



## War updates from Amhara Region, Ethiopia – March 31st to April 6th, 2025

*Updated April 6th, 2025*

### Overview

For the week of March 31st to April 6th, 2025, fighting between *Amhara Fano self-defense force* (Fano) and *Prosperity Party regime joint forces* (regime forces) has continued in various parts of Amhara Region in Ethiopia.<sup>1</sup>

- This week battle events and rights violations were recorded in more than 44 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 North Shewa Zone of Oromia Region and in Addis-Ababa city.
- Developments were recorded in 6 urban administrations across 4 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Kobo, Woldia, Debre-Birhan,

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<sup>1</sup>Regime 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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Debre-Markos, Finote-Selam, Debre-Tabor cities in North Wollo, North Shewa, West Gojjam and South Gonder Zones.

- Civilian casualties were recorded in 16 woreda/city administrations across 8 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Gidan, Habru, Meket, Mekdela, Antsokiyana-Gemza, Minjar-Shenkora, Debre-Birhan, Dega-Damot, Jabi-Tehnan, Guagusa-Shikudad, Dangila, North Mecha, Wegera, Tegede and Qwara Woredas in North Wollo, South Wollo, North Shewa, West Gojjam, Awi, North Gojjam, Central Gonder and West Gonder Zones.
- Widespread arrests were recorded in 4 woreda/city administrations across 3 zonal administrations in Amhara Region. These included Kobo, Habru, Minjar-Shenkora and Estie Woredas in North Wollo, North Shewa and South Gonder Zones. In additions, abductions of humanitarian workers were recorded in Chilga Woreda of Central Gonder Zone in Amhara Region. Lastly, an abduction was carried out by suspected *Oromo Liberation Army* (OLA) militants in Were-Jarso Woreda of North Shewa Zone in Oromia Region.
- This week, Amhara prisoners of conscience in Kilinto prison issued a letter criticizing the national dialogue process. Opposition party *Balderas for True Democracy* (Balderas) issued a statement expressing condolences for dozens of civilian casualties in Amhara Region.

## **North Wollo Zone**

### **Habru Woreda**

- On March 30th, regime forces carried out arbitrary detentions and abuses against civilians in Wurgessa town.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup>See March 31st, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

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- The abuses followed the entry of regime forces into Wurgessa town which was under control of Fano forces.
  - Regime forces physically beat at least three civilians and left them on the streets with injuries.
  - Regime forces detained more than 15 youths, and their current whereabouts remain unknown.
- Reports indicate that newly trained and deployed riot dispersal have defected to Fano forces.<sup>3</sup>
    - According to sources, 50 riot dispersal force members have joined Corps 1 and 2 of the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara), bringing their full weapons with them.
    - Prior to their defection, the recruits were warmly welcomed by the Chief Administrator of North Wollo Zone, Ato Arage Yimer, along with other local leaders, including the leadership of Woldia City Administration and the North-East Command, led by Lt. Gen. Assefa Chekole, who is stationed in the city.

### **Woldia City**

- On the night of March 31st, Fano forces executed an urban operation against newly deployed regime forces in the Piassa area of Woldia City. The operation was carried out by the Asaminew Division, part of the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara). However, the exact number of casualties have not yet been confirmed.

### **Meket Woreda**

- On April 2nd, Fano forces ambushed regime forces in Arbit town.

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<sup>3</sup>See April 3, 2025 [report](#) from Mereb Media.

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- The ambush was carried out against regime riot dispersal forces at around 9 am under “*Operation Unity*” by the Wubante Abate Division, part of the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Lasta Asaminew Corps. The regime forces believed they were operating in an area under their control and were caught by surprise.
  - As a result of this ambush, regime forces were forced to retreat to their camp, with several casualties. One ambulance and two patrol vehicles were used to transport the dead and wounded.
  - In retaliation, the riot dispersal forces executed one civilian, citing his failure to inform them of the approaching Fano forces.
- On April 4th, Fano forces ambushed regime militias at the entrance of Kokit town.
    - The ambush took place at 10:30 am after Fano forces received prior intelligence on the movement of regime militias, who were traveling from Debrezebit to Filakit town. The operation lasted approximately 20 minutes.
    - As a result, two regime militias were killed, and three others were injured.

### **Raya-Kobo Woreda**

- On April 4th, fierce battles between Fano forces and regime forces erupted in areas surrounding Woldia city.<sup>4</sup>
  - The fighting involved the Asaminew, Hawjano and Zobel-Amba Divisions, part of the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) East Amhara Corps One. The fighting began when regime forces, advancing from two directions—Woldia and Sanqa—launched an offensive against Fano forces in Kalim, a strategically important area. The coordinated defensive and offensive

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<sup>4</sup>See April 4, 2025 [update](#) from Mereb Media.

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actions by the Fano, forced regime forces to retreat back to Sanqa and Woldia towns.

- The coordinated attack resulted in deaths and injuries of several regime soldiers. Sources report that a funeral for one of the regime's ranking officials was held in Sanqa town.

## **Kobo City**

- On April 4th, Fano forces carried out an urban operation in Kobo city.
  - The operation was carried out by the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Special Operations unit at around 6 pm and resulted in the killing of a ranking regime military commander.
  - In retaliation, regime militias conducted house-to-house and work-area raids, arbitrarily arresting over 30 youths and taking them to the police station. After detaining them, regime forces brutally beat and tortured the youths under the false claim that they had assisted Fano forces in executing the urban operation. The victims reported that some youths lost their teeth during the beatings. After severe beating and harassment, regime forces released the youths at 11 pm.
- On April 6th, regime forces launched artillery shelling from the Horat River area, targeting the western part of Kobo city.
  - Reports indicate that at least three artillery shells were fired, although some informants claim the shells were aimed at Bekilo-Manekiya. Casualty reports related to the shelling have not yet been confirmed.
  - The shelling followed an urban operation by Fano forces on April 4th, which resulted in the deaths of at least two regime soldiers, one of whom was a ranking military commander in Kobo city.

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- On April 6th, regime forces arrested two civilians (youths) on allegations of being affiliated with Fano forces in Kobo city.
    - One of the detainees managed to escape by jumping from the vehicle during transport.
    - In addition to arrests, the regime has been conducting widespread closures of shops in Kobo city. Since March 28th, the city's mayor has ordered shops to close, citing tax evasion as the reason. However, these closures extend beyond businesses failing to pay taxes, as individuals without tax identification numbers are also being forced to pay.
    - Tax-paying businesses have faced difficulties in meeting their obligations due to the ongoing security situation.

