



War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – September 1st to 7th, 2025

Updated September 8th, 2025

Overview

For the week of September 1st to 7th, 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 30 woreda/city administrations across 9 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) Command [AFWC].

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

- Civilian casualties were recorded in 7 woreda/city administrations across 6 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Alamata, Ambassel, Ensaro, Antsokiyana-Gemza, Enarj-Enawga, Fogera and Metemma Woredas in North Wollo, North Shewa, East Gojjam, South Gonder and West Gonder Zones. In Ensaro Woreda of North Shewa Zone, ENDF soldiers impersonating Fano reportedly carried out a series of attacks, robbery and acts of SGBV targeting workers in Lemi International Cement Factory. In Alamata city of North Wollo Zone, *Tigray People's Liberation Front* (TPLF) forces carried out abuses against civilians. Civilian casualties were also recorded implicating *Oromia Region Special Forces* (OSF) in Horo-Guduru-Wollega and East Wollega Zones of Oromia Region.
- Arbitrary arrests were recorded in Alamata city of North Wollo Zone of Amhara Region. The arrests were undertaken by TPLF forces affiliated to the Tigrayan settler administration. Arrests and abductions were also recorded in Addis-Ababa city including arrests of independent journalists affiliated to Sheger FM 102.1.

Northeastern Amhara (Wollo Bete-Amhara Sub-Region)

North Wollo Zone

Lasta Woreda

- On September 1st, intense fighting between Fano forces and regime troops in Lasta Woreda continued for a third day.
 - The offensive was strategically planned and executed by multiple divisions of

the Lasta General Asaminew Tsige Corps (part of the AFNF-MC). Several divisions and battalions participated in the operation, indicating a high level of coordination and preparation. Key participating units included the Nebro-Tewerwari Commando, Tefera Mamo Division, Maregue Temare Division, Eshet Division and select battalions from the General Hailu Kebede Division. These units launched a synchronized offensive covering the area stretching from Bilbala town through Baush to Segno-Gebeya. The Nebro-Tewerwari-Commando and Tefera Mamo Division engaged regime forces in the corridor from Genj-Warka through Gurdu-Ber to Merez-Ber, successfully destroying regime contingents that had entered the region. Simultaneously, the Maregue Temare Division launched a fierce assault against regime units positioned from Archiko through Gashena to Dereqima, pushing back regime lines. In the northeastern sector, the General Hailu Kebede Division advanced toward Workamba and the Amora mountains, neutralizing mechanized strongholds that had been fortified by the regime. Their action rendered the regime's defensive capabilities in that area ineffective. Additionally, a battalion from the Eshet Division successfully blocked regime reinforcements approaching from Lalibela at Segno-Gebeya, which proved critical in securing the operational advantage.

- As a result of this coordinated offensive, regime forces suffered casualties including 65 killed, 42 wounded, and 5 captured. Fano forces also seized significant military equipment, including one heavy machinegun, ten black Kalashnikov rifles, 850 rounds of Kalashnikov ammunition, 25 chest armors, 16 waist armors, 42 hand grenades, 25 Kalashnikov magazines, and 20 raincoats.

Alamata City

- On the morning of September 2nd, TPLF forces carried out acts of intimidation and unlawful arrests targeting ethnic Amhara residents in Alamata city.
 - In one incident, TPLF forces arrested kebele administrator identified as Tesfaye Gebeyehu Berhe. According to reports, Tesfaye was arrested shortly after leaving his home and was taken to a detention site located at Selam School, which is currently being used as a camp by the TPLF forces. During the arrest, he was reportedly beaten, intimidated, and physically injured. His family members and community observers expressed deep concern for his safety and well-being, given the nature of the arrest and the location where he was held.
- On the night of September 2nd, reports indicate TPLF forces detained a civilian in the Bala-Mesmer area (Kebele 03) of Alamata city.
 - The arrest targeted a civilian identified as Ato Molla Bihonegn, at approximately 8:00 pm. According to sources, the arrest was made on the false pretext that he was somehow connected to an earlier incident in which another individual had allegedly assaulted a TPLF militant. However, no credible evidence was provided to justify Molla's detention, raising concerns of arbitrary arrest. His whereabouts remain unknown as of September 4th.
 - In a separate development, Tesfa Gebeyehu Berhe, who had been arrested on September 2nd, by the same forces, was released on September 3rd. His detention, like that of Molla, is reported to have lacked legal basis.
 - These incidents are part of a broader pattern of arbitrary arrests reportedly carried out by TPLF forces affiliated to the Tigrayan settler administration, contributing to growing fear and tension among the local population.

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- On the morning of September 7th, TPLF forces detained a civilian named Ato Getachew Nigus in Alamata city. Following his arrest, Ato Getachew was taken to Misrak Primary School, a facility that is reportedly being used by TPLF forces as a military camp.

Wadla Woreda

- On August 31st, Fano forces conducted an offensive targeting regime forces in Kon town.
 - The operation was executed by the Degaw-Mebreq Division (part of the AFPO-AFWPC) at approximately 6:30 pm local time in Kon town, administrative center of Wadla Woreda. The attack focused on regime forces stationed at a strategic checkpoint near Kon town Hospital and the Vocational and Technical College. This checkpoint had been used by regime forces as a control point and staging area for local security operations. Following the successful strike, Fano forces withdrew from the area, avoiding prolonged engagement and potential counter-attacks.
 - According to sources, the regime units suffered casualties during the offensive. At least three regime soldiers were killed and seven others were wounded and sent to receive medical treatment.

