



War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – February 24th to March 2nd, 2025

Updated March 2nd, 2025

Overview

For the week of February 24th to March 2nd, 2025, fighting between *Amhara Fano freedom fighters* (Fano) and *Prosperity Party regime joint forces* (regime forces) has continued in various parts of Amhara Region in Ethiopia.¹

- This week battle events and rights violations were recorded in more than 42 woreda/city administrations across 11 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These zones included the North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam, West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, South Gonder, Central Gonder, West Gonder and North Gonder Zones.
 - Developments were also recorded in 3 woreda administrations across the Horo-Guduru-Wollega and East Wollega Zones of Oromia Region and Addis-Ababa city.

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

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- Tigray Region Forces or *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF) militants have continued military mobilization in Telemt Woreda (North Gonder Zone).
 - Developments were recorded in over 3 urban administrations across 2 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These urban administrations included Kobo, Shewa-Robit, Debre-Birhan and Gonder cities in the North Wollo, North Shewa and Central Gonder Zones.
 - Civilian casualties were recorded in 17 woreda/city administrations across 6 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Wogdi, Antsokiyana-Gemza, Merhabete, Moretina-Jiru, Sekela, Dembecha, Andabet, Estie, Guna, Gonder, East Dembiya and West Belessa Woredas in South Wollo, North Shewa, West Gojjam, South Gonder and Central Gonder Zones. Casualties were also recorded in Abe-Dongoro and Jardega-Jarte Woredas of Horo-Guduru-Wollega Zone in Oromia Region.
 - Widespread arrests were recorded in 5 woreda/city administrations across 4 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Kobo, Ambassel, Minjar-Shenkora, Debre-Birhan and Andabet Woredas in North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa and South Gonder Zones.
 - A coalition of opposition parties issued a joint statement condemning a recent declaration from a coalition of Oromo nationalist political parties and affiliates with ties to the ruling Oromo Prosperity Party regime which called for expansion of the Oromia Regional State and forced annexation of several city, district and sub-regional administrations under other regional administrations.

North Wollo Zone

Gubalafto Woreda

- On the night of February 23rd, Fano forces entered Sirinka.
 - The action was undertaken by the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) to enter Sirinka town, a strategic location situated between Woldia and Mersa on the main road connecting Addis-Ababa and Woldia.
 - The city did not see any armed clashes, but Fano forces sang songs about their successes and the importance of the Fano for the Amhara people.

Kobo City

- Between February 26th and 27th, regime forces carried out mass arbitrary detentions in various parts of Kobo city.
 - Sources reported that the regime’s objective was to forcibly recruit civilians into military camps as part of a broader effort to increase the number of recruits.
 - On February 26th, regime forces detained numerous daily laborers who had gathered in the Segno-Gebeya area (primarily from the western part of the city). Regime forces encircled the area and carried out the detentions, targeting those who were engaged in work-related activities.
 - On February 27th, similar detentions were reported in the interior parts of the city, suggesting the regime’s ongoing efforts to arrest civilians for forced recruitment or other unspecified purposes.

Lasta Woreda

- On the morning of February 28th, Fano forces ambushed regime forces in Koga.

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- The ambush was carried out at around 8 am by the Lasta-Asaminew Corps’ special operations unit under the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara).
 - The ambush targeted regime forces traveling from the holy city of Lalibela, enroute to Gashena. In a fierce confrontation, the vehicle which was carrying regime forces was severely damaged. The vehicle was reportedly private but had been forcibly commandeered by the regime forces for their use.
 - The ambush led to casualties including the driver and an unspecified number of regime forces. Fano forces reportedly sustained no casualties during the ambush.

South Wollo Zone

Legambo Woreda

- Intense fighting took place on February 24th, in the Shekif area.²
 - The battle followed regime forces’ movement into Shikif and the ensuing fighting lasted between 10 am and 5 pm.
 - Casualties were reported on both sides. On the regime side, 11 militia members were killed, and 10 others were injured. On the Fano side, two fighters were killed, with two others injured.

Werebabo Woreda

- On February 25th, Fano forces carried out an offensive operation against regime forces in Bokakisa town.
 - The offensive was led by the East Amhara Corps 1’s Baleshiritu Division and the Lij Eyasu Corps’ Ras Ali Division’s 1st Battalion, both under the Amhara

²See February 25th, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara).

- The operation took place between 12 pm and 4:35 pm as the Fano targeted a regime stronghold, encircling regime forces and inflicting heavy human and material losses. An explosive detonation resulted in numerous deaths and injuries of over 14 regime soldiers, forcing survivors to flee to Bistima town.

Wogdi Woreda

- On February 26th, Fano forces carried out an ambush on regime forces in the Makefta area.
 - The ambush was led by the Mebreq Division's Adane Habtnew Brigade, part of the Western Wollo Corps under the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara). The attack resulted in both deaths and injuries among regime forces.
 - In retaliation, regime forces killed at least 10 civilians including the following eight victims identified by name:
 1. Sheikh Yasin Muhamed and his child (Nuradis Yasin)
 2. Guanche Tadele
 3. Asnaku Teshome (female)
 4. Kubra Muhamed
 5. Muhamed Yimer
 6. Muhamed Hassen
 7. Habtam Alie (an infant)
 - Three injured victims were identified as follows:
 1. Kemil Ababaw
 2. Hassen Yimer
 3. Ayelu Muhamed

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- Regime forces also burned down a residential home and looted shops and other properties.

