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REPORT 51

December 2019

Human Rights Abuses in Ethiopia: return to 1992

The killings and detention of OLF supporters since December 2018 is similar to 1992-3 when thousands were killed and scores of thousands detained and tortured. The current silence about killings and other abuses is eerily reminiscent of that time, when foreign powers propped up the regime of Meles Zenawi and ignored widespread atrocities. This report is a summary of information received by OSG since June 2019. OSG's reporter in Norway has forwarded social media and other reports, including a report from *Gadado*, an organisation of human rights defenders in Ethiopia, prominent in sending information in the 1990s.

This report includes information about 64 extra-judicial killings and the arbitrary detention of over 1400 Oromo. Most were suspected supporters of the Oromo Liberation Front, which officially returned to Ethiopia in September 2018 and is now a legal political party, registered for the 2020 election. Another 150 were reported killed in Sidama zone, SNNPR.

Once again, an Ethiopian leader is awarded international recognition while troops under his control are committing atrocities which contravene human rights law and would be classed as war crimes in a state of conflict.

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FINFINNEE/ADDIS ABABA AND CENTRAL OROMIA

Killings

Eskender Tsega, a 2nd year student of Public Administration and Development at Ambo University, W Showa, was killed by EPRDF forces on 13 June (reported 2 July).

Asheber Abdulahi, Magna kebele, Challe district, Arsi zone, was killed by government soldiers on 19 July, because he was suspected of supporting the OLF (reported 5 August).

Also reported 5 August, **Abebe Jifar**, aged 20, from Bake Ofu kebele, Cobi district, W Shoa, was killed by government soldiers on 2 August 'being suspected OLF supporter'. His father was detained in Senkele military camp, near Ambo, W Showa, for two months before Abebe was killed.

The deaths of three women in Senkele Police Training Camp were reported on 5 August: Ms **Kamaru Isa** and Ms **Badri**, from Ashufa kebele, Qondala district, W Wollega, died on 24 July because they were denied food and water.

Ms **Samira Adem** was tortured, beaten and killed in Senkele military camp on 25 July. She had been abducted from Dembi Dollo town in W Wollega, 'some months' previously.

Arbitrary arrest and detention

About 800 Oromo Liberation Army members (OLF fighters) voluntarily disarmed in January 2019, believing they were protected by traditional leaders, Abba Gadas. They were taken to Tolay Military Camp in Bale. On 6 June (reported ten days later), the following OLA members were transferred to Senkele Police Training Camp near Ambo, W Showa, where they faced 'heavy harassment':

Abate Tagese Beri Mekonnen Adisu Ulfina Kefyalew Megersa Dawut Adem Taera Mati Abiyot Tefera Abdulsemed Ali Melkiyas Legesu Jibril Shiferaw Roba Marama

Shafe Mustafa

Roba Marama
Tamam Usman

According to a report received on 16 June, seven Oromo women were arrested on 10 June, following their peaceful demonstration outside the US Embassy in Addis Ababa, the previous day. Five were named:

Ayantu Melaku Bilisuma Bilisuma Mengesha

Derartu Kelbessa Chaltu Asfaw

It was reported on 2 July that 15 year-old Jamila Kurkure, who has been detained in Shashemane, S Showa, for two years - and therefore initially detained at the age of 13 - appeared in court in Shashemane and was sentenced to 10 years in prison. Her father, Kurkure Kabato, was detained at the same time in 2017 and taken to Tolay military camp, where he was mistreated and died around the end of March (p. 9, below).

The following were arrested in Meta District, W Showa, on 14 June (reported 16 June), 'being suspected OLF supporters':

Ketema Bedhasa Gelan Sharo Berhanu Zewde Shelema Alemu Geremew Neguse Teru Besha

Demese Qile Adugna Abro Dereje Asefa Ms Ayane Hailu



Lelise Mekonnen (left) was first detained in the 3rd Police Station, Addis Ababa, on 10 June (OSG Report 50, p.8). Following application by her father, the district court released her on bail on 17 June. She was arrested on leaving the 3rd Police Station and immediately taken to the 2nd Police Station. Her father told BBC Afan Oromo that she was being forced to stand at night and was

prevented from sleeping. Her case had not been submitted to court by the time of reporting on 2 July.

Dhaqabo Wariyo (right), in his seventies, from Arsi, was detained for the 43rd time since 1991 on 24 June

(reported 2 July). It was reported on 7 July that although he was released from Qilinto prison in only 2018 he had now been taken to Shashemane prison. His son, Tesfaye Dhaqabo, was detained at the same time.



Gada Beyene was arrested in Garba Guracha town, Selale Kuyu district, N Showa, on 22 June 'being a suspected OLF supporter' (reported 2 July).



On 3 and 7 July, it was reported that Melka Qinati (left), an Oromo with Australian nationality and a community leader, was taken to an unknown place by police from Addis Ababa on 30 June. He was later taken to Senkele camp, from where he was later released.

Also taken on 30 June (reported 7 July), Adugna Gurmesa was detained in Senkele camp and training centre, in place of his brother, who was suspected to be a member of the OLF army (OLA).

A report on 5 August included the detention of the following on 6 July:

Midhagso Gurmu, Abba Gadaa from Mojo

Iftiyom Hirkisa, from Adama

Ebrahim Roba (artist), Karayu

Husein Boru, Karayu

Boru Bosat, Karayu

Mekonnen Galashe, teacher, Maqi

Midhagso Turo, Maqi

Abiti Dhume, Batu

Jabir Ahmed, Bosat district, Bole

Mohammed Keder, Bosat district, Bole

In the same report was the detention of OLF member Moha Abdisa from his home in Ambo town at 10.00 a.m. on 21 July.