Gubalafto Woreda

- On September 3rd, regime forces reportedly looted personal belongings of passengers traveling on three public buses in the Shinkuru area.
 - The incident occurred on the main route between Woldia and Addis-Ababa cities, in an area currently used as a military encampment and considered a stronghold of regime forces. According to sources, Felege-Ghion, Yegna, and

another unspecified public bus, were stopped by armed militias (and riot dispersal units), and nearly all passengers (approximately 180 people) were subjected to looting. Only one passenger reportedly escaped the incident without being robbed. Items stolen included mobile phones, gold, large sums of money, and other valuable personal belongings. Among the passengers were patients traveling to Addis-Ababa for medical treatment, who were forced to return home due to the theft of their cash and belongings.

- The proximity of this attack to Woldia, administrative center of North Wollo Zone, underscores the nature of the security situation in the region. This incident is part of a growing pattern of lawlessness, civilian targeting, and militarization by regime-affiliated groups in areas under contested or unstable control.

Dawunt Woreda

- On September 2nd, an armed confrontation occurred between Fano and regime forces in Gagbia Kebele.
 - The engagement was triggered when regime troops advanced into Gagbia Kebele with the apparent aim of encircling and launching an offensive against Fano forces stationed in the area. According to sources, the 1st Battalion of the Sentik Division (part of the AFPO-AFWPC) had received advance intelligence about the movement of regime forces. In response, Fano fighters took up strategic defensive positions in the surrounding mountains and valleys, setting up an ambush. As the regime troops entered the area, the Fano forces launched a coordinated counterattack, resulting in heavy casualties among regime fighters, including both deaths and injuries.
 - Following the failed operation and apparent losses, regime forces reportedly

retaliated against local civilians. Sources describe how soldiers, in anger and frustration, entered nearby homes and villages along the road. They are said to have looted property, including grain, flour, pepper, household items, and merchants' grain scales. Items that could not be taken were allegedly destroyed. After the looting, the regime forces withdrew toward Kurba town.

Raya-Kobo Woreda

- As of September 4th, regime forces have begun forcibly transporting arbitrarily arrested civilians from Raya-Kobo Woreda to the Jara military training center.
 - These individuals, many of whom were detained without due legal process, had previously been rounded up in mass arrest operations carried out by regime forces across multiple kebeles in Raya-Kobo Woreda. According to recent reports, detainees were held in makeshift detention centers within Kobo city, in some cases for nearly a month, before being transferred to Jara. The arrests targeted a wide segment of the civilian population, including daily laborers, farmers (especially those with prior militia ties or who own private arms), and even underage girls. Sources indicate that the regime is now forcibly conscripting these civilians into military training, seemingly with the intent of deploying them to fight Fano forces.
 - Some detainees have reportedly managed to escape the facility; at least five individuals are confirmed to have fled from the forced training program.
 - This action has triggered severe social and economic crises, both for families of detainees and for the broader region. Families have been left without fathers, leading to emotional distress and economic instability. Farming activities have been seriously disrupted at a critical time in the agricultural season, threatening long-term food security and local livelihoods. This

disruption has been particularly damaging to the seasonal labor economy. Typically, large numbers of youth and laborers from various western woredas of North Wollo Zone travel to Kobo city and Raya-Kobo Woreda during this time of year to find temporary work in agriculture. Their labor supports both local farmers and their own families back home through earned income. However, the fear of mass arrest and forced conscription has deterred many from traveling to the area. As a result, the number of available daily laborers has dropped dramatically, and economic activity in the region has significantly declined.

Meket Woreda

- On September 4th, Fano forces successfully carried out a coordinated military operation targeting regime forces in Filaqit-Gergera.
 - This operation was conducted by units from the Major General Wubante Abate Division and the Anisha Sayed Brigade (operating under the AFNF-MC Lasta Asaminew Corps). The operation was conducted over a seven-hour period, from 2 pm to 9 pm.
 - During the engagement, Fano forces inflicted significant casualties and material damage on the regime forces. According to reports, at least 12 regime militia and riot dispersal forces were killed, an estimated 22 others were wounded, and four combatants were captured during the operation.

South Wollo Zone

Legambo Woreda

- On September 4th, intense fighting broke out between Fano forces and regime forces near Genetie town.

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- The confrontation began when regime troops initiated an offensive, advancing from their encampment. In response, the Adem Ali Division's Mekit Brigade (part of the AFNF-MC Nigus Mikael Corps), launched a coordinated counteroffensive against the advancing regime units. The battle raged from approximately 8 am to 2 pm, lasting nearly six hours. During the engagement, the Fano forces successfully resisted the regime's advance and inflicted significant losses.
 - Although the exact number of casualties remains unconfirmed, multiple regime soldiers were reportedly killed or injured, forcing their units to retreat to their original positions.³

Wogdi Woreda

- On September 4th, Fano forces drawn from various corps and divisions, carried out a coordinated offensive against regime forces positioned in Makafta.
 - According to reports, the joint operation was spearheaded by the Nigus Mikael Corps and Lij Eyasu Corps (both under the AFNF-MC). Participating units included the Mebreq Division, the Qagni Battalion of the Nigus Mikael Corps, and the Bete-Amhara Division from the Lij Eyasu Corps. These Fano forces reportedly launched a coordinated assault targeting key regime military positions, with the objective of encircling, bombarding, and dismantling regime strongholds in the area. The offensive began at approximately 5 am and was specifically aimed at the regime's 105th ENDF Division, known for its special operations capacity.
 - According to reports, 37 regime soldiers were killed during the initial assault. In the aftermath of the engagement, regime forces attempted to recover bodies

³See September 5, 2025 [report](#) from Roha TV.

of fallen soldiers by reinforcing their units from Wogdi town and advancing toward the local cemetery. However, Fano units had anticipated this move and set up a tactical ambush at a location known as Wolyiwochi. The ambush resulted in additional regime casualties, though the exact number of killed and wounded remains unconfirmed.

