



War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – September 29th to October 5th, 2025

Updated October 9th, 2025

Overview

For the week of September 29th to October 5th, 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.¹²

- This week battle events and rights violations were recorded in more than 34 woreda/city administrations across 12 zonal administrations in Amhara Region.

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

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

²The Fano are organized under sub-regional commands based on geographic location which are comprised of divisions. The major sub-regional commands operate under a consolidated structure known as the *Amhara Fano National Force* (AFNF) which includes the 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) or West Amhara Qetena (Tewodrose Command; TC), 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) Province Command [AFWC].

West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder, West Gonder, North Gonder and Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zones.

- This week Fano forces continued military offensives under *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali (Aba Nadew)* in northeastern Amhara resulting in the capture of new territories and significant casualties inflicted against regime losses. Developments were also recorded in East Arsi Zone of Oromia Region.
- Civilian casualties were recorded in 11 woreda/city administrations across 8 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Filakit-Gergera, Woldia, Mekane-Selam, Borena, Aneded, Sinan, Wemberima, Banja, North Mecha, Libo-Kemkem and Metemma Woredas in North Wollo, South Wollo, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, South Gonder and West Gonder Zones. In Mekane-Selam city of South Wollo Zone, urban fighting resulted in civilian casualties after regime forces reportedly used a site of worship as a military outpost.
- Drone activity was recorded across Raya-Kobo, Habru and Mekdela Woredas of North Wollo and South Wollo Zones in Amhara Region. In Raya-Kobo Woreda of North Wollo Zone, multiple drone attacks resulted in civilian casualties.
- Large-scale arbitrary arrests were reported in Addis-Ababa city involving hundreds of residents across numerous woreda/sub-cities as part of a suspected forced conscription campaign involving a significant number of fatalities. In addition, abductions were recorded in Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera and West Gonder Zones of Amhara Region implicating *Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF)* forces and Qemant militants, respectively.
- This week, reports indicate severe human rights abuses and repression carried out by regime forces in Addis-Ababa city in relation to observance of the Irreecha holiday. Reports indicated widespread extortion, detainments and political displays

facilitated by regime forces targeting city residents.

Northeastern Amhara (Wollo Bete-Amhara Sub-Region)

- On September 30th, the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Corps released a report highlighting a series of decisive victories achieved on the Western Wollo front during *Operation Arbegna Adem Ali (Aba Nadew)*.
 - The operation reportedly inflicted significant losses on regime forces through well-coordinated strikes led by various Fano brigades and divisions under the corps. Over a four-day offensive, key regime positions were targeted, notably on the Mekane-Selam front, resulting in the elimination of numerous high-ranking regime officials and forces.
 - On the morning of September 30th, the body of a senior regime military leader was discovered near the Mekdela-Amba University Campus, following heavy gunfire. The Fano Forces reported the neutralization of major regime officials, including Ato Shambel Hailu, Head of Borena Woreda Militia Office; Ato Sayid Abiye, Head of Mekane-Selam City Administration Militia Office; Ato Aregaw Kibret, Militia Commander; and over 75 regime soldiers in the region. The 45th Division of the 801st Corps (ENDF North-Eastern Command), which had been stationed at a local junior school, was ambushed as Fano forces advanced into the city. The route and surrounding roads used by regime forces were targeted and set ablaze, resulting in significant regime losses. Ato Moges “*Bula*” Abiye, a notorious regime intelligence operative known for arbitrary arrests and repression of civilians, was captured alive by the Getasew Asres Brigade of the Engineer Dessalegn Assefa Division. Internal regime communications reportedly expressed regret that Bula was captured, highlighting his strategic value. Further, Ato Takele Yifru, a senior militia

member and soldier, was found hiding and apprehended by the division's Tilahun Fentaw Brigade, alongside Ato Hassan Eshete, Ato Akele Tessemaw, and five additional regime personnel. During the siege on the riot dispersal camp, Fano forces gained full control of the camp, seized two modern firearms, an *Inarga* weapon, tear gas canisters, medical kits, rations, and additional regime property.

- On September 27th, joint forces from the Mebreq Division and a battalion from the 9th Division (AFNF-TC) captured Mekane-Selam city.
- On September 28th, a battalion from the Mebreq Division neutralized 20 regime soldiers at a place called *Ayer-Marefiya*.
- Between September 29th and 30th, a successful offensive was also conducted at Segno-Gebeya by the Getasew Asres Brigade. In retaliation, on September 29th, regime forces carried out indiscriminate mortar attacks on civilians, resulting in the destruction of homes in Tewa Kebele, the death of a mother, and injuries to family members.
- Between September 29th and 30th, coordinated attacks by units of the Engineer Dessalegn Assefa and Mebreq Divisions and the 9th Division (AFNF-TC), eliminated over 45 regime soldiers, captured or wounded several others, including Ato Sayid Abiye, rendered Mekane-Selam city strategically useless to regime forces, and liberated prisoners from Borena Woreda prison within the city. On the Mekane Selam front, Colonel Habtamu Assefa and three other regime officers were also taken into custody by the Tilahun Fentaw Brigade.
- Overall, Operation Aba Nadew resulted in significant territorial, operational, and intelligence victories for the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Corps. The capture of Mekane-Selam city, the elimination of high-value targets, and the successful

seizure of key regime assets mark a turning point in the resistance against regime forces on the Western Wollo front.

- On October 1st, the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Corps issued a formal declaration announcing a pardon for individuals affiliated with the ENDF, riot dispersla, militia, and police.
 - This amnesty specifically targets those who have been involved in what the corps describes as genocidal actions against the Amhara people, allegedly carried out in defense of the ruling Prosperity Party regime, which the Corps characterizes as fascist. The pardon is limited in duration, taking effect from October 1st to 10th, and is intended to encourage defection, reconciliation, or potential cooperation with the corps' political and military objectives during this timeframe.
 - In the same statement, the corps announced that it is actively expanding its control over various territories, including both rural and urban areas. This territorial expansion is occurring under *Operation Aba Nadew*. According to the declaration, the corps is in the process of establishing alternative local governance structures in areas it controls. This includes organizing public forums and discussions with local residents; selecting new local leaders based on community approval and participation; and forming kebele and woreda-level administrations that reflect the corps' vision of people-centered governance.
 - The overall tone of the statement suggests a strategic shift by the corps from purely military objectives toward a hybrid approach of armed struggle and civil governance, aimed at consolidating both legitimacy and control in contested areas.
- On October 2nd, the AFNF-MC issued a statement exposing what they describe as a

coordinated disinformation campaign by the regime, allegedly aimed at discrediting recent Fano military successes under Operation Aba Nadew.

- According to the report, the regime resorted to fabricating a false documentary, purportedly being prepared by Fana Broadcasting Corporation (Fana TV) in Dessie. This effort is said to involve the staged presence of Tigrayan militants, allegedly affiliated with the Getachew Reda faction of TPLF, who were reportedly brought from Hara-Meda. This alleged media fabrication is said to follow a major defeat suffered by regime forces during Operation Aba Nadew.
 - The Fano report suggests that this defeat has led the regime to deploy social media operatives and state-affiliated outlets in an attempt to reshape the narrative. Specifically, regime-aligned media have begun circulating claims that the Fano forces' battlefield successes were not achieved independently, but with the assistance of Tigrayan and Eritrean forces. The Fano report categorically rejects these claims, calling them baseless and politically motivated. Fano asserts that these accusations are part of a deliberate attempt by Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's administration to delegitimize the Fano movement and deny its popular support.
 - The Fano statement concludes that no propaganda or fabrication can stop the momentum of the Amhara struggle, which it describes as a popular, self-driven movement for survival and justice. The statement warns that despite ongoing efforts to distort public perception, the commitment to continue the struggle remains firm.
- On October 5th, the AFNF-MC initiated the establishment of a new administrative structure in newly captured territories.
 - The initiative was accompanied by a series of public discussions aimed at strengthening governance and public engagement in northeastern Amhara.