Kelela Woreda

- On February 26th, intense fighting occurred between Fano and regime forces in the Licho and Dicho areas.
 - Fighting in the Licho area involved the Dagim-Kitet-Wereilu and Sheikh Hussein Jibril Divisions under the Western Wollo Corps of the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara). In this fighting, several enemy combatants were killed or wounded. Additionally, one casoni (sinotruck) vehicle was burned and destroyed, while another casoni, carrying enemy forces, was destroyed by fire.
 - On the same day, fighting took place in an area called Dicho involving the Nigus Mikael Division under the Amhara Fano Wollo (Bete-Amhara). Fano forces managed to encircle a regime military camp, capturing 12 regime combatants and 11 weapons.

Ambassel Woreda

- On February 28th, heavy fighting broke out between Fano and regime forces.³
 - The fighting involved the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara).
 - The fighting which began at 6 am was triggered when regime forces launched a coordinated operation, moving from Wuchale and Mersa toward Robit and Dibil overnight. The conflict involved heavy artillery support, including mortars and ZU-23 anti-aircraft weapons. By midday, the conflict had spread to the Abet area, further intensifying the situation.

³See February 28th, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

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- As a result of the fighting, many civilians fled their homes in fear of escalating violence. In Robit, mass detentions occurred as regime forces conducted house-to-house searches.
 - On March 1st, regime forces carried out mass detentions of civilians in Hayk city.² Detainees were daily laborers told that they would be tasked with supplying food rations to regime forces fighting against Fano forces. Additionally, the detained individuals are being sent to military camps as part of the ongoing forced recruitment drive.

North Shewa Zone

Shewa-Robit City

- As of February 23rd, the regime released over 500 prisoners who had been arbitrarily detained in Shewa-Robit city. However, the whereabouts of 74 of the prisoners remains unknown.
- On February 25th, heavy fighting occurred in the Kobo area, where regime forces indiscriminately used heavy weapons, damaging farmers' homes. The fighting was between the regime forces and the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command.
- On February 26th, fighting between Fano and regime forces has taken place around Shewa-Robit city. Fighting has involved forces from the Dejazmach Tessema Ergete Division under the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command's Arbegna Mohammed Bihogne Corps.
- Reports indicate that 45 people previously detained by regime forces are being denied access to basic necessities such as food and water. These prisoners, originally deemed “free” by the regime court, have been subjected to ongoing suffering and have not been released. Their families are concerned for their safety,

fearing potential executions, and have called on human rights organizations and other stakeholders to intervene.

Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda

- On February 24th, Fano forces launched an attack on regime forces stationed in the Kundi-Gora area of Afso Kebele. The fighting which entered its fifth day involved the Muhammed Bihonegn Corps's Estie-Guma-Terara Division under the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command.
- On February 25th, it was reported that Fano forces defeated regime forces in the Aroresa-Kulil-Afer area.
 - In this battle, 4 regime militias were killed in an explosive detonation near Mekoy city square.
 - In retaliation, regime forces killed a 23-year-old civilian, Tegesh Teklewold, under the pretext of him being a supporter of the extremist (Fano) movement in Mekoy town.

Efratana-Gidim Woreda

- On February 25th, intense fighting has continued between Fano forces and regime forces in the Fered-Wuha area. The fighting has involved the Atse Amdetsion Corps' 7/70 Division under the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command near Ataye town.
- As of February 26th, fierce fighting has continued in Laygnaw Ataye and Ferede-Wuha.
 - Fighting in this area which has entered its third day has involved the 7/70 Division under the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command's Atse-Amdetsion Corps, with fighting just 3-km from Ataye town.

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- Regime forces have suffered significant casualties, with more than 30 soldiers killed, while Fano forces continue to hold a secure position.
 - As of February 27th, fighting in the Ataye area has entered its fourth day.
 - Fighting has been undertaken by the 7/70 and Dejazmach Tessema Ergete Divisions under the Amhara Fano Shewa Provincial Command, and the front has stretched from Ferede-Wuha to Janamora and Yimlo.
 - In this fighting, numerous regime soldiers were killed or wounded, and remaining forces became scattered toward Bergibi.

Minjar-Shenkora Woreda

- On February 23rd, regime forces conducted arbitrary arrests of civilians in Arerti city, taking several youths to unknown locations.
- On February 27th, Fano forces carried out an urban operation against regime militias in Mehal-Bolo-Giyorgis town.
 - The offensive was undertaken in an area known as Solomon Hager at around 1 pm by the Nebelbal Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Shewa's Kesseme Division
 - At least two militia members were killed in the operation, and significant armaments, as well as critical documents, were captured.