Ambassel Woreda

- On September 7th, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Wuchale town.
 - The confrontation resulted in temporary control of key areas of the town by Fano forces and civilian casualties caused by indiscriminate fire from regime forces.
 - On the Fano side, the offensive was carried out in a coordinated manner by various divisions of the Lij Eyasu Corps, including the Rambo, Ras Ali, and Yeju Divisions (operating under the AFNF-MC). The battle began early in the morning around 6:30 am and continued until approximately 1 pm. During this period, transportation was completely halted along the Dessie–Woldia–Mersa road corridor, severely disrupting civilian mobility and commerce. The Fano forces launched a full-scale offensive on the town, targeting regime military positions. As a result of the offensive, Fano forces captured large portions of Wuchale (a strategically significant location along the Addis-Ababa–Woldia main asphalt road), including major entry points into the town. However, regime forces, including ENDF units, retained control over certain key positions such as Kuntiro-Kela and St. Michael Church. During the operation, detained individuals were reportedly freed by Fano forces. Regime militias and riot dispersal forces retreated towards Denka-Mikael and Kuntiro-Kela, where ENDF strongholds are located. Attempts were made by regime forces

to transport reinforcements from Hayk and Mersa. From Hayk, four vehicles carrying troops and one ZU-23 anti-aircraft gun were mobilized but failed to cross the Kentri area. From Mersa, the regime deployed one cannon and one ZU-23, but they were unable to pass the Gollo River due to either resistance or terrain challenges. In the fighting regime forces used one cannon, three ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, two mortars, and four heavy machine guns. Fano forces also reportedly used mortars and heavy machine guns.

- In the aftermath of the clashes, regime forces reportedly conducted indiscriminate shelling and gunfire, resulting in civilian deaths. One woman was fatally shot by regime militia while attempting to reach her children near St. Mikael's Church.
- According to sources, at least 10 regime joint forces (including riot dispersal, militia and police) were confirmed killed in these engagements. In addition to the fatalities, a large number of regime militia and police sustained physical injuries. Furthermore, three regime militias were captured by Fano forces and are in custody. Notably, it has also been reported, though a high-ranking ENDF member was killed in the clashes.

Southeastern Amhara (Shewa Sub-Region)

- On September 4th, a key regime figure defected to the Atse Menelik Division (part of the AFPO-AFSPC Atse Amdetsion Corps).
 - The individual who defected was reportedly an engineer affiliated with the 104th ENDF Division Special Operations Commando unit. According to reports, the engineer defected bringing with him vital military equipment and intelligence. The defector handed over military assets such as one modern Tirtir Kalashnikov (locally known as "Moret Kilashinkov"), 150 rounds of

Kalashnikov ammunition, five magazines of ammunition ("Kazina"), Chest armor, and several classified documents.

- The defecting officer revealed the motivations behind his decision. He cited widespread ethnic-based discrimination within the ENDF, specifically targeting members of the Amhara and Southern Ethiopian communities. He also announced that the military unit under his leadership would be fully disbanded and its members would integrate into Fano forces in the near future.

North Shewa Zone

Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda

- On August 31st, Fano forces launched an urban operation targeting regime forces stationed in Mekoy town.
 - This operation was followed by a series of intense engagement in another front in the same woreda. The operation was led by the Asteguma-Terara Division (part of the AFPO-AFSPC Mohammed Bihonegn Corps). The Fano forces penetrated into Mekoy town, which was under strict military control by regime forces and approached fortified regime positions, initiating a coordinated attack at close range. With this tactic, the regime troops were forced out of their defensive positions, drawing them into a pre-prepared engagement zone, resulting in significant human and material losses on the regime's side. Shaken by the unexpected blow in Mekoy, the regime undertook a rapid mobilization of reinforcements in an effort to surround and neutralize the attacking Fano units. They launched a counter-operation in five directions, attempting to encircle the Fano forces via Afso, Gorguade, Babur-Mesmer (along the railway line), Chigign-Tabiya, and Agamsa-Amba. Despite this large-scale maneuver, Fano forces managed to counter the encirclement through a well-executed

ambush at the Megora River, inflicting further damage on regime forces.

- During the broader engagement, Fano demolition experts successfully destroyed fortified positions that the regime had established for deploying heavy weapons. In retaliation, the regime launched mortar and heavy artillery fire indiscriminately, targeting residential areas. This resulted in injuries to local civilians, damage to farmland, and the loss of livestock (including sheep and goats). The injured were transported to nearby medical facilities for treatment.

Hageremariam-Kessem Woreda

- In the early hours of September 1st, a significant armed confrontation occurred between Fano forces and regime forces in Hageremariam-Kessem Woreda.
 - The engagement resulted from a pre-emptive action by Fano units in response to the regime's military movement through the region. The clash was initiated when regime forces began advancing from Gorfo town toward Sichat Kebele at approximately 2:30 am. The movement prompted a planned ambush by the Hailemariam Mamo Division's Beza Brigade (part of the AFNF-AC). The operation successfully disrupted the regime's column, halting their progress and forcing them into engagement. By 6 am, the fighting intensified as additional regime forces were deployed. The number of casualties has not been reported yet.