Fano forces under the East Amhara Corps 1, Baleshirtu Division, engaged residents of Habru Woreda, particularly in towns like Girana. The Fano forces have begun dismantling the previous administrative structures imposed by the regime and are replacing them with grassroots systems aligned with the goals of the armed resistance. On October 5th, a significant public forum was held with residents of Girana. The session concluded successfully, establishing a shared social and political direction for the local community under the new structure. The discussion focused on four main thematic areas such as foundations and progress of the struggle, assessment of the regime, self-governance and local security, and building ownership of the struggle.

- Residents expressed satisfaction with the open dialogue, especially in addressing widespread misconceptions. According to community members, the regime had actively promoted narratives portraying Fano as hostile to Muslims and as a destabilizing force. However, through direct engagement, the accusations were addressed and disproven. Many attendees emphasized that the discussion helped them reclaim their agency and dispel the belief that peace had been achieved through regime occupation. They expressed a sense of liberation and dignity now that local control had been restored. The community also pledged its support for the Fano-led administration and its resistance to what they referred to as the "false peace" of the previous regime structure.

North Wollo Zone

Meket Woreda

- On September 29th, the AFNF-MC reported the graduation of over 100 newly trained Fano fighters in Meket Woreda.

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- The new recruits were graduated by the Wubante Abate Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Lasta Asaminew Corps). The graduation ceremony marked a significant milestone in the division's continued efforts to strengthen their armed forces amidst intensifying conflict in the region. The graduation underscores the Fano forces' ongoing efforts not only to sustain battlefield momentum but also to institutionalize military training and ideological preparedness among its ranks. The formation of trained units is seen as essential to advancing the broader goals of the resistance movement in the face of increasing pressure from regime forces.
 - On October 3rd, Fano forces launched a coordinated operation targeting a regime military convoy in Meket Woreda.
 - The offensive was carried out by units under the AFNF-MC and specifically targeted a regime convoy that was traveling from Filakit-Gergera to Gashena, a route known for its strategic significance in military logistics and troop movement. According to reports, the Fano conducted a series of coordinated attacks at key locations along the convoy's route such as Sisidi, Woqeta and Arbit.
 - As a result of the ambush, the regime's strike force and militia units, including battalion-level commanders, reportedly sustained casualties. At least six regime personnel were confirmed killed and several others were reported wounded.

Filakit-Gergera City

- On September 27th, regime forces executed a 60-year-old civilian in Filakit-Gergera city.

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- The victim was reportedly arrested on the evening of September 26th, by riot dispersal forces, primarily composed of individuals from the Qemant community. He was taken into custody while returning home from his farmland. Reports indicate that the elder was subjected to severe torture throughout the night. Despite pleas from community members, the regime forces executed him the following morning, on September 27th.
 - On October 4th, Fano forces launched a targeted urban operation against regime forces in Filakit-Gergera city.
 - The operation was conducted by members of the Anisha Sayed Division (operating under the AFNF-MC). According to reports, the Fano infiltrated the city covertly and engaged in a surprise attack targeting regime militia and security commanders stationed within the city.
 - The assault resulted in several regime casualties, including an unspecified number of regime militia and strike force members either killed or wounded. One of the dead is confirmed to be a local militia commander. Several seriously injured individuals were reportedly admitted to local hospitals for emergency treatment. In addition to the tactical success of the operation, the Fano unit was able to seize three Kalashnikov rifles from regime forces. During the gunfire exchange, two civilians reportedly sustained minor injuries.

Mersa City

- On September 29th, Fan forces conducted a public consultation with residents of Mersa city.
 - This initiative was conducted by members of the AFNF-MC Lij Eyasu Corps as part of a broader effort by the Fano to establish a new administrative and political order in areas reportedly captured from the Prosperity Party's

governance structure. As part of its operations, the Fano have begun dismantling existing governmental structures affiliated with the Prosperity Party and replacing them with alternative institutions of self-governance. This process is reportedly underway across several towns and districts across the Wollo Bete-Amhara Sub-Region.

- The public meeting involved the following core themes: overview of the motivations behind the armed resistance; discussion on the current state of the struggle including military and political milestones; insights into positive changes brought about by the movement; ongoing challenges of the movement; long-term goals of the movement particularly in governance, peacebuilding, and regional stability; analysis of the state’s military capacity, political legitimacy, and diplomatic standing; proposals for local governance structures, including the role of traditional elders, peace committees, and youth; emphasis on strengthening trust and cooperation between the local population and the Fano; and risks such as collaboration with regime forces and questions of public loyalty and identity.
- Residents reportedly responded positively to the discussions. Many participants expressed that the dialogue helped dispel doubts that had been instilled by previous regime narratives. Notably, several attendees reflected on past regime attempts to frame the resistance as divisive, particularly by portraying it as anti-Muslim, and expressed appreciation for the opportunity to clarify misconceptions. The discussion was viewed as a breakthrough in rebuilding trust and cooperation between the Fano and the local population. Residents voiced a collective commitment to resist what they described as the “false and oppressive system” of the Prosperity Party.
- Similar public consultations were reportedly held in Wuchale town and Ambassel Woreda in the preceding days. These events are part of a broader

strategy by the Fano to create grassroots consensus, build legitimacy, and reorganize administrative functions in territories under Fano control.

Woldia City

- On September 27th, amid ongoing clashes between the regime and Fano forces, regime soldiers reportedly executed several civilians in areas surrounding Aboy Church and Gola-Mecharie.
 - Reports indicate that these individuals were not engaged in combat activity but were targeted amid the fighting. One of the victims was a young man in his early twenties, who had been returning home from his farmland. He was approaching his house, traveling from the direction of Aboye Church toward Addisu-Mebrat, when regime forces intercepted and executed him in front of his family members. Later that night, regime forces were seen occupying private homes and turning them into temporary military posts. In one instance, they approached the residence of a young man who had closed his door at night for personal safety. Upon demanding that he open the door, they questioned him about why it was locked. When he explained that it was to protect himself from “*finitari*” (thieves/looters), the soldiers accused him of being affiliated with the Fano movement, declared their intent to kill him, and subsequently shot him on the spot. Another young civilian who witnessed this killing was also shot and killed by the same forces shortly afterward. One of the victims in Gola-Mecharie has been identified as Yohannes Asfaw.
 - In a further display of repression, regime forces reportedly blocked funeral arrangements for the deceased, preventing family and community members from conducting traditional burial rites. The use of artillery and targeted killings in civilian areas has heightened fear and insecurity among the local population. The regime’s continued military presence, along with allegations

of extrajudicial executions and violations of basic human rights, has raised concerns among observers and human rights defenders.

- As of September 30th, transportation and public services in Woldia city remain completely suspended, reflecting ongoing instability and heightened tension in the area.
 - Key sectors, including banks and other public institutions, have not resumed operations. All forms of public and private transportation within the city and in and out of Woldia are currently non-functional. This paralysis of movement and services has significantly disrupted daily life and economic activity for residents. The atmosphere in the city remains tense and uncertain, with visible signs of military presence and heightened security concerns.
 - According to sources, the suspension is directly linked to the recent escalation of conflict between regime forces and Fano fighters in the region. Additionally, major transport routes leading out of Woldia have come under the control of Fano forces, particularly the main roads connecting Woldia to Dessie, Bahir-Dar and Gonder. The situation remains fluid, and further developments are expected as control over key areas continues to shift.
- As of October 4th, reports have emerged indicating armed confrontations in the surrounding areas of Woldia city.
 - According to reports, sustained gunfire exchanges were heard between October 3rd and 4th, in areas such as Gala-Giyorgis and other localities within Gubalafto Woreda, located on the outskirts of Woldia. The incidents are believed to be part of the ongoing conflict between Fano fighters and regime forces in the area. The clashes have raised concerns over the security situation near urban centers, including Woldia.