Moretina-Jiru Woreda

- On February 25th, Fano forces carried out an ambush on regime joint forces traveling from Enewari to Jihur town. The attack was carried out by the Nadew Brigade led by Fano Yilma, part of the Amhara Fano in Shewa's Negodguad

Division which successfully penetrated the regime's defenses, capturing an entire regime battalion.

- On February 26th, Fano forces entered Jihur town and carried out an attack on regime forces.
 - The offensive was undertaken by the Mebreku Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Shewa's Negodguad Division. The offensive resulted in significant losses for regime forces and the capture of multiple firearms.
 - In retaliation, regime forces destroyed and looted property belonging to civilians.
- On February 28th, regime forces executed a civilian in Jihur town. The victim was a motorcycle driver who was executed after being apprehended in the town.

Debre-Birhan City

- On February 26th, fighting broke out between Fano and regime forces in Etege Taytu and Atse-Zerayakob sub-cities of Debre-Birhan city.
 - Fighting began at 11 pm and extended from Leche Kebele (Zanjira area) to Goshebado, Kukyelesh, Bakello and Beryu Kebele, as well as surrounding areas of Basona-Werana Woreda. Fighting has also reportedly spread to other woredas including Ensaro and Wayu.
 - During the fighting, regime forces arrested a civilian, a woman named Gete Yeshitila, a resident of Leche, accusing her of being associated with Fano forces. They claimed her husband led and organized Fano forces, and she was told she would "*pay for him.*"
 - Sources indicate regime forces have suffered significant human and material losses.

Merhabete Woreda

- On February 25th, intense fighting took place between Fano and regime forces by the Jema River area.
 - Fighting involved the Amhara Fano in Shewa's Nadew Division which carried out multiple attacks on regime forces departing from Alem-Ketema town.
 - In reprisal, regime forces carried out killings of at least three civilians and destruction of property in the Jema River area.
 - * The killed victims have been identified as follows:
 1. Mesfin Getway
 2. Getaye Getway
 3. Marye Cheber
 - * The first two victims were brothers from Geren Kebele who were killed while looking after cattle, whereas the third was a young man from Afez Kebele who was killed while working on agricultural irrigation.
 - * The regime forces also burned numerous farmers' properties, including houses, vegetables, fruits, and livestock. This destruction reflects a broader campaign of oppression and revenge.

Tarmaber Woreda

- Between February 26th and 27th, intense clashes occurred between Fano and regime forces in the small town of Shola-Meda.
 - The clashes involved the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command.
 - Severe casualties were reported on both sides during the fighting. Regime forces conducted mass funerals in the Tarmaber Woreda Municipality, collecting bodies in large numbers.

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- Additionally, regime forces looted food supplies such as beans and barley from barns belonging to local residents.

East Gojjam Zone

Hulet-Eju-Enese Woreda

- On February 23rd, Fano fighters carried out a surprise offensive against regime forces in the Aratie area.
 - The operation was undertaken by the Mebrequ Tefera Brigade, under the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's 2nd (Tefera Damtie) Division.
 - The attack was carried out against regime forces traveling from Motta to Weyn-Wiha for logistical exchange. Reports indicate that the attack resulted in a heavy exchange of gunfire.
 - While the full extent of the casualties remains unknown, sources reported that Fano fighters inflicted numerous casualties among regime soldiers, with only two injuries reported on the Fano side.
- On the night of February 27th, Fano forces conducted an ambush on regime forces that were moving between Motta and Weyn-Wiha for logistical exchange.
 - The attack was undertaken by the Mebreku Tefera Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Tefera Damte Division. Reports indicated that the Fano executed this attack using explosives. The ambush led to a heavy exchange of gunfire throughout the night.
 - Sources reported significant losses among regime forces despite the difficulty to ascertain the full extent of the casualties.

Sinan Woreda

- On February 25th, Fano forces carried out a surprise attack on regime forces in Yedeman Kebele.
 - The attack was carried out by the Sinan-Abajime Brigade from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division as regime forces were moving from Rebu-Gebeya to Debre-Markos for transportation of logistics.
 - Sources indicated that Fano fighters detonated explosives, resulting in damage to military vehicles and casualties among regime soldiers.

- On February 28th, fighting between Fano and regime forces occurred in two locations within Sinan Woreda.
 - The fighting reportedly involved the Nigus Tekle-Haymanot and Sinan Abajime Brigades, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Qegn Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division.
 - The first confrontation took place in Yedeman Kebele when Fano fighters launched a sudden attack on regime forces that were enroute from Debre-Markos to Rebu-Gebeya town for a logistics exchange. This ambush resulted in a gunfire exchange between the Fano and regime forces.
 - Fighting also spread into Rebu-Gebeya town, where Fano fighters infiltrated and attacked regime forces stationed there. Sources indicated that both warring parties sustained casualties, with numerous casualties reported on the regime's side. Additionally, reports indicated that Fano fighters destroyed a military vehicle.
 - Sources reported 40 regime soldiers killed and 14 injured, and the capture of firearms and other military logistical supplies.

