effectiveness.

## **Tach-Gayint Woreda**

• On the night of August 15th, a brief but intense firefight occurred between Fano forces and regime forces. The regime forces engaged in combat in response to a mass defection of regime soldiers to the Fano forces. Attempting to halt the desertion, the regime forces launched mortar strikes towards the defecting soldiers. However, this action resulted in the accidental burning down of residential houses due to the indiscriminate nature of the mortar fire. Despite the regime's efforts, over 31 joint forces personnel successfully defected to the Fano forces. These defectors sought refuge and integration within the Dr. Ambachew Battalion and the Dejach Gessesse Brigade of the Gebriye Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC).

## Simada Woreda

- On August 15th, intense fighting raged between Fano forces and regime forces in Simada Woreda.
  - The regime forces attempted to encircle the Fano forces in Yekuasa Kebele, approaching from two different directions in a coordinated maneuver.
     However, the Wubante Abate Tewerwari Division and the General Nega
     Tegegn Division (part of the AFNF-BC 1st Corps) launched a vigorous counter-offensive against the invading regime forces, disrupting their encirclement attempt and initiating a fierce battle, lasting for a continuous seven-hour period. During the prolonged fighting, the regime forces sustained heavy casualties, with at least 21 regime joint forces personnel killed.
  - A significant development for the Fano in this region is the consolidation of its forces under a new banner, now known as the "Haile Zewubante Division", streamlining their command and control structure.

## Farta Woreda

On August 15th, Fano forces carried out a surprise attack targeting regime militias
located near Kimir-Dingay town. The offensive was carried out by the Guna
Division (part of the AFNF-BC 1st Corps). The militia forces sustained heavy
casualties as a result of the unexpected assault.

## **Central Gonder Zone**

## **Gonder City**

 On the night of August 10th, health professional Abusew Yehuala was killed in Tseda sub-city.

- Abusew was fatally shot at night by robbers while attempting to assist a woman who was screaming for help near the staff condominium where he lived. The robbers shot him immediately after he emerged from his home.
   Abusew was a respected lecturer in nursing at Tseda University (a branch of the University of Gonder) and a staff member at Tseda Hospital. He was known for his dedication to his work and was highly regarded by the community. He had previously served at hospitals in Debark and Metemma.
- This incident marks the latest in a series of fatal attacks on health workers. On July 30th, radiologist named Sete Fente was killed in Guhala town in East Belessa Woreda. Sete's death was reportedly caused by regime forces. His death forced the hospital in Guhala town to suspend radiology examinations for patients, as he was the only radiologist on staff, highlighting the impact of targeted violence on essential services and public health.

## Gonder-Zuriya Woreda

- On August 11th, Fano forces launched a surprise attack targeting regime forces in Minzro Kebele. The offensive was undertaken by the Atsewochu Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC) on regime forces traveling from Gonder city to Maksegnit town.
   The regime forces sustained heavy casualties as a result of the unexpected attack, disrupting regime movements.
- On the night of August 15th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces, encompassing a vast territory within Gonder-Zuriya Woreda.
  - This conflict continued unabated into August 16th, demonstrating its intensity
    and scale. The fighting was concentrated in a broad swathe of territory,
    ranging from Mendiba-Giyorgis, Tseda, and Minzro, to Arsema and Qoladiba
    town in East Dembiya Woreda. The regime forces attempted to encircle the

Fano forces, launching a coordinated maneuver from four different directions. However, the Gondere-Begashaw and Tadilo-Birhan Divisions (under the AFNF-BC), and the Atsewochu Division (under the AFPO-AFGPC) responded with a coordinated and forceful offensive attack against the regime forces. In a display of indiscriminate force, the regime forces shelled mountains and rivers, and also destroyed residential areas of civilians with heavy machineguns and mortars, raising concerns about civilian casualties and the targeting of non-combatants. Despite these tactics, the regime forces were attacked and ultimately forced to retreat back to Gonder city following the Fano's counter-offensive.

The Fano forces also expanded the fighting into Qoladiba (East Dembiya
Woreda) and Amba-Giyorgis town (Wegera Woreda). As part of this strategy,
Fano forces attacked the Qoladiba police station. Civil political officers in
Qoladiba town sustained casualties, further highlighting the widespread chaos
and the targeting of administrative infrastructure.

## East Dembiya Woreda

On August 14th, Fano forces executed a surprise attack targeting regime forces in
Deresge Kebele. The ambush took place as regime forces were traveling from
Gonder city towards Qoladiba town, in Girarge village (within Deresge Kebele).
The Fano forces concentrated their attack on a convoy of five military ural trucks
transporting soldiers, destroying three trucks and inflicting casualties on the regime
joint forces onboard. The Begemidir Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC) was
responsible for executing this operation against the regime forces.

## Wegera Woreda

 On August 15th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Dabir Kebele. The regime forces, deployed from Amba-Giyorgis town, initiated an offensive attack targeting the Gondere-Begashaw Division (part of the AFNF-BC 5th Corps). As August 15th, the fighting is ongoing, with the Fano forces having launched a counter-offensive against the regime forces, indicating a dynamic and unresolved conflict.

