



War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – November 25th to December 1st, 2024

Updated December 1st, 2024

Overview

For the week of November 25th to December 1st, 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 In addition, *Oromo Liberation Army* (OLA) militants carried out attacks against civilians in Oromia Region, while *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF) has carried out abuses against civilians in Raya-Alamata Woreda.

- This week battle events and rights violations were recorded in 39 woreda/city administrations across 12 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These zones included the North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, Awi, Bahir-Dar city, North Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder, West Gonder and North Gonder Zones. There were also developments recorded in Addis-Ababa

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

city, Shirka Woreda of East Arsi Zone (Oromia Region) and in Abeshige Woreda of Gurage Zone (Central Ethiopia Region).

- Battle events were recorded in over 6 urban administrations across 5 zonal administrations. These urban administrations included Kobo, Alamata, Debre-Birhan, Finote-Selam, Bahir-Dar, Gonder cities in the North Wollo, North Shewa, West Gojjam, Bahir-Dar city and Central Gonder Zones.
- Civilian casualties were recorded in more than 11 woreda/city administrations across 6 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Raya-Alamata, Mekdela, Delanta, Minjar-Shenkora, Bahir-Dar city, Ibbat, Estie, Simada, East Dembiya, Takusa and Gonder-Zuriya Woredas in the North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, Bahir-Dar city, South Gonder, and Central Gonder Zones. In addition, casualties were recorded in Shirka Woreda of East Arsi Zone (Oromia Region) and in Abeshige Woreda of Gurage Zone (Central Ethiopia Region).
- Use of airstrikes and drones were recorded in 2 woreda/city administrations in 1 zonal administration in Amhara Region. These included Basona-Werana and Hageremariam-Kessem Woredas located in North Shewa Zone.
- Widespread arrests were reported in 9 woreda/city administrations across 6 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These include Raya-Alamata, Mojana-Wadera, Minjar-Shenkora, Bahir-Dar city, North Mecha, Ibbat, Estie, Simada and East Dembiya Woredas in the North Wollo, North Shewa, Bahir-Dar city, North Gojjam, South Gonder and Central Gonder Zones and in Addis-Ababa city. In addition, mass forced conscription has been reported in various areas of Amhara Region targeting civilians including minors and elderly persons.

North Wollo Zone

Raya-Kobo Woreda

- On November 25th, teachers in several parts of Raya-Kobo Woreda went on strike. The non-payment of their monthly salaries, a punitive measure by the regime for their refusal to resume classes. Fear of drone strikes targeting schools and students, raising concerns about accountability for potential casualties.
- On November 25th, the Amhara Fano in Wollo's Zobel-Amba Division carried out an ambush against regime forces in Tekulesh. During their recent campaign to attack the Fano, regime forces were cut off from logistics and essential supplies. Encircled by Fano fighters, regime forces suffered significant losses during the ambush.

Habru Woreda

- On November 27th, intense fighting lasting up to five hours broke out between the Amhara Fano in Wollo's Baleshiritu Division and regime forces.
 - Regime forces were traveling from Girana and Mersa to Libso when they were ambushed at Mehal-Amba.
 - Fano forces achieved a decisive victory, killing numerous regime soldiers, injuring many, and capturing a significant amount of military equipment.

Raya-Alamata Woreda

- TPLF (Tigray Region) Forces continue arbitrary arrests and intimidation of civilians, including religious leaders.
 - On the night of November 26th, Priest Natnael (father's name unknown) was arrested and taken to Maychew.
 - The arrest was linked to his loyalty to the EOTC's Kidus Synodos.

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- The TPLF reportedly seek to impose the newly formed Tigray Synodos (Tigray Orthodox Church), which recently seceded from the EOTC.

Gidan Woreda

- On November 30th, intense fighting erupted between the Amhara Fano in Wollo and regime forces in Muja town, the administrative center of Gidan Woreda.
 - Muja is a strategic location that connects Woldia, Raya, Lasta, Meket, and Gonder.
 - Heavy weapons, including ZU-23 guns, were reportedly used in the battle.
 - Reports indicate significant casualties, including the death of a police commander, as well as numerous militia members and other regime forces who were killed or injured.

South Wollo Zone

Mehal-Sayint Woreda

- Intense fighting has been ongoing between the Amhara Fano in Wollo West Wollo Corps Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division's Atrones Brigade and regime forces in Densa town, the administrative center of the woreda. The clashes, which began on the night of November 24th continued through November 25th, resulting in significant casualties among regime forces.
- On November 28th, intense fighting erupted between the Amhara Fano in Wollo West Wollo Corps Mekdela Division's Atrones Brigade and regime forces. The Fano offensive resulted in injuries to 6 riot dispersal forces, and the offensive forced regime forces to retreat from their positions and withdraw to Densa town.

Mekdela Woreda

- Between November 25th and 26th, fierce battles took place between the Amhara Fano in Wollo Western Corps Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division's Sheikh Hussien Jibril Brigade and regime forces.
 - Fano forces gained the upper hand, especially in Adada and Mata-Meda areas, inflicting heavy casualties on regime forces. Many injured personnel were taken to Mekdela Primary Hospital.
 - Despite their setbacks, regime forces engaged in house-to-house robberies, looting civilian properties including jewelry, food, and other personal items, further exacerbating suffering of local communities.

Delanta Woreda

- Between November 28th and 29th, heavy clashes occurred between the Amhara Fano Wollo Command's Bete-Amhara Corps and regime forces in Tsehay-Mewcha Kebele.
 - The clashes were centered in the Ambesa-Maderiya, Deha, and Beklo-Manekiya areas.
 - Fano forces reportedly achieved a decisive victory, killing and injuring numerous regime soldiers, including high-ranking military leaders.
 - In retaliation, regime forces launched artillery strikes on civilian areas, resulting in civilian injuries and the destruction of farmland and crops.