### **Gidan Woreda**

- On April 5th, a fierce battle occurred between Fano and regime forces in the strategic area of Bekilo-Manekiya.
  - The fighting took place between 7 am and 11:30 am involving the Tirari Division, part of the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Lasta Asaminew Corps, and joint regime forces comprising ENDF soldiers, riot dispersal and militias. Regime forces initiated the offensive with the goal of retaking Bekilo-Manekiya, launching attacks from multiple directions including Sanqa, Dilib, and Debot towns along the main road connecting Woldia and Bahir-Dar cities.
  - The fighting resulted in significant casualties for the joint regime forces.
  - In retaliation, regime forces killed at least two civilians and beat an unknown number of civilians resulting in physical injuries.

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## South Wollo Zone

### Amhara-Sayint Woreda

- On April 3rd, Fano forces clashed with regime forces in several areas in Amhara-Sayint Woreda.<sup>5</sup>
  - The fighting was carried out by the Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division's Atrones Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Nigus Mikael Corps. The fighting broke out while regime forces were returning from Densa town (Mehal-Sayint Woreda), carrying rations and leadership supplies, en route to Genete town (Borena-Sayint Woreda). Fighting occurred in several key locations, including Belchuma, Kristos-Samra, Godel, Tengari, Key-Kebero, Kebero-Meda, Gudat, and Megalecha.
  - Regime forces suffered significant losses. More than 10 trucks, carrying soldiers and mercenaries, were involved in the conflict, with five trucks transporting killed and wounded forces.

### Tehuldere Woreda

- Reports indicate that more than 6,000 internally displaced persons are living in dire conditions in Tehuldere Woreda.<sup>6</sup>
  - The IDPs are reportedly taking shelter under trees without access to adequate shelter. Many of these individuals were displaced over three years ago from various zones in Oromia Region and are currently sheltering near Hayk city in South Wollo Zone.
  - One displaced resident told Meseret Media: *“children and elderly people have fallen ill. Some have died, and there is no help. The federal and regional*

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<sup>5</sup>See April 3, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.

<sup>6</sup>See April 3, 2025 [report](#) from Meseret Media.

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*governments do not consider us as citizens displaced from Wollega. It has been more than four months since food and medicine were provided.”*

- Another displaced resident explained, *“the camp was initially established for other purposes, and due to the high number of displaced people, most of us are forced to stay under trees and bushes. The tents where children, mothers, and the elderly once lived have deteriorated and can no longer provide shelter. We are left exposed to the elements.”*
- Many displaced individuals have expressed fear of returning to their homes, as they believe their properties are still in the hands of militants, and they fear further attacks if they do return.

### **Mekdela Woreda**

- On April 3rd, fighting broke out between Fano and regime forces in Kebele 018 and 019.
  - The clashes involved the Amhara-Sayint-Mekdela Division, part of the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Nigus Mikael Corps in the areas of Jisa and Chinga.
  - According to sources, in retaliation, regime forces fired on three residential houses and their full contents in Jisa Kebele. Other reports indicate that more than ten houses were set on fire, leading to the complete destruction of the residential area.<sup>7</sup> The regime forces’ artillery also resulted in the killing of at least one civilian. The alleged justification for these assaults is that residents were suspected supporters of Fano.

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<sup>7</sup>See April 4, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.



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## **Kutaber Woreda**

- On April 4th, fierce battles took place between Fano forces and regime forces in Kutaber town.
  - The fighting involved the Bete-Amhara Division, part of the Amhara Fano in Wollo (Bete-Amhara) Lij Eyasu Corps.
  - Reports indicate more than 50 regime soldiers killed and many others wounded. A significant number of regime militia members were also reported to have been killed. Additionally, Fano forces captured over 30 weapons and one armored vehicle.<sup>8</sup>

## **North Shewa Zone**

### **Efratana-Gidim Woreda**

- On April 1st, Fano forces carried out an offensive against regime forces in the Karalegoma and Efeson areas. The offensive was undertaken by the Amhara Fano in Shewa's Atse Yekunoamlak Division and the 7/70 Division. The Fano forces prepared strategically and entered the area, causing significant human and material losses to regime forces.

### **Mida-Woremo Woreda**

- During intense battles on March 29th, between Fano and regime forces, civilian casualties were inflicted by regime forces in Rema town.
  - The fighting was undertaken by the Rambo Division, part of the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command.

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<sup>8</sup>See April 4, 2025 [report](#) from Mereb Media.

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- The regime forces reportedly entered residential homes in Afer-Bayine Kebele and killed civilians and looted property. Among the victims was a civilian family, including a man who lost his life along with his two children on March 29th. His wife was severely beaten, causing her to lose her teeth, under the pretext that she was shouting and crying when regime riot dispersal forces killed her husband and children. On the night of March 29th, the woman took her own life in the devastation of losing her family.
  - Despite these atrocities, Fano forces managed to secure Rema town, forcing regime forces to retreat to Alem-Ketema town, carrying fallen combatants.

### **Minjar-Shenkora Woreda**

- On March 31st, regime forces killed at least three civilians and detained four others in Arerti town. The attack occurred when the victims were sitting and drinking coffee on the street side. Regime forces accused them of being “*enemy spies*” and killed three of them while taking four others into custody.
- On April 3rd, Fano forces carried out an ambush and urban operation in Gidib.
  - The ambush was carried out by the Nebelbal Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Shewa’s Kesselem Division. The ambush took place while regime forces were traveling from Arerti town to Bolo Kebele. Their stated reason for the movement was the acquisition of intelligence regarding the location of Fano supplies hidden in a civilian’s house. Despite the individual allegedly being wealthy and possessing significant assets, regime forces looted his property under the false pretext of the accusations. Fano forces also reportedly attacked the regime forces’ police office in Arerti town and their military camp in Bolo-Giyorgis.
  - Casualties included militia and riot dispersal forces. Wounded and deceased

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regime personnel were taken to Arerti Vocational Skills Training School and Arerti Hospital.

- In addition, five ENDF soldiers reportedly defected to Fano, bringing their kalashnikov rifles and full armaments with them.

### **Antsokiyana-Gemza Woreda**

- On April 1st, intense clashes erupted between Fano and regime forces in Mekoy town. In retaliation, ENDF soldiers took violent action against civilians who had no involvement in the conflict. The soldiers killed civilians in Mekoy town. The victims were accused of supporting “*extremist forces*”, including assisting in the collection of rations and food logistics for these groups. Two of the killed victims were identified as 26-year-old Brook Aseged and 21-year-old Adenagir Wesene (both residents of Mekoy town).

### **Debre-Birhan City**

- On April 3rd, regime forces executed one civilian (a woman) in Liche Kebele (Etege Taytu sub-city). The victim was identified as Worknesh Yeshitila, who had been living in Tela and Bekolt, and regime forces abducted her before executing her in their camp. The regime’s justification for her execution was that they had received information suggesting that she had been aiding individuals defecting from regime forces.

### **Hageremariam-Kessem Woreda**

- Between April 2nd to 4th, intense battles took place between Fano forces and regime forces in Koremash Kebele.
  - The fighting involved the Hailemariam Mamo Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Shewa’s Kessem Division. Regime forces briefly entered Koremash

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town and proceeded to loot the courthouse, health center, school, and individual properties. Regime forces reportedly fired BM rockets, ZU-23s, and other heavy weapons at civilian homes. As a result, property belonging to a civilian was destroyed.