Gozamin Woreda

- On February 26th, exchanges of gunfire occurred in two locations within the Debre-Markos neighborhood.
 - The first incident took place during the night of February 25th, on the outskirts of Debre-Markos city. The fighting began when the combined Fano forces from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division infiltrated the Wenqa area, where riot dispersal units and state militias were encamped. Sources reported hearing heavy gunfire throughout the night. Although it was difficult to ascertain the extent of the outcome, sources reported regime soldiers sustained casualties.
 - The second in incident took place in the Yebokla-Megenteya area of the Debre-Markos neighborhood. Similar to the previous incident, fighting was initiated by Fano fighters who attacked the regime's encampment. This attack specifically targeted regime militias and riot dispersal police stationed in the area. Sources reported losses among regime soldiers.

Shebel-Berenta Woreda

- On February 26th, Fano forces unexpectedly entered Yedoha town and launched an attack on regime forces.
 - The attack was carried out by the Shifferaw Gerbaw Brigade under the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's 8th (Belay Zeleke) Division. The sudden attack reportedly targeted regime militias who were stationed to secure the military camp.
 - Sources reported deaths and injuries among the regime militias.

Awabel Woreda

- On March 1st, Fano fighters launched a sudden attack on a regime military vehicle in Yegesh Kebele.
 - This operation was reportedly carried out by the Mebreku Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Haddis Alemayehu Division.
 - The attack was executed using explosives as the regime vehicle was traveling from Dejen to Debre-Markos city and resulted in destruction of the vehicle and inflicted casualties among the regime soldiers.

West Gojjam Zone

Sekela Woreda

- On February 23rd, an exchange of gunfire occurred in the Ambisi area.
 - The fighting was initiated by regime forces who mobilized from Gishabay town toward Ambisi to locate and suppress Fano fighters. Forewarned about the regime mobilization, the Giyon and Zengena Brigades, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's 3rd (Gojjam-Agew-Midir) Division, launched a preemptive attack before the regime forces could reach Ambisi.
 - Despite sustaining casualties, regime forces managed to enter the Ambisi area, utilizing heavy weaponry for cover. Upon entering Ambisi, the regime forces committed abuses and executions against the civilians they encountered in the streets.
 - Sources reported that regime soldiers killed 3 civilians, including a priest and an individual with a mental illness.
 - * According to reports, fighting occurred that day between Fano fighters and regime soldiers. Following the confrontation, regime forces conducted

door-to-door searches during which they carried out killings and physical beatings of civilians resulting in injuries and looted several local shops.

* Two of the three killed victims were identified by name as Qes Andualem Eniyew and Teshager Molla. While the name of the third victim could not be identified the victim reportedly suffered from mental illness. The bodies of the three killed victims were laid to rest at the cemetery of Ambisi St. George's Church the following day.

- On February 25th, fighting took place in Gishabay town, initiated by Fano fighters who unexpectedly infiltrated the area and opened fire.
 - The Fano fighters reportedly entered Gishabay following mobilization of regime forces from Gishabay towards Ambisi Kebele.
 - Sources reported that militias and Prosperity Party regime cadres in Gishabay town were killed.
 - Reports indicate that banks in Gishabay town were looted though the perpetrators are unclear. Fano fighters alleged that the looting was orchestrated by regime-affiliated groups.

Jabi-Tehnan Woreda

- On the evening of February 23rd, Fano fighters unexpectedly infiltrated Mankusa town and conducted a surprise attack on regime soldiers. Sources reported at least 3 militia members killed and an unspecified number of soldiers injured during this confrontation.
- On February 26th, fighting occurred in the Finote-Selam neighborhood. The fighting was instigated by regime forces mobilizing to the rural area of Mebesh in an effort to suppress Fano fighters present there. The Amhara Fano in Gojjam's

Arenzaw-Damot Brigade reportedly mounted a fierce resistance and successfully repelled the regime's attack.

- On February 27th, light gunfire was reported in the Finote-Selam neighborhood. The fighting was initiated by regime forces who mobilized towards Fano-controlled rural areas with the intention of locating and suppressing them. Fano fighters reportedly confronted regime soldiers, compelling regime forces to retreat back to Finote-Selam town.
- On February 28th, fighting occurred in the Leza area, located in the Jiga neighborhood.
 - The conflict began when regime forces mobilized towards Leza to suppress Fano fighters who had set up a checkpoint to collect customs. The Arenzaw Damot Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division, reportedly confronted regime forces, inflicting casualties and repelling the attack. The Fano then pursued regime forces until they reached Jiga town, where the Fano reinforced themselves and entered the town to launch a counterattack. However, regime forces quickly regrouped and confined themselves to their camps.
 - After withdrawing into their camps regime forces threatened local residents, particularly the elders, stating that if the Fano fighters attacked them, they would indiscriminately attack people in the town. As a result, the Fano returned to their bases following pleas from local elders not to initiate further fighting.