On 24 July, according to *Voice of America* radio, over 500 were arrested in Ambo and elsewhere in W Showa. The following were named in the 5 August report to OSG,

from Ilfata:

Gamachu Dhaaba Baqala Harsho

Galaye Gudisa

Mrs Warqitu Fana Mrs Gadise Haacaalu Favisa Abdata Wayuma Ararsa Kabada Nagassa Tadasa Nagassa Lalisa Dhuguma Lachisa Olqaba Abdisa Olqaba Bagana Taasu Biranu Bagana

from Chobi district:

Warkina Mirkana Shumi Dhaba Mekonnen Dhaba Hordofa Havu Kafana Guta Shumi Dirriba Gudisa Dirriba

Dasgara Darara Mrs Shawu Dame Mrs Dirrime Dame Caala Irreesso Tamiru Caala Bashana Tolassa Mrs Lomitu Jamama Mrs Tadalu Ararsa Kisa Calchisa Fakada Kafana Baca Fayisa

Abdisa Mamo Xarfa Homa Hunde Dirriba Waquma Akuma Tolasa Lelisa Tolasa Nagassa

Galana

Shugi Badhadha Gizachu Kafana Caala Lachisa Mrs Mulu Tadasa Mrs Shalame Ababa Mrs Lalise Ababa Mrs Caaltu Lameessa Mrs Xayitu Hirkisa Mrs Calchise Fayisa Shantu Dajane Bashana

Dajane Ababa Humnesa Hirphasa Tarafa Gutama Misgana Adunya Adunya Lata Birqi Diro

Rabira and Lami (right), of Ginchi town, W Showa, weren 'kidnapped by EPRDF security forces on 4 August being suspected OLF supporters' (24 Sept).

Professor Beyene Ruda was taken from his house in Fiche town, Selale, N Showa, on 9 August. He has been detained on numerous occasions since 1991 (reported 12 August; also, see p.6).





Girma Bekele (right) was abducted by security forces from Shiro Meda, Finfinnee/Addis Ababa on 6 August because he was suspected of supporting the OLF.



Lencho Abu (left), an OLF member, was taken by security forces in Finfinnee/Addis Ababa on 27 August.

150 of the 6000 Oromo civilian detainees, from all over Oromia Region, who had been held since June in Senkele camp, W Showa, were transferred to an unknown place on 28 August, according to information received on 23 September.





Five university graduates (right) were taken from their shared home in the Gerji area of Finfinnee at 10.00 p.m. on 5 September, according to a report sent two days later by the Oromia News Network (ONN). They were journalists who reported for Sagalee Qeerroo Bilisuma (Voice of Youth for Freedom) and were a key source of information on human rights abuses since 2011 and the student protests since 2015. (continued overleaf)

Bikila Amenu, Abdisa Gutata, Gada Bulti, Firomsa Bekele and Adugna Keso were stripped and beaten before being taken away. Gada Bulti had only recently been released after three months in detention and Adunya Keso was released one year ago after three years of imprisonment. The five were arraigned in court on unsubstantiated terrorism charges on 3 October. Next day, *Amnesty International* called for their unconditional release.

The following were reported on 23 September to have been held near the old Maikelawi complex, Addis Ababa/Finfinnee for up to 8 months by that date:

Col Gamachu Ayana 7 m Wedajo Melkamu 8 m Kayo Fufa (OLF central committee) 4 m Gadaa Roba 4 m Abebe Mamo 4 m Bulchisa Belay 2 m Lemi Qana'a 3 m Falmata Bati 2 m

Fayera Mokonnen 3 m Moha Abdisa 2 m (see above)
Fikiru Desse 7 m Getu/Getahun Tamene 4 m
Amanuel Bekata 7 m Ephreim Eyasu 3 m

Tolera Aga 5 m

Lilisa Fekadu 5 m

Abdi Dhaba 5 m

Dawit Mulu 5 m

Abdi Bogale 1 m

Amanuel Ejigu 5 m

Usuman Hasan 5 m

Six of the above were also in a report on 26 September naming another 39 detainees at the Third (Sostegna) Police Station, neighbouring the notorious and now disused Maikelawi detention facility. They had been held for up to 5 months by the time of the report:

Ana Bayisa Tekalegn Merdasa Adugna Keso* Ashebir Beri Gada Bulti* Abubeker Abdalla Gadisa Negasa Chala Usmael Firomsa Bekele* Biqila Amenu* Chala Bayisa Robera Avana Prof. Beyene Ruda (p.5) Abdisa Gutata* Sadik Kalifa Falmata Girma Abu Lema Kebede Hitata Abdi Kuma Merga Guta Girma Bekele Qalkidan Getachew Tariku Abdisa Ararsa Bacha Mesfin Belete Burga Kumera Zerhun Adugna

Dereje Degefe Yadesa Yosef Ijo Fite

Faraja Getachew Mathos Embalu Yadessa Getachew

Lelisa Tolesa Dawit Shiramu

Getachew Bekele Gadisa Daniel * see top paragraph

Abshiru Kedir Gemechu Hailu

Colonel Gamachu Ayana (listed above in report of 23 September) was reported to have been transferred to Kilinto detention facility in a communication received on 29 November.

Gadado reported on 30 November that three of the 39 detainees reported in the Third Police Station on 26 September, Sadik Kalifa, Chala Usmael and Abshiru Kedir, remained in detention and were rumoured to have been transferred secretly to another location.

When government security forces broke into the OLF office in Inchinni town, Ada Berga district, W Showa, at 11.00 p.m. on 19 September,



they destroyed the office equipment and abducted the office employee, Jiksa Abdeta (above), whose location was still not known when the incident was reported to OSG one week later.





Two sisters (left) were abducted when taking part in the Irreecha Peace Race in Finfinnee on 22 September. The location of Fenet and her sister was not known when the abduction was reported on 26 September.

Falmata Merge (right) was taken by security forces in Finfinnee/Addis Ababa on 23 September. His location was unknown when reported three days later.

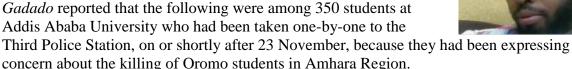




On 29 October, OSG received a report of the detention of journalists of the *Oromia News Network*. Yazew Kebebew (former *ONN*

manager) and Ifa Gammachu (left) and several colleagues were arrested in the capital.

Ketinboni Bulicha (right) celebrated Irreecha in October by wearing Oromo flags on his clothes. He was taken from his home in the Burayu area of Finfinnee and was reported on 30 November (*Gadado*) to have disappeared in custody.



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Obsa Abdisa*
Amanti Fikiru*
Milkesa Waqwoya
Nageso Kadir
Yoo'el Abaya
Diriba Tolosa
Isaayas Bagosa
Leensa Warqu*
Dabala Desalegne
Dereje Kumara
Lalisa Tola
Bontu Abebe



Obsi Bekuma Isqeel Abara Sisaynesh Qabata Meskerem Masfin Olana Gamachu Abdulqadir Siraj Maria (Milki) Tajure Jawaro Nagao Caala Kafalo* Kena Saqata*

* photo below









Photographs at the bottom of p.7, from left to right, students Kena Saqata, Leensa Warqu and Obsa Abdisa; and students being held in Kolfe police compound.