Moretina-Jiru Woreda

- On September 3rd, a fierce battle broke out between Fano and regime forces in Moretina-Jiru Woreda.
 - The fighting began when combined regime forces mobilized from Enewari

town and launched an offensive operation through a route that passed via Moret-Ber and the Abune Zena Markos Monastery. Their objective was to secure and occupy the mountainous area of Dey-Giyorgis, a strategic high ground in the region. The regime forces aimed to besiege Fano fighters by encircling five kebeles. In response, units of the AFPO-AFSPC, launched a coordinated counter-offensive, surrounding regime forces from multiple strategic fronts of Aret and Keyadur, Gorade, Entera, and Moret. The ensuing battle lasted approximately four hours, from 6 am to 10 am. The Fano fighters, utilizing their knowledge of the terrain and executing a swift, multi-directional assault, were able to inflict significant casualties on the regime forces. Though the exact number of casualties has not been confirmed, the losses were described as substantial.

- Unable to maintain their position, the regime troops retreated to Enewari town, abandoning the offensive. During their withdrawal, they left behind ten young men, reportedly captured from the surrounding area, possibly through forced recruitment or arbitrary detention.

Tarmaber Woreda

- On September 3rd, Fano forces launched a surprise offensive against regime forces in Tarmaber Woreda.
 - The attack was conducted by the Nisir Battalion (part of the AFPO-AFSPC). According to sources, the battalion targeted a coalition convoy providing logistical and military support to regime forces. The convoy had been traveling from Shewa-Robit and Debre-Birhan, moving supplies and personnel via Armenia. At midday, the Fano fighters ambushed the convoy near this corridor, specifically attacking two regime patrol units in a place called

Ke-Asifachew-Eske-Shewa. The entire operation lasted approximately 20 minutes.

- Initial reports indicate at least nine regime soldiers killed, and more than 20 others sustaining varying degrees of injuries, ranging from minor to critical in severity.
 - In apparent retaliation for the ambush, regime forces launched a bombardment targeting residential areas in Mafud Kebele, a nearby village uninvolved in the fighting. Using heavy artillery, they reportedly shelled civilian homes, causing panic and potential displacement among the local population. The extent of damage or civilian casualties from this retaliatory attack is unconfirmed.
- On September 5th, Fano forces launched a successful ambush against regime military units in Asifachew town.
 - The ambush targeted regime forces traveling from Debre-Birhan and Shewa-Robit in the Megenteya area. The ambush was executed at mid-day by the Qagni Nisir Battalion (operating under the AFPO-AFSPC). According to reports from the field, the surprise attack inflicted significant casualties on regime forces. Six soldiers were confirmed killed on the spot, while eleven others sustained serious injuries.
 - In the aftermath of the ambush, regime forces—apparently shocked and enraged by their losses, fired ZU-23 artillery rounds toward Wustembuay, an area where no combatants were present. As of September 5th, the extent of casualties and property loss is unconfirmed.

Efratana-Gidim Woreda

- On September 6th, Fano forces conducted a successful ambush operation targeting regime officials and armed escorts in the Kersa area (Kori-Meda Kebele).

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- The ambush was conducted by the Atse Yikuno-Amlak Division Asrat Woldeyes Brigade's Qagn unit (operating under the AFNF-AC). The targeted group was traveling in a patrol vehicle that had departed from Kemissie (Oromo Special Zone, Amhara Region) and was en route to Ataye town via Chefa-Robit. Acting on intelligence, the Qagn unit intercepted the convoy and launched a decisive ambush.
 - As a result, one patrol vehicle was destroyed, three regime leaders were killed, along with five armed escorts.

Ensaro Woreda

- On September 4th, ENDF forces carried out a robbery and a series of attacks on workers at the Lemi International Cement Factory.
 - According to reports from the AFPO-AFSPC the incident took place around 1 am, when the assailants entered the compound under the cover of darkness and violently attacked camp security guards, causing serious physical injuries. During the two-hour raid (1 am - 3 am), the soldiers robbed over 48 mobile phones, assaulted foreign nationals, raped several female employees, and stole significant amounts of cash and personal belongings.
 - The report further indicated that the attackers falsely impersonated Fano fighters, shouting slogans such as "*I am Fano! We will finish you off!*" to create confusion and shift blame. The assailants first targeted the residence of a foreign language interpreter, then moved room-to-room throughout the workers' camp, committing various abuses. Employees described hearing screams and cries for help throughout the night, with no intervention from ENDF stationed in Lemi town. By morning, most employees had vacated the premises in fear. Senior officials from the organization and military leaders

from Addis-Ababa arrived later that day to investigate. During an emergency meeting, initial claims from a local colonel attempted to blame the attack on “*extremists*,” but employees rejected this, stating that the attackers were not Fano and were unfamiliar to them. Staff reported feeling intimidated and silenced during the meeting. Despite promises of accountability, employees said they were pressured to resume work without proper security guarantees.