Dembecha Woreda

- Between February 25th and 26th, gunfire exchanges occurred in the Yechereqa area. In both instances, fighting was initiated by regime forces aiming to displace Fano

fighters who had set up a checkpoint and were collecting fees from vehicles. Sources reported that the Fano mounted fierce resistance and repelled the regime's attacks over consecutive days.

- On February 28th, regime forces executed 5 civilians in Degera-Mikael Kebele.
 - According to sources, the execution was reportedly carried out by riot dispersal forces recently deployed in Yechereka and encamped at a secondary school.
 - Among the victims were three bajaj drivers who had been taken from Yechereka. The soldiers initially forced the victims to guide them to the Degera-Mikael area after which the soldiers shot the drivers after reaching their destination. Reports also indicated that the soldiers killed two more civilians in Degera-Mikael, with further details yet to be investigated.

Wemberima Woreda

- On February 26th, an exchange of gunfire occurred in various locations.
 - The fighting was initiated when regime forces mobilized from Shindi town to nearby rural kebeles in an effort to locate and suppress Fano fighters. Sources reported that the Shindi-Wemberima Brigade, under the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem (5th) Division, and the Wollega Fano confronted regime forces to prevent their advance into rural areas.
 - Reports indicate that at least six soldiers were killed and two were injured on the regime forces' side, while no casualties were reported among the Fano fighters.
 - Despite sustaining casualties, regime forces managed to enter Marweled and Wegedad Kebeles. Reports indicate that regime forces committed violations against civilians.

Awi Zone

Ayo-Guagusa Woreda

- On February 26th, regime forces managed to enter Ehudit town. Reports indicate that regime forces did not encounter resistance from Fano fighters as they entered the town. Sources stated that the Fano fighters had previously retreated, considering the regime forces' deployment was significantly larger than their own.

Jawi Woreda

- On March 1st, intense fighting took place in Fendika town and surrounding villages.
 - The fighting was initiated by the combined Fano forces of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Jawi-Metekel Division.
 - The Fano infiltrated Fendika town, where regime forces were encamped. The Fano reportedly entered Fendika from two directions and launched a heavy offensive on the regime encampment. Initially, reports indicated that the regime forces gathered and confined themselves to their camps. The regime forces reportedly employed heavy artillery to repel the Fano attack. Eventually, regime forces were reinforced and launched a counteroffensive, forcing Fano fighters to retreat from the town.
 - The casualties from this confrontation remain undisclosed. Sources reported Fano took control of strategic areas and inflicted significant losses on regime soldiers.
- On March 2nd, Fano fighters conducted a military operation in Mender 12 Kebele.
 - This operation was reportedly executed by the Mebreku Brigade from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Jawi-Metekel Division.

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- The Fano fighters unexpectedly entered the area and launched an attack on stationed regime militias. Sources reported at least 4 militia members killed and four firearms captured (by Fano) during the confrontation.

North Gojjam Zone

North Mecha Woreda

- On February 26th, exchanges of gunfire took place in two locations within North Mecha Woreda.
 - The first incident occurred in the Laygafit area, where Fano fighters initiated fighting by targeting the regime encampment. The Colonel Tadesse Mulunch brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's 1st Division reportedly conducted this operation, inflicting casualties on regime soldiers. The Fano fighters managed to control the regime encampment at one point, although it remains unclear whether they maintained control.
 - The second incident occurred on the outskirts of Merawi town. Sources reported that the gunfire exchange in Merawi was short-lived, with no known casualties.

Bahir-Dar Zuriya Woreda

- On March 2nd, intense fighting broke out between Fano and regime forces in the Tis-Abay neighborhood.
 - The fighting was undertaken by the Bahir-Dar Brigade from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's 1st Division.
 - Reports indicate that fighting was initiated by Fano fighters who infiltrated Tis-Abay and launched an offensive against regime soldiers stationed in two

camps. Reports suggest that fighting began in the early morning and continued until midday. Sources reported that the Fano successfully breached two large and fortified camps in Tis-Abay where the regime had long been entrenched. The fighting subsided when the Fano fighters withdrew as regime forces reinforced their positions and resorted to a counteroffensive.

- Sources indicate that Fano fighters inflicted considerable casualties among regime soldiers, with one confirmed death and one injury reported on the Fano side.

South Gonder Zone

Estie Woreda

- On February 27th, intense fighting broke out between Fano fighters and regime forces in Lichaye. The conflict began in the afternoon, and due to its ongoing nature, detailed information regarding the situation is currently unavailable. The fighting involved the Tana-Gelawdiwos Division, under the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder’s Major General Wubante Abate Corps.
- On February 27th, regime forces killed a civilian in Alemaya Kebele. The victim was identified as 65-year-old Abba Misge and was reportedly killed in a gruesome manner in front of family members. The justification given for this killing was the unsubstantiated allegation that he was a “*sympathizer of the Fano fighters.*”
- Between February 28th and March 1st, intense fighting took place between Fano fighters and regime forces in Shenbeqowoch Kebele.
 - Fighting was undertaken by the Estie-Densa Brigade under the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder Major General Wubante Abate Corps’ Guna Division.
 - Clashes were also reported in Denba village.