Kutaber Woreda

- On November 30th, active fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime troops in Kutaber, near Dessie town, a critical juncture on the main road connecting

Addis-Ababa city to northern Ethiopia. Witnesses reported seeing ambulances transporting dead and injured regime soldiers from the battlefield.

North Shewa Zone

- Regime forces have intensified forced military conscription across North Shewa Zone.
 - Sources reported that quotas were assigned to woredas to recruit youths for the ongoing domestic conflict against the Fano fighters.
 - Between November 25th and 26th, large-scale forced conscription was reported in Debre-Birhan city (130-km from Addis-Ababa city), Basona-Werana, Tarma-Ber and Minjar-Shenkora Woredas.
- On November 26th, the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command announced the establishment of two new structures, the Atse Amde-Tsion Corps and the Muhammed Bihonegn Corps.
 - They also reported the elevation of four brigades into divisions including the Dejazmach Tesema Ergetie, Aschalew Dessie, 7 to 70, and Rambo Divisions.
 - The Fano highlighted their significant achievements against the regime's forces, reviewed the status of their struggle, assessed their strengths and weaknesses, and outlined future directions.
 - They also called for the establishment of a fair, equitable, and just Ethiopian state.
- Between November 25th and December 1st, forced military conscription intensified across multiple woredas and city administrations in North Shewa Zone.

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- Among areas affected by the mass forced conscription include Menz-Mam-Midir, Menz-Lalo-Midir, Menz-Keya-Gebriel, Menz-Gera-Midir, Minjar-Shenkora, Hageremariam-Kesem Woredas, and the Debre-Birhan and Shewa-Robit City administrations.
 - Thousands of individuals have reportedly been conscripted across the zone.

Basona-Werana Woreda

- On November 24th, multiple drone strikes were reported in Kasima Kebele targeting Bezo Primary School, and nearby residential areas. The attack killed 9 people and the school suffered extensive destruction.

Berehet Woreda

- Since November 23rd, regime forces have escalated forced military conscription of youths from various kebeles of Berehet Woreda.
- On November 25th, the regime transported forced conscripts in two vehicles into military camps.
- On November 25th, intense fighting occurred between the Amhara Fano Shewa Command and regime forces near Metiteh-Bila in the Akmit area. Fano forces successfully defended against the regime's attacks, forcing them to retreat.

Menz-Mam-Midir Woreda

- On November 25th, around 80 youths from various kebeles were forcibly taken to military camps as part of the regime's forced conscription campaign.
- On November 26th, heavy fighting with the use of heavy weaponry occurred between the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command and regime forces. Fano forces achieved a decisive victory, asserting military dominance in the area.

Mojana-Wadera Woreda

- On November 25th, the regime detained numerous youths and transported them to military camps as part of its forced recruitment drive.

Minjar-Shenkora Woreda

- On November 25th, the Amhara Fano Shewa Command ambushed regime forces in Cherecha Kebele (Basa area) and Woldegiorgis Kebele (Boka area). In retaliation, regime forces and local state militias conducted mass arbitrary arrests of civilians in Arerti town, targeting youths, farmers, and daily laborers, especially those engaged in teff collection activities.

Debre-Birhan City

- Between November 29th and December 1st, over 500 individuals, including children under 15 and elders over 70, were forcibly conscripted by regime forces in the city.
 - Notable cases include 12-year-old Daniel Amdebirhan and 72-year-old Muhamed Kedir who were among those conscripted on December 1st.
 - On December 1st, there was no movement of people in response to the forced conscription.
 - However, the regime is allegedly portraying conscription as voluntary recruitment through state-controlled media to mask the reality.
 - Analysts suggest this conscription aims to replenish military losses in ongoing conflicts with Fano forces.

Merhabete Woreda

- On December 1st, heavy fighting occurred between the Amhara Fano Shewa Command's Nadew Division and regime forces near the Jama Bridge. The conflict began after regime forces attempted to neutralize the Nadew Division, which successfully repelled the attack. Regime forces reportedly retaliated by destroying farmlands and crops in the area.

Hageremariam-Kessem Woreda

- On December 1st, a drone strike targeted Akrmmit Primary School in Akrmmit Kebele. Despite advocating for school re-openings, the regime's attacks on educational institutions highlight a contradictory stance. Casualty details remain unconfirmed.
- The Amhara Fano Shewa Command Kessem Division's Hailemariam Mamo Brigade issued a statement on December 1st and condemned forced military conscription, emphasizing that children as young as 12 and elders over 50 were being conscripted. The group urged youths to join Fano forces and called on families and media to raise awareness of ongoing forced conscription.

East Gojjam Zone

- On November 28th, sources reported the sighting of numerous vehicles transporting newly recruited regime soldiers to military camps, estimating that over 200 vehicles were involved. Observers noted that the new recruits were inciting hate against the Amhara community during their journey.
- In a separate development, AAA has received credible reports indicating that regime forces have recently imposed blockades on the movement of essential goods and delivery of humanitarian aid, worsening the struggles of residents in conflict affected areas in the Gojjam sub-region.

