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## REPORT 69

10 April 2025

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### Human Rights Abuses in Ethiopia

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## Abbreviations

|       |   |
|-------|---|
| EEPA  | Europe External Programme with Africa, Belgium                        |
| ENDF  | Ethiopian National Defence Force                                      |
| EPRDF | Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front                     |
| IDP   | Internally Displaced Person   |
| OLA   | Oromo Liberation Army   |
| OLF   | Oromo Liberation Front  |
| ONM   | Oromo National Media, incorporating Qeerroo Bilisummaa Oromoo and OLA |
| OSG   | Oromia Support Group  |
| UNHCR | UN High Commissioner for Refugees                                     |

## OSG total recorded killings

OSG has now documented the killing of 6,419 Oromo civilians by Ethiopian government and Fano forces. This represents a small fraction of the real total, almost certainly under 20% and probably much less.

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## Anniversaries: the assassination of Bate Urgessa and Abiy's rise to power

Report 69 is released on the first anniversary of the assassination of Bate Urgessa (right), a stalwart proponent of equality for all the peoples of Ethiopia and an ardent advocate for the peaceful resolution of the country's ills.



He was abducted during the night of 9 April 2024 and killed by security officers outside his home town, Meki, in East Showa. The owner of the hotel from where he was taken, the guard and at least one other witness were made to disappear and are feared dead.<sup>1</sup>

Obbo Bate said during one of his media appearances:

*We must recognize the importance of respecting the current multinational federalism as a common ground for all Ethiopians. Dismissing the existence of ethnic diversity and promoting a homogenous identity undermines the progress made towards inclusivity and equality. It is crucial to refrain from divisive language and instead embrace the rich tapestry of cultures that make up our nation.*

The beginning of April also marked the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Abiy Ahmed's assumption of power, for which scores of thousands were transported to take part in celebrations across Ethiopia. However, there were widespread protests and many arrests.

### Abuse – often unreported

The reality of life in Ethiopia is shown in two short video clips which were posted on social media on 14 February.<sup>2</sup> Location and date are not recorded but the text with the clips implies that they were taken not far from Finfinnee during the 38<sup>th</sup> African Union Summit which began 14 January and ended with the Heads of State Assembly, 15-16 February.



The first 16 second recording (screenshots above) is of a soldier standing over a teenager whose arms are tied tightly behind his back, lying face down in running shallow water. The soldier repeatedly pushes the youngster's head under water with his boot.

The second (right) is a repeated 10 second clip of a teenager having his arms tied tightly behind his back by a uniformed man using synthetic twine, while another youngster sits against the wall of a building looking on. Both have had their shoes removed, to hinder escape.



These show the lived experience of youngsters and mirror the abuses met on a daily basis across Oromia Region. On every page of this report are chronicled killings, disappearances, detention and destruction. For the last four weeks, OSG has received an overwhelming

<sup>1</sup> OSG Report 66, pp.8-9. <https://oromiasupport.org/wp-content/uploads/simple-file-list/OSG-Report-66.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/100008099556472/posts/4294661847480425/?rdid=9IjupljYnKulYFic#>

number of records of abuses reported by *Qeerroo Bilisummaa Oromoo/Oromo National Media*,<sup>3</sup> which have corroborated and augmented reports from other reliable sources.

The extent of abuse, as evidenced in this report, is shocking. However, combing through editions of news media such as *Addis Standard* or reports from human rights organisations like Amnesty International demonstrates a notable paucity of information about Oromia compared to Amhara and Tigray regions.

### Lawlessness and poverty due to government policies

Reports about Oromia that have been published, however, are damning. On 29 January, Professor Terje Østebø eloquently described how Prosperity Party actions and policies have cruelly impacted the population.<sup>4</sup>

Already ground down by inflation, currency devaluation and the tripling of taxes, the poverty rate in Ethiopia was already almost 70%, without taking into account the now ubiquitous corruption and descent into lawlessness occasioned by government policies. A ‘dog-eat-dog’ fight for survival has developed.