Amanti Fikiru and Caala Kafalo are shown left.

Two university students from Wollega, Burka Kumera (far right) and Firaol Indalu (near right) were reported to have

been detained in Finfinnee/Addis Ababa by *Gadado* on 30 November. They had been visiting family in the capital. Police defied the Lideta Court's decision to release them and the two remain in detention.



AMHARA REGION

Killings and attacks on students

The besieging of Oromo students at Debre Behan University was reported in OSG Report 50, (p.9). Further information was received on 16 June that attacks by Amhara groups had begun on 2 June and students had been unable to move around the campus even to obtain food from the cafeteria. Some went 3-4 days without food. Attempts to leave were met with beatings but eventually the students escaped on 7 June.

Usman Muse, from Chaffa town, Artuma Fursi district, Wollo, was **killed** by Amhara Region forces on 20 September (reported 23 September).

Seife Nebelbal News Agency, in a report received 15 November, recorded the killing of two students at Waldia University, Wollo.

Hussein Amin, (right) a student from Bale zone, was **killed** by Amhara students on 9 November.

Shambal Alamu, from Arsi zone, was **killed** between 9-12 November, and the following Oromo students were injured and required medical care:

Umar Abdi, from Hararge

Musxafa Ahmas, Social Sciences student, from Hararge

Dhaaba Hassen, Social Sciences, Borana

Fikiru Tasfa, Sport

Natol Gutama, Social Sciences, from Ambo, W Showa

Balle Ahmed, Social Sciences

Bayesa Nagase, Natural Science, Ambo

Abuu Korme, English Language, Showa

Lalissa Gadisa, Geography, Ambo

Dawit Lata, Natural Science, Wollega

It was reported on 15 November that *Voice of America* radio had broadcast news of attacks on students from Oromia Region at Gonder University. Amhara Region militia, responding to information received from Amhara classmates, attacked Oromo students in their dormitories and eating areas, forcing them to abandon lectures.



On 17 November, **Idosa Dabala** (left), an Oromo 2nd year Agriculture student at the Desse campus of Wollo University, was **beaten to death**.

Gadado reported, 30 November, the beating on 17 November of two students at Bahar Dar University, including Nuradin Taye, from Ghimbi, W Wollega. Both students required hospital treatment. On the same day, 17

November, Ahmed Mohamed (right), an Oromo student from Meeson, Hararge, was taken by uniformed men from his dormitory at Debre Markos University, Gojjam, and disappeared in custody.

Next day, 18 November, Simbo and Gamada (shown below right), two students at Injibara University, Gojjam province, were beaten and wounded.







Oromo students (far left) who have been forced out from university campuses in Amhara Region were temporarily gathered at Laga Tafo in Finfinnee/Addis Ababa on 24 November, according to *Gadado* six days later.

Arbitrary arrest and detention

In Wollo, Amhara Region authorities arrested many Oromo on 10 June (reported 16 June). from Jille Dhumuga District:

Hassan Ali (Deputy Administrator) Ali Yimer (police officer) Mohammed Ame Umer Abdu Umer Hassan Mohammed Daraso

from Caffaa District:

Ahmed Ebrahim (District Administrator)
Mame Aliyi (District Security Director)
Ebrahim Aliyi (Security Officer)
Fayera Wojira (District Finance Manager)
Gudeta (District Indent Manager)
Husein Ali Afare (Kebele Administrator)

Adem Abdu

Ahmed Mohammed (kebele security)

Umer Kabir Aduro Abdu Muhe Adem Umer Adam Aliyi Ahmed Hussein Haji Usman Hassan Bayan Bushura Mohammud Bekele Mohammed Ahmed Sawali

Yayo Ahmed
Hasan Jibril (kebele security)
Adem Husein Mohammed
Husein Mohammed (police officer)
Tilahun (police officer)
Mahamud Muhe (Serbo kebele security)
Mohammed Usuman
Mohammed Husein Mohammed (kebele security)
Asu Ahmed Bedru
Aliyi Ebre

Ahmed Yimam Saed Mohammed Saed Muhe

Muhe Saed Fule Hasan Umer

from Kemise town:

Ali Motuma (Kemise town Mayor)

Saed Hasan Mohammed Kalil Abas

Ebrahim Ali

Saed Ebrahim

Gonfe Husein Hasan

Nuru Ahmi

Mohammed Dawe

Meles

Husein Saed Umer Hasan Adem Aminu Abdu Ahmed

Gadado reported on 30 November that the following were among the Oromo students at Waldia University, Wollo, who were taken to an unknown location on 25 November:

Taresa Balcha, 2nd yr Political Science Dagafa Ababa, 2nd yr Political Science Awol Irree, 2nd yr Political Science Ashenafi Tasfa, 4th yr Engineering Ararsa Balo, 3rd yr Art Daraje Tasfaye, 3rd yr Art Getahun Katama, 5th yr Engineering Dawit Karayu, 3rd yr Philosophy Kamal Fayiso, 3rd yr Biotechnology Dingata Workine, 3rd yr Pedagogy

EASTERN OROMIA REGION

Killings

Kurkure Kabato was detained at the same time as his daughter Jamile Kurkure was detained in Shashemane, S Showa, in 2017. His daughter was sentenced to 10 years in prison (p.3



above). Kurkure, was taken to Tolay military camp, where he was mistreated and **died** three months before the report on 2 July.

Mother of two, **Yaquta Ahmed** (left), was killed by soldiers when going to buy breakfast for her children on 19 June in Dire Dawa, E Hararge. Her body was left on the street (reported 2 July).

Hamdi Mohammed, aged 13, was killed by security forces in Dire Dawa on 21 August (reported 23 September).

Arbitrary arrest and detention

It was reported on 5 August that OLA commander for SE Zone, Mogolbus Dina, was arrested 7 months previously when he attended a negotiation meeting with Oromo elders in Dhera kebele, Goba district, Bale zone, with 18 of his troops. They were surrounded by heavily armed government soldiers. Three of them were reported to have been taken to an unknown place. The other 16 are held in Goba police station, where they are reported to be 'facing torture and harassment'.