- Following a strong counter-offensive by Fano forces, significant casualties were reported among regime forces. Sources reported 15 ENDF soldiers killed, and at least 19 ENDF soldiers wounded along with an unknown number of regime militias.

### **Menz-Mam-Midir Woreda**

- On April 4th, fighting between Fano and regime forces took place in Meleya. Fighting involved the Nahusenay Battalion (part of the Amhara Fano Shewa Province Command) and started at 3 pm, continuing throughout the day. Regime forces heading towards Bash from Molale city have faced strong resistance from Fano forces.

### **Merhabete Woreda**

- On April 5th, Fano forces launched a strong offensive against regime forces in the Atiberbir and Tikur-Dingay area.
  - The attack was carried out by the Mekdela Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Shewa's Nadew Division) near the Jema River. The assault occurred during a time when regime forces were exchanging rations in the region, with additional reinforcements arriving from Lemi and Merhabete. The battle took place between 9:50 am and 11:00 am. Despite the regime's efforts to bring reinforcements from Fetra, regime forces were ultimately forced to retreat back to Alem-Ketema and Fetra.

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- While exact casualty figures remain difficult to confirm, sources suggest that both sides suffered significant losses during the fighting.<sup>9</sup>

## **East Gojjam Zone**

### **Goncha-Siso-Enese Woreda**

- On March 31st, multiple battles took place in Gembore, Debre-Genet, Welete, Awja and Ginde-Weyn.
  - The fighting was initiated by both Fano fighters and regime forces. In the early morning, the Arenzaw Goncha Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Samuel Aweke Division reportedly launched an offensive on regime forces encamped in the Gembore area. Despite their heavy offensive, the Fano could not achieve any results, as regime forces had prepared for the planned assault.
  - On another front, regime forces moved towards rural areas to target the Fano presence in the Debre-Genet and Welete areas. According to sources, Fano forces fiercely confronted the regime's advance, leading to fighting in the Kosozura, Welete, and Awja areas, resulting in casualties on both sides.
  - After regrouping, the Fano fighters also launched a counteroffensive in Gembore and Ginde-Weyn towns, inflicting further casualties on regime soldiers. Sources reported that a battalion from the Soma Brigade joined the fighting to support the Arenzaw-Goncha Brigade against regime forces. Ultimately, reports indicated that regime forces attempting to confront the Fano presence were forced to retreat and take refuge in Ginde-Weyn town.
  - Sources reported 17 regime soldiers killed and 9 injured over multiple battles in the woreda.

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<sup>9</sup>See April 6, 2025 [report](#) from *Amhara Broadcasting Center (ABC) TV*.

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## **Debre-Elias Woreda**

- On the evening of March 31st, Fano fighters conducted a surprise attack in Yekegat Kebele.
  - This operation was reportedly carried out by the Qeste-Demena Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Qegn Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division. The attack targeted regime forces moving from Elias town to rural areas. Fano fighters unexpectedly launched an assault on regime forces as they passed through Yekegat Kebele, leading to an exchange of gunfire.
  - The casualties from this exchange have not been fully identified; however, sources reported several casualties among regime forces. Additionally, Fano sources reported the capture of at least 4 firearms, 6 explosives, and nearly 2,000 rounds of ammunition during this confrontation.
- On April 3rd, Fano forces conducted a sudden operation in Elias town.
  - The operation was carried out by the Qeste-Demena Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Nigussie Division.
  - According to sources, Fano fighters infiltrated the town through the Welasma area and opened fire on regime forces in the early morning. The attack primarily targeted militia leaders and woreda and kebele administrators. The gunfire was short-lived, as Fano fighters quickly withdrew after completing their planned operation.
  - Sources reported that an unspecified number of militia and woreda leaders were killed in the operation, with no casualties reported from the Fano side.

## **Baso-Liben Woreda**

- On March 31st, an exchange of gunfire occurred in the Kork Kebele.

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- The fighting was reportedly initiated by regime forces. The Abrajit Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam’s Haddis Alemayehu Division mounted fierce resistance to prevent the regime’s advancement. The outcomes and resulting casualties remain unidentified.
  - Sources reported an unspecified number of casualties among regime forces and defections of eight soldiers, who subsequently joined the Fano fighters, bringing eight firearms with them.
  - On April 3rd, fighting took place between Fano and regime forces in Bete-Nigus and Yelamgej Kebeles.
    - The Abrajit Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam) initiated fighting to push back regime forces that had recently moved into these areas.
    - The first engagement occurred in Bete-Nigus Kebele, where Fano fighters unexpectedly infiltrated and launched an offensive against regime forces present. This attack led to a heavy exchange of gunfire lasting for hours. Although the number of casualties remains unidentified, sources reported that the fighting resulted in losses on both sides. Sources indicated that the Fano forced the regime to leave the area and with at least 12 regime forces killed and more than 19 regime soldiers injured during this confrontation.
    - In the second engagement, Fano fighters conducted a surprise attack on regime militias stationed in Yelamgej Kebele. This attack reportedly inflicted casualties on at least 8 regime militia members, while one casualty was reported from the Fano side.
    - Sources also indicated that Fano fighters launched an attack on April 4th in the Kork Kebele, with casualties from that engagement remaining unknown.

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### **Aneded Woreda**

- On the evening of April 1st, an exchange of gunfire took place in Jama town. The gunfire was initiated by the Tedla Gualu Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam) targeting regime forces who were recently deployed in the area. Sources reported that the gunfire exchange was brief and light, with no casualties reported from either side.

### **Hulet-Eju-Enese Woreda**

- On April 1st, Fano forces reportedly carried out a surprise attack on regime forces in the Arate forest. The attack was reportedly carried out by the Mebreku Tefera Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's 2nd Division) targeting regime forces who were moving from Motta to Weyn-Wiha town. Casualties remain unidentified.
- On April 5th, Fano fighters conducted a surprise attack on regime forces in the Arate forest area.
  - This unforeseen operation was reportedly carried out by the Mebreku Tefera Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam) as regime forces were moving from Weyn-Wiha towards Motta for logistical transport. The confrontation did not last long, as the regime was quickly forced to return to their departure point. The casualties resulting from this exchange of fire remain unidentified.
  - On the same day, Fano fighters reported that a regime soldier had defected and joined them, bringing with him two firearms.

### **Debre-Markos City**

- On April 4th, a Fano member carried out a sudden attack and killed the commander of the riot dispersal forces in Debre-Markos city. The attack was carried out by a member of the Nigus Tekle-Haymanot Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam.



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This Fano member managed to escape after completing the operation and subsequently rejoined his brigade.