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- Regime forces killed at least 4 civilians (farmers) and an unconfirmed number sustained critical injuries. Furthermore, regime forces engaged in deliberate destruction of property in Jib-Asra-Maryam, Shenbeqowoch, and Denba.

Andabet Woreda

- On February 27th, regime forces subjected numerous farmers to physical beatings and arbitrary detention in an area called Asib-Giyorgis Got in Tikil-Dingay Kebele. Furthermore, regime militia forces confiscated the farmers' stored crops, loading them onto heavy trucks. The stated reason for this crime was the farmers' failure to participate in fighting against Fano forces in support of the militia in the area.

Guna Region

- On February 27th, intense fighting erupted between Fano fighters and regime forces in Welela-Bahir, Simada-Megenteya, Arer, Gedeba, and Agona Kebeles.
 - Fighting has involved the Gebriye and Ambessaw-Gayint Divisions under the Amhara Fano Gonder Province Command.
 - Regime forces suffered substantial casualties in the fighting, with over 50 combatants killed or critically injured. The Fano seized a significant quantity of weaponry from the regime forces, including more than 18 black kalashnikov rifles and thousands of rounds of ammunition. Furthermore, two heavy military trucks were completely destroyed by the Fano. The Fano fighters sustained 2 fatalities and 1 critical injury during the engagements.
 - Faced with heavy losses, the remaining regime forces stationed in Welela-Bahir town were compelled to retreat and surrender the town to the control of the Fano fighters.
 - Following their defeat, regime forces reportedly engaged in retaliatory

violence against civilians. For example, retreating regime forces killed a civilian farmer named Jemberu Yegola in a rural area near Welela-Bahir. Numerous other local residents were beaten, and a significant number were detained. Many houses were shelled with heavy artillery and ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, resulting in widespread destruction of civilian property.

- Earlier in the day, Fano forces ambushed regime forces in Agona Kebele resulting in numerous casualties among regime troops. Following this ambush, regime forces launched a counter-offensive that stretched from Necho-Meda to Simada-Megenteya.

Libo-Kemkem Woreda

- On February 28th, heavy fighting erupted between Fano fighters and regime forces in Arnogari and Girariya Kebele.
 - The fighting involved the Mebrequ Division under the Nigus-Zozamba Division of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder.
 - The conflict began when Fano fighters launched an offensive against regime forces escorting a convoy of over eight heavy trucks loaded with sisal near Tara monastery in Arnogari. Several trucks were destroyed during the exchange of fire. The surprise attack resulted in a significant number of casualties among regime forces, including fatalities and critical injuries. The fires engulfing the destroyed trucks burned for a full 24 hours following the battle.
 - In a separate incident, intense fighting broke out near Mikael-Debir, specifically in Girariya Kebele, between Fano fighters and regime forces. This clash also resulted in heavy casualties for regime forces. Three heavy military trucks, fully loaded with soldiers and equipped with ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, were destroyed along with the soldiers they carried. The majority of the

soldiers initially deployed were killed by the Fano fighters.

Central Gonder Zone

- Since February 23rd, regime political cadres have been actively inciting civil unrest between the Amhara and Qemant ethnic groups in Gonder-Zuriya Woreda, Chilga, and Tikil-Dingay (East Dembiya Woreda).
 - These cadres have reportedly extended an invitation to Qemant militants to join the ranks of local peacekeeping and riot dispersal forces, collaborating with the regime’s regular military forces in the fight against Fano. This action is creating significant tension between civilians from both ethnic groups in affected areas increasing the potential for inter-ethnic conflict. Regime cadres are actively attempting to manipulate Qemant militants by portraying the Fano as their primary enemy, urging them to engage in armed conflict.
 - This incitement has already resulted in acts of extreme violence, with these armed groups engaging in cold-blooded massacres. For example, on February 24th, Qemant militants murdered a 70-year-old man identified as Ato Asnakew Getie in Tseda sub-city (Gonder city), alleging that his two children were Fano members.

Gonder-Zuriya Woreda

- On February 23rd, intense fighting raged throughout the day in Degola Kebele between Fano fighters and regime forces.
 - The regime forces deployed heavy weaponry, including one ZU-23 anti-aircraft gun and four heavy machine guns. The fighting was particularly fierce, with Fano fighters responding in kind, utilizing their own heavy machine guns against regime positions.

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- Ultimately, after a day-long battle, regime forces were compelled to retreat back to Maksegnit town in the evening.

East Dembiya Woreda

- On February 26th, regime forces summarily executed three farmers in Seqelt-Ayimba Kebele, specifically in the village of Dirmara.
 - The alleged justification for these killings was that the regime forces believed the farmers were aware of an impending attack by Fano forces and were withholding information.
 - The farmers were reportedly engaged in agricultural work on their land when they were killed by the regime forces.

East Belessa Woreda

- On February 28th, intense fighting took place between Fano fighters and regime forces in the vicinity of Arbaya town. The clashes were concentrated in Arbit Kebele, where regime forces reportedly suffered significant casualties. The fighting involved the Gondere-Begashaw Division, part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder.