WESTERN OROMIA

Killings

On 14 June (reported 2 July), businessman **Wondemu Dembi**, was beaten and killed by government soldiers in Babo Gambel town, W Wollega. Also that day **Kasa Nagaho** was severely beaten and taken to hospital in Finfinnee but **died** on 20 June.



Solomon Jawane (left) was killed by government forces in Ghimbi town, W Wollega, in the evening of 15 June.

On 17 June, **Jalata Habtamu** was killed at his mobile phone shop in Dembi Dollo, W Wollega after complaining about soldiers taking phones from his shop. He was shot, disembowelled, his body disfigured with

knives and left on the street in front of his shop (reported 2 July).

At 4.00 am on 17 June, soldiers surrounded the home of farmer **Bikila Lamesa Nagaho** in Homi, Melka Ebicha kebele, Babo Gambel district, W Wollega. They called him to come out from his bed and shot him dead at his gate, in front of his wife and two children (reported 19 June and 2 July).

On the same day, 17 June, farmer **Shifa Irandhufa** was beaten and killed when on his way to market at Babo Gambel (reported 2 July).

Four civilians were shot dead by government soldiers in Shimala town, Gawo Qebbe District, Qellem, W Wollega, on 19 June (reported that day):

Netsanet Ligaba Abdulaziz Sheik Imam Haji Ahmed Sule Fami Ahmed

On 20 June (reported 7 July), ten were killed by soldiers in Yaya village, Anfilo district, W Wollega, for supporting the OLF:

Alivi Ahmed, local elder aged 80

Abdu Mohammed (30)

Mohammed Yasin (22)

Mohammed Ebrahim (18)

Sabahim Kula, 10 year-old boy

Chaltu Ebrahim, 20 year-old woman

The bodies of four were thrown into surrounding bush to be eaten by hyenas and vultures:

Hasan Ebrahim.

Abdu Alemu

Megersa Lemi

Dereje Dhuguma

Ebisa Bula, a bajaj (public transport) driver, was killed by government soldiers in Darge area of Nekemte, E Wollega, on 21 June, for being a suspected OLF supporter (reported 2 July).

Four youngsters were killed by soldiers on their way home from church in Mandi town, W Wollega, on 11 July:

Getachew Tesema Kebede Bikila Jiregna Merga Pawlos Kinati

Sheik Adem Aguna, Denta Bille kebele, Sadi Chanka district, W Wollega, was killed on 19 July. Government soldiers shot him dead at his home because he was unable to deliver up his son to them (reported 5 August).

Teenager, **Kule Teferi**, Gombo kebele, Jimma Horo district, W Wollega, was killed by soldiers at his home on suspicion of supporting the OLF, on 1 August (reported 5 August). The same report named two others killed that day in Chalia town, Guliso district, W Wollega: **Lalisa Gebeyehu**, 26 **Ingabu Olani**, teenager

Shuma Lemu, aged 65, Wabara Alchawa Chebel kebele, Dalle district, W Wollega, was killed by soldiers on 2 August 'being suspected OLF supporter' (reported 5 August).

Tolesa Shuma was taken from his home in Bejo Kobicha kebele, Gawo Qebe district of Qellem, W Wollega on 10 August by soldiers who killed him and left his body in the bush because he was suspected of supporting the OLF (reported 12 August). In the same report was the killing of **Fikadu Asefa**, who was taken from his home in Gombo kebele, Horo Jimma district in Qellem on the same day - 10 August - and summarily killed for supporting the OLF.



Yohannis Endalew Etefa (left) was taken from his home in Maru kebele, Guliso district, W Wollega, on 12 August. He was taken to Dilla-Gogola Police Station, from where government soldiers removed him two days later and shot him on the street. His body was thrown in front of the Tesfa Petrol Station in Guliso town (reported 23 September).

Kebena Emana Tucho (right), father of one, was taken from his home at his farm in Maru kebele, Guliso district, W Wollega, on 14 August, and shot dead on his own land, according to a report received on 23 September.





Tariku Abera, a father of one, was taken from his home in Guliso district, W Wollega at 5.30 a.m. on 15 August and removed to Guliso military camp. He disappeared and is believed to have been killed because body parts belonging to **four people** were found by Tariku's brother in the bush surrounding the military camp. Because the bodies had been partly eaten by hyenas, they were not identifiable (reported 23 September).

Gemechu Garomsa (left) was taken from his home in Yubdo district, W Wollega, at 5.00 a.m. on 19 August. He was severely beaten and taken to Ayera District Police Station, where beatings continued until he was taken back to Yubdo by ambulance. He was **beaten to death** and his body thrown in the bush at Melka Qiltu, Yubdo district. Photographs of his mutilated and beaten body were received with the report on 23 September but not published.

Zerehun Emamu was killed by government soldiers at his home in Jajo Atakilti kebele, Dalle Sadi district, Qellem, W Wollega, on 20 August in front of his parents and neighbours (reported 23 September).



Yohannes Getu, Anfilo district, Qellem, W Wollega, was killed by EPRDF soldiers on 24 August 'being suspected OLF supporter' (reported 23 September).

Amad Faris (left), was killed by soldiers at his home in Dalle Wabara district, Qellem, W Wollega on 25 August.

Takele Etana was taken by soldiers from his home in Dembi Dollo at 11 p.m. on 28 August. His dead body was found in surrounding bush by neighbours next day.

Yohannes Shawl, (right) father of seven, was killed by military forces at his home in Halaku Gebriel kebele, Yubdo district, W Wollega, on 10 September 'while his children begged the forces not to kill their father' (reported 23 September).

On 11 September (reported 23 September), **Dingeta Gutema**, teacher and father of six, and 17 yr-old **Abdi Elias** of Chaliya district, W Wollega, were killed by government forces for suspected support of the OLF.

The **killing of two students** (names not reported) at Dembi Dollo University, W Wollega, was reported by *Seife Nebelbal News Agency* on 15 November.



Mohammed Guta

Bashir Mohammed and

Hussein Galalcha, all young men from Dochii, Kollii Carphaa sub-district, Qondala district, Wollega, were killed by government soldiers and their bodies set on fire on 21 November.