- The AFPO-AFSPC states that this attack was a politically motivated operation meant to defame Fano and frame the group for crimes it did not commit. The organization condemned the assault as a grave human rights violation and called for an independent investigation and for the perpetrators to be held accountable.⁴

Southwestern Amhara (Gojjam Sub-Region)

East Gojjam Zone

Gozamin Woreda

- On the night of September 1st, Fano fighters conducted a sudden attack in the Daligaw-Yohannes area.
 - The operation was carried out by the Jibela-Mutera Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Niguse Division (part of the AFNF-TC). The Fano fighters reportedly infiltrated regime positions overnight and launched a surprise attack in the Daligaw-Yohannes area near Debre-Markos city.
 - The operation was brief, with reports of several casualties among regime soldiers. Preliminary reports indicate at least 12 soldiers killed and wounded several others.

⁴See September 6, 2025 [report](#) from Asrat Broadcasting Services (ABS).

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- On September 2nd, Fano fighters conducted an operation in the Mosebit area.
 - The operation was reportedly carried out by the Jibela-Mutera Brigade commando unit, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (part of the AFNF-TC). On the night of September 1st (morning of September 2nd) Fano fighters infiltrated into the mountainous Mosebit area near Debre-Markos city where regime forces were camped. The operation was conducted overnight, and the Fano fighters inflicted several casualties during a brief confrontation.
 - Sources reported at least nine regime soldiers killed and many others wounded during this operation.
 - On the night of September 2nd (morning of September 3rd), Fano fighters conducted an operation in the Chertekel-Megenteya area. The operation was reportedly executed by the Jibela-Mutera Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Division (part of the AFNF-TC) near Debre-Markos city. This operation was light and short-lived, lasting only a brief period of fire exchange. The casualties that resulted from this operation remained unreported.

Baso-Liben Woreda

- On September 3rd, fighting took place in the Yelamgej Kebele.
 - The fighting was initiated by the Abrajit Brigade, under the Haddis Alemayehu Division (part of the AFNF-TC). The Fano fighters reportedly conducted an offensive on the regime's presence early in the morning. The operation primarily targeted militia and riot dispersal troops stationed in the area. Fano fighters conducted this offensive with the aim of facilitating the defection of regime soldiers. This offensive led to an exchange of gunfire between the two sides, with reports of casualties and material losses.

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- During the operation, more than 14 regime troops were killed, and several others were injured and defected from the military.
 - On September 7th, regime forces completely withdrew from Yelamgej Kebele, where they had been stationed for months.
 - Sources reported that Fano fighters had been conducting frequent attacks on regime forces before their withdrawal. Among other events, on the night of September 5th (up to the early morning of September 6th), members of the Abrajit Brigade (under the AFNF-TC) had conducted an operation against regime forces in Yelamgej and inflicted casualties. After suffering from frequent attacks by the Fano fighters, the regime forces withdrew, and the Fano fighters managed to control Yelamgej Kebele on September 7th.

Debre-Elias Woreda

- On September 4th, intense fighting took place in the neighborhood of Elias town.
 - The fighting was started by the Qeste-Demena Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (part of the AFNF-TC). Sources reported that Fano fighters began an offensive early in the morning, targeting regime forces in the Yeqegat area, near Elias town. The fighting was intense, with both sides using heavy machine guns and engaging in hand-to-hand combat. The confrontation expanded to the Gofechema area as regime forces pursued Fano fighters which had withdrawn from Yeqegat. The fighting continued in Gofechema, with reports of casualties on both sides. Sources reported at least 20 regime soldiers killed and numerous others injured.

Debre-Markos City

- On the night of September 5th (up to the morning of September 6th), Fano fighters conducted an operation in the Kebele 08 area of Abima sub-city.
 - The operation was reportedly executed by the Nigus Tekle-Haymanot Brigade, under the Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (operating under the AFNF-TC). This operation was reportedly carried out targeting the kebele office.
 - Sources reported the destruction of the kebele office and capture of office materials by the Fano forces.

Enemay Woreda

- On September 7th, Fano fighters conducted operations in multiple locations in the Enemay Woreda. Combined brigades under the Belay Zeleke Division (part of the AFNF-TC) were reportedly involved in these operations. Fano fighters conducted operations in the Yetmen, Mahbere-Birhan, Weyra-Telima, and Bichena areas. Though exact casualties and outcome of these operations is unconfirmed, sources indicated considerable human and material losses among regime forces during these operations.

Enarj-Enawga Woreda

- On September 7th, Fano fighters conducted a surprise attack on regime forces in the Shifere area.
 - The attack was reportedly launched by the Soma Brigade, under the Samuel Aweke Division (part of the AFNF-TC). It targeted regime forces who were en route from Ginde-Weyn to Debre-Werk, with Fano fighters launching the attack on regime vehicles in the Shifere area. The attack was reportedly

initiated with an explosive device, which led to heavy gunfire. During this operation, at least 6 regime forces were killed and 4 others were injured. Casualties were primarily riot dispersal forces and state militias.

- In response to the Fano operation, regime forces began indiscriminately shelling residential areas with heavy weapons. As a result, an 80-year-old man was targeted and injured during the regime’s indiscriminate shelling. Regime soldiers also shot and injured another woman they encountered in the surrounding area. The victim was a young woman attacked while she was returning from the market.

West Gojjam Zone

Dembecha Woreda

- On September 4th, Fano fighters conducted an operation in Dembecha town.
 - This operation was reportedly executed by the Engineer Kiber Temesgen Brigade, under Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division (part of the AFNF-TC). According to sources, the operation was carried out in the suburbs of Dembecha town, where Fano fighters launched a surprise attack and opened fire on the regime forces. Sources reported that the firefight was light and short-lived, but the Fano fighters managed to inflict considerable casualties on the regime soldiers and captured a key intelligence officer.
 - Sources reported at least 14 regime soldiers killed, 11 others injured, and one intelligence officer captured.