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- As a result of the growing instability, cash withdrawals from banks in Woldia have been disrupted, with residents reporting an inability to access cash. On October 4th, at approximately 3 pm, customers attempting to withdraw money were informed that banks had no available cash. Sources confirmed that this situation has caused economic stress among residents, many of whom rely on daily or weekly access to financial services. The dual impact of security threats and economic disruption has heightened anxiety among residents. With gunfire heard nearby and banks unable to provide essential services, communities are facing both personal safety concerns and financial uncertainty.

Raya-Kobo Woreda

- On September 29th, the regime reportedly carried out multiple drone strikes targeting areas within Raya-Kobo Woreda.
 - According to sources, the strikes occurred at around 9 am, at Kalim and Tekulesh. In the Kalim area, reports confirm that the drone strike in Kalim resulted in human casualties. In the Tekulesh area, residents reported hearing the sound of drone activity and a possible strike.
 - As of September 30th, casualty figures and the full impact of the drone attacks in both areas remain under investigation. Human rights observers and local advocacy groups have raised concerns about the indiscriminate nature of drone strikes, particularly in regions where civilians live in close proximity to active fighting. The use of aerial attacks without clear distinction between military targets and civilian areas may constitute a violation of IHL.
 - On September 29th, the regime launched artillery strikes toward the Kalim area. The shelling was reportedly conducted from Woldia city and continued into the morning hours in subsequent days, though the exact number of

casualties from these bombardments remains unconfirmed at this time.

Gubalafto Woreda

- On September 30th, armed clashes broke out between Fano and regime forces in Gubalafto Woreda.
 - The confrontation occurred as regime troops advanced from Woldia city toward the areas of Molla-Giyorgis, Srinqa, and Senbo, areas believed to be under the influence of Fano forces. The attack was initiated by the 2nd Battalion of the Zobel-Amba Division (operating under the AFNF-MC East Amhara Corps 2). According to sources, the Fano launched a coordinated offensive on the regime convoy as it travelled to Gubalafto Woreda. The engagement was triggered by the movement of regime troops, which were reportedly planning an operation against Fano positions in the area. In response, Fano fighters launched a pre-emptive strike to disrupt the regime's military advance. Following the confrontation, regime forces were forced to retreat and withdraw back to Woldia city.
 - The ensuing battle resulted in significant casualties among the regime forces. According to reports, more than 15 personnel, including ENDF, riot dispersal, militia, and police, were killed during the fighting.

Habru Woreda

- As of September 30th, drone surveys have intensified across several areas of Habru Woreda, marking a significant escalation in aerial operations by regime forces.
 - The latest wave of strikes has specifically targeted Mersa city, Libso, Wurgessa, Mehal-Amba, and surrounding areas near Srinqa. These attacks

appear to be part of a broader and ongoing aerial campaign affecting multiple regions, including Gubalafto, Raya-Kobo, and Lasta Woredas.

- According to sources and reports from the ground, these drone strikes have not only impacted suspected military targets but have also hit civilian-populated areas and public infrastructure, including residential zones and service centers. These actions have reportedly led to civilian casualties and the destruction of essential public services, raising serious concerns over potential IHL violations and allegations of war crimes.

South Wollo Zone

Kelela Woreda

- On September 28th, Fano forces launched a major offensive across four fronts in Kelela Woreda.
 - The offensive was conducted by the Shewangizaw and Adem Ali (Aba Nadew) Divisions (operating under the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Corps) on the sixth day of Operation Aba Nadew. The operation, which began at 7 am and lasted until 5:30 pm, was aimed at dislodging regime forces from key towns and gaining strategic territorial control in the region. The fighting occurred simultaneously in Kelela, Tirtira, Leguama, and Tulya, with Fano forces initiating and leading the attacks.
 - According to sources, the regime suffered heavy casualties. In this fighting, at least 30 regime soldiers were killed, and over 42 were wounded. Despite intense resistance, the Fano forces succeeded in capturing two of the four targeted towns, Tirtira and Tulya, after a day-long battle.
 - In a related development, the 4th Battalion of the Aba Nadew Division intercepted and ambushed regime forces attempting to retreat from Tirtira to

Leguama. The ambush took place near Leguama and involved three regime vehicles, resulting in more than 10 regime militiamen killed, several others wounded, and vehicles destroyed.

Tenta Woreda

- On September 30th, Fano forces have achieved further territorial gains as Operation Aba Nadew enters the seventh consecutive day in Tenta Woreda.
 - The operation, part of a broader campaign across the Wollo Bete-Amhara Sub-Region, was marked by significant advances and intense fighting. The Bete-Amhara Division of the Lij Eyasu Corps (operating under the AFNF-MC) launched an offensive from positions in the Ambassel Mountains. After successfully crossing the Beshilo River, the division advanced into multiple areas of Tenta Woreda, targeting regime-held positions. As a result, Fano forces were able to seize control of several locations, including parts of Ajbar, administrative center of the woreda. Notably, the local police station in Ajbar also fell under Fano control during the operation.
 - According to sources, the offensive led to the capture of over 15 regime personnel, with an additional 19 wounded and 13 confirmed dead. In terms of captured equipment, the Fano forces reportedly seized two Bren LMGs, 32 fully armed Kalashnikov rifles, two *Forty-Gorash* HMGs (locally known as Metreyes), six Sukkis (improvised or traditional weapons), and a significant amount of ammunition for both Bren and Kalashnikov rifles. On the Fano side, over ten fighters were reportedly killed in the course of the clashes.
- On October 3rd, a fierce battle erupted between Fano forces and regime troops in Ababoru.

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- The confrontation was reportedly triggered when a regime military convoy was attempting to move from Gimba toward Ajibar town. As the convoy passed through Ababoru, it was engaged by Fano units operating in the area. According to sources, the battle involved heavy weaponry, including mortars, DShK HMGs, and ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, alongside intense close-quarter and hand-to-hand combat. The engagement lasted for several hours, eventually forcing regime forces to retreat back to Gimba under pressure. Following the battle, Fano forces successfully expanded their control up to Ababoru, marking a significant tactical gain in ongoing fighting in Tenta Woreda. Local observers have noted that the Prosperity Party’s administrative and political structure has effectively collapsed in this woreda, signaling a shift in both military and governance control in favor of Fano.
 - Though human and material casualties were reported, detailed assessments have yet to be released. In the evening hours of the same day, regime forces, including mechanized units and infantry, were observed making another attempt to move from Gimba toward Ajibar. The outcome of this renewed maneuver remains to be confirmed, as tensions remain high and further clashes are anticipated.³
 - On the evening of October 3rd, regime forces reentered Ajibar town.
 - This development followed several days of fluid control and clashes in surrounding areas between regime troops and Fano forces. The regimes mechanized and infantry divisions, supported by heavy weaponry, advanced into the town from the direction of Gimba, a nearby strategic location that has served as a military staging area. The movement into Ajibar was carried out using more than 30 military vehicles, according to sources. Upon arrival in the

³See October 3, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

town, regime troops reportedly established positions in key areas, including *China Camp*, and the prison.

- Despite the sizable deployment, no significant military activity was reported in Ajibar on October 4th, the day following the re-entry. Residents describe the situation as tense, with regime forces largely remaining in their stationed areas without conducting visible patrols or operations.