### **Sinan Woreda**

- On April 3rd, fighting and a surprise attack occurred in the Yedeman and Geltema areas.
  - In the first incident, Fano fighters launched a sudden attack in the Yedeman area against regime forces who were moving from Debre-Markos city to Rebu-Gebeya town for logistical support. The Sinan Abajime Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Qegn-Geta Yoftahe Division) reportedly carried out this operation, compelling regime forces to return to Debre-Markos city. The Fano fighters reportedly inflicted casualties among regime forces during this sudden operation.
  - In the second incident, regime forces were deployed to the Geltema area to confront the Fano presence. Sources reported that regime forces utilized heavy artillery to engage Fano fighters but subsequently returned without success.

### **West Gojjam Zone**

#### **Jabi-Tehnan Woreda**

- On April 1st, fighting took place in the Kilinik and Zaba-Tsiyon areas, near the Bir-Sheleqo military camp.
  - Regime forces initiated the fighting which lasted for more than two hours, resulting in casualties. The Arenzaw Damot Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam) reportedly confronted regime forces in these locations. The regime forces allegedly employed long-range artillery to target the Fano. However,

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Fano fighters inflicted casualties and compelled the regime soldiers to retreat towards Mankusa and Finote-Selam city.

- According to sources, between 7-11 soldiers were killed on the regime side, while casualties among Fano forces remain undisclosed. Fano fighters also reportedly inflicted injuries on an unspecified number of soldiers and captured at least five weapons.
- On April 3rd, brief and light exchanges of gunfire occurred on the outskirts of Jiga town.
  - The exchange was reportedly initiated by the Arenzaw-Damot Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam) in the area commonly known as Maksegnit-Megenteya. Sources reported Fano fighters reached the location and launched a sudden offensive at around 11 am, targeting the riot dispersal forces present.
  - The offensive resulted in physical injuries to two riot police officers, while others reportedly managed to escape under cover of heavy gunfire. No casualties were reported on the Fano side during this exchange.
  - In a separate development, sources reported that regime soldiers executed a civilian (farmer) in Jiga town. Reports indicate that the execution was carried out without cause, as the soldiers encountered him on the street.
- On April 3rd, regime soldiers executed a civilian farmer in Jiga town. Sources indicated that the execution took place in an area specifically known as Bet-Abo while the victim was returning from work. AAA's sources identified the killed victim as Belsti Amogne. Reports suggest that the execution was conducted without any justification, as regime soldiers encountered him on the street.
- On April 5th, an exchange of gunfire occurred in the Zaba-Tsiyon area.

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- The fighting was initiated by the Arenzaw Damot Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam), which targeted regime militias who had established a checkpoint in the area to collect duties on vehicles. According to sources, Fano fighters successfully pushed regime forces from the checkpoint and collected duties for themselves throughout the day.
  - The resulting casualties from this confrontation remain unknown.
  - On April 6th, fighting was reported in the Nigus Tekle-Haymanot area near Finote Selam city.
    - This confrontation was reportedly initiated by the Arenzaw-Damot Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam), which launched a sudden attack on regime forces as they were operating in the vicinity. Sources reported that regime forces were firing long-range artillery from Finote-Selam city.
    - The outcome and resulting casualties from this exchange remain unidentified.

### **Dega-Damot Woreda**

- On April 2nd, regime forces executed a young civilian identified as Alehegn Gebeyaw in Feres-Bet town. The execution reportedly occurred when regime soldiers found him near Enqutatash Hotel early in the morning while he was traveling on foot towards the bus station.
- On April 5th, intense fighting took place in the Dama-Markos area.
  - The fighting was initiated by regime forces mobilizing from Feres-Bet town toward the Fano presence. Forewarned of the regime's movements, the Dega-Damot Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam) fiercely confronted the advancing regime soldiers. Sources reported that the fighting was

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extremely intense, characterized by involvement of heavy artillery, and resulted in numerous casualties.

- According to sources, Fano fighters inflicted substantial casualties, resulting in both deaths and injuries among regime forces, as they transported bodies and their wounded using three vehicles.

### **Dembecha Woreda**

- On April 4th, a brief exchange of gunfire took place in the Yechereka area.
  - The fighting was initiated by the Kiber Temesgen Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam), which targeted state militias and riot dispersal soldiers stationed in the area. The gunfire exchange was reportedly short-lived, subsiding after the Fano group withdrew upon completing their operation.
  - Sources reported three regime soldiers killed and eight captured during the confrontation.

### **Sekela Woreda**

- On April 6th, intense fighting occurred in Gishabay town.
  - The fighting was initiated when combined Fano brigades (from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division) conducted a coordinated offensive against regime forces present in the town. The fighting was extremely intense, marked by heavy casualties and artillery involvement during the confrontation. By midday, Fano forces managed to drive regime forces out of Gishabay town and took control of it. The regime forces subsequently retreated to the mountainous outskirts near Gish Monastery and Medhaniale Church. The Fano managed to maintain to take control of the town throughout the day.

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- During this confrontation, sources reported 27 regime soldiers killed, 20 injured, and two soldiers captured, along with the seizure of 28 firearms and more than 700 rounds of ammunition.

## **Awî Zone**

### **Dangila Woreda**

- On March 30th, heavy fighting occurred in various areas of Dangila Woreda.
  - The conflict was initiated by regime forces who mobilized from their camps in Dangila to rural areas to attack the Fano presence. The first battle took place in an area commonly known as Zelesa, where Fano fighters launched a preemptive attack against regime forces advancing from Dangila to Afesa Kebele. The Fano's preemptive strike resulted in a heavy exchange of gunfire, leading to casualties among the regime forces. Reports indicate that the Bitwedded Mengesha Jembere Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's 3rd Division) overwhelmed regime forces, repelling the attack and forcing them to retreat toward Dangila town.
  - In another engagement, fighting also broke out as regime forces advanced to the Abadra area. Forewarned about the regime's mobilization, another unit of the Bitwedded Mengesha Jembere Brigade mounted a fierce confrontation in the Washa area, launching an attack before regime forces reached Abadra. This battle was reportedly intense, with casualties on both sides. According to reports, one female Fano fighter was captured, and two additional Fano fighters were killed by regime forces. On the other hand, reports indicated several casualties among regime soldiers, including the killing of a soldier holding a position of command.

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- Civilian casualties were also reported, particularly the killing of one civilian (a woman) and the injury of another civilian (a man), both from the same family.
  - In the afternoon of April 2nd, fighting took place in the Abadra neighborhood.
    - The confrontation reportedly began with an offensive launched by the Bitwedded Mengesha Jembre Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam’s Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division) against regime forces that had recently been deployed to the area. Following the Fano offensive, regime forces retreated to the Afer-Mafesha area. Additionally, Fano fighters launched an attack against regime forces that were being brought from Chara in an attempt to reinforce their comrades engaged in battle in the Abadra neighborhood.
    - The resulting casualties from this fighting remain unidentified. Tensions continued to escalate in the area as both warring sides positioned themselves in close proximity to one another.
  - On April 6th, a brief exchange of light gunfire took place in the Zelesa area. The fighting was initiated when the Bitwedded Mengesha Jembere Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam’s Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division) carried out a sudden attack against regime forces moving in the Zelesa neighborhood. Fano fighters claimed to have killed at least five soldiers and injured several militia and riot dispersal soldiers.