Impoverished farmers are being forced to surrender over half of their wheat yield to the government at 50% of the market price. Taxes are arbitrarily imposed for a variety of reasons – construction of kebele offices, meals for university students, uniforms and ammunition for militia or ENDF, road widening projects and, recently more often, ‘health insurance.’



10,000 trainees, Amhara Region.  
*Addis Standard*, 4 April



Militia training, January,  
Galamso, West Hararge

Large numbers of recently graduated anti-riot and police trainees (above, in Amhara region) are taking over some security functions of the ENDF.<sup>5</sup> But the greatest damage is being done by poorly trained and even more poorly disciplined militia, including the infamous, better-armed and more dangerous *gaachana sirnaa*.

Local militia are poorly paid, if paid at all, and their survival depends on money and goods looted from the population. A grassroots network of informants is even more pervasive than the one-in-five households (*gott* and *garee*) system of surveillance under the EPRDF. Any informant or any militia member, motivated by greed or a personal grudge, can label anyone as an OLA sympathiser.

Inability to pay taxes, refusal of forced conscription into militia or ENDF, or accusations of supporting OLA result in detention. Only a payment of thousands of birr will secure release. Thus, false accusation of opposition sympathies has become a means of making a living.

Livelihoods are destroyed, especially in areas where OLA is active, when ENDF soldiers or militia members burn down homes, destroy crops and loot or kill livestock.

The following pages are packed with evidence of all of these abuses.

<sup>3</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/category/english-news/oromia-national-media-onm-abo/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/human-rights-under-siege-how-security-forces-in-oromia-fuel-terror-fear-to-control-residents-through-lawlessness/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/from-training-grounds-to-battlefields-is-amhara-conflict-shifting-amid-mass-deployment-of-anti-riot-militias-regular-police/>

## Fano

In addition, Amhara Fano militants have been killing unarmed civilians, looting and burning in acts of ethnic cleansing in zones surrounding Amhara region, especially in Horo Guduru and East Wallega, where their claims to an ancestral presence are unfounded, as reported by research fellows Assebe Regassa and Gemechu Abeshu in *Addis Standard* on 3 March.<sup>6</sup>

Fano members in Wallega are descendants of the ‘neftenya’ class of landlords installed in the imperial conquest in the late 1800s, and descendants of settlers from Amhara Region under resettlement programmes of Haile-Selassie and the Derg in the 1970s and 1980s, and programmes of the EPRDF from the mid-1990s up to 2003. Their numbers are swelled by more recent incomers from Amhara Region.

Amhara supremacism is the rationale of ethnic cleansing by Fano. *The Continent* reports that Ethiopia is known for ethnic cleansing and that 60% of its population reports discrimination on the grounds of ethnicity – more than almost all of the other 32 African countries sampled.<sup>7</sup>

## IDPs

The city of Abe Dongoro in Horo Guduru zone (right) is now reported to be devoid of Oromo inhabitants due to Fano’s acts of ethnic cleansing. The majority of more than one million IDPs in Oromia Region in July 2024 were due to ongoing conflict.<sup>8</sup>



Yet, the region’s Vice-President, Awelu Abdi, claimed on 9 February that 900,000 had been returned and that the remainder would be cleared by the end of 2025.<sup>9</sup> The reports of ongoing violence and destruction in the following pages strongly indicate this will be impossible.

## Ethiopia’s Nero fiddles while ‘Rome’ burns

In the whole of Ethiopia, poverty is increasing exponentially. Cost of living is soaring. Fuel price increases are driving bajaj drivers out of business. Price of grain has increased two or three-fold. International business enterprises are abandoning the country.<sup>10</sup> There is now widespread hunger and malnutrition.<sup>11</sup> More than nine million children are unable to attend school.<sup>12</sup> The cuts in USAID are depriving people of treatment for TB and HIV.<sup>13</sup> The threat of war with Tigray and Eritrea is again looming.

But Abiy Ahmed is driving through his vanity projects to beautify towns and cities, parks and resorts, launching a stock exchange, building a new \$7.8 billion airport at Bishoftu, whatever the cost for the poor who are evicted without warning or compensation.