Mekdela Woreda

- On October 1st, intense fighting continued between Fano and regime forces in Mekdela Woreda.
 - The clashes have significantly shifted the balance of control in the area. In the latest developments, Fano forces under the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Corps successfully maintained control over Debrezeyit town. These advances signify growing territorial dominance of Fano forces in Mekdela Woreda, effectively expanding their frontline reach and consolidating their presence across key areas. The sustained military pressure by the Fano led to increased instability in Masha town, administrative center of Mekdela Woreda. As of this report, local regime officials have reportedly fled the area, fearing capture by advancing Fano forces. The administrative vacuum left behind may result in further loss of regime control over public offices and governance structures in the woreda.
- On October 2nd, a fierce battle broke out between Fano and regime troops in Mekdela Woreda.
 - The fighting was undertaken by the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Corps with the most intense fighting occurring in areas surrounding Masha town, administrative center of Mekdela Woreda. The fighting was escalated by a

series of successful operations conducted by Fano units, which reportedly broke the defensive lines of regime forces in the area. In response, regime commanders attempted to deploy reinforcements, but these units also came under attack by Fano detachments, making their movement and coordination increasingly difficult.

- The battle led to significant casualties, particularly among regime militia forces, who are reported to have suffered heavy losses.
- Sources on the ground indicate that regime forces operating in Mekdela have now been completely cut off by Fano fighters. The siege has continued for five consecutive days, with regime units requesting reinforcements and emergency assistance from nearby areas. As of now, no successful breakout or relief operation has been confirmed. As a result of the ongoing military operations, Masha town was fully encircled by Fano forces. The town's strategic and administrative functions have been severely disrupted, and reports suggest that most local regime officials have fled in an attempt to avoid capture or potential retaliation. The regime has also conducted a drone survey in the area.

Hayk City

- As of October 1st , the regime has begun deploying additional military forces to Hayk city.
 - Reliable reports confirm the arrival of new regime forces in Hayk, signaling increased militarization of the area. These reinforcements appear to be arriving in multiple waves. Notably, regime forces have also positioned troops and heavy artillery at Sheikh Mussa Mountain, a geographically strategic high ground overlooking surrounding territories. The deployments could be a precautionary move aimed at preventing a possible offensive by Fano forces,

who have recently expanded their control in nearby towns. Given Fano forces' recent territorial gains in Ambassel and Habru Woreda, the main route from Dessie to Woldia, the regime may be attempting to fortify Hayk as a defensive stronghold. Alternatively, the movement of troops and heavy weapons could suggest the regime is preparing to launch coordinated attacks on Fano-controlled areas in the region.

Borena Woreda

- On September 29th, Fano forces launched an offensive targeting regime forces in Borena Woreda.
 - The operation was part of ongoing efforts by the Fano to control territories, weaken regime control and disrupt military presence in key strategic areas. The offensive was carried out by the Getasew Asres Brigade, a unit within the Engineer Dessalegn Assefa Division (operating under the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Corps). As part of the operation, the Fano killed a team of regime soldiers under the 45th ENDF Division. Following their military setback, regime forces retaliated with indiscriminate violence targeting civilians, a pattern increasingly observed in the aftermath of Fano battlefield victories. On September 29th, shortly after their retreat, regime forces launched a mortar attack on civilian areas in Tewa Kebele, located in the same woreda. The attack resulted in the burning of a residential house, killing a mother and injuring several other family members who were inside the home at the time. This act is being widely condemned as a war crime and a desperate attempt by the regime to instill fear among locals, following its military defeat.

Mekane-Selam City

- On October 3rd, a fierce battle erupted between Fano forces and regime troops in Mekane-Selam city.
 - The offensive was jointly launched by the Engineer Dessalegn Assefa and Mebreq Divisions (operating under the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Corps) and the 8th and 9th Divisions (operating under the AFNF-TC) which executed a coordinated military assault, which ultimately led to the successful recapture of the city. Following their defeat, regime forces retreated to surrounding areas of the city. However, prior to their withdrawal, reports indicate that regime troops had fortified themselves in religious institutions (both mosques and churches), using them as defensive strongholds. However, renewed fighting broke out shortly thereafter, triggered by the arrival of new regime reinforcements from Genetie town.
- On October 3rd, during ongoing clashes between Fano forces and regime troops in Mekane-Selam city, an incident occurred inside a city mosque, resulting in the deaths of several individuals, including religious leaders, a guard, and a regime official.
 - Fighting between Fano forces and regime troops intensified in the city following the earlier capture of the city by Fano on September 27th. During the renewed fighting on October 3rd, sources reported that regime personnel, including armed forces and local officials, took shelter inside a mosque. According to accounts, a group of individuals inside the mosque, including religious figures and a regime security official, were killed during the exchange of gunfire. Those reportedly killed include Hamsa-Aleqa Qasim Dagne, Borena Woreda Peace and Security Head and reported Mejlis youth

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- chairman, Sheikh Jemal Kemal, Deputy President of the Mejlis, Abdu Somed Muhammed, Deputy Imam of the Nur Mosque and Qur'an instructor, and Yimam Muhammed, mosque security guard. Reports suggest that these individuals were inside the mosque when Fano forces advanced into the area. According to sources, regime officials had used the mosque and nearby church as military shelters, a tactic previously observed during the fighting on September 27th. These sources claim that regime forces opened fire from within the mosque when Fano fighters approached. Hamsa-Aleqa Qasim Dagne, head of the Borena Woreda Peace and Security Administration, along with other regime security personnel, reportedly took refuge inside the mosque during the entry of Fano forces into the city. According to sources, the regime forces, including the mosque security guard, launched an attack from within the mosque targeting the approaching Fano units, which led to an intense exchange of gunfire. During this armed confrontation, the aforementioned four individuals were killed. Additionally, unverified reports suggest that return fire from the mosque may have also resulted in the deaths of three Fano fighters.
- In the wake of the incident, multiple and polarized narratives have emerged. Pro-regime media outlets, the regional Islamic Affairs Council, and South Wollo Islamic institutions have accused Fano forces of deliberately executing religious leaders and officials inside the mosque. Some voices have gone as far as framing the event as an act of religious aggression and calling for religious retaliation, a narrative being amplified by Oromo nationalist actors.
 - Following a brief re-entry into Mekane-Selam, Fano forces reportedly withdrew from the city in the early hours of October 4th. In the aftermath, pro-regime political actors have sought to exploit the situation to promote sectarian divisions, undermining religious tolerance and coexistence in the region. The incident has also highlighted deep frustrations among members of

the Amhara community including Muslims, who feel targeted by state-sponsored repression and ethnic profiling, yet see religious institutions condemning Fano without proper investigation, while remaining silent on atrocities committed against Amhara civilians.

- Given the conflicting accounts and the potential for manipulation of this tragedy for political or sectarian gain, there is widespread demand for an independent investigation. Human rights groups, religious institutions, and civil society actors are being urged to investigate the circumstances of the deaths in an impartial and evidence-based manner, avoid politicizing the incident or issuing unverified accusations that may worsen the situation, ensure accountability for those responsible, whether combatants or third-party actors, and safeguard religious harmony and prevent further escalation fueled by extremist rhetoric.

Southeastern Amhara (Shewa Sub-Region)

- Between October 1st and 2nd, defections have continued from the ENDF to the AFPO-AFSPC.
 - On October 1st, a group of ENDF personnel from the 5th Regiment of the 15th Division, operating under the 6th Central Command, defected to Fano forces. These soldiers were based in Gundomeskel town (Dera Woreda). The defectors joined the Atse Dawit Division (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC), bringing with them a full cache of weapons. The group included four ENDF personnel, notably including one soldier with the rank of Captain and three other members equipped with modern sniper rifles and full combat gear.
 - The following day, October 2nd, another group of ENDF members defected to Fano, further highlighting the deepening morale crisis within the regime's

military structure. These latest defectors reportedly brought with them three Kalashnikov rifles, one modern sniper rifle, and a significant supply of ammunition.