### **Guagusa-Shikudad Woreda**

- On April 3rd, fighting took place in the Ashifa-Megenteya area.
  - The fighting reportedly began with the Giwon and Zengena Brigades from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam’s Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division. The operation was so intense that regime forces and Fano fighters confronted each other in close

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proximity. Fano fighters also confronted regime reinforcements coming from Gishabay town of Sekela Woreda. The Fano offensive compelled the surviving regime soldiers to withdraw from Ashifa and retreat to Tilili town.

- Reports indicate one casualty resulted from the Fano side, while at least 10 were killed among regime soldiers. Fano sources reported the capture of one soldier and at least 10 firearms along with a substantial amount of ammunition for weapons of different types.
- Upon entering Tilili town, regime soldiers carried out a massacre, killing at least five civilians, including a teacher. AAA's sources were able to identify the names of four victims as follows:
  1. Yihealem Tasew Tegegn
  2. Habtamu Emire Tessema (car repair worker)
  3. Almaw Wase Moges (teacher)
  4. Gedefaw Gashaye (daily laborer)
- Sources also reported that the bodies of the deceased were laid to rest at Tilili St. Mikael's Church.

### **Fagita-Lekoma Woreda**

- On April 4th, a brief exchange of light gunfire occurred in the Chiguali neighborhood.
  - The gunfire was reportedly initiated by the Ephrem Atnafu Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Gojjam-Agew-Midir Division. On that day, Fano fighters approached the regime encampment in the Tsirgi area and launched a surprise attack primarily targeting state militias. This exchange of fire did not last long, as the Fano fighters withdrew after completing their intended operation.

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- Sources reported three militiamen killed, two more injured, and three firearms captured.

## **North Gojjam Zone**

### **Gonji-Qolela Woreda**

- On March 31st, Fano forces executed a surprise attack targeting regime presence in Gonji town. The attack was carried out by the Yohannes Alemayehu Brigade, part of the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Tefera Damtie Division. This attack reportedly involved explosive detonations, resulting in casualties among regime soldiers. Sources reported 6 regime soldiers killed and 8 injured in the attack.

### **North Mecha Woreda**

- On March 31st, fierce confrontations occurred between the ENDF and the regional riot dispersal forces.
  - Sources were unable to identify the cause of the confrontation, although some suggested it was provoked by the riot dispersal forces' objections to ENDF soldiers executing 2 civilians in the area. Reports indicate that the fighting was intense, with casualties reported on both sides. Initially, the regime soldiers managed to encircle the confronting riot dispersal police. Subsequently, it was reported that the riot dispersal forces overwhelmed the ENDF soldiers, breaking the encirclement and inflicting heavy casualties. Reports also indicated that the ENDF mobilized reinforcements from neighboring bases to assist in the confrontation.
  - In the aftermath of the exchange of fire between the regime forces, ENDF soldiers proceeded to carry out arbitrary killings of civilians. The soldiers roamed residential areas of Barakat town, killing civilians including children



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and the elderly. Sources reported that nearly 60 civilians might have been killed in this tragic incident. Among the deceased victims, several individuals belonged to the same family. Initial reports indicated that 11 civilians were killed from a single family. The soldiers targeted civilians indiscriminately, attacking individuals they encountered on the streets and those they found during house-to-house searches. According to reports from Fano-affiliated sources, a priest and the administrator of St. Mikael's Church, as well as mothers returning from the mill and bank employees, were among the executed victims.

- On April 1st, fighting took place between Fano and regime forces in Birakat town,
  - The fighting took place in the area where regime forces had conducted a massacre the previous day. Combined forces from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's 1st Division reportedly launched the attack to avenge victims of the regime's civilian massacre.
  - Sources confirmed the killing of 20-30 regime soldiers during the confrontation, with one death reported from the Fano side. Following the March 31st massacre, residents of Birakat town entered a state of deep grief and trauma due to the events they experienced.
- On April 2nd, fighting took place in various locations throughout North Mecha Woreda.
  - The first incident occurred in the Atarie and Lay-Gafit areas. The fighting was initiated by Fano forces from the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's 1st Division, in an operation primarily intended to rescue riot dispersal police who were reported to be cut off during the battle with ENDF soldiers on March 31st. Sources reported that the fighting was intense, with both sides employing heavy rifles

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and covering a wide area. Reports indicate that Fano fighters managed to rescue the riot dispersal police and inflicted numerous casualties among regime soldiers. Sources reported that the Fano forces overwhelmed more than 100 regime soldiers and succeeded in driving the regime forces from the surrounding area. The previous day, sources reported that regime forces set fire to three residential homes belonging to civilians in response to the Fano attack in the Birakat area.

- The second battle event occurred in Merawi town on the evening of April 2nd. The gunfire was reportedly initiated by the Amhara Fano in Gojjam's Colonel Tadesse Muluneh Brigade when they unexpectedly infiltrated the town and attacked the town administrative building. According to sources, the fighting was brief, lasting no more than an hour, but it involved the use of heavy rifles. Reports indicate that the Fano fighters quickly withdrew after inflicting casualties among regime soldiers and capturing an unknown number of riot dispersal police. Sources reported more than 30 regime soldiers killed during the confrontation.
- On April 4th, regime forces executed three civilians in Ambo-Mesk Kebele.
  - According to sources, the victims were two businessmen and a driver who was transporting wood materials in the area. On that day, regime soldiers executed them and left their bodies in the China camp where regime forces have been stationed near Merawi town. Regime soldiers displayed particular cruelty towards one of the deceased victims whose body they dismembered even after he had been killed.
  - Sources identified the names of two victims in this incident as follows: (1) 40-year-old businessman Habtamu Genet and (2) 24-year-old businessman Derebe Mengaye. Sources were unable to identify the name of the third victim

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but confirmed that he was the driver of the truck. Sources reported that the bodies of the deceased, Habtamu and Derebe, were laid to rest at the cemetery of St. Medhanialem Church in Merawi town, while the body of the driver was buried at Deremene St. Mary's Church in the Merawi neighborhood.

## **South Gonder Zone**

### **Lay-Gayint Woreda**

- On March 29th, Fano forces ambushed regime forces in Mekuabiya Kebele, located near Gobgob town. The targeted regime forces were escorting a convoy of heavy trucks transporting gas oil. During the ambush, the trucks were struck by gunfire, sustaining damage. Regime soldiers providing the escort suffered significant casualties, with reports of both fatalities and critical injuries.
- On April 2nd, Fano forces ambushed a contingent of regime forces traveling from Agona Kebele to Welela-Bahir, located within North Gonder Zone. This surprise attack resulted in significant casualties for the regime, with six soldiers killed immediately and numerous others sustaining critical injuries.