West Belessa Woreda

- On February 27th, intense fighting occurred between Fano fighters and regime forces near Degoma town, primarily centered around the village of Zindir.
 - Regime forces suffered significant losses in the clashes. In the initial phase of the battle, seven heavy military trucks, fully loaded with soldiers deployed to Zindir, were reportedly destroyed, with no survivors escaping the Fano fighters' attacks. Following these heavy losses, the regime deployed new

reinforcement forces from Gonder city and Arbaya town to Zindir.

Eyewitnesses confirmed seeing at least 20 uncollected bodies of deceased soldiers scattered at the site of the fighting.

- The Fano units engaged in this intense fighting included the Gondere-Begashaw Division, Zoz-Amba Division, Tehaytu Division, Mebrequ Division, Tiquir-Ambessa Brigade, and Asaminew Battalion. These Fano forces were comprised of forces from both the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder and the Amhara Fano Gonder Province Command.
- In addition, regime forces' shelling killed a civilian (farmer) after a mortar shell that struck his house, and two additional civilians sustained critical injuries in the shelling.

West Gonder Zone

Metemma Woreda

- On February 26th, intense fighting erupted between Fano fighters and regime forces in Lasta Mender.
 - The engagement took place during the evening hours, resulting in substantial casualties for regime forces. While a precise count of the casualties remains unavailable, eyewitness accounts confirm that numerous dead soldiers' bodies were observed scattered throughout the area where the fighting had occurred, even into the morning of February 27th.
 - In response to these heavy losses, a large contingent of regime forces, equipped with ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, was deployed to the area from Genda-Wiha town. This deployment has created a volatile and tense situation in the region, raising the potential for renewed and intensified fighting.

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- The Atanaw Wasie, Arbegnoch, and Gobe Melke Divisions of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder, were actively involved in the initial engagement against regime forces and are reportedly well-positioned to confront incoming regime reinforcements. Furthermore, fighting has broken out in Dasgundo Kebele as of the morning of February 27th, indicating a further escalation of the conflict.
 - On February 27th, Fano fighters successfully ambushed a convoy of regime forces in Dawa-Dangura Kebele.
 - Fighting involved the Arbegnoch Division under the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder.
 - The ambush targeted two heavy military trucks carrying a convoy and resulted in the complete destruction of both vehicles and inflicted critical injuries on the surviving personnel. The attack resulted in the deaths of two high-ranking military commanders and numerous other members of the regime’s joint forces.

North Gonder Zone

Telemt Woreda

- On February 26th, over 600 TPLF militants crossed from Debre-Abay (Tigray Region) into the Amhara Regional State, making their way to the Waldebba Medhanialem Monastery.
 - Despite their previous failed attempt to seize control of Armadega Kebele, TPLF forces are continuing to amass a substantial number of militants in preparation for renewed fighting.
 - Further underscoring their intent, TPLF’s Army 11 has already crossed the Tekezze River and is actively establishing a military command center within

the complex of the Waldebbba Medhanialem Monastery.

- On February 26th, a bomb explosion occurred in Maytemri town, the administrative center of Telemt Woreda.
 - Evidence indicates that the TPLF forces were responsible for this act. Specifically, members of “*Army 11*” of the TPLF, under the command of a leader identified as Asmamaw, were dispatched to Maytemri town to carry out the bombing. The explosion took place in the 01 Kebele, Qetena 4 and Nebar Sefer areas of the town. The extent of casualties resulting from the bomb blast is currently unknown.
 - Immediately following the detonation, two members of the TPLF armed forces were apprehended. These captured militants subsequently revealed that the bombing was conducted by a TPLF special operations team led by Asmamaw. Furthermore, they disclosed that high-ranking TPLF officials are frustrated by the Telemt people’s resilience in their struggle to remain under the Amhara Regional State. The TPLF leadership has purportedly decided to destabilize the region through such unforeseen attacks in order to dismantle the existing Telemt administration.
 - It has also been revealed that the TPLF had recruited 40 natives of Telemt and transported them to Shire (western Tigray Region) for training to carrying out similar attacks. However, a significant number of these recruits, 27 out of the original 40, have since disappeared from TPLF custody. The remaining 13 have reportedly created considerable concern and apprehension among TPLF officials.

Debark Woreda

- On February 27th, Fano fighters executed an ambush against regime forces in Dara Kebele.
 - The ambush targeted regime forces who were conducting a patrol operation from Debark town towards Gedebye town, and the attack took place near Gedebye.
 - The attack resulted in the deaths of the command post coordinator and numerous militia forces. Over 13 members of the regime’s joint forces were killed by the Fano fighters.
 - The attack was reportedly carried out by the Gondere-Begashaw Division under the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder.
- On February 28th, intense fighting occurred between Fano fighters and regime forces in Lambarge and Brakorengo villages.
 - Fighting involved the Gondere-Begashaw Division under the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder and the engagements took place near Gedebye town.
 - Regime forces sustained heavy casualties with over 75 soldiers killed and a significant number of militia members captured. In addition, three heavy military trucks belonging to the regime forces were destroyed.