North Shewa Zone

Minjar-Shenkora Woreda

- On October 1st, an accident at the Arerti Mariam Church in Minjar-Shenkora Woreda (North Shewa Zone), resulted in the death and injury of dozens of worshippers who had gathered to celebrate the annual Feast of the Virgin Mary.
 - A large wooden structure, part of a construction scaffold at the church site, collapsed unexpectedly at approximately 7:45 am, while many worshippers were present in and around the building. According to sources, 36 individuals have been confirmed dead, and more than 200 others sustained varying degrees of injury. The victims were primarily faithful congregants and visitors attending the religious celebration at the unfinished church site. The accident is one of the most devastating incidents in recent memory related to a religious event in the region.

In response, both the AFNF and AFPO issued statements of condolence, expressing deep sorrow and solidarity with the victims, their families, and the wider Orthodox Christian community. The statements conveyed profound sadness over the loss of innocent lives during a peaceful and sacred religious gathering, and sincere condolences to the families of the deceased and prayers for the swift recovery of the injured.

Merhabete Woreda

- On October 3rd, Fano forces launched a coordinated ambush operation against regime forces in Goranda Kebele.
 - The operation was executed by the Atse Dawit Division, under the Atse Amde-Tsion Corps (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC). The ambush took place at approximately 8 am and targeted the regime's 101st Airborne Command Division, which was en route from Fetira town.
 - According to reports, the ambush inflicted serious injuries on many regime soldiers, and an unspecified number of airborne commando members were reportedly killed.

Basona-Werana Woreda

- On the evening of October 2nd, regime forces encountered resistance from Fano forces in Basona-Werana Woreda.
 - The confrontation occurred as regime forces advanced from Debre-Birhan toward Debele Kebele along the route passing through Wushawushign, as regime troops attempted to reach their destination. The engagement was led by units affiliated to the AFPO-AFSPC, specifically the Abat Arbegnoch unit which were reinforced by Fano members residing and working locally, who joined the defense as the situation escalated. The combatants reportedly encountered minimal difficulty in gaining the upper hand. The main contingent on the regime side consisted of regional militia units.
 - While the exact number of casualties is unconfirmed an unspecified number of regime militia members were killed, and several wounded personnel are being treated at medical facilities in the region.

Southwestern Amhara (Gojjam Sub-Region)

- Since September 29th, sources reported observing large-scale military movement in the Gojjam Sub-Region.
 - According to sources, large-scale regime ground and mechanized forces entered the region and were being transported to different locations, along with a large amount of logistics. At the same time, sources indicated there is military movement that appears to be a particular command for the withdrawal of regime forces. Generally, it seems that the regime is making force exchanges across different sub-regions.

East Gojjam Zone

Aneded Woreda

- On September 29th, intense fighting took place in the Gudalema area.
 - The fighting was reportedly launched by the Tedla Gualu Brigade, under the Haddis Alemayehu Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). The operation primarily targeted militias and riot dispersal police presence. Fano forces began the offensive in the early morning and the confrontation reportedly continued beyond midday.
 - Sources reported that casualties were sustained by both combating parties, with particularly significant human and material losses reported on the regime side. One confirmed death and two more injuries resulted on the Fano side. Sources indicated at least 19 soldiers were killed, 21 were injured, and at least 8 firearms were captured by Fano fighters.
 - The Fano fighters identified the killed militias by listing their names, with on-the-ground sources also corroborating the claim. Among the names of the

killed militias listed were:

1. Gete Muluadam
 2. Endalamaw Yalaw,
 3. Litgebew Getie
 4. Muluken Demis
 5. Azmeraw Meku
 6. Getu Mamo.
- In reprisal for the Fano, the regime soldiers reportedly killed a civilian farmer, injured another civilian and burned down their bajaj. Sources identified the name of the killed victim as Tegbar Manaye.

Debre-Markos City

- On the night of October 3rd (to early morning hours of October 4th), heavy fighting took place inside Debre-Markos city.
 - The firefight was launched when the Jibela-Mutera Brigade (operating under the AFNF-TC Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Niguse Division) launched an offensive on the regime presence, having entered the city overnight from three directions. Reports indicated that the operation took place in four battle locations including Mosobit, Civil Service, Wonka, and Yebo Central Square area. The fighting reportedly began during the night, from around 1 am, and lasted until dawn. The confrontation was intense, characterized by hand-to-hand combat and explosive detonations in all locations where fighting took place.
 - Sources reported a large number of regime soldiers, including camp security guards, were killed and wounded, with the exact number of casualties remaining unreported.

Sinan Woreda

- On October 1st, regime soldiers executed a health professional in Rebu-Gebeya town.
 - According to sources, the victim had been in detention for more than three weeks before regime soldiers dragged him from prison and executed him. The killed victim was identified as Wudneh Andargachew, who had been serving in the Rebu-Gebeya health station. Sources reported that the soldiers detained and tortured him for a prolonged period, accusing him of providing medical treatment to Fano fighters.⁴

West Gojjam Zone

Jabi-Tehnan Woreda

- On September 29th, fighting took place near Finote-Selam city.
 - The fighting was initiated by regime forces who departed from Finote-Selam city and mobilized toward the Geray area. Having intelligence about the regime movement, the Fano fighters carried out a preemptive attack. This preemptive attack was reportedly carried out by the Arenzaw-Damot Brigade, under the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). The Fano ambush led to an open confrontation, which began in the early morning and lasted at least four hours in combat.
 - Sources reported that this skirmish resulted in human and material losses for the combatants, with the Fano fighters overwhelming the regime soldiers and inflicting greater casualties among them. Sources reported at least 20 regime soldiers were killed and 18 more injured during this confrontation, with

⁴See October 5, 2025 [update](#) from Ashara Media.

sources also corroborating this claim, stating that several militias were reportedly buried in the nearby churches. Two firearms were also captured by Fano fighters during this confrontation.

- On September 30th, fighting took place in the Wenge area.
 - The fighting was initiated by regime forces who mobilized from the Jiga and Yechereka areas. The Arenzaw-Damot Brigade, under the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (operating under the AFNF-TC), reportedly confronted regime forces in a counteroffensive. This firefight lasted for two hours and subsided following the regime forces' retreat to their point of departure.
 - During this confrontation, Fano fighters had the upper hand, reportedly killing and injuring a considerable number of regime troops, with no casualties reported from the Fano side.

Wemberima Woreda

- On September 30th, intense fighting took place in Shindi town.
 - Combined Fano units from the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division including the Guagusa, Bure-Damot, Shindi-Wemberima Brigades, and the division's commando unit (all operating under the AFNF-TC), reportedly launched the offensive in that morning. The Fano fighters reportedly entered the regime's positions in Shindi from different directions and initiated the offensive in a coordinated manner. This fighting reportedly lasted for a long period of time, coming to a calm by mid-day following the withdrawal of the Fano.
 - Sources reported that casualties were inflicted on both combating sides, with greater human and material losses reported from the regime side.

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- In reprisal for the Fano attack, Fano forces reported that regime soldiers massacred civilians during and after the skirmish. According to these reports, at least five civilians were killed by execution and three more were wounded by indiscriminate shelling.

Sekela Woreda

- On October 2nd, fighting took place in two locations in Sekela Woreda.
 - In the first battle, the Giyon Brigade (operating under the AFNF-TC) launched a firefight against the regime presence in Gishabay town. This firefight was brief and light, with the Fano aiming to prevent reinforcement movement to the battle in Ashifa. No known casualties were reported during this operation.
 - In the second battle, Fano fighters conducted an ambush on regime forces which had mobilized toward the Agut area. This operation targeted regime forces, which were mobilizing large ground mechanized forces toward a destination that remained unknown. The casualties that resulted from this firefight are yet to be identified. Sources reported that the moving regime forces managed to pass through Agut and reportedly reached Mankusa by evening.