Jabi-Tehnan Woreda

- On September 4th, a firefight took place in the Wenge area.

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- The firefight was initiated by regime forces who mobilized toward the area, located between Jiga and Dembecha towns. Regime soldiers reportedly tried to encircle and cut off the Fano unit during this operation. Sources reported that the Arenzaw-Damot Brigade, under the Ras Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (part of the AFNF-TC), was involved in this confrontation. Despite their strong effort, the regime forces' unit was instead cut off by Fano forces and sustained significant casualties during a short firefight. Sources reported that at least 20 regime soldiers were killed and several others were injured during this operation. Ultimately, the regime forces were compelled to retreat back into Jiga town.
 - In a separate incident, a light firefight was reported in the Mankusa town neighborhood, in the Zaba-Tsiyon area. The gunfire was initiated by regime forces to dislodge Fano fighters who had set up a checkpoint in the area. The firefight quickly subsided as the Fano fighters left when the regime forces entered the location.
 - On September 7th, a gunfire exchange took place in the Wenge area.
 - The attack was launched by regime forces. This attack led to a heavy gunfire exchange, with casualties reported from both combating sides. Sources reported that the Arenzaw-Damot Brigade, under the Ras-Bitwedded Mengesha Atikem Division (part of the AFNF-TC), confronted regime forces, inflicting several casualties. One confirmed death and two injuries were reported from the Fano side, while casualties among the regime soldiers were described as numerous.
 - According to sources, after killing one Fano member, regime soldiers publicly severed his neck in Jiga town and prevented residents from retrieving his body. The regime soldiers also conducted physical assaults on residents of Jiga town,

specifically passersby, alleging they were spying for Fano fighters.

Awî Zone

Dangila Woreda

- On September 1st, Fano fighters conducted a surprise attack in the Afesa neighborhood. The Bitwedded Mengesha Jembere Brigade, under the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-TC), reportedly targeted regime forces moving from Dangila toward Mecha. The ambush took place as regime forces reached the Zuma river, leading to an open confrontation. Reports indicate Fano fighters inflicted several casualties.

Banja Woreda

- On September 1st, Fano fighters conducted a sudden operation in the Injibara neighborhood. The Simeneh Desta Brigade, part of the Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division (part of the AFNF-TC), reportedly targeted militia and police forces that had departed from Injibara town. Sources reported at least three militia and police troops killed and six more injured during the operation.

North Gojjam Zone

North Mecha Woreda

- On the afternoon of September 1st, a light exchange of gunfire took place in the Amarit neighborhood. On that day, regime forces that had departed from the Merawi neighborhood reportedly mobilized toward Amarit to gain control of the area. Having intelligence about the regime's advance, Fano fighters, specifically the 1st Division's Tadesse Muluneh Brigade (part of the AFNF-TC), reportedly waited in a defensive position to encircle and confront them. After a brief and light

exchange of gunfire, the fighting subsided as the regime forces retreated back to their departure point. During this fire exchange, no known casualties were reported.

- On September 2nd, fighting took place in the Nada-Mariam area. The fighting was initiated by regime forces that had mobilized toward the Fano presence. The 1st Division's Tadesse Muluneh Brigade (part of the AFNF-TC) reportedly confronted the regime soldiers in a counteroffensive. Sources reported that the Fano fighters overwhelmed the regime forces during this confrontation and managed to hinder their advance toward the Fano position. Casualties from this exchange of fire remained unidentified. Sources reported that Fano fighters captured several firearms, including two light machineguns.

Yilmana-Densa Woreda

- On the night of September 4th (up to the morning of September 5th), Fano fighters conducted an operation in the Adet town neighborhood. The operation was reportedly executed by the 1st Division's Animut Yazachew Brigade (operating under the AFNF-TC). Reports indicated that the Fano fighters covertly infiltrated the Wisha-Tirs and Enchet-Tera areas and conducted an attack involving an explosive detonation around midnight. Sources reported at least three casualties among regime's soldiers. In addition, two regime militias reportedly defected to the Fano.

Northwestern Amhara (Gonder Sub-Region)

South Gonder Zone

Guna-Begemidir Woreda

- On September 4th, Fano forces launched a surprise attack on a regime military camp in Kimir-Dingay town.

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- The offensive was led by the Guna-Terara Division (part of the AFPO-AFGPC). The well-coordinated attack commenced between 1:00 pm and 2:30 pm local time in the evening, catching the regime forces off guard. The regime forces sustained heavy casualties during the assault. Two heavy military trucks were completely destroyed, disrupting the regime's logistical capabilities. Fifteen militiamen were captured by the Fano forces, along with their full military equipment, further weakening the regime's presence and bolstering the Fano forces' ranks. In addition, the Fano forces seized a significant amount of military logistics, including ammunitions and weapons, from the regime military camp, enhancing their own resources and hampering the regime's operations. The regime military camp, targeted in the attack, was temporarily stationed in Guna-Begemidir Woreda administration compound, highlighting the extent to which the conflict impacted civilian infrastructure.