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- Reports indicate that the blockade is specifically targeting communities in woredas controlled by Fano militants, especially in Debre-Elias, Sekela, Dega-Damot, and Quarit, as well as other rural areas in West Gojjam Zone.
 - These blockades have severely restricted banking services and access to essential supplies, leading to acute food shortages and rising malnutrition rates, particularly among vulnerable groups like children, pregnant women and the elderly.
 - Public servants in many woredas have not received salaries for an extended period, exacerbating the crisis as they are unable to support their families.
 - This situation has left many families without basic necessities and has caused preventable diseases to go untreated due to a lack of medical equipment and healthcare access. As living conditions worsen, many residents are also fleeing their homes seeking basic necessities.
- Additionally, regime soldiers have been implicated in the confiscation of farm animals belonging to family members accused of being relatives of Fano members. A notable incident occurred on November 21st in the Enashenifalen Kebele of North Mecha Woreda (North Gojjam Zone), where over 100 farm animals were seized, and herdsmen were detained solely because the farmers were allegedly related to family members of local Fano commanders.
 - The Amhara Fano in Gojjam has corroborated these claims, in a statement released on November 27th, alleging that the Oromo Prosperity Party regime has continued genocidal acts on Amharas, using hunger as a weapon in these regions.

Debre-Elias Woreda

- The regime's attempts to advance into Debre-Elias Woreda persisted on November 25th, marking the second consecutive day of fighting in this area.

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- Confrontation began on November 24th in the Emenba area and has continued to escalate.
 - Regime forces have intensified their gunfire, bolstered by reinforcements from nearby bases. The Fano groups involved in this confrontation include the Qeste-Damena, Jibela-Mutera, and Belay-Zeleke Brigades operating under the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division.
 - Fano fighters report having inflicted over 15 fatalities and 13 injuries on regime troops during this battle.
- The skirmishes that began earlier in border areas of Debre-Elias Woreda persisted through November 26th.
 - The regime's efforts to penetrate deeper into Debre-Elias Woreda continued unabated, employing heavy artillery and reinforcements transported from neighboring bases. Despite their relentless onslaught, they had yet to gain entry into Elias town.
 - Reports indicate that on November 26th, various brigades—including the Amhara Fano in Gojjam Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division's Belay Zeleke, Jibela-Mutera, Qeste-Damena, and Nisir Commando Brigades, maintained fierce resistance to repel efforts of regime soldiers attempting to breach the defenses of Debre-Elias.
 - According to Fano sources, these engagements inflicted numerous casualties on the regime, leading to a significant influx of wounded soldiers at Debre-Markos Hospital, which has been overwhelmed with demand for medical treatment for injured regime soldiers.
 - After five days of intense fighting, regime forces managed to enter Elias town on November 28th.

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- Throughout the previous days, Fano fighters had mounted vigorous resistance to keep the regime forces out of the woreda, reportedly causing numerous casualties among the regime troops, including those in command positions. The regime deployed substantial forces and utilized all available artillery, demonstrating their determination to reclaim this woreda, which had been under Fano control for over a year. Regime forces entered Elias town around midday, and later reports indicate that Fano fighters launched a counterattack in the evening, with details still under investigation.
 - On November 29th, reports of light gunfire exchanges emerged in Debre-Elias Woreda. According to eyewitness accounts, regime soldiers that had entered Elias town subsequently mobilized toward new areas in pursuit of Fano fighters operating in the rural outskirts.
 - On December 1st, a fierce gunfire exchange unfolded in Elias town.
 - Tensions escalated when the Amhara Fano in Gojjam Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division's Qeste-Damena Brigade initiated a heavy offensive against newly deployed regime soldiers in the town.
 - Confrontation commenced early in the morning as Fano forces approached Elias town from six different directions. Reports indicate that Fano fighters gained control of the administration building for the woreda during the confrontation.
 - The battle was intense and involved heavy weaponry from both factions. By midday, the fighting began to subside as Fano fighters withdrew from the town.
 - 2 Fano casualties have been confirmed, while information regarding regime soldier casualties has yet to be investigated.
 - Sources from the Fano side suggest that they inflicted significant losses on enemy forces, claiming that at least two vehicles transporting bodies of

deceased soldiers, along with another vehicle containing injured soldiers, were observed enroute to Debre-Markos city.

Enarj-Enawga Woreda

- On November 25th, intense fighting erupted in an area known as Qatla, located within Felege-Birhan town, specifically in Dinjabe Keble.
 - The skirmish began when Fano fighters executed a surprise ambush on regime soldiers who were mobilizing for a logistical exchange, transitioning from Ginde-Weyn town (Goncha-Siso-Enese Woreda) to Debre-Werk town (Enarj-Enawga Woreda).
 - This sudden assault led to a fierce exchange of gunfire that involved multiple factions of the Fano including the Amhara Fano in Gojjam Belay Zeleke Division's Soma Brigade and the Samuel Aweke Division's Abay-Sheleko and Arenzaw-Goncha Brigades.
 - According to reports from Fano fighters, the coordinated ambush inflicted substantial casualties on regime soldiers. Fano spokespersons claimed that they managed to kill over 15 enemy soldiers and wounded approximately 10 others during the confrontation.

- On December 1st, a gunfire exchange took place in the Dugedel area. The clash commenced when regime forces mobilized from Debre-Werk, intending to launch an offensive against Fano fighters in the vicinity. The Soma Fano Brigade responded with considerable force, resulting in over 10 casualties among regime soldiers, while 1 Fano combatant was confirmed dead.