Dembecha Woreda

- On October 3rd, heavy fighting took place in Dembecha town.
 - The fighting was initiated when the Engineer Kiber Temesgen Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (operating under the AFNF-TC), launched an offensive on the regime's presence. Reports indicated that the Fano fighters approached the regime forces' presence overnight and began the offensive early in the morning. This offensive led to intense and open

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- firefights, involving explosive detonations and HMGs. Sources reported that the Fano fighters attacked the regime's presence at various parts of the town before withdrawing from the town, finishing the operation at around 10 am.
- Sources reported casualties on both sides, with a greater number of regime troops killed and injured. In addition, the Fano fighters reportedly captured at least four regime soldiers along with ten firearms.
- On October 5th, Fano fighters carried out a surprise offensive in the Anjeni neighborhood.
 - Starting from October 4th, a large-scale movement of ground and mechanized forces took place from Dembecha to Dega-Damot Woreda. On October 4th regime ground and mechanized forces entered Feres-Bet town (Dega-Damot Woreda). The following day (October 5th), Fano fighters carried out an operation in the Anjeni neighborhood targeting regime forces en route from Dembecha toward Feres-Bet.
 - Sources reported that the Fano fighters targeted a regime vehicle, resulting in human and material losses.

Quarit Woreda

- Between October 4th and 5th, regime forces conducted large-scale military movements from Finote-Selam and Jiga (Jabi-Tehnan Woreda) toward Quarit and vice-versa, seemingly for the purpose of force relocation.
 - On October 4th, regime forces entered the small town of Genet-Abo without facing resistance from Fano fighters. The following day (October 5th), another unit of regime forces departed from Quarit and moved to Finote-Selam.

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- On that day, Fano fighters conducted a sudden operation while regime forces were en route to Finote-Selam in the area known as Zindib. This surprise attack led to an open exchange of gunfire. The operation was reportedly conducted by units from the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (part of the AFNF-TC).
 - During this firefight, sources reported that one Fano member was confirmed killed, while several regime soldiers were killed and injured. Despite sustaining casualties, the regime forces managed to pass through and arrived in Jiga and Finote-Selam.

Awı Zone

Fagita-Lekoma Woreda

- On October 2nd, fighting took place in the Aswan-Megenteya area.
 - The fighting was initiated by Fano fighters which launched an operation targeting regime forces that had evacuated the Amsalta area and were moving toward Fagita Kebele. This operation was reportedly executed by the Ephrem Atnafu Brigade, under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). The offensive led to an open firefight that lasted for at least two hours.
 - Sources reported that regime forces suffered human and material losses during this operation. Reports indicate at least 11 regime soldiers were killed and several others were wounded during this firefight, with casualties among the Fano remaining unreported.
- On October 4th, intense fighting took place in Addis-Kidam town.

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- The fighting was initiated by Fano fighters. The previous day (October 3rd), Fano fighters had mobilized towards Addis-Kidam town to launch an operation. Having received intelligence about Fano activity, the regime forces waited, holding defensive positions and maintaining patrolling within the town. This development created tension in the town and the surrounding area, but it made conditions unsuitable for the Fano fighters, who cancelled the intended operation after exchanging HMG fire for a brief period.
 - The Fano fighters entered the town at dawn and launched an offensive. This offensive was reportedly launched by the Ephrem Atnafu Brigade (operating under the AFNF-TC Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division). The Fano fighters reportedly carried out this operation in the name of “*Captain EYESHESHIM TEKLE*” to commemorate a fallen fighter who was recently killed in the surrounding area. Having entered the town from two directions, Fano fighters launched a heavy firefight. Upon the Fano fighters’ entry, the regime forces quickly gathered and confined themselves in their fortifications and persisted in shelling with HMGs. The firefight reportedly started early in the morning and lasted for at least five hours. Sources reported that the fighting subsided at around 11 am when the Fano fighters withdrew upon the arrival of regime reinforcement from Injibara.
 - Sources reported over 21 regime soldiers (primarily militia and riot dispersal soldiers, including one militia commander) killed and over 32 wounded and taken to Injibara Hospital. In addition, the Fano reportedly captured five Kalashnikov rifles, one HMG, 523 rounds of Kalashnikov ammunition, and 52,000 ETB in cash.

Guagusa-Shikudad Woreda

- On October 2nd, fighting took place in the Ashifa-Megenteya area.

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- The fighting was initiated by Fano fighters, which launched a surprise attack on regime forces that had departed from neighboring bases toward Sekela Woreda. The attack was reportedly executed by the Zengena and Giyon Brigades, both part of the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (operating under the AFNF-TC).
 - Reports indicated that the Fano fighters inflicted casualties, with the extent remaining unreported. The regime soldiers in retaliation reportedly executed an elderly civilian in the Ashifa neighborhood.

Banja Woreda

- On October 2nd, Fano fighters conducted a surprise operation in Addisalem Kebele.
 - This surprise operation was reportedly executed by the Simeneh Desta Brigade from the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). The Fano offensive targeted regime forces moving from Fagita Kebele (Fagita-Lekoma Woreda) towards the Gubala area.
 - Before reaching Gubala, the Fano fighters launched a firefight, inflicting casualties among the regime soldiers and resulting in material losses. In retaliation for the attack, regime soldiers reportedly executed two civilians in Addisalem Kebele.

North Gojjam Zone

North Mecha Woreda

- On the night of September 29th (continuing into the early hours of September 30th), regime soldiers executed two elderly civilians (a married couple) in the neighborhood of Merawi town.

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- The execution was reportedly carried out near the regime military camp, in the area commonly known as *China Camp*. The soldiers killed the elderly victims, alleging that they were the parents of a Fano fighter. One of the killed victims was identified as Gebre Gebeyehu and was estimated to be in his 60s. The name of the woman was not identified, however, she was pregnant at the time of the killing and estimated to be in her 40s.

Northwestern Amhara (Gonder Sub-Region)

South Gonder Zone

Farta Woreda

- On September 30th, Fano forces carried out coordinated surprise attacks in the area near Gasay town.
 - The offensives were undertaken by the Guna Division (operating under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps). The first ambush struck a riot-dispersal unit traveling from Debre-Tabor city to Estie Woreda. The unit was being transported in two heavy military trucks and was attacked in Midre-Ewa Kebele. One truck was destroyed and the occupants of that vehicle were reported to have been entirely neutralized; the surviving personnel withdrew back to Debre-Tabor. In a related action, the Fano ambushed regime forces moving from Estie toward Arb-Gebeya (Dera Woreda). Those troops were hit as they neared Arb-Gebeya and reportedly suffered heavy casualties.
 - Both actions were executed as surprise attacks and resulted in significant losses for the targeted pro-regime units.

Fogera Woreda

- On September 30th, Fano forces launched a surprise attack against a riot dispersal forces military camp in Wereta town.
 - The offensive was undertaken by the Nebelbalu-Fogera Division (operating under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps). The assault commenced with explosive detonations, which critically injured numerous riot dispersal forces members and resulted in confirmed deaths of two individuals.
 - Continuing their offensive in the same location, the Fano conducted another surprise explosive detonation on the riot dispersal forces on October 2nd. This subsequent ambush resulted in the deaths of nine riot dispersal forces, with an undisclosed number sustaining injuries.
- On October 5th, intense fighting occurred between Fano forces and regime troops in Hod-Gebeya Kebele.
 - The Nebelbalu Fogera Division (operating under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps) was caught in an ambush near Wagtera village orchestrated by regime forces, leading to a close-quarters combat situation. Such aggressive tactics were reportedly uncharacteristic of the regime forces in previous engagements.
 - Both sides sustained heavy casualties during the ensuing firefight.