Fogera Woreda

- On September 5th, Fano forces launched an offensive attack against regime forces stationed in Weji town, initiating a series of engagements.
 - The offensive was undertaken by the Nebelbalu-Fogera Division (part of the AFNF-BC 1st Corps) which strategically blocked main roads leading from Wereta town and Alem-Ber town, cutting off potential reinforcements for regime forces stationed in Weji town. With the roads effectively blocked, the Fano forces commenced their attack on the regime forces stationed in Arba-Amba Kebele (within Weji town). The fighting involved the use of heavy weaponry and close-quarters combat, demonstrating the intensity of the clashes. The Fano forces shelled three strongly fortified regime entrenchments with RPGs, completely destroying them and inflicting significant losses on the defending forces. The main areas of conflict were Weji, Aguat-Wiha, Aregawi,

Wiha-Limat, Awramba-Megenteya, Wenber-Terara, and Gazo villages, suggesting a widespread and multi-pronged offensive. During the fighting, more than 20 regime forces were killed, and a large number of soldiers sustained critical injuries. The riot dispersal forces' military campaign leader was confirmed killed during the fighting, further demoralizing the regime forces.

- In a related development, the regime forces targeted civilians in Weji town as a reprisal measure for their losses. Priest Gebremaryam was among the civilians killed by the regime forces in Weji town, raising serious concerns about human rights violations and the protection of non-combatants.

Farta Woreda

- On September 5th, fighting took place between Fano forces and regime forces in Alem-Ber town and neighboring areas.
 - The Nebelbalu-Fogera Division (operating under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps) launched an offensive attack against regime forces in Alem-Ber town, seeking to disrupt regime operations. This fighting was concentrated in Alem-Ber, Asrat-Terara, Sinkua, Qusquam, and Madeya. In this fighting, seven soldiers were killed, and 13 others sustained critical injuries in these locations.
 - There was also fierce fighting in Werq-Meda, Aguat-Wiha, and Ashewa-Megenteya between the Fano forces and regime forces. Three regime forces were killed in this fighting.
 - Further escalating the conflict, the Guna Division, particularly the Gebremesqel Brigade (part of the AFNF-BC 1st Corps), launched an early morning offensive attack against regime reinforcement forces moving from Debre-Tabor city to Alem-Ber. The Fano forces targeted regime forces which

were traveling in five heavy military Ural's and six Casoni trucks, indicating a significant logistical convoy. During this surprise attack, 15 regime forces were killed, and more than 20 sustained physical injuries ranging from minor to critical in severity. The ambush took place in Aremu village within Alem-Saga forest, suggesting a carefully planned and executed operation.

- On September 6th, Fano forces carried out a surprise offensive targeting regime forces in Lwaye Kebele.
 - The regime forces were traveling from Debre-Tabor city to Mekane-Eyesus town (Estie Woreda) when they were ambushed by the Guna Division's Meqdela-Amba Brigade (operating under the AFNF-BC 1st Corps). The attack took place near Gasay town, implying strategic importance to the route. The regime forces sustained heavy casualties during the surprise attack, reflecting the effectiveness of the Fano forces' operation. Furthermore, the military trucks transporting the regime forces were also destroyed, disrupting their mobility and further weakening their position.

Central Gonder Zone

Gonder City

- On September 4th, Ato Gebeyaw Ashagre, the top official of the regime's civil authority at the Central Gonder Zone Health Institute, was detained by police in Bahir-Dar city, raising questions about the circumstances surrounding his arrest. Gebeyaw was summoned to Bahir-Dar city for a meeting and was taken into custody by police forces. The specific reasons for his detention have not been publicly disclosed, fueling speculation and uncertainty. The following day, September 5th, he was transferred to the custody of the Gonder city police forces,

suggesting that the investigation or charges against him may be related to activities within the Gonder Sub-region.

West Gonder Zone

Metemma Woreda

- On September 2nd, regime forces launched an indiscriminate shelling attack on civilian residential areas in Kumer Kebele.
 - This assault resulted in severe casualties among the civilian population, with more than seven civilians confirmed killed, including a breastfeeding mother and her infant, and an additional 27 civilians sustaining physical injuries ranging between minor and critical in severity. The indiscriminate shelling took place in Awlala village (Kumer Kebele), between 10:30 pm and 11:30 pm local time, targeting residents who were not involved in the fighting. The residents were forced to flee their homes and seek refuge in the surrounding jungles to escape the regime forces' indiscriminate violence. Consequently, their residential houses and all their properties were completely destroyed, leaving them displaced and destitute.
 - The attack followed fierce fighting between Fano forces, particularly the Fitawrari Gebeyew Division (part of the AFNF-BC 2nd Corps), and regime forces in Ashraf Kebele, suggesting a retaliatory motive. The regime forces, having sustained heavy casualties during the earlier fighting, appear to have targeted residents of Awlala as a reprisal measure. Regime forces who were deployed as reinforcements to assist their counterparts in Ashraf Kebele attacked civilians in Awlala village, where no active fighting was underway between the Fano forces and the regime forces, highlighting the deliberate nature of this attack. The regime forces fired heavy weaponry including

mortars, heavy machineguns and ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns directly into civilian residential areas of Awlala.