West Gojjam Zone

Dembecha Woreda

- The fighting that began over the past week in Dembecha has continued into November 25th.
 - Despite suffering significant casualties, regime forces have managed to penetrate the Yezeleka area, which is recognized as yet another stronghold of the Fano fighters.
 - In the past few days, intense gunfire exchanges have characterized the conflict, and it appears that the regime has successfully navigated towards this area by altering their approach and persistently reinforcing their troops.
 - Tensions remain high in the area as the Engineer Kiber Temesgen Fano Brigade has continued to operate in the vicinity, and it is anticipated that they may soon launch a counterattack against regime soldiers who have recently advanced into Yezeleka.
- On November 26th, the previously initiated fighting continued to escalate in Dembecha Woreda, due to the regime’s relentless efforts to consolidate control over Fano strongholds in the rural areas.
 - On this day, regime soldiers attempted to mobilize and make advances into the Yechereqa area. However, they faced strong resistance from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division’s Kiber Temesgen Brigade, which encountered regime forces in an area known as Meqar, just prior reaching to the Yechereqa location.
 - Reports suggest that the Fano fighters were able to inflict casualties on the regime soldiers, effectively thwarting their advancement.

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- In another front of conflict, the Kiber Temesgen Fano Brigade engaged with regime troops who had attempted to move into the Wad and Yezeleka areas. Fano fighters asserted that they successfully encircled the regime units, preventing their escape while countering their advance.
 - The fighting in Dembecha Woreda continued for an 11th day, shifting battle locations.
 - On November 28th , regime soldiers engaged the engineer Kiber Temesgen Fano Brigade in a desert area known as Weyemin. Fano fighters claimed to have inflicted casualties on the regime, making it difficult for their forces to withdraw from the area.
 - On the same day, Fano fighters opened fire within Dembecha town. This brief exchange of gunfire resulted in no casualties and primarily aimed to disrupt regime officials who were intimidating and forcing local residents to perform public services amid ongoing hostilities.
 - Following the prolonged confrontations with Fano fighters, regime soldiers who had recently deployed to the Yezeleka and Wad areas reportedly retreated back to their encampment in Dembecha town on the night of November 28th.
 - According to various sources, their retreat was a result of sustaining heavy casualties during intense fighting that took place for the last consecutive days.
 - On November 28th, Fano fighters were reported to have captured a significant cache of firearms, and it was noted that heavy weaponry belonging to regime forces had also been destroyed.
 - After returning to Dembecha town, emerging reports indicate that regime forces engaged in artillery shelling directed at the Wad and Yezeleka areas, although specific details surrounding these attacks remain unconfirmed.

Jabi-Tehnan Woreda

- On November 25th, the Amhara Fano in Gojjam 5th (Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem) Division's Arenzaw Damot Brigade, executed two surprise attacks in Jabi-Tehnan Woreda.
 - The first assault targeted an area called Abdegoma, located near Mankusa town.
 - Fano fighters have claimed to have inflicted over 13 casualties among regime forces during this engagement.
 - The second surprise attack was conducted in an area known as Mebesh, where Fano fighters targeted regime forces mobilizing from Finote-Selam city.
 - Although the extent of casualties in this second engagement remains unclear, it is reported that Fano fighters managed to inflict losses on regime soldiers, compelling them to retreat.
 - Furthermore, there are investigations underway regarding mutual armed clashes that have taken place between ENDF soldiers and riot dispersal police in Mankusa town.
- On November 27th and 28th, intense fighting erupted in rural areas near Finote-Selam city.
 - On November 27th, regime forces mobilized from Finote-Selam toward Dhit-Mariam in pursuit of Fano fighters. However, the Amhara Fano in Gojjam 5th (Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem) Division's Arenzaw Damot Brigade, received advance warning of the regime's movements. They engaged the regime soldiers before they could reach their destination, inflicting significant casualties and forcing the regime to retreat back to Finote-Selam.

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- The following day, on November 28th, regime forces once again mobilized from Finote-Selam, this time targeting Abishit Kebele. Fano fighters mounted a fierce resistance during this encounter, driving regime soldiers back after sustaining casualties.

Gonji-Qollela Woreda

- On November 28th, intense fighting occurred in Gonji town, the woreda's administrative center.
 - The Amhara Fano in Gojjam 2nd (Tefera Damtie) Division's Nisir, Dega-Damot, Mezgebu-Walelign, and Mebreku Brigades, jointly engaged in combat against regime forces stationed in Gonji town. Fano fighters reported inflicting unspecified casualties on regime soldiers.
 - Additionally, on the same day, Fano fighters from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam 1st Division's Bahir-Dar and Animut Yazachew Brigades ambushed a regime reinforcement unit mobilizing from Adet town to support the conflict in Gonji-Qollela Woreda. They claimed to have inflicted casualties and successfully halted the regime's advance.

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Fagita-Lekoma Woreda

- On the night of November 28th, regime forces that had recently been deployed in rural areas of Fagita-Lekoma Woreda reportedly withdrew from their positions and returned to their camp located in the Adiguami mountain area near Addis-Kidam town.
 - In the recent deployment of the regime soldiers to new areas within the woreda, sources have indicated that regime soldiers perpetrated multiple

violations, involving the rape of 3 females. Further details regarding the victims and the circumstances surrounding this brutal act have yet to be clarified.

- In a separate development on November 29th, Fano fighters executed a sudden and coordinated attack in the Ashewa-Medhanialem area, successfully targeting regime soldiers who were on route to Addis-Kidam town.
- Sources suggest that the ambush resulted in the deaths of at least 7 regime soldiers, with more than four firearms being seized by the Fano fighters during the operation.
- On November 30th, intense fighting took place in the Debre-Zeyit area.
 - According to sources, regime forces mobilized significant troops from Addis-Kidame town on the night of November 29th, advancing to suppress Fano fighters in Debre-Zeyit and Fagita Kebeles.
 - A counter-offensive was launched around 7 am by combined Fano forces from the 3rd (Gojjam-Agew-Midir) Division.
 - The ensuing battle lasted until late in the afternoon. Reports indicate 3 Fano fighters were killed, while regime casualties are described as numerous. The intensity of the fighting prompted regime forces to deploy additional reinforcements from Addis-Kidame town in the afternoon.
 - Fano fighters claim to have inflicted significant casualties on regime soldiers and to have seized numerous firearms and ammunition. High tensions remain in the area as both regime soldiers and Fano fighters maintain a presence, with a strong likelihood of renewed fighting in the coming days.