Addis-Ababa City

- Between February 19th and 22nd, the *Oromo Federalist Congress (OFC)*, *Oromo Liberation Front (OLF)*, along with other Oromo organizations, concluded a four-day conference in Addis-Ababa city.
 - The conference addressed political, security, and humanitarian crises in Oromia, producing key resolutions, including establishing an inclusive

“Transitional National Unity Government of Oromia” and reaffirming the status of *“Finfinnee”* (Oromo nationalist term for Addis-Ababa) as the rightful capital of Oromia directly answerable to the Oromia state.

- Many analysts have commented that the meeting and the statement were orchestrated by the regime to address the potential threat posed by the strong movement of the Amhara Fano and to divert the attention of the Oromo people.
 - Additionally, the statement regarding Barara/Addis-Ababa highlights the exclusionary political agenda of certain Oromo politicians within Ethiopian politics.
- On February 24th, Amhara political prisoners, accused of terrorism, appeared in the Federal Lideta Assigned Court.
 - Among the 51 defendants, 23 were present from Kality and Kilinto prison.
 - The prosecutor presented three witnesses, including the wife of the late Amhara Region official Girma Yeshitila and a witness from Kemissie (Oromo Special Zone) named Ahmed Ali. A hearing for Muhamed Ali is scheduled for March 25th.
 - On February 25th, opposition party Enat Party issued a statement expressing appreciation for the exemplary actions displayed by residents of Kefa Zone.⁴
 - Since February 13th, over 10,000 people were displaced from Oromia Region to the neighboring Gimbo Woreda, where the local community and administration have provided shelter and support, avoiding a worse tragedy.
 - The party expressed gratitude to the leadership of the South-Western Ethiopia Regional State, the local community in Kefa, and the local administration.

⁴See February 25th, 2025 [statement](#) from Enat Party.

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- On February 27th, a coalition of opposition parties issued a press statement condemning the recent joint statement issued by Oromo nationalist political parties and affiliates.⁵
 - The statement was issued by the *All Ethiopian Unity Party (AEUP)*, *Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party (EPRP)*, Amhara Gionawi Movement and Enat Party.
 - The parties accused Ethiopian politicians of failing to promote peace, claiming they are driven by ethnonationalism and racist attitudes which has given rise to a government that imprisons, displaces, and kills its own citizens.
 - The statement highlighted a recent meeting by the OFC and the OLF, where they announced plans to annex several territories under the Oromia Regional State including Addis-Ababa city, Metekel Woreda, Wollo Sub-Region, Dire-Dawa city, Moyale city, and Harar city. This move was condemned by the AEUP as an act of invasion.
 - The parties also urged international and national human rights organizations, political parties, democratic institutions, and the Election Board to condemn these actions and prevent further human rights violations.
 - Furthermore, the parties condemned the February 20th drone attack by the regime in Angesh Kebele (Hamus-Gebeya) of Goncha-Siso-Enise Woreda (East Gojjam Zone, Amhara Region) which resulted in the deaths of 16 innocent civilians, including children, and the injury of 11 others. The party described this as a clear example of state-sponsored terrorism and war crimes.
 - In response to these actions, the opposition parties called for international condemnation and pledged to continue their struggle against state-sponsored violence.

⁵See February 27th, 2025 [joint statement](#) from the *All Ethiopian Unity Party (AEUP)*, *Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party (EPRP)*, Amhara Gionawi Movement and Enat Party.

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- On March 2nd, the celebration of victory in Adwa day was observed in Addis-Ababa city.
 - However the commemoration was marked by a noticeable exclusion of any representations of Emperor Menelik II who was a central figure and key leader in the victory at the historic battle of Adwa in 1896 but was omitted from official statements and regime media coverage.
 - This exclusion has sparked significant commentary among analysts, who view it as part of the regime’s broader exclusionary politics and an attack on symbols associated with the Amhara identity.

Horo-Guduru-Wollega Zone (Oromia Region)

- On February 26th, joint regime forces launched attacks in areas predominantly inhabited by ethnic Amharas in Abe-Dongoro and Jardega-Jarte Woredas.
 - The attacks took place in an attempt to locate and suppress the Wollega Fano. The Fano reportedly confronted regime soldiers in the Chancho area (Abe-Dongoro Woreda).
 - Reports confirmed one death on the Fano side, while at least six were killed and several others were injured among regime soldiers during the confrontation.
 - In retaliation for their defeat, regime forces caused property damage and killed civilians, including a husband and wife. The soldiers also burned two residential homes, alleging they were owned by family members of Fano fighters. Further details regarding this incident are yet to be identified.

East Wollega Zone (Oromia Region)

Gida-Ayana Woreda

- On February 26th, a gunfire exchange was reported in the Derobera area. The gunfire was reportedly initiated by the Wollega Fano, targeting regime forces guarding a regime checkpoint. During the confrontation, one confirmed casualty was reported from the Fano side, while two were killed, two captured, and others injured on the regime's side.

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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