Areas Outside Amhara Region

- On September 1st, opposition party Enat Party issued a statement condemning what it described as systematic targeting and killing of religious leaders across Ethiopia.⁵
 - The party declared that the killing of religious figures has effectively become an “*unwritten law*” in the country. According to the statement, over the past seven years, the assassination of prominent religious leaders—often followed by cover-ups—has become a disturbing and routine occurrence. These attacks, the party asserts, are not isolated incidents but rather part of a broader pattern aimed at silencing voices of faith and moral authority. The Enat Party emphasized that Arsi Zone in particular has become “*a land soaked in blood,*” asserting that state authority has virtually collapsed in the region. “*It is not an exaggeration to say there is no functioning government structure,*” the statement read. “*Religious leaders are being killed daily, in the most inhumane and brutal ways. These killings are meant to serve as warnings to others.*”
 - The statement specifically referenced the killing 78-year-old Priest Memre Nigusse W/Medhin, a long-serving clergy member of Oda St. George’s Church in Mesranje-Abo of Robe Woreda (Arsi Zone of Oromia Region). Priest Memre was shot and killed in his own home at 11 pm on August 30th, by unidentified armed assailants.
 - The party also drew attention to a related incident in the capital, Addis-Ababa city. On Sunday, August 24th, Memhir Afework Abebaw, a Digua (religious teacher) and clergy member at Gojo St. Arsema Church in Bole Sub-City, was

⁵See September 1, 2025 [statement](#) from Enat Party.

gunned down near his residence in Tafo Square, near Gedera Hotel, at approximately 7 pm. Memhir Afework, a father of one, was murdered as he was entering his home. The party expressed particular alarm over this incident, noting that the public assassination of a religious figure in Addis-Ababa city, home to numerous diplomatic missions and international institutions, highlights the gravity of the nationwide security collapse. *“The fact that such a killing can take place openly in the capital underscores the type of deathly atmosphere under which the entire nation is now forced to live,”* the statement said.

- In closing, the party strongly condemned what it described as coordinated killings of religious leaders both in urban centers and rural areas.

Horo-Guduru-Wollega Zone (Oromia Region)

Abe-Dongoro Woreda

- Since August 29th, tensions have been escalating in various kebeles of Abe-Dongoro and surrounding woredas in Horo-Guduru-Wollega and East Wollega Zones.
 - On August 29th, Fano fighters carried out an operation targeting moving OSF units in Galesa Kebele of Abe-Dongoro Woreda. Sources indicated that Fano fighters inflicted casualties on at least 20 OSF soldiers and injured several others. In reprisal, the OSF carried out a massacre of Amhara civilians, most of whom were women, in Galesa Kebele.
 - Over the following days, regime forces reportedly mobilized additional troops, leading to continued sporadic exchanges of gunfire in various kebeles of Abe-Dongoro Woreda. Sources report that OSF soldiers looted and burned

residential areas over the following three to four days. There are also reports that several civilians were killed during this escalation.

- As of September 2nd, tensions continue to escalate in woredas of East Wollega and Horo-Guduru-Wollega Zones.
 - Sources reported that the regime is persistently deploying additional regional and federal forces, particularly in Gida-Ayana and Abe-Dongoro Woredas. Between September 1st and 2nd, sources reported that regime soldiers took hundreds of cattle from Amhara farmers residing in these areas. Reports also indicated that the soldiers committed multiple abuses targeting Amhara residents. The details of the reported violations in these areas will be identified through further investigation.
- As of September 3rd, fighting that began earlier in Abe-Dongoro Woreda and bordering areas of Gida-Ayana Woreda (East Wollega Zone) continued to escalate.
 - On that day, heavy fighting took place in the Bijit area (Chanco Kebele). The fighting was initiated by regime joint forces, with combined ENDF ground mechanized units, OSF, and local militias. The Wollega Fano confronted the regime forces in defense of civilian residents from the regime's offensive. The fighting was intense, characterized by the use of heavy artillery fire, which resulted in several casualties. The regime persistently brought in reinforcement forces from neighboring bases, while the Fano fighters resisted and managed to overwhelm the forces. Sources reported that the regime soldiers have been looting farm animals and other residents' properties on a large scale throughout the area. In the evening, it was reported that the fighting began to subside, while the regime conducted a drone surveillance in areas of Abe-Dongoro and Gida-Ayana Woredas.

Addis-Ababa City

- As of September 3rd, regime security forces have reportedly intensified mass arrests of civilians and media personnel in Addis-Ababa, marking an escalation in the ongoing crackdown on dissent and freedom of expression.
 - Sources confirmed that on the morning of September 3rd, regime forces carried out widespread arrests in the CMC Mikael Church area of the city. The operation reportedly targeted civilians indiscriminately, with a particular focus on daily laborers and individuals engaged in informal and small-scale economic activities. Witnesses reported that some civilians attempted to flee on foot through the streets of the city, trying to escape arrest, an act that underscores both the level of fear and the breakdown of legal protections in the capital. Observers have condemned the incident as a clear violation of fundamental human rights, especially given that Addis-Ababa is home to the African Union headquarters and numerous international diplomatic missions, and is expected to uphold international norms related to civil liberties and the rule of law.
 - On the same day, three journalists affiliated with Sheger FM 102.1, a popular independent radio station, were arrested. At approximately 4:30 pm, federal police and plainclothes security personnel raided the station's premises in Addis-Ababa. Eshete Assefa, head of the news department, was detained and taken in for questioning. He was later released the same evening without charge. Journalists Mintamir Ayalew and Tigist Zerihun were also detained. Tigist was arrested from her residence in the Ferensay Mazoria neighborhood later that evening. Both women are currently being held at the Federal Police Crime Investigation Bureau located in Mexico Square. As of now, no formal charges have been brought against them. Their scheduled court appearance on

September 5th at the Federal High Court, Lideta Branch, was postponed to September 8th due to a backlogged docket, according to colleagues familiar with the case.⁶

⁶See September 5, 2025 [report](#) from the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ).

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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