The following were **shot dead** in their villages in Alaku Kusaye kebele, Sayyoo sub-district, Qellem, W Wollega on 21 November. Their families were denied a funeral ceremony (*Gadado*, 30 November):

Dawit Ayana Tariku Gamachu Tasama Gutama Yaa'igob Mitiku

Fedhasa Miresa (right) of Sudi kebele, Anfilo, W Wollega, was taken from his home on 23 November and **shot dead** by government soldiers from the local command post. His body was left on the main road (*Gadado*, 30 November).



Next day (24 November), the *Gadado* report continued, a man named Henock was shot and injured and five others, named below, were **shot dead** when resting at their work place, a coffee plantation at Irreessa village, near Mugi town, Anfilo, Qellem, W Wollega:

Gutama Addunya, from Sayo sub-district Admasu Buzayo, from Sayo sub-district Ramate Gamada, Dale Sadi sub-district Mubarek Gala, Mugi town Nuradin Xuruna, Mugi town

Arbitrary arrest and detention

It was reported on 16 June that the following in Guliso District, W Wollega, were arrested in May on suspicion of supporting the OLF:

Adama Waco	Yonata Ganati	Gamachu Ashadu
Admasu Ciracho	Adde Ababu Banti	Tariku Sinbir
Addisu Ciracho	Talila Gamtessa	Qalbessa Qaco
Hanbisu Ciracho	Daraje Waqjira	Abraham Taresa
Adunya Dagafa	Alamu Fufa	Hundasa Bari
Sanbata Sinbira	Melkamu Guttata	Takilu Tadasa
Margo Jalata	Fayasa Ashadu	Amanu Caali
=		

According to a report on 16 June, the following government employees from Qallo town, Ebentu District, E Wollega, were arrested on 6 June because they were OLF supporters: Regassa Wirtu (teacher)

Gemechu Geneti (teacher)

Misgana Beyene (teacher) Gemechu Etecha



Million Gindaba, a local motorcycle taxi driver, was arrested by government soldiers on 11 June, while working in Ghimbi town, W Wollega (reported 16 June).

OMN cameraman Jaladin Abdulqadir (left) was taken to the district military camp by government soldiers when visiting his parents in Begi town, W Wollega, on 14 June. After being tortured there for two months he was transferred to Begi District Police Station, where he remained at the time of reporting on 23 September.

Almaz Gamachu (right) was taken from her office in Nejo, W Wollega, by EPRDF soldiers on 17 June (reported 19 June), because of suspected support for the OLF.

Military rule in Wallega was demonstrated when the Mayor of Nekemte, E Wollega, and five of his colleagues were arrested and detained on 16



June for refusing to denounce the OLF army as bandits and for refusing to encourage the population to protest against the OLF. The Mayor and his colleagues were accused of being OLF supporters (reported 2 July).

Dereje Wondemu (left), a bajaj driver in Ghimbi town, W Wollega, was taken late evening on 17 June as a suspected OLF supporter. He has disappeared in detention (reported 2 July).

In Gawo Qebbe District, Qelem, Wollega, hundreds of Grade 8 students from two schools in Maqi and Shimala Kebeles were expelled from national 8th grade exams on 19 June, on the same day that government soldiers killed four civilians in Shimala town (see above).

On 2 July, it was reported that the following were taken by government soldiers from Babo Gambel district, W Wollega, to Tolay military camp in Bale:

Burga Jombor Fite (Babo Gambel administrator)

Tsadiq Sheik Mohammed

Abebe Tesso (70) - taken in place of his son, a suspected OLF soldier

Kemal Degefu

Umer

Kedir Menzur

Mare Gudina

Ahmed Tadese

Local leader, Aba Gadaa Bashir was detained in Babo Gambel, after being released from Tolay only one month previously.

Even OPDO/EPRDF members Tesfaye Tolosa and Fekede Adisu were detained and tortured by military forces in Babo Gambel.



It was reported on 2 July that Dr Mitiku, Nekemte, E Wollega, a public health expert who has worked at Menelik Hospital in Addis Ababa, was taken to Tolay military camp,

Bale, and then released after about one month, in June. His colleague at Nekemte Hospital, Dr Temesgen Lamesa (left) was taken by soldiers to an unknown place on 20 June.



Also on 20 June, Namuse (above right), in Jimma, SW Oromia, was arrested for the third time by government security forces (reported 2 July).

A wave of arrests, destruction and looting of property, farm animals, bananas, coffee and corn took place on 20 and 21 June across Wollega (reported 2 July) as an attack on suspected OLF supporters. The following were among those detained:

from Haro Limu district:

Temesgen Dhugasa, teacher

Mosisa Shifera, farmer and head of family of 19

Dheresa Aga, farmer and head of family of 15

Yadata Dhuguma, farmer and head of family of 19

Qalbesa Getacho, government agricultural department employee

Namara Tufa, farmer and head of family of 15

Faqada Gamachu, farmer and head of family of 15

Mulugeta Dasale, farmer and head of family of 3

Temesgen Gamachu, farmer

Gamachu Tufa, farmer and head of family of 19

Tola Biratu, 9th Grade student

Diriba Biratu

Gamada Waqwoya, government financial department employee

Gurmesa Adunya, 10th Grade student

at least 5 others

from Dugda Dawa district and Dhuqisa Magada village:

Dabasa Magada Shalala Magada Hanqu Dhadacha

Bali SafoyeDugho XephoIyasu SigeSalil DarasoSalfa DadachaDasta MogoreDhugo WataDawa WataTure DhugoRobe TiseBole GobanaAdola Waqo

Godana Xepho Aga Wata

In the same report to OSG was the detention on 21 June of Dandi Debela, from Nejo town, W Wollega, whose location is unknown, and on 22 June of teacher Shaban Haji Mohammed, who had been detained many times previously.

Gadisa Jalata, a resident of Nekemte, E Wollega (originally from Mana Sibu district, W Wollega) was arrested 'for being suspected OLF supporter' on 24 June. Also reported on 2 July was the arrest of his brother Hika Jalata from Nekemte, on the same day and for the same reason.



On 7 July, it was reported that 60 were detained in Kumsa Moroda Museum in Nekemte, E Wallega on 24 June, including the OFC (Oromo Federalists Congress) central committee member for E Wollega, Fikadu Ayana.

According to a report received on 23 September, over 200 civilians from Nekemte have been held since June in underground cells in Kumsa Moroda Palace, including businessman Dhugasa Mengesha (left).