## **West Gonder Zone**

## **Qwara Woreda**

- On August 14th, Fano forces initiated an offensive attack targeting a regime forces military camp in Bemur Kebele.
  - The Adwa Division and Qwara-Omedla Divisions (part of the AFNF-BC 2nd Corps) commenced the assault by shelling the regime military camp with mortar fire. Following the initial mortar bombardment, the engagement transitioned into intense close-quarters combat, resulting in fierce fighting in and around the areas where regime forces were stationed.
  - The regime forces sustained heavy casualties throughout the protracted and intense fighting.
- On August 15th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Bemur Kebele.
  - The Qwara-Omedla and Adwa Divisions (under the AFNF-BC 2nd Corps)
     spearheaded an offensive attack targeting regime forces stationed in the area.
     The regime forces sustained heavy casualties during the prolonged and intense engagements. As a result of the fighting, the Fano forces seized a significant

amount of weaponry from the regime forces, including more than 20 heavy weapons and kalashnikov rifles. Numerous regime joint forces personnel were either killed or sustained physical injuries ranging in severity between minor and critical. The Fano forces also experienced casualties, with a total of three fighters killed or critically injured.

 In addition to the ground fighting, the Fano forces shelled the regime military camp located in Dubaba town with mortars. The regime forces responded by deploying ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns in a defensive posture, highlighting the intensity and scale of the conflict.

#### West Armachiho Woreda

- On August 14th, intense fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime forces in Mislal village, located near Abrahajira town, and in Ergoye Kebele, situated within Central Armachiho Woreda.
  - In Ergoye, regime forces deployed from Soroqa town were ambushed by Fano fighters, initiating a fierce battle.
  - The fighting in Mislal was characterized by close-quarters combat, indicating a particularly intense and personal struggle. The regime forces involved in the Mislal engagement were deployed from multiple locations, including Abrahajira town, Dansha, and the Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zone, highlighting the regime's attempts to concentrate forces in the area. In response to the ongoing conflict, regime forces deployed reinforcements from Tach-Armachiho and Lay-Armachiho Woredas (Central Gonder Zone), utilizing military bases in Musebamb, Feres-Megriya, Sanja, and Soroqa to launch their deployments to West Armachiho and Central Armachiho Woredas. However, these reinforcement units were met with resistance by the

Fano forces in Ergoye, preventing them from reaching their intended destinations. The AFNF-BC Dejazmach (4th) Corps actively engaged the regime forces in these battles. In a related development, Fano forces also launched an offensive attack against regime forces in Dirmaga village (located in Gabla Kebele) in West Armachiho Woreda, inflicting heavy casualties on the regime in this surprise attack.

- In this fighting, the Fano forces successfully gained control of six strategically important locations situated along the main road including Mislal, Abrahajira, Gonderdayu, Gisha, and Ergoye. The regime forces were forced to abandon these positions to the advancing Fano fighters, marking a substantial setback for their control in the area. The 78th ENDF Division of the regime was heavily engaged in the fighting against the Fano.
- The Fano forces killed the regiment commander of the 78th Division. Further, the regime's casualties were considerable, with 103 joint forces personnel confirmed dead and more than 50 sustaining critical or minor physical injuries. In addition to the human cost, the Fano forces captured 18 regime joint force personnel, and seized over 30 small arms and heavy weapons from the regime forces.

## Metemma Woreda

- On August 15th, intense fighting occurred on Yohannes Mountain, located near Meterma-Yohannes town.
  - The initial outbreak of violence was triggered by the defection of regime forces from Dil-Ber to Dibiko town, an area known to be under the control or influence of the Fano forces. As the defecting soldiers made their move, the remaining regime forces opened fire with heavy weapons in an attempt to stop

- them. However, the Fano forces swiftly launched a counter-offensive to protect the defecting soldiers, resulting in heavy casualties for the regime forces.
- In addition to the fighting on Yohannes Mountain, there were also reports of fierce clashes in Kulafer, also within this woreda, where the regime forces again sustained significant losses.

## North Gonder Zone

- Since August 13th, Fano forces have successfully regained control of numerous locations spanning from Janamora to Adarkay and East Telemt Woredas, signifying a significant expansion of their operational area.
  - The Fano are actively operating in East Telemt Woreda, focusing on Siqeya,
     Ern, Betel, and Fiyel-Wiha-Maygal, and in Beyeda Woreda, ranging from
     Dilbiza to Adarkay Woreda and from Zarima to Armadega Kebeles, indicating
     a broad and coordinated campaign.
  - The woreda officials, facing unprecedented Fano presence in their areas, are reportedly apprehensive and have requested the deployment of regime forces to reinforce their positions. However, their requests have been denied, and they have instead been instructed to mobilize the woreda's militia forces to confront the coordinated Fano fighters, suggesting a reluctance or inability on the part of the regime to commit its own troops to these regions.