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<sup>6</sup> [https://addisstandard.com/wollega-under-siege-unraveling-layers-of-violence-displacement-in-western-omomia/#google\\_vignette](https://addisstandard.com/wollega-under-siege-unraveling-layers-of-violence-displacement-in-western-omomia/#google_vignette)

<sup>7</sup> *The Continent*, Issue 192, 1 March 2025

<sup>8</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/un-says-4-5-million-people-currently-displaced-internally-in-ethiopia/>

<sup>9</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/omomia-vice-president-says-efforts-underway-to-make-region-free-of-idps-by-year-end/>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.semafor.com/newsletter/03/24/2025/semafor-africa-flower-power>

<sup>11</sup> [https://addisstandard.com/aid-agencies-sound-alarm-over-surge-in-malnutrition-across-ethiopia-children-mothers-hit-hard-as-rates-reach-critical-levels/#google\\_vignette](https://addisstandard.com/aid-agencies-sound-alarm-over-surge-in-malnutrition-across-ethiopia-children-mothers-hit-hard-as-rates-reach-critical-levels/#google_vignette)

<sup>12</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/over-nine-million-ethiopian-children-out-of-school-amid-conflict-displacement-report>

<sup>13</sup> [https://www.semafor.com/newsletter/03/12/2025/south-africas-us-ambassador-shut-out-of-meetings?utm\\_source=nowshare&utm\\_medium=africa&utm\\_campaign=flagshipnumbered3](https://www.semafor.com/newsletter/03/12/2025/south-africas-us-ambassador-shut-out-of-meetings?utm_source=nowshare&utm_medium=africa&utm_campaign=flagshipnumbered3)



## Abuses in Finfinnee and Showa

### Killings and child rape

A video recording of the **execution of a young prisoner** was posted on Facebook on 17 January.<sup>14</sup> Information from a source close to the incident and from sources W1 and W2 is that the incident occurred roughly three months previously (October 2024) in a small town named Jarso (one of several of that name), in Calliya (Cheliya) district of West Showa. The youngster was detained in Geessaan prison at around 2.00 a.m. and taken from prison at about 6.00 a.m., when a crowd had gathered for the funeral of a local woman.

The young man's parents were among the crowd and were forced to watch as their son, with his arms tied behind his back, was led to the site of execution by five uniformed men. One (reportedly named Abdu Mohammed from West Arsi) made him sit on the ground and look away before shooting him in the back of his head.

His family were not allowed to take his body away but were ordered to cover him with soil at the execution site.

Screenshots from the video are shown below.



**Dereje Biranu**, a farmer and 'peace person' in Guto Ilamu village, Sululta district, North Showa, was killed by government security forces on 9 January. He was unfairly accused of having links with OLA (W1).



**Fayyeeraa Dirribaa** (left), Dire Kagne village, Abuna Gindeberet district, West Showa, was reported on 16 January to have been killed the previous day (W1). The photograph shows date of death as 5.5.17 EC, which is 13 January.

His body was left on the road and his family were prevented from taking his remains for burial for more than one day.

**The rape and killing of ten year-old Simbo Biranu** (right) was reported by W1 on 31 January and by OLF-OLA on 1 February.<sup>15</sup>

W1 reported that she was abducted by soldiers from Minare Roge, Meta

Walkite district, West Showa. After being raped, she was strangled to death. Her body was left hanging in a tree 'in a place frequented by soldiers.'



<sup>14</sup> <https://m.facebook.com/watch/?v=1318713832494997&vanity=abebe.deress>).

<sup>15</sup> [https://x.com/OLF\\_OLA/status/1885725530085101949?s=08](https://x.com/OLF_OLA/status/1885725530085101949?s=08)

**Ahmed Mustafa** (right), a resident of Burayu, west of Finfinnee in the Oromia Special Zone, was killed by government militia at 11.00 p.m. on 3 February. He was originally from Darra district, North Showa (W1).



Church Pastor, **Tariku Tesfaye**, from Ilala village, Ijaji Ilu Gelan district, West Showa, was killed by government security forces on or just before 14 February (W1).