On 29 June (reported 2 July) a wave of arrests, burning and looting of private property occurred in Jimma zone, SW Oromia Region. The following were arrested,

from Limu Saqa district:

Sultan Aba Bulgu Sheik Shafi Aba Mati Amadin Sultan Atika Aba Zeban

Amadin Shurada Sintayehu (teacher) Dora kebele

Mohammed Sharif Aba Godu Awel Sherifu Surur Sheik Sultan Fuad Aba Gimbar

from Goma district:

Namuse Muhabu Sherif (taken to unknown

Kalid Jabal location)

Mifta Abduselam

from Limu Kosa district & Ambuye town:

Surur Abdulkarim Aniwar Musrefa (civil servant)

Mamush JemalNasir (civil servant)Temam Aba MechaTofik (civil servant)Aklilu TsegachewMs Misirak Aba Megal

Tarin Jihad Ms Isneni Jundi Sabir Musa Ms Roza Jemal Jemal Diga Saman Aba Naga Anwar Temam Shemsu Muzeyin Ahimed Aba Macha (Ambuye town Mayor)

from Mana district:

Yakob Sefudin Fadi Nasir

Abdi Sefudin Abdurazak Aba Raya

Adinan Farid

Michael Fikadu from Nekemte town was detained on 6 July. His location was still unknown when this was reported on 5 August.



The detention of Mamush Aba Qaladi (left) from Nekemte town, E Wollega, on 26 July for 'being suspected OLF supporter' was reported on 5 August.

Also reported on 5 August was the detention on 31 July of Afework Dhugasa, Director of Sayo Gobu preparatory school in Illubabor, and Inahu Deressa, Abba Gadaa of Qiltu Kara district, W Wollega, both for being

suspected supporters of the OLF.



Bilisuma Amante (right), from Shambu town, Horo Guduru, E Wollega, was taken away by government soldiers on 23 August (reported 23 September).

Also reported that day were the following arrests from Guliso district, W Wollega, by security forces on 26 August:

Saamu'el Tumsaa Ibsaa Beka Tariku Banti Tariku Hundeessa. Obsii Atomsa Tamasgen Asfaw Naguma Tafase Abbabech Banti Tafarra Lameessa Irati Mardasa Dawit Gobana Waltaji Karitu Gutata Nagasa Mosisa Figiru Hayilu Gammachu Akalu Baqala Hayilu Ittana Immiru Ayyaansaa Akalu Nagasa Rooba Gutu Samu'el Dirribe Qajeela Iyasu Seda Samu'el Gobana Mokor Oana'a Beekuma Jiraata Obsi Nagasa Caali Galata Baggalee Jiraata Itasha Ayana Yaadata Abshale

The following were arrested in Mana Sibu district, W Wollega, on 27 August (reported 23

September):

Abdi Tadesse Hirpha Jirata Gadisa Abshale Jimalo Tujuba Ahmed Korsa Samuel Mustefa Abaya Bulti Nuradin Haji Hashim Mohammed Abdi Chafule Habibi Abdisa Ephreim Badhasa Mohammed Jemal Ifa Tesfave Shamsadin Mohammed Samuel Asefa Shamsu Abdulqadir Solomon Imeru Demera Girma Jabir Abdulqadir Abebe Teshome Gudeta Adugna Abdu Adam Hashim Musa Abebe Bari Habib Husein Adam Tobo Melkamu Diribi

On 6 September, the following government employees were abducted from Ghimbi Adventist

Hospital, W Wollega, by government soldiers 'being suspected OLF supporters':

Doctor Tamerat Gurmu Pastor Lijalem Gadisa Wakwoya Nabiyu Mamo

Oda Gari (right), 5th year student at Wollega University, Nekemte, E Wollega, was taken by soldiers from the university on 7 September (reported 23 September).



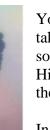
On 8 September, in Harato town, Horo Guduru, E Wollega, teacher Hirkisa Negera, Dirriba Ketema and Takele Tola (left) were arrested by government security forces.

On 18 September (reported 26 September), Waqjira

Tamiru, Lalo Qile district, W Wollega, was shot and injured by government forces and taken to Lalo Qile Police Station, where he remained for two days before being taken to Yubdo hospital.

On 26 September, it was reported that ten women from Ganji district, W Wollega, had been kept in the district military camp for over three months since their arrest, without charge or court appearance. They are named below and some are pictured in their cell right and below right.

Lensa Yasin Adise Mardasa Ebise Tafese Fasika Alemu Shemsiya Adem Werqitu Irandhufa Chaltu Etefa Berhane Etefa Dinqe Abdeta Yenenesh Benti



Youth leader, Mesqelo Badhasa (left), was taken on 20 September by government soldiers from Metu town, Illubabor. His whereabouts was not known at the time of reporting (26 September).

In the same report was the detention

at Mettu Police Station of Belachew Alemu, who had been held for four months.

Nasir Abdurahman, from Dalle Wabara district, W Wollega, was taken to an unknown place by security forces on 21 September (reported 26 September).



In the same report was the detention of the mother (right) of artist Sena Solomon, on 21 September from Gawo Qebe district, Qellem, W Wollega. She was taken because her daughter was believed to have joined the OLF in the bush in Wollega, whereas she is in the USA.

Farmer Marama Negasa, whose farm adjoins Nejo town, W Wollega, was shot and injured by government soldiers entering his property on 22 September (reported 26 September).



Three students at Jimma University (right), SW Oromia Region, were taken from the campus by police on 18 November (*Gadado*, 30 November):
Amanuel Banti, 5th yr Mechanical Engineering







Hussein Abdulkadir, 5th yr Material Science/Engineering Dirriba Ararsa, 4th yr Mechanical Engineering

In Dochii, Kollii Carphaa sub-district, Qondala district, Wollega, where three young men were killed on 21 November (see above), the following farmers were reported by *Gadado* on 30 November to have been tortured and to have no access to treatment for their injuries:

Nasir Abdisa Abdi Abdurahi Shonda Komo Bsabagir Kuburu

Dagim Workineh (right), a teacher in Metu, Illubabor, was reported on 26 September to have been detained on 20 September. He was again taken from work to Metu police station on 22 November. He has been detained many times because of his support for the OLF (*Gadado*, 30 November).