Guagusa-Shikudad Woreda

- On November 30th, gunfire exchanges occurred in the towns of Ashifa and Tilili.

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- The confrontation was instigated as regime soldiers mobilized from Tilili toward Sekela Woreda. Anticipating this movement, the Amhara Fano in Gojjam Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division’s Giwon and Zengena Brigades executed a successful ambush in the Ashifa area.
 - This operation forced regime soldiers to retreat back to Tilili. Concurrently, Fano fighters launched an assault on the regime’s encampment in Tilili, aiming to disrupt the reinforcements enroute to the Ashifa battleground.
 - Total casualties resulting from this conflict remain unconfirmed.

Bahir-Dar City

- On November 25th, Fano members from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam’s 1st Division launched a sudden military operation against regime forces stationed in Bahir-Dar city.
 - This operation reportedly focused on riot dispersal police in an area commonly referred to as Kebele 14. Sources indicate that the operation resulted in more than 10 regime casualties.
 - Fano fighters have asserted that 4 regime personnel were killed instantly, while 6 others sustained critical injuries, alongside the seizure of firearms and substantial ammunition as part of their operation.
- On November 26th, Fano fighters conducted a surprise attack in Kebele 7, resulting in the death of the community police chief, who had allegedly been involved in the arrest and killing of numerous civilians in Bahir-Dar city.

North Gojjam Zone

South Mecha Woreda

- On November 25th, intense fighting erupted in Mehal-Genet (also known as Gerchech) town.
 - The hostilities were instigated by the Amhara Fano in Gojjam 1st Division's Colonel Tadesse Muluneh Brigade which entered Mehal-Genet and executed a surprise attack on entrenched regime forces.
 - Reports from Fano fighters indicate that they successfully inflicted numerous casualties upon regime soldiers, although exact figures remain unconfirmed.

Bahir-Dar Zuriya Woreda

- On November 29th, Fano fighters from the Bahir-Dar Fano Brigade launched a surprise attack utilizing bomb explosives to target regime cadre members who were engaged in recording video for propaganda purposes in the Sebatamit area. Reports indicate that at least 4 individuals lost their lives in this attack, while unspecified number of others sustained injuries.

North Mecha Woreda

- On the night of November 28th, an exchange of gunfire erupted in Amarit Kebele.
 - While the reasons behind this gunfire remain uncertain, reports from Fano fighters claim that the shooting began when regime soldiers launched an operation targeting the Efesa area.
 - The spokesperson for the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's 1st Division stated that the Colonel Tadesse Muluneh Brigade's Shambel Memar Getinet Battalion

successfully repelled the attack, incurring casualties on regime forces and forcing them back to their bases.

- Additionally, on November 29th, an explosive incident was reported at Gobata Primary School in Merawi town. Sources revealed that the explosion was caused by explosives left behind by regime soldiers who had previously used the school as their encampment. Between 7-9 teachers and students sustained critical injuries as a result, with two individuals reportedly transferred to Bahir-Dar city for more specialized medical treatment.

South Gonder Zone

Ibnat Woreda

- On November 25th, a fierce gun battle erupted among regime forces throughout Ibnat town, commencing at around 11 am local time.
 - While the precise cause remains unclear, reports suggest a significant number of soldiers defected. The initial gunfire appears to have been an attempt by the regime to prevent these deserters from joining Fano, though the defectors ultimately escaped.
 - This fierce fighting follows a week of intense fighting, including the November 24th clashes in various locations within Ibnat Woreda.
 - In the aftermath of these events, 40 unarmed civilians have been detained and remain held at a military camp in Ibnat Woreda.
 - Furthermore, a group of youths, previously trained by the regime to infiltrate the Fano under the guise of being Fano fighters, were involved. These individuals, having joined the Fano six months prior in Ibnat Woreda, are implicated in the assassination of a Fano commander. Subsequently rewarded

by the regime with accommodations in an Ibnat hotel, two of these youths became casualties in the November 25th crossfire between regime factions. One was killed outright, while the other suffered critical injuries and is hospitalized with a grim prognosis. His death is considered imminent.

- On November 25th, Fano fighters launched a surprise offensive attack against a regime checkpoint located on the road leading from Ibnat town to Dega-Melza. The attack resulted in all soldiers stationed at the checkpoint being either killed or critically wounded.
- On November 28th, intense fighting between Fano fighters and regime forces occurred in Dega-Melza town, resulting in significant casualties for regime forces.
- On November 28th, a major confrontation occurred in Dega-Melza town between Fano fighters and the regime forces.
 - A substantial regime military contingent, comprising six heavy trucks heavily equipped with ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns was deployed to Dega-Melza.
 - However, regime forces were met with a swift and unexpected ambush by the Fano fighters. The Aschalew Dessie and Aginchew Fano Brigades spearheaded the surprise attack, catching regime troops off guard and inflicting heavy casualties. Overwhelmed by the intensity and effectiveness of the Fano's assault, regime forces were compelled to retreat towards Ibnat town, carrying their dead and wounded.
 - The retreating regime forces were subsequently ambushed again by Fano fighters at the rural village of Adraqu, in another unexpected attack which resulted in further significant losses.
- Intense fighting continues as of December 1st, in Dega-Melza town between Fano fighters and regime forces.