Libo-Kemkem Woreda

- On October 5th, regime forces launched a multi-pronged, coordinated attack against Fano positions in Mikael-Debir.
 - The regime forces advanced along three distinct axes: forces deployed from Gonder city were mobilized to Degoma town and then advanced towards

Mikael-Debir; forces from Bahir-Dar city were mobilized to Addis-Zemen town, where they received additional reinforcements before marching towards Mikael-Debir via Asta-Maryam Kebele; and forces originating from Maksegnit and Enfranz town were deployed to Mikael-Debir via Jirat Kebele. These deployments occurred under the cover of darkness, and regime forces employed heavy weaponry, including ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, mortars, and DShK HMGs. In response, Fano units under the AFNF-BC 5th Corps launched a coordinated counter-offensive: the Mebreq Division engaged regime forces advancing from Degoma towards Mikael-Debir, utilizing DShK HMGs positioned in the mountainous terrain; the Fanaye Wube and Gondere-Begashaw Divisions targeted regime forces deployed in the Arnogari direction from Enfranz; and the Tiquir Anbesa Division countered regime forces deployed from Addis-Zemen town towards Derita and Asta-Maryam. After a full day of intense fighting, the Fano forces cleared regime forces from Mikael-Debir. Although the regime forces briefly regained control of Mikael-Debir in the afternoon, a renewed Fano counter-offensive forced them to retreat. Ultimately, the regime forces withdrew from Mikael-Debir, retreating along their original axes of advance: via Asta-Maryam to Addis-Zemen, via Jirat to Arnogari town, and towards Degoma town.

- The coordinated Fano counter-offensive inflicted heavy casualties on the regime forces in all sectors. However, as a retaliatory measure, regime forces reportedly killed five civilians including three farmers in Washa-Maryam and two civilians in Mikael-Debir. Additionally, four civilians sustained critical injuries from regime fire.

Central Gonder Zone

East Dembiya and West Dembiya Woredas

- On September 29th, fighting took place in East Dembiya and West Dembiya Woredas.
 - On September 28th, regime forces stationed in Qoladiba town were deployed to Robit, regaining control of strategic positions to attack Fano forces. On September 29th, regime forces from Azezo deployed to the Megech reservoir via Girarge Kebele, establishing bases in East Dembiya Woreda to target the Tadilo-Birhan Division (part of the AFNF-BC 5th Corps) in Sufanqarana village.
 - On the same day (September 29th), regime forces stationed in Tseda deployed to Robit via Hamsa-Fej Kebele to attack the Gondere-Begashaw Division (part of the AFNF-BC 5th Corps) in Weqerako Kebele. Similarly, regime forces from Maksegnit town deployed to Robit Kebele, securing Lemba and Chihra Kebeles, while forces from Degoma town deployed through Maksegnit to Ferenj-Wiha and Qey-Dingay Kebele. Finally, forces from Enfranz town deployed to Robit, effectively closing off all exit routes via Lake Tana. Facing encirclement, the Fano launched a counter-offensive towards Robit town, breaking the encirclement in one direction and ceding remaining areas to regime forces. The remaining Fano forces launched an offensive against the regime military base in Tseda sub-city, forcing the regime forces to halt their military campaign and return to Tseda to defend their base.
 - Additionally, the Tiquir Anbesa Division launched an offensive against regime forces in Maksegnit town to disrupt the military engagement. In response to these attacks, the regime forces deployed from Maksegnit and Tseda were withdrawn.

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- The Fano forces also launched an offensive against the regime military base in Enfranz town, forcing the regime forces deployed via Lake Tana to retreat back to Enfranz to defend their base.
 - The engagements resulted in heavy casualties for the regime forces, with 37 confirmed deaths in Tseda and Maksegnit alone.

Tegede Woreda

- On October 1st, Fano forces launched a coordinated offensive against regime units in Qiraqir town.
 - The offensive was undertaken by the Wawa-Gobe-Melke Division (operating under the AFNF-BC 3rd Corps). The assault was carried out along three separate axes converging on the town, putting sustained pressure on state positions. Facing heavy casualties, the regime forces were eventually compelled to withdraw, allowing the Fano to retake the Tegede Woreda administrative center. Remaining regime personnel became encircled inside the administration bureau, where the Fano issued demands for their surrender. Reports indicate that the Fano sustained relatively fewer casualties during the operation while securing control of the town.

Gonder-Zuriya Woreda

- On October 3rd, the Fano forces carried out a surprise offensive in Ferenj-Wiha Kebele.
 - The offensive was carried out by the Nisir and Dil-Ber Brigades of the Tiquir-Anbessa Division (operating under the AFNF-BC 5th Corps). Their target was regime forces escorting woreda political officials traveling from Enfranz to Maksegnit. During the ambush, the military truck carrying the

officials and soldiers careened into an abyss, resulting in the deaths and critical injuries of both regime forces and civil officials (whose identities remain unspecified).

- Concurrently, on the night of October 3rd, the Wendmamachochu Brigade of the Tadilo Birhan Division (operating under the AFNF-BC 5th Corps) launched a surprise attack on the Kilil-Eyesus military camp in Gubrit Kebele, located near Azezo sub-city. The camp, occupied by riot dispersal forces, was overrun. Following the assault, the riot dispersal forces were disbanded. Reports indicate 12 riot dispersal forces confirmed killed and over 20 sustained critical injuries. Despite regime forces stationed in Azezo firing ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns in an attempt to assist, their efforts were reportedly ineffective.
- On October 4th, Fano forces conducted another surprise offensive in Dinzaz Kebele.
 - This engagement occurred after regime forces, deployed from Degoma town and Tseda, attempted to encircle members of the Gondere-Begashaw and Tigur-Anbessa Divisions (operating under the AFNF-BC 5th Corps) under the cover of darkness. The Fano forces launched a swift counter-offensive, killing 13 regime forces and critically injuring nine others. The confrontation escalated into a sustained front-line battle, supported by DShK HMGs and mortars.
 - On the same day, Fano forces ambushed regime troops in Belachew-Wefcho village (Qulqual-Ber Kebele). A military Ural truck was destroyed in the attack, and over 14 regime military personnel, including their commander, were killed.
 - Furthermore, a fierce, hours-long battle erupted between Fano and regime forces in Minzro Kebele, resulting in more than 10 regime soldiers killed. The

regime forces were ultimately compelled to retreat to Gonder city, under the cover of ZU-23 anti-aircraft gun fire.

- Amidst these clashes, more than 12 riot dispersal personnel, along with their commander, defected to Fano forces in Gonder-Zuriya Woreda. They brought their full military equipment, including a heavy weapon, and subsequently joined the Atsewochu Division (operating under the AFPO-AFGPC).

West Gonder Zone

Metemma Woreda

- On October 3rd, Qemant militants, allegedly supported by regime forces, carried out a deadly attack targeting drivers and travelers in Girar Kebele.
 - The travelers, who were being escorted by regime forces en route from Gonder city to Genda-Wiha town, were caught in the ambush, near Meqa town. The attack resulted in the confirmed deaths of 14 travelers (civilians), including four members of the same family. Additionally, 50 individuals sustained critical injuries, and over 22 were taken captive by the militants. Seven civilian vehicles were destroyed during the assault. The telecommunication service in the area was completely shut down during the attack. In addition, Federal police forces escorting civilians sustained heavy casualties. Local sources report that the Woreda administration was prohibited from deploying local militia forces to counter the armed group, allegedly due to close cooperation between top regime ENDF officers and the militants.