The following six were among at least ten Oromo students at Metu University who were taken into police custody on 25/26 November:

Bayisa Shalama, 1st yr Dawit Admasu, 2nd yr Oromo Language Lalisa Amanu, 4th yr Civil

Lalisa Amanu, 4th yr Civil Engineering Bonsa Kumara (far right), 5th yr Chemical Engineering Gadafa Oliqa, 3rd yr Biology Gadisa Olana (near right),

detained since 18 November





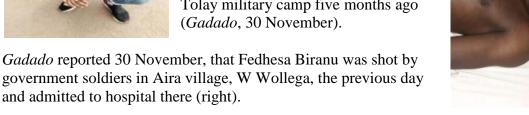


Getahun Rosti, Mandi sub-district in Mana Sibu, W Wollega, was severely beaten by soldiers on 26 November for being a suspected OLF supporter. His right hand is broken and useless.



Motuma Gabayo (left) was taken to an unknown place by police when travelling from Shambu town to attend a funeral in his

home village in Saqala sub-district, Horo Guduru, E Wollega, on 27 November. He has been detained many times and had only been released from Tolay military camp five months ago (*Gadado*, 30 November).





Burning

It was reported on 5 August that properties in Gawo Qebbe district of W Wollega were burnt down on 13 July, belonging to Asfaw Abdisa, Yuya Rashid, Abduraziq Ahmed and Mume Ismael.

SOUTHERN OROMIA

Killings

On 20 June (reported 2 July), teacher **Bariso Jarso**, from Qarca district, W Guji, was killed by soldiers as a suspected OLF supporter.



On 3 August (reported 5 August), at 8.00 a.m., government soldiers shot and killed three innocent civilians in Galessa Soke kebele, Qorcha district, W Guji, named:

Jilo Gamade Usho (30) Berhanu Kifele Bitacha (32) Turni Ware Wadessa (28)

The following civilians in Melka Soda district, W Guji, were killed by government soldiers on 27 August because they were suspected of supporting the OLF:

Bali Adula, teacher Sali Adula, teacher Jilo Ganale, farmer Roba Waqo, farmer Halake Adula, farmer Qalicha Bonaya, farmer

Tadesse Godana (above left), Melka Soda district, Guji zone, was killed by EPRDF soldiers on 22 September. See below, p.23 (reported 23 September).

Arbitrary arrest, detention and shooting

Argachew Jirata, a local official in charge of refuse disposal in Moyale was detained on 22 July 'being suspected OLF supporter' (reported 5 August).

Also reported on 5 August were the 36th episode of detention for Akililu Ordofa and the 44th detention of Dhaqabo Wariyo, on 31 July.

Gadado reported on 30 November that the following had been arrested in Negele Borana town, Guji district, on 25 November for being suspected OLF supporters:

Getahun Magarsa Likasa Figaku Getachu Waqiira Dagafa Gaari Dinka Hailu Lameesa Ifa Gamachu Hika Ifa Danu Gazanyi Badesa Fanta Simeen-Warqi Hussein Sirai Nagasa Gutata Jirata Tasfaye Badhadha Urga'a Bagala Alamayo Amanti Hambisa Jirenya Habtamu Aba Girosari Rodas

Also reported by *Gadado*, 30 November, was an Oromo Radio report that day of the detention of the following 93 people among a total of 111 being held in Harqalo 'police detention centre' in Guji zone, being mistreated because they are suspected OLF supporters (see overleaf)

from Goro Dola Balanbal village:

Mudhi Golu Sultan Xebo Ussen SayidoQasim

Dadhi Dido Gutu Waqo Dhibu

Abulo Gololcha Ware Jedala Yosef Mi'esa
Oda Alaka Goro Dhanqo Yaqobi Goro
Ture Notesa Nadifo Abara Gobana Ganale
Tokore Boru Ebisa Denisho Bekele Hibora
Ute Qilxa Sitina Ahmad Curicha Xaahir

Birbisa Hema Aster Ciri Damise Gololcha Shagitu Dhanqo

in the same area, from Raro Irra village:

Mola Samaro Danbodi Udo Galma Golu

Tuta Roba Nagesa Udo

from Nura Humba village:

Siraj Agafari Jamal Malo Sultan Dade Mahmad Jima Ganale Heba Bilo Guye Abdi Agafari Gamba Udessa Neguse Culuqe

Gumi Godana Dhadacha Safayi

from Muco village:

Getu Gamada Awaliya Xaahir Tamiru Hibora Takala Galchu Hibora Magado Hussein Boru Nagesa Dhadacha Ayala Hibora Siyad Isaaq

Bati Nagessa Mi'esa Dido

from Dilalesa village:

Doyo Gola JIma Darara Nadifo Umar Bundha Udessa Adaan Gamba Bontu Mi'esa

from Madha Dununi village:

Siraj Ture Qasim Ture Kafala Dajane

from Qararo village:

Sheko Gololcha Musa Shorokicha Momina Dhanqo Kadir Ginda Useen Hassan Bontu Bati

Jamal Xayibi Sitina Dhanqo

from Sirba village:

Faraju Alamu Danbala Kute Biqiltu Guracha

from Bokola village:

Isaaq KadirGobana DhekamaSultan JamalBakalcha GufeAbdo SharuNagessa Muda

Bati Gufe Dadesa Golu Gutu Mako Dada Udo

from Adami village:

Ture Culuqe Girja Aba Bari Ute Heba (teacher) Sirba Qem'o Wacifa Buri Fiqadu (teacher)

Kaleb Shudhudhi Nagessa Adola Galgalo Wacifa Siraj Jaldessa

Dida Jaro Huqa Cana (right) was taken at midnight 11 November from his village home in Elwayeti sub-district, Borana zone (*Gadado* on 30 November). He has bullet wounds from being shot but the report did not state when the injuries were received. He has been detained on many occasions at Tolay and Ambo.



Rape

When government soldiers opened fire on 27 July and scattered men, women and children in Soda Garmama kebele, Melka Soda district, W Guji, they took about 20 women to Melka Soda military camp and raped them. Three were reported on 5 August to be in a critical condition:

Ms Dureti Haile Ms Elemo Dhadacha Ms Alima Jima

Destruction of property



On 27 June, homes of villagers in Dawa Dimtu kebele, Melka Sogida district, W Guji zone, were razed to the ground by EPRDF soldiers, in reprisal for suspected support for the OLF. Homes of Bariso and Leqo Tadesse and their father, Tadesse Godana, were among those destroyed (reported 7 July). Tadesse Godana was later killed (see p.21).