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- The conflict began on November 30th, and has persisted for two days.
 - Due to the ongoing nature of the fighting and the limited access to information from the conflict zone, the full scale and extent of the engagement remain unknown.

Estie Woreda

- On November 24th, regime forces detained 135 unarmed civilians in Estie Woreda, transporting them to Debre-Tabor city the same day.
 - However, during this transfer, an ambush by Fano fighters allowed an unspecified number of detainees to escape.
 - Adding to this, within a single week in Estie Woreda, at least 40 regime soldiers defected to the Fano, bringing their full military equipment with them.
 - Simultaneously, the regime blocked access to the bank accounts of 114 civilians in Estie Woreda, providing no adequate explanation for this action.
 - Further bank account closures are anticipated within the woreda. Following the intense fighting in Amjaye Kebele, regime forces engaged in the deliberate destruction of farmers' property. One farmer reported the looting and burning of four quintals of his harvested crops.
- Fierce fighting erupted on November 27th, between Fano fighters and regime forces near Simada Woreda, following a surprise Fano attack.
 - Regime forces, escorting a large number of detained youths en route from Simada Woreda to Andabet and eventually Debre-Tabor city, were ambushed. The ensuing battle, concentrated primarily in Mikre and Sholekt Kebeles, lasted six hours. The regime forces suffered significant casualties.

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- The intensity of the fighting was particularly brutal in Jib-Wenz. An entire Shaleqa (battalion) was reportedly killed by Fano fighters, and as of November 28th, their bodies remained uncollected and unburied in the village, despite attempts by local farmers to retrieve them. Further clashes continued on November 28th near Eyesus village, illustrating the persistent conflict between the Fano and regime forces.
 - On the morning of December 1st, intense fighting broke out between Fano fighters and regime forces in Sholekt Kebele.
 - The fighting began following the deployment of a joint regime force to Sholekt Kebele.
 - The joint force consisted of militia, riot control units, and elements of the regular army.
 - The scale and intensity of the engagement suggests a significant military operation by the regime forces.
 - As fighting is ongoing, a complete assessment of casualties and the overall tactical situation is pending.

Simada Woreda

- On November 24th, Fano fighters launched a surprise attack on regime forces in Tsedoye Kebele, Jibasra-Maryam village.
 - This assault resulted in heavy casualties for the regime, with at least 14 regime soldiers killed or critically wounded. Immediately following the attack, 10 additional soldiers defected to the Fano, bringing with them two machine guns and other small arms.

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- In response to the successful Fano attack and the soldiers’ defections, local regime forces and Prosperity Party officials interrogated residents of Jibasra-Maryam, accusing them of providing civilian clothing and supplies to the defecting soldiers and the Fano fighters.
 - Following these interrogations, Fano forces launched another surprise attack against soldiers questioning the villagers. Retreating to Tsedoye, the regime forces retaliated by shelling Jibasra-Maryam village with 107mm heavy artillery, causing significant damage to agricultural fields.
 - On November 27th, Fano fighters ambushed a column of regime forces escorting numerous civilian detainees from Simada Woreda towards Andabet town; the intended destination was Debre Tabor city.
 - The ambush, which took place in Mikre and Sholekt Kebeles, quickly escalated into close-quarters combat.
 - The Fano inflicted heavy casualties on regime forces, killing a significant number of regime militias and effectively dispersing the majority of the escort.
 - Intense fighting continues in Sholekt Kebele.

Dera Woreda

- On November 26th, Fano fighters launched a surprise attack on regime forces in the mountainous region between Desqua and Wef-Argif. The assault resulted in numerous regime casualties, with many soldiers killed or critically wounded.

Central Gonder Zone

East Dembiya Woreda

- Numerous unarmed youths and elderly residents of Robit town and Achera Kebele have been arrested by regime forces, accused of being family members of Fano fighters. Many of these detainees suffered severe beatings at the hands of their captors. Under the guise of disarmament, the regime forces are also inflicting widespread suffering on farmers throughout the woreda.
- Fierce fighting between Fano fighters and regime forces raged throughout the day on November 26th, across multiple locations.
 - Early that morning, regime forces launched a pre-dawn offensive against the Fano in Weqir-Abbo Kebele. Simultaneously, and continuing throughout the day, intense clashes occurred in Dembiya, Robit, and Girarge.
 - Between 3 am and 5 am local time at night, the Fano launched a surprise counter-offensive, inflicting heavy casualties on regime forces, particularly those stationed in Zengach-Mikital, a village near Robit. This attack forced a nighttime retreat of regime forces from Girarge, back to the Atse Tewodros Airport in Gonder. During their retreat, regime forces killed 2 children aged eight and twelve years old near Dabaguda and Fufanqara Kebeles.
 - Later that morning, regime forces attempted a renewed offensive in Dembiya, launching attacks from multiple directions, including Wanzaye, Minzro, and Qulqual-Ber.
 - Civilians in Addise and Weynatana Kebeles were killed during these attacks. Over 130 civilians were also detained and transported to Qoladiba and other undisclosed locations, falsely accused of being related to Fano fighters.
- On November 27th, regime forces significantly increased their military presence in

Robit, deploying reinforcements from the Gonder-Azezo Central Command, as well as from Gorgora and Qoladiba. This substantial buildup of troops has created a highly tense and volatile situation in Robit.

- On November 27th, regime forces conducted a disarmament operation in a rural kebele called Jerjera, targeting legally armed farmers. Numerous farmers were detained and severely beaten, accused of concealing weapons from soldiers.