### **Debre-Tabor City**

- On the night of March 30th, the bodies of two individuals associated with the regime were discovered in Qega-Wiha village, within Debre-Tabor city. One of the deceased was a former police inspector in Debre-Tabor city, who had recently transitioned to another public office within the city administration. The other was a militia intelligence officer who was working at the militia forces secretariat in Debre-Tabor city. Both individuals were killed while traveling. As of yet, the identities of the assailants responsible for their deaths remain unknown.

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## **Estie Woreda**

- On April 2nd, regime forces carried out a drone strike which resulted in civilian casualties in Asmera Kebele.
  - The strike targeted the Qoma-Fasiledes-Qetena area at approximately 3:45 am where a primary school was hit.
  - The drone attack resulted in 46 civilian casualties. 11 victims were confirmed killed including five elderly individuals and six youths. Additionally, more than 35 civilians sustained critical and minor physical injuries.
- Since April 1st, regime forces and civil political cadres have reportedly engaged in a campaign of terror against farmers in Mekane-Eyesus town and Jib-Asra-Maryam, Lmon, Qoma-Fasiledes, and Lchaye Kebeles.
  - These actions include looting farmers' properties, destroying their homes, and pillaging their livestock.
  - On April 1st, numerous farmers were detained by regime forces and are currently being held in custody in Mekane-Eyesus town. The justification provided for these mass detentions, as well as the pillaging and destruction of property, is the unsubstantiated allegation that these farmers are Fano sympathizers. This campaign of terror is purportedly orchestrated by Commander Belete, police commander of Estie Woreda, in collaboration with the regime military forces' leader and the militia forces' secretariat authority of the woreda.
  - Adding to the climate of fear and instability, repeated drone reconnaissance flights have been observed over Estie, Simada, Tach-Gayint, Lay-Gayint, Sede-Muja and Guna-Begemidir Woreda, as well as Guna Mountain, since the morning of April 3rd. This increased surveillance follows a deadly drone

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strike conducted in Asmera Kebele on April 2nd, further heightening tensions and insecurity in the region.

### **Fogera Woreda**

- On April 4th, a special operation was conducted by Fano forces in Alem-Ber town.
  - The operation was conducted by a small team from the Engineer Simegnew Division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder's Major-General Wubant Abate Corps) led by Shaleqa Esubalew and Shaleqa Beyene. The Fano unit infiltrated the town with a specific objective: the assassination of Melkalem Biset, chairman of the local kebele administration in Alem-Ber town.
  - The operation resulted in the deaths of Melkalem Biset and his bodyguards. The Fano operatives also seized the weapons carried by the deceased. Melkalem Biset was reportedly known for his role in the detention of numerous civilians under accusation of being Fano sympathizers.

### **Central Gonder Zone**

#### **Wegera Woreda**

- On March 29th, regime forces committed an extrajudicial killing of a young civilian in Deldalit, a location near Gedebye town. In addition to the killing, regime forces destroyed four houses in the village. They further threatened residents of Deldalit, warning that in the event of a Fano invasion, the entire village and its inhabitants would be "*completely destroyed.*"
- On April 1st, intense fighting broke out between Fano and regime forces in Ambagiyorgis town, commencing in the afternoon.

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- The Gondere-Begashaw Division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder) is identified as the unit that initiated the offensive against regime forces. Fano forces penetrated deep into central areas of the town, with fighting concentrated around key locations such as the administration bureau, the police station, and the militia forces' camp.
  - The regime forces sustained heavy casualties during the engagement and the police station was reportedly burned down. In the fighting over 19 militias and political cadres were captured, however 11 were released later that evening.

### **Central Armachiho Woreda**

- On March 31st, intense fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime forces in Muse-Bamb town. The regime forces sustained significant casualties during the engagement. As a result of the battle, Fano forces successfully captured heavy weapons from the regime, including heavy machine guns.

### **Chilga Woreda**

- On March 31st, a group of humanitarian aid workers were taken hostage in Arsema village. The victims, numbering approximately 17, were employees of Plan International. This incident took place in Arsema village, an area known for instances of hostage-taking perpetrated by Qemant militants. This group is also known for engaging in frequent and intense clashes with riot dispersal forces in the area. The humanitarian workers were present in the area to provide treatment related to the recent cholera outbreak in West Gonder Zone.

### **Kinfaz-Begela Woreda**

- On April 1st, intense fighting erupted in Silare town between Fano and regime forces, beginning early in the morning.

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- The Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder’s Gondere-Begashaw and Nisir-Belessa Divisions jointly launched a coordinated offensive against regime forces. Regime forces sustained significant casualties during the engagement. Civilians were also killed during the course of the battle. Regime reinforcements attempting to reach Silare to aid entrapped units were ambushed by the Gondere-Begashaw Division at Weyra-Ber resulting in significant casualties.
  - Following heavy losses among regime forces, a drone attack was conducted on Silare town. There were reportedly two separate drone strikes. More than 33 people were confirmed killed as a result of these strikes, which occurred in the center of Silare town. It is believed that the primary objective of the drone strikes was to facilitate the rescue or extraction of the entrapped administrator and colonel.
  - The Fano ambush resulted in heavy casualties for regime forces, with more than 50 regime joint forces killed or critically injured by Fano forces and an additional 10 regime soldiers were captured by the Fano with all of their military equipment. The regime’s campaign leader was reportedly among the killed combatants. A colonel and the administrator of the Kinfaz-Begela Woreda were also reportedly surrounded by the Fano. On the Fano side, there were 5 reported casualties.

### **Tach-Armachiho Woreda**

- On April 1st, heavy weapons shelling took place in Maynegar and Dogaw Kebeles. Beginning at 1 am local time, regime forces deployed from Maserodenb town initiated a barrage of artillery fire into the area. There was no reported response from Fano forces during the shelling. After the period of heavy weapons fire, regime forces withdrew back to Maserodenb town.

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## **Gonder-Zuriya Woreda**

- On April 1st, intense fighting erupted in Maksegnit town between Fano forces and regime forces. The conflict began at 1 am local time and primarily centered around the Ugad and high school villages throughout the morning. The fighting lasted for a total of five hours.
- Between April 1st and 2nd, intense fighting has been reported between Fano and regime forces around the Megech reservoir and spread to the Ayra area. During the fighting, Fano forces ambushed a group of regime forces in the Megech area who were moving towards the battle zone. In this ambush, 12 regime soldiers were killed. Their bodies were subsequently buried in the Megech area where they fell.