On the following day, 28 June, the homes of Godana Wata, Berhanu Oda, Werku Dulacha and Konso Jilo were destroyed in neighbouring Dawa kebele.

In Badesa kebele, Qarca district, W Guji, 4.5 hectares of maize belonging to farmers Beyene Terre, Terre Golicha and Yohanis Jilo was destroyed and the homes and property of Guyo Wesi and Eyasu Gojo were burnt to the ground.

On 5 August, more burning and looting was reported, including the theft of 127 cattle from farmers Jima Boko, Adan Waqo and Gobena Jima. Crops and property were destroyed including those belonging to Niguse Ware, Tuke Adola, Bali Ganale, Gashe Dhugo, Nigusu Uke, Luche Boku and Abel Wake.

In Sorile Wacha kebele, Bule Hora district of W Guji zone, properties belonging to Isayas Bonaya, Jilo Haile and Haile Wako were razed and more cattle stolen.

Tadese Godana, a 78 year old businessman in Sabba town, Melka Soda district, was taken in his own home on 21 July, mistreated and deprived of his rifle, for which he had permission from the local authorities. He fled into the bush. Soldiers then burnt his house and all his property. One week later, troops returned to Sabba and burnt his hotel down. His large family was scattered and he lost his water pump, tractor, generator and other equipment, and over 150 cattle. He told reporters that all residents had fled to the bush to escape from soldiers, who burnt their houses down. On 22 September, he was **shot dead**.

Similarly, in Galesa Burqa kebele and Badessa Fugnan Qawa kebele in Qarcha district, W Guji, soldiers burnt down many properties and stole many cattle on 31 July and 1 August, and in Galesa kebele, Bule Hora district, the home and property (including bicycles) belonging to Ture Morkata were destroyed on 1 August.

Government forces surrounded Chaffa town and adjacent farms in Gumi-Eldello district, E Guji, on 9 August and destroyed 233 homes by burning them down (reported 12 August).

It was reported on 23 September that the homes, coffee plantation and maize crop belonging to Kinfe Tella and his son Boru Kinfe, in Bule Hora district, W Guji, were destroyed by fire while soldiers took all their cows, goats and sheep.

Gadado reported 30 November that properties and crops in two villages in Bule sub-district of Guji zone, Hada Loga and Yabasire, had been put to the torch on 24 November. 90 yr old Kafe Dube Galgalo was detained while his house was burnt down and 50,000 Birr taken. Gutama Kafe had 30,000 Birr stolen and his house burnt down when he was detained. Simano Dukale had 60,000 Birr and three goats stolen when he was detained. Cattle belonging to Dhadacha Hoxesa were stolen when he was detained. Other villagers detained and robbed included:

Waqo Dhugo Edo Elema Arbo Xekicha Gobana Ture Birbisa Zuzuna Ararso Banxori Waqo Banxori Edo Tuqe Korjo (80 yr old) Ababe Jilo Edo Bari Banacha Gololcha Ganale Tuqe Korojo

Jilo Lole Galgalo Utura Kara

Nagaho Tuqe Korojo and his family disappeared after his 300 cattle were stolen and his house burnt down.

More than 500 were reported to have been imprisoned in the area.

Killings in Sidama zone, SNNPR

Voice of America radio reported that **over 150 Sidama civilians were killed** by government security forces between 18 and 20 July, according to a report on 5 August, including the following 53, from Hula district:

Argacha Atoka, 18, Qenxicha kebele Darge Tena, 20, Hanqo Baya

Zerihun Zenebe, 18, Dabicha Tessema Argo, 20, Banta Wata Asrat Buxale, 18, Sororo Sanbato Mamo, 22, Dabicha Feola Jilo, 25, Dabicha Tesfaye Netero, 26, Wiixa Boono Yosef Bucha, 30, Wirama Mitiku Fanos, 30, Wiixa Boono from Lakko district: Merihun Degifa, 14, Wiicho kebele Yisehaq Gurissa, 20, Xaramessa Anuka Ledamo, 20, Gorche Zelalem Deramo, 16, Duwancho from Malga district: Cherinet Meseret, 16, Argaw Bonora Waqo Heyamo, 24, Qaxana Batola Yuwe, 24, Koraga Yetera Hirphato, 35, Gerewe Boricha Leeko, 36, Wotara Baaqe Dukamo, 35, Haro Marsa from Wondo Genet district: Kebede Kantula, 20, Gerewe kebele Degife Yune, 20, Abaye Eyasu Ganole, 23, Gerewe from Yirgalem district: Musa Desta, 18, Wene Nata kebele Mamush Tessema, 22, Ferro 1

and:

Solomon Zegeye, 35, Hanqo Moolicha Sintayehu Bale, 50, Solomon Santa, 60, Debicha Samuel Muxasha,50, Edola Kura Jugute Nuacha, 55, Wirama Girma Malka, 18, Hula 01 kebele Gezahegn Tesfaye, 90, Hula 01 kebele Addisu Gezahegn, 18, Hula 01 kebele

Moni Ligamo, 21, Duwancho Tamirat Belay, 23, 03 kebele Nibret Mitinsa, 25, Dila Gunbe Duressa Shamara, 55, Alawo Arke

Tesfaye Diinto, 35, Haro Marsa Bonna Boe, 34, Wotara Daqama Boe, 35, Qacha Gomorcho Tesfaye Butaka, 42, Qacha Gomorcho Kinba Waqayo, 46, Qaxana Gedelcha Sanbato Banqe, 45, Wotara

Matewos Dikale, Denanche Gufache Marqos Eda'a, 29, Denanche

Temesgen Maxo, 25, Goyida Mandamo Dikka, 30, Ferro 1

Abush Teshome, 17, Alatta Wondo district, Gidwo kebele Teshale Higisso, 20, Shebedino district, Dila Afarara kebele Marqos Elsa, 22, Borricha district, Doyo Calle, kebele Dulo Duka'le, 42, Xexixha district, Solle Gercho kebele

Abduction from Kenya

Dr Ibrahim (Ulufo) Malich Dida (right), a Kenyan citizen, was taken from his home in the Bor district of Kenya, over the border from Moyale, Borana zone, by Ethiopian security forces in the morning of 24 November.

Gadado reported 30 November that he was one of five who had been taken from Kenyan districts close to the border - three from Gada Korma and one from 'Jektion Bor' - in the previous two days.