Gonder-Zuriya Woreda

- During the night of November 24th, Fano fighters executed a surprise attack on the Maksegnit town police station. The attack resulted in the capture of the police commander and six additional Prosperity Party officials from Gonder-Zuriya Woreda. The police station sustained significant damage as a result of the Fano's action.
- On November 27th, regime forces inflicted significant suffering on farmers in Chira Kebele.
 - The operation targeted farmers legally possessing guns for looking after their farming and land cultivation.
 - However regime forces killed 4 farmers harvesting teff in Mantano-Ferenj-Wiha village. These farmers, all heads of households, were falsely accused of possessing weapons.
 - In a separate incident, regime forces shelled Selam-Ber Kebele in Qulqual-Ber with mortar fire.

Chilga Woreda

- On November 24th, an unknown armed group launched a surprise attack on the prison facility in Chilga Woreda.

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- The attack resulted in the death of a female police commander.
 - The assailants' stated goal was the massacre of the prison's inmates, a large number of whom were transferred from Metemma Woreda on accusations of being Fano fighters or sympathizers.
 - The attacking group was believed to be comprised of Qemant fighters.

Gonder City

- During the night of November 25th, Fano fighters launched a surprise attack on the regime forces in Tseda sub-city. The assault resulted in the deaths of several local Prosperity Party officials and inflicted significant casualties on police and riot control units.
- On November 27th, regime forces conducted forced military recruitment of young men throughout Gonder city.
 - The main recruitment sites included the central bus station in Arada, the new bus station in Azezo, Kebele 18, and Piassa.
 - The whereabouts of these recruits remain unknown, although it's strongly suspected that they have been sent to various military training centers in the Gonder sub-region.
 - Significantly, many of the conscripted youths are underage, falling below the legal military recruitment age of 18. Homeless youth sleeping in public areas were also targeted for forced conscription.

Takusa Woreda

- On November 28th, intense fighting raged throughout the day between the Fano fighters and the regime forces in Takusa Woreda, specifically in the rural kebele of Chemera near Delgi town.

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- The engagement was characterized by fierce combat, resulting in significant casualties among regime troops. The Fano fighters inflicted a heavy toll on the regime’s soldiers, with a confirmed but unspecified number of fatalities.
 - The regime forces attempted a surprise offensive, but this plan was compromised, allowing the Fano fighters to preemptively establish strategic defensive positions. Seizing the initiative, the Fano fighters launched a counteroffensive, employing a tactic of unexpected encirclement against the advancing regime troops. This counterattack capitalized on the regime forces’ failed surprise maneuver, resulting in further significant losses for the regime forces.
 - Accompanying the fighting was a heavy barrage of shelling from the regime forces, indiscriminately targeting the area and causing widespread destruction of civilian property. Numerous farmers’ homes and cultivated fields suffered extensive damage due to this indiscriminate shelling.
- Fierce fighting erupted on November 30th, in the vicinity of Delgi town, primarily concentrated in Wudibil village and Delgi High School.
 - The engagement, which lasted from 8 pm to 2 pm local time, involved clashes between Fano fighters and regime forces.
 - In Wudibil village, regime forces suffered significant casualties.
 - The fighting also extended into Delgi town itself with intense combat taking place within the confines of the high school.
 - The regime forces’ actions resulted in substantial collateral damage, with indiscriminate shelling from ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, mortars, and heavy machine guns causing extensive destruction to farmers’ crops in surrounding areas.

West Gonder Zone

Metemma Woreda

- On November 24th, a captain and a lieutenant, both military officers of the regime, were swept away by the Gwang River in Metemma Woreda. Their bodies were recovered and buried the following day, on November 25th.
- On November 25th, a military truck carrying regime forces careened into a deep ravine near Qutir 1 Kebele, resulting in heavy casualties.
 - Informed they were surrounded by Fano fighters, the soldiers attempted a hasty retreat. The truck’s driver, who had been coerced into transporting the troops after witnessing firsthand the regime’s human rights abuses against the Amhara people, intentionally caused the accident. He reported being slapped, spat upon, and beaten with rifle butts when he initially refused the assignment.
 - The resulting crash killed 26 regime soldiers outright and critically injured 18 more. The driver intentionally steered the truck into livestock blocking the road, sending the vehicle over the nearby precipice. Following this act, he defected to the Fano.
 - Informants which observed the incident, along with the drowning of two military officers (a captain and lieutenant) in the Gwang River two days were astonished and even suggested it could be “divine intervention” against the regime.
 - Meanwhile, the regime continues its forceful requisition of civilian trucks in Kokit town, seizing vehicles from their owners under the pretense of military transport needs.
- On November 26th, General Birhanu Bekele, the regime’s military commander in Metemma Woreda, addressed a gathering of residents in Genda-Wiha, the woreda’s

administrative center.

- He angrily accused the population of supporting Fano forces by harboring and supplying them, expressing frustration with the ongoing casualties suffered by his troops.
- He issued an ultimatum: unless the residents compelled the Fano to surrender within 15 days, the regime would take “severe” retaliatory military action.
- The assembled residents offered no response to this forceful threat, prompting a further, albeit similarly unsuccessful, attempt by General Bekele to persuade them to cooperate.
- Despite his second appeal, the residents remained silent.

Tach-Armachiho Woreda

- Intense fighting erupted on November 25th, between Fano fighters and regime forces in Tesa village in Muafarja Kebele, resulting in significant regime casualties. In a separate engagement near Abrahajira town, Fano forces launched a successful surprise attack on regime forces in Mislal Kebele, inflicting further heavy losses on the regime.