## **Tegede Woreda**

- On April 3rd, intense fighting erupted between Fano and regime forces in Segalo, Addisalem, and Qiraqir town.
  - The fighting involved the Gobbe Melke Division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder) and the 78th ENDF army division. The conflict began in the early morning, initiated by Fano forces at 12 am local time. The fighting persisted until 4:30 pm local time that evening. The Fano forces successfully seized control of both Segalo and Addisalem. The Tera Brigade encircled remaining regime forces in Qiraqir town. Regime reinforcements have been deployed from Dansha and Humera towns. Meanwhile, the Wagshum Brigade, led by Arbegna Chayna, took control of Segalo town.
  - During the engagement, regime forces sustained significant casualties. A large number of regime soldiers were killed in Segalo and Addisalem towns; the majority of regime forces stationed in those towns were reportedly killed by the Fano. The remaining soldiers retreated to Qiraqir town. The Fano forces



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also seized a significant amount of weaponry, including both heavy weapons and small arms, throughout the engagements.

- Fighting between Fano and regime forces which began on April 3rd escalated on April 4th Spreading to various locations within the woreda.
  - The fighting involved the regime’s 78th ENDF army division and the Wawa Gobbe Division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder). In particular, a fierce engagement took place in Sheni Kebele, commencing in the early morning hours of April 4th.
  - During this battle, regime forces sustained significant casualties. The Fano forces reportedly seized a substantial amount of weaponry, including a light machine gun. In the fighting in Sheni town near Segalo town over 15 regime soldiers were killed.
  - Following this engagement, regime forces reportedly retaliated against the civilian population by killing three individuals (civilians). Two of the victims were farmers, who were executed and their bodies were left on the main street. The third victim was a bajaj driver, who was tied with rope inside his bajaj, and then the bajaj along with the driver were doused in benzene and set ablaze, causing him to be burned alive.

### **Lay-Armachiho Woreda**

- On April 5th, Fano forces successfully regained control of Janikaw town, a sub-woreda within Lay Armachiho Woreda. The fighting was undertaken by the Tekezze Division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder). During the operation, the Fano seized over 15 weapons from the retreating regime forces and inflicted heavy casualties, with more than 25 regime soldiers sustaining injuries.

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## West Gonder Zone

### Metemma Woreda

- On March 30th, intense fighting occurred between Fano forces and regime forces in the Humer area. The engagement primarily involved the use of heavy weaponry, with both sides employing heavy machine guns, mortars and ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns.
- On the night of April 2nd, a significant number of newly graduated riot dispersal forces, recently deployed to Kokit town, deserted their posts.
  - The defectors were largely composed of women and youths who had been forcibly recruited and subjected to military training. Crucially, these youths, many of whom were daily laborers abducted by regime forces in Metemma Woreda, were assigned to military operations within the woreda. Taking advantage of their familiarity with the area, a substantial number of these riot dispersal forces defected. This mass defection of what the OPP regime believed to be reliable forces has sent shockwaves through the party's ranks, undermining their strategy to contain the Fano military expansion.
  - Furthermore, on April 1st, over 21 riot dispersal forces and regular soldiers defected to the Fano forces in Shinfa and its surrounding areas. In Tach Armachiho Woreda, located in Central Gonder Zone, numerous newly deployed riot dispersal forces also defected to the Fano, bringing their full military equipment with them. This influx of trained personnel and equipment from the regime has significantly bolstered Fano forces.
  - Similarly, in South Gonder Zone, 21 riot dispersal forces and soldiers defected to the Fano on the night of April 1st, followed by two additional defections on April 2nd, bringing the total to 23.

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- Adding to the internal turmoil, the regime’s regular army launched a surprise attack against riot dispersal forces who were traveling in formation in Debre-Tabor city, resulting in numerous casualties among riot dispersal forces. The attack was conducted on April 2nd. This unexpected assault has sparked outrage within the riot dispersal forces’ ranks, leading to a mass defection of a large contingent in all four directions surrounding Debre-Tabor city. Many of these defectors left with their full military equipment. It is believed that the regular army launched the attack out of distrust, suspecting that the riot dispersal forces were planning to defect from their posts. This escalating mistrust and internal conflict within the regime’s forces is expected to further destabilize their position and strengthen the Fano.
  - On the night of April 3rd, two entire ganta (units) of newly trained and assigned riot dispersal forces defected to the Fano forces in Metemma-Yohannes town. The defectors brought with them two heavy weapons, and all of the riot dispersal forces also carried small arms that had been issued to them by the regime for conducting military operations. These riot dispersal forces were recently graduated and deployed to various parts of the Amhara Region with the intention of combating Fano forces. This defection represents a significant setback for the regime’s military operations.
  - On April 6th, intense fighting occurred between Fano forces and regime forces in Aysega, Shewaferaw, and Tumet Kebeles.
    - Fighting was carried out by the Karamara Division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder). The engagement primarily involved the use of mortar fire from both sides. Regime forces also deployed ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns during the engagement. The duration of the fighting was relatively short.
    - While the exact casualties sustained by regime forces remain unknown,

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sources reported three Fano fighters sustaining minor physical injuries, primarily caused by shrapnel from mortar rounds.

### **Qwara Woreda**

- On April 4th, a fierce battle took place between Fano and regime forces in Aysega Kebele.
  - The Fano forces initiated a surprise offensive against regime forces at 10 pm local time in the afternoon, resulting in significant casualties for the regime. A large contingent of regime forces, transported by numerous heavy military trucks and en route to Delego town, was ambushed. The Fano forces, having received advance intelligence about the regime's movements, had strategically positioned themselves in Aysega. As soon as the regime convoy entered their range, the Fano launched a surprising and devastating attack. The Fano forces unleashed a barrage of heavy and small arms fire upon the regime troops, inflicting a large number of casualties (though a precise count remains unavailable), with soldiers killed or critically injured. The military trucks also sustained substantial damage. Following the initial attack, the fighting devolved into close-quarters combat, eventually extending into Tumet town. This phase of the engagement involved the use of heavy weaponry such as ZU-23 anti-aircraft guns, heavy machine guns, and mortars, in addition to small arms. The regime forces evacuated numerous injured soldiers to Shinfa hospital using FSR trucks.
  - Due to heavy rainfall in the area, the bodies of deceased regime soldiers remained uncollected even on April 5th. It has been reported that high-ranking military commanders and campaign leaders were killed during the initial surprise attack. The Karamara Division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder) is credited with conducting this particularly fierce ambush. The

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regime forces, having suffered heavy losses, were compelled to abandon their mission to Delego town and retreated back to Shinfa.

- Following this significant setback, regime forces reportedly retaliated against the civilian population, killing five civilians and injuring another with no involvement in the fighting. An entire family was targeted including a husband, his wife, and their children, who were all killed with only one family member surviving with critical injuries.