## **Telemt Woreda**

 On August 12th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Armadega Kebele, with a particular focus on the area around Chewber village. The regime forces sustained heavy casualties during the engagement, suggesting an effective offensive by the Fano. The attack was spearheaded by the Armadega Division.

- On the morning of August 15th, a serious escalation of tensions was reported in the Adarkay, Zerima, and Chewber areas, marking a significant deterioration of the security situation.
  - These tensions, which had been simmering since the night of August 8th, were particularly pronounced in and around Zerima town, specifically in the Ambera, Nebra, Gibo, and Chewber areas.
  - The recent surge in tension appears to be directly linked to a coordinated movement of Fano forces into the region. The Chenna, Armadega, and Dib-Telemt Divisions (part of the AFNF-BC) simultaneously entered these areas from three different directions, effectively flooding the zone with their presence. This influx of Fano fighters was accompanied by heavy weapons fire, creating an atmosphere of heightened alert and fear among the local population. In a parallel maneuver, Fano forces also strategically cut off the main road in Dib-Bahir and Yedagusit, potentially disrupting supply lines and restricting movement in the area.

## Beyeda Woreda

• On August 12th, intense fighting erupted between Fano and regime forces in Dilbiza town. The regime forces suffered substantial losses during this engagement. In the face of the Fano's offensive, all of the Woreda's civil and military administration officials abandoned their posts, retreating to the relative safety of Debark and Gonder cities. This marked the second time within a two-week period that Fano forces had successfully regained control of Dilbiza town, highlighting the region's instability and the regime's difficulty in maintaining control. The Ras Amoraw

Wubneh (3rd) Corps of the AFNF-BC, consisting of various Fano units, played a prominent role in this battle, actively engaging the regime forces and contributing to their defeat.

# **Areas Outside Amhara Region**

## East Wollega Zone (Oromia Region)

#### Kiremu Woreda

• On August 10th, a light exchange of gunfire took place in the Shasho-Ber area. The gunfire was initiated by the Wollega (Bizamo) Fano Command in response to the regime's recent military deployment in Bajin Kebele. During this operation, the Fano fighters managed to disrupt the regime's presence in the surrounding area. The casualties and specific outcome of this confrontation are yet to be identified.

## Gida-Ayana Woreda

• On the night of August 10th (and morning of August 11th), OLA militants conducted an offensive in Gida town. The attack targeted regime forces in the area. Given the regime forces' retreat from this area, OLA militants took control of the town overnight and broke into the detention center. Following the prison break, several detainees (both Amhara and Oromo ethnicity), reportedly escaped. After the break-in at the center, a few of the detainees returned to their residences, while the whereabouts of many individuals remained unidentified. Sources speculated that the OLA militants might have abducted them and taken them to the jungle.

## **Addis-Ababa City**

- Between August 13th and 15th, regime forces reportedly carried out widespread arrests of civilians across multiple areas of Addis-Ababa city, raising serious concerns among local communities and human rights organizations.
  - According to sources, hundreds of youths were detained en masse in various sub-cities, including Yeka, Addis-Ketema, Nifas-Silk, and surrounding areas.
     Reports indicate that many of those arrested were forcibly transported to a detention center located in Kality-Wuha-Limat, situated in Akaki-Kality
     Sub-City. This particular facility has a controversial history; it was previously condemned by rights groups after several detainees reportedly died in custody in 2024 due to harsh and inhumane treatment.
  - Human rights activists and independent observers have strongly condemned the recent wave of arrests. They have expressed growing concerns that the detentions may be linked to forced military conscription, a practice that has drawn domestic and international criticism in the past. Moreover, ethnic profiling appears to be a factor, with multiple sources confirming that ethnic Amharas are disproportionately represented among the detained individuals. While exact numbers remain unverified, some estimates suggest that up to 2,000 civilians may have been arrested over the three-day period.
  - These developments come amid escalating political and military tensions in various parts of the country. The use of mass arrests, particularly those involving young people and targeting ethnic groups has sparked fears of intensified systematic repression and militarization.
- As of August 16th, reports from Addis-Ababa city indicate a continued wave of civilian and journalist arrests, raising growing concerns about increasing repression and the use of forced conscription under the current regime.

- According to sources, regime security forces have intensified arbitrary arrests of civilians in various areas across the capital. Areas such as Fiyel-Bet have seen targeted detentions, particularly of youths and daily laborers, many of whom are believed to be taken without legal justification. Multiple sources suggest that these arrests may be linked to an ongoing forced military recruitment campaign by the regime, as many of the detainees fall within the age group typically targeted for conscription.
- On the night of August 13th, Yonas Amare, a journalist with The Reporter newspaper, was forcibly taken from his residence at Koye Feche
   Condominium. The abduction was reportedly carried out by unidentified individuals wearing black masks, who forcibly entered his home. His current whereabouts remain unknown, and no official explanation or charges have been issued by the authorities at the time of reporting.

# **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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