North Gonder Zone

Debark Woreda

- On October 4th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime troops in Chenna Kebele.
 - The conflict quickly spread, encompassing a wide area extending from Chenna to the Weqin mountain range. The Ras Amoraw Wubneh Corps (operating under the AFNF-BC) launched a coordinated offensive against regime units, inflicting heavy casualties.
 - Reports indicate that over 30 members of the regime's joint forces sustained significant losses. Following the engagement, the Fano forces successfully seized a large cache of ammunition, heavy weaponry, and various other military supplies from the defeated regime troops.

Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zone

Qaftiya-Humera Woreda

- Between September 28th and 29th, TPLF forces, specifically the unit known as Army 70 stationed in Sudan, initiated an offensive against the Tekeze Special Guard forces in Welkait-Tegede-Setit Humera Zone.
 - The attack took place in Bereket Kebele, focusing on Mango village. These TPLF forces crossed from Shererina into Bereket, having previously established a presence in Shererina. Launching their assault under the cover of darkness, the TPLF forces captured daily laborers and farm militia guards in Mango village during the night.
 - At dawn on September 29th, the TPLF forces intensified their attack, employing heavy weaponry such as DShK HMGs, mortars, and ZU-23

anti-aircraft guns against the Tekeze Special Guard. The Tekeze Special Guard responded with a counter-offensive, resulting in heavy casualties on both sides. Early that morning, regular regime army units were deployed to Bereket Kebele to reinforce the Tekeze Special Guard. By afternoon, the TPLF forces began their retreat back into Sudan via Shererina, transporting their dead and injured. Reinforcements for the Tekeze Special Guard were dispatched to Bereket from Mai-Kadra Kebele, while the injured members of the Tekeze Special Guard were transported to Mai-Kadra Hospital for medical treatment. According to reports, the Samre Division of the TPLF forces retreated into Sudan utilizing farm tractors.

Areas Outside Amhara Region

Addis-Ababa City

- As of October 1st, reports have emerged regarding the worsening human rights situation in Addis-Ababa, including arbitrary mass detentions, forced military conscription, inhumane treatment of detainees, and cultural discrimination, all unfolding amid the preparations for the Ireecha celebration, a cultural festival observed by the Oromo community.
 - Informal detention centers, such as warehouse facilities and factories are reportedly being used to hold large numbers of civilians, many of whom were arrested arbitrarily in recent weeks. Detainees have reportedly been suffering from Tuberculosis due to overcrowded and unsanitary conditions. While a few received medical care, survivors who spoke with health professionals confirmed that several detainees had died from untreated illness, indicating gross negligence and inhumane treatment. Beyond the arbitrary nature of the

arrests, authorities have actively denied detainees access to adequate medical treatment, further compounding human rights abuses.

- According to sources, mass detention is being used as a tool for forced conscription into the ENDF. Each woreda in Addis-Ababa has reportedly been instructed to arrest between 50 to 100 individuals for forced recruitment. With over 116 woredas in the city, this suggests a target of 5,800 to 11,600 people. As a result, regime security forces have been conducting daily raids across the city, apprehending youths from public squares, roads and walkways, and entrances of residential homes. These arrests are often carried out using pickup trucks, and 6 pm to 1 am has become the peak time for detentions, especially targeting workers returning home from their workplaces.
- A resident who witnessed arrests on September 30th, at Wossen-Michael (Yeka Sub-City Woreda 11) reported seeing regime police stationed at a location called *Mebratu*, a known high-traffic area. According to the witness, officers randomly stopped individuals, selected those deemed “*fit*,” and loaded them into vehicles without any explanation or legal procedure. The source described the activity as routine and city-wide.
- While the Ireecha celebration is a significant cultural event, the regime’s handling of it has drawn serious criticism due to politicization, coercion, and discriminatory practices. Public institutions have reportedly been closed to prepare for the Ireecha celebration. Regime cadres were tasked with mobilizing participation, while businesses were pressured to contribute funds, often without receiving any official receipts, raising concerns of extortion. Reports indicate that local residents were forced to attend the festivities, suggesting the regime is using the event as a tool for political display rather than genuine cultural celebration.
- On the other hand, human rights observers have pointed out the double

standard in the regime's cultural policy. While Ireecha received full state support, other traditional celebrations, such as Solel, Shadey, and Ashendiye (primarily observed by the Amhara community, especially young women), have been banned or restricted. While the Addis-Ababa city administration has been displaying the Gada flag (a symbol associated with Oromo identity) across public spaces, including roads, government buildings, and offices. At the same time, the green, yellow, and red flag, widely used by other communities, has been banned, and individuals displaying it have faced detention and intimidation. This imbalance has been interpreted as ethnically-motivated repression, where the state uses its power to promote one ethnic identity while suppressing others. This cultural discrimination and suppression of certain ethnic groups, particularly Amhara people, in favor of others may amount to systematic targeting, raising serious questions about potential elements of cultural persecution or genocide.

- As of October 3rd, local observers in Addis-Ababa are expressing growing concern over the politicization of the Irreecha celebration by the regime, alongside escalating human rights violations and arbitrary detentions in the capital.
 - Sources indicate that regime employees and officials were coerced into remaining at their offices overnight, barred from returning home, in order to ensure full participation and control over the Irreecha festivities. Those who attempted to go home were reportedly threatened with removal from their positions. In addition, all regime-controlled sectors were forced to contribute financially, with mandatory payments ranging from 10,000 to 100,000 ETB per institution. Across woredas and sub-cities, it is reported that over 600 million ETB was collected under duress. Individuals or institutions that refused or failed to contribute were publicly branded “*enemies of the regime.*”

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- Public offices across Addis-Ababa were ordered to shut down, with their resources redirected toward Irreecha preparations. Transport associations were forced to provide free transportation for celebration participants, further straining public services. These measures have contributed to growing frustration and feelings of exclusion among many city residents, who view these actions as part of a larger campaign to assert Oromo hegemony over the capital.
 - In parallel with the festival preparations, severe human rights violations are being reported in various parts of the city. According to sources, 5-10 bodies are being removed daily from informal detention centers, primarily due to hunger, untreated illness, and inhumane conditions. Since mid-September 2025, an estimated 10,000 civilians have been detained, packed into large halls, under overcrowded and unsanitary conditions. In each sub-city of Addis-Ababa, between 400 and 1,500 civilians have been arrested, with no due process or legal basis. Detainees include street dwellers, targeted under the claim of “*damaging the image of the city*,” and individuals labeled as security threats, many of whom are reportedly opposition supporters or Amhara civilians. Many street detainees are held in an informal facility at the back of Kality-Wuha-Limat. Reports indicate that numerous burials are occurring daily at this site as well. Food rations are minimal, in many cases, only one small piece of bread per detainee per day, and even that is not consistently distributed.
 - Security personnel have reportedly demanded bribes from families seeking the release of their loved ones. Detainees classified as “*threats*” are held in undisclosed facilities, including the rear compounds of Kality-Wuha-Limat, other police stations, and clandestine locations. There are also credible reports that certain officials have been specifically assigned to conduct torture and

severe beatings on these detainees.

- This situation reveals a stark contradiction in the current reality of Addis Ababa. On one hand, Oromo youth and regime supporters are being openly sponsored by the state to celebrate Irreecha, receiving free transportation, food (including meat), and accommodation, fully funded by public institutions. On the other hand, thousands of ordinary citizens, primarily Amhara civilians and street dwellers, are subjected to arbitrary detention, abuse, and even death in overcrowded detention centers, often with no clear charges. This political and ethnic disparity in treatment has fueled widespread resentment and concern among city residents and beyond, with calls growing louder for independent investigations, accountability, and an immediate end to politically-motivated repression.⁵

⁵See October 3, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

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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