## **North Gonder Zone**

### **Dabat Woreda**

- On the night of March 31st, intense fighting erupted between Fano and regime forces in Dabat town.
  - The Nahusenay Brigade (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder's Gondere-Begashaw Division) spearheaded the military campaign. The battle commenced at 1 pm local time and continued throughout the night, lasting until 12 pm local time. A considerable amount of damage was inflicted on government institutions, including the courthouse, during the fighting. The regime forces were ultimately forced to retreat towards Gedebye town. Concurrently, fierce fighting also took place in Dequa and Tensye Kebeles. The fighting in these kebeles continued on April 1st.
  - More than 14 regime soldiers, including high-ranking military officers, were killed in the engagement. A significant number of additional soldiers were also injured by Fano forces. Furthermore, five high-ranking political cadres and security personnel were taken prisoner by the Fano. In these engagements, Fano forces sustained fatalities.

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- On the night of April 2nd, a significant number of prisoners escaped from the Dabat town prison center. While the exact number of escapees remains unspecified, some were apprehended during their attempted escape. This marks the second instance of prisoners escaping from the Dabat prison, with a previous escape occurring during intense fighting in Dabat town on April 1st.
  - On April 2nd, fierce fighting erupted between Fano forces and regime joint forces in Weqin, Shimela, and Mereba Kebeles. The fighting involved the Chenna Division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder). The fighting, which lasted throughout the night, resulted in over 16 casualties among police and militia forces. A police inspector was among those killed. The town of Weqin was the site of particularly intense combat.

#### **Telemt Woreda**

- On April 2nd, Fano forces engaged regime forces in fierce fighting in Addisalem Kebele. The fighting was undertaken by the Dib-Telemt Division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder) near Maygaba town. As a result of sustained fighting, the Fano regained control of Zerima town, located in Adarkay Woreda, on April 3rd.

#### **Adarkay Woreda**

- On April 5th, widespread and intense fighting occurred between Fano and regime forces across multiple locations within North Gonder Zone.
  - The offensive attacks in these areas were spearheaded by the Dib-Telemt-Tekezze Division (part of the Amhara Fano Unity in Gonder's Ras Amoraw Wubneh Corps). Key areas of conflict included the Gubo mountain region near Zerima town, the border area surrounding the Waldebba

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monastery, particularly along the Zerima river, and Addisalem town.

- Across all fighting zones, regime forces sustained significant losses. The Fano forces reported the following casualties and captures: 43 joint forces killed, 21 joint forces critically injured, and 17 forces taken prisoner. Additionally, they reported seizing 62 small arms, one heavy machine gun, and over 400 rounds of ammunition from regime forces.

## **Addis-Ababa City**

- On April 5th, prisoners of conscience from Kilinto prison issued a message regarding the national dialogue process.<sup>10</sup>
  - The message emphasizes that the atrocities committed against the Amhara people by the transitional government in 1983 EC (1991 GC), and the subsequent consequences, should not be allowed to repeat under the guise of the National Dialogue in 2025.
  - The message asserts to both the Ethiopian people and the international community that the current national consultation process, which is being conducted with the intent to mislead the international community and gain political advantage amid the current crisis faced by the Amhara people, will not be accepted. This rejection applies to both the process and its anticipated outcome.
  - Furthermore, the message warns all relevant parties not to overlook or ignore this issue.
- On April 1st, 13 suspects accused of terrorism in connection with a security breach that occurred in Amhara Region were sentenced to four to six years in prison.

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<sup>10</sup>See April 5, 2025 [report](#) from *Ethiopian Media Services* (EMS).

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- In a hearing, the Constitutional and Terrorism Cases Chamber of the Federal High Court, Lideta Division, sentenced the young Zena Hailu to six years, Andualem Ashagre, Alem Hulutena and Fikadu Mengiste to five years and six months.
  - Aweke Sinshaw, Manaye Ayele, Abraham Melkamu and Wubet Akal were sentenced to four years and ten months, and Gete Amenu to four years and five months.
  - On the other hand, Ermias Mekuria, Melkale Khemal and Yilma Bezabih were sentenced to four years in prison, while Ms. Kidist Kebede was sentenced to two years in prison and to be released with two years sentence from prison.
  - It was noticed that the whereabouts of the detainees who were sentenced in this court hearing have been unknown over the last four months. It is worth remembering that months later, Federal Police found them committing a horrific act in the Oromia Special Forces Camp in Gelan sub-city.
  - At that time, the fact that the suspect identified as Kidist Kebede had an abortion after being beaten during interrogation was also in the news for a long time.<sup>11</sup>
- The regime has continued to detain youths from Addis-Ababa city without any formal charges or court proceedings.
    - As of April 2nd, it has been over a month and fifteen days since six youths were abducted by members of the Republican Guard and security forces wearing red berets. Since the day of the abduction, they have not been presented before a court. Some of the detained youths have reported that they held political positions or were involved in leadership roles previously.

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<sup>11</sup>See April 2, 2025 [report](#) from Ethio Focus News.



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- The following individuals are among those whose whereabouts remain unknown:
    1. Genet Arage
    2. Kiflom Habtie
    3. Amanuel Yemanebirhan
    4. Surafel Biruk
    5. Sebsbie Alemu
    6. Abel Alemneh
  - On April 4th, opposition party Balderas party issued a statement of condolence regarding the deaths of over 60 innocent civilians in the Amhara Region.<sup>12</sup>
    - The statement emphasized that all wars, regardless of scale, must comply with internationally recognized laws of war.
    - Balderas condemned the suffering endured by innocent Amhara people in the ongoing conflict between the ruling party and Fano forces, highlighting the use of drones, heavy artillery, and infantry by regime forces. The party cited the massacre in Merawi as an example of these brutal actions. The statement also condemned the massacre of at least 60 civilians in South Gonder and North Mecha district on March 31st.
    - In its statement, the party called for the following actions regarding ongoing killings of civilians in the conflict:
      - \* All responsible parties must ensure justice for innocent people killed by the regime.
      - \* The Prosperity regime should immediately withdraw its forces from the Amhara Region and focus on securing the country's borders.

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<sup>12</sup>See April 4, 2025 [statement](#) from *Balderas for True Democracy* (Balderas) Party.

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- \* Balderas urged all Ethiopians to oppose the regime peacefully, rather than accepting violence and death.

## **North Shewa Zone (Oromia Region)**

### **Wara-Jarso Woreda**

- On April 5th numerous civilians were abducted from a passenger bus by militants in an area between Gohatsion and Tulumilik.
  - The abduction was carried out at around 9 am when the bus traveling from Bahir-Dar to Addis-Ababa city. It is reported that passengers were killed and injured during the shooting, and the kidnappers took the survivors into the forest. However, the number of passengers killed in the attack remains unconfirmed. The *Tata* bus was also severely damaged in the attack.
  - This area has been a hotspot for repeated kidnappings, often attributed to OLA militants. However, there has not been any official statement from regime political/military officials nor has any action been taken regarding the kidnappings.
  - Two weeks prior, passengers in a bus were taken hostage in an area between Fiche and Gohatsion towns. It is reported that OLA militants, demanded up to 1.5 million birr per hostage for their release.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>13</sup>See April 5, 2025 [report](#) from Meseret Media.

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## 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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