North Gonder Zone

Debark Woreda

- Intense fighting erupted on November 27th, between Fano fighters and regime forces near Debark town.
 - The engagement, which began around 10 am and lasted until 2 pm local time, involved a surprise offensive launched by the Chenna Fano Division led by Shaleqa Tsadiq. The battle was characterized by close-quarters combat using

kalashnikov rifles, resulting in significant casualties among regime forces, including high-ranking military officers.

- Overwhelmed by the Fano’s attack, regime forces were forced into a hasty retreat back to Debark town, carrying their dead and wounded. The regime’s advance was intended to penetrate the Dabat Woreda lowlands, but this offensive was decisively repelled.

Addis-Ababa City

- On November 25th, a fire broke out at mid-day in Woreda 05 near Piassa (Arada sub-city) at a Chinese construction company site. Residents suspect these fires are part of a regime conspiracy aimed at demographic change and economic restructuring.
- Human rights advocate, teacher, and journalist Meskerem Abera was sentenced to one year and four months under charges of inciting violence via electronic communication.² She did not attend the court session, citing flaws in the judicial process, including the mishandling of witnesses, stating: *“I don’t expect justice from this court, so I will not attend. You may pass whatever decision.”*
- The regime has continued demolitions of residential houses under the guise of “Corridor Development” particularly in the Gulele, Kirkos, and Lemi-Kura sub-cities.
 - The demolitions have been carried out without compensation or consultation with the affected residents.
 - Those displaced are suffering from a lack of shelter, food, and other basic necessities.

²See November 25th, 2024 [article](#) from BBC Amharic (original version available [here](#)).

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- Reports indicate that some individuals have resorted to suicide due to the devastating impact of these actions.
 - Between November 27th and the night of the 28th, two bomb explosions were reported in Addis-Ababa city, specifically in the Ayat and Summit areas.
 - In Ayat, the explosion caused significant casualties, with 3 police officers killed.
 - In Summit, the attack targeted regime forces disguised in civilian clothing conducting forced military recruitment. The vehicle used by security forces was set on fire, and several officers were injured.
 - On November 29th, several detained Amhara political figures, including Yohannes Buayalew, a former member of the Amhara Regional State Council; Christian Tadele, a member of the EPRDF House of Peoples’ Representatives representing the *National Movement of Amhara* (NAMA) party; and Kassa Teshager (PhD), a member of the Addis Ababa City Council, appeared in court.
 - The defendants raised multiple complaints, including:
 - * *Surveillance concerns*: Unauthorized camera surveillance in the courtroom.
 - * *Access restrictions*: Confiscation of televisions, denial of information, and prevention of contact with families, including phone restrictions.
 - * *Prolonged detention*: They accused the regime of deliberately delaying the legal process without any resolution.
 - The regime has escalated arbitrary detentions of Eritrean refugees in Addis-Ababa city. Some detained refugees have been forced to pay bribes to police officers. Reports indicate that the regime is planning to relocate Eritrean refugees to the Afar Region.

Enat Party Statement

- On November 29th, opposition party Enat Party issued a statement on the same incident, reporting the murder of 9 civilians and multiple abductions by OLA forces on the night of November 28th.³

All Ethiopian Unity Party Statement

- On November 30th, opposition party the All Ethiopian Unity Party (AEUP) condemned the mass killings in Shirka Woreda of East Arsi Zone (Oromia Region).⁴
 - The statement states that on the night of November 28th, 15 civilians, including elders, women, and children, were murdered, and 5 others were abducted in Sole-Ferenksa and Sole-Teje Kebeles.
 - The party stated that the atrocities constitute genocide and called on the public to organize for self-protection and urged international actors to intervene and hold regional leaders accountable.

Gurage Zone (Central Ethiopia Region)

Abeshige Woreda

- According to Meseret Media, a retaliatory attack occurred in Abeshige Woreda following the circulation of a disturbing video from Dera Woreda in North Shewa Zone (Oromia Region).⁵
 - The video was reportedly amplified by regime officials and state media.
 - Experts and observers suspect that the murders and the orchestrated propaganda by regime forces and state media were politically motivated.

³See November 29th, 2024 [statement](#) from Enat Party.

⁴See November 30th, 2024 [statement](#) from the All Ethiopian Unity Party (AEUP).

⁵See November 25th, 2024 [report](#) from Meseret Media.

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- On November 21st, amid this regime and incitement driven by state-media, ethnic-based violence targeted Amhara residents, resulting in horrific killings.
 - The atrocities were so severe that even conducting funerals became a significant challenge.

East Arsi Zone (Oromia Region)

Shirka Woreda

- It is recalled that on the night of November 28th, a mass killing took place in Sole-Ferenksa Kebele and surrounding areas of Shirka Woreda following the disarmament of victims by regime forces.
 - Sources emphasized that the attack was ethnically and religiously motivated, targeting members of ethnic Amhara and Orthodox Christian residents.
 - Citing the recent Dera case, which involved the circulation of a video showing the brutal murder of a young boy, sources highlighted concerns about propaganda released by regime officials. This propaganda is feared to incite inter-communal violence.
 - Some sources suspect the regime’s involvement in the massacre, noting the timing of the disarmament and the possible connection between the propaganda campaign and the targeted killings in Sole-Ferenksa Kebele.
- On the night of November 28th, OLA militants perpetrated a massacre of at least 12 civilians and abducted an unknown number of others in Sole-Frenqesa and Sole-Tijo Kebeles.⁶

⁶See December 1st, 2024 [update](#) from the Amhara Association of America (AAA).

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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