**Arero Bikila**, originally from Borana zone, was killed, reportedly by Fano forces, in Adama, East Showa, where he worked. His death was reported on 16 February (W1).

**Aregaw** (left), an ambulance driver from Bate district, Wollo (Oromia Special Zone, Amhara Region), was transporting pregnant women in his ambulance from Finfinnee to Bate, when he was shot and killed by government forces in Metahara district, East Showa, in the afternoon of 16 February. His passengers were not harmed.

**Ms Etenesh Asras**, aged 51, and **Asefa Geleta**, 29, were reported to have been killed by government forces, in Tole district, Southwest Showa, on 23 February (W1).

**Dawit Bekena** (pictured below) worked in Bole, Finfinnee, and lived in Burayu, west of the city in Oromia Special Zone. He was detained for six days in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Police Station in Burayu before being killed, while still in police custody, on 9 March, leaving his wife and four children without support (W1).



ONM reported that a trader from Abaku Ano village, Ilu Galan district, West Showa, **Addunya Yaadasa**, was ambushed by government militia on his way to Wadeyi Giranche on 10 March, 'held at gunpoint, tortured for hours and shot dead.'<sup>16</sup>

**Burtukan Gudata**, a young girl aged 18, from Bosat district, East Showa, was detained, subjected to repeated sexual violence, then executed on 13 March.<sup>17</sup>

**Two** were killed and several others abducted by Fano forces from Ciracha Gato village in Gindeberet district, West Showa, on 16 March.<sup>18</sup>

<sup>16</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/16/escalating-violence-in-oromia-reports-of-torture-killings-and-looting-by-government-forces/>

<sup>17</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/18/genocidal-onslaught-against-oromos-intensifies-in-horroo-guduruu-wallagga/>

<sup>18</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/23/two-killed-others-abducted-by-amhara-rebel-forces-in-gindabarat-district-onm-abo-march-19-2025/>

Father of six, **Belay Jote**, and a youth, **Babe Fayera**, were killed by Fano insurgents in Gato village (also reported as Cirrachaa), Abuna Gindeberet district, West Showa (reported 19 March, W1, and ONM, 29 March).

**Xilee Tariku** and **Gammachu Sisay**, youths in Tullo Bolo town, Bacho district, Southwest Showa, were abducted by government forces when traveling, executed and thrown from a bajaj on 20 March.<sup>19</sup>

Driver **Sagni Abate** and at least **one other** person were killed and five wounded when Fano fighters stopped and fired on a vehicle on the road from Finfinnee to Darra, North Showa, on 26 March (W1).

Another **twelve villagers** were reported killed by Fano militants on 25 March in Goda Cafe, Darra district, North Showa (W1).

Brothers **Gamma** and **Cimdeessa Xaloo**, and Danye Cimdeessa, from Amarti Gibee village, Bako Tibe district, West Showa, were taken from their homes and detained at the district police station after military activity against OLA in the vicinity. Gamma and Cimdeessa were taken from the police station and killed on 26 March. Danye was severely beaten and left for dead before being found and taken to hospital by the local community (ONM, 29 March).

**Warquu Bifeesa Nagara**, Abbayi Manze village, Jibat district, West Showa, was killed on 26 March by ENDF after being taken to Gora'a military camp (ONM, 1 April).

**Jemal Husen** (right), from Kara Mudi Kora village, Darra district, North Showa, was reported killed when hiding from government forces 'on Oromia border' on 31 March (W1).



**Seven youths** from Urago Kalcha and Sombo Walago villages in Sadeen Sodo district, Southwest Showa, were abducted on their way to market, taken to Harbu Culullee town and killed together near Aabboo religious site on 28 March (ONM, 2 and 4 April). Families were denied access to their bodies for burial.

**Baay'isaa Fayisaa** was shot dead by ENDF operating out of the town military camp, at Haro Cari in the village of Goro Gabreli, Qarsaa Malima district, Southwest Showa, on 2 April (ONM, 4 April).

### Shootings, beating and injury

Bulti Dangila and his wife, Toltu Dachas, of Ilfeta district, West Showa, were injured and admitted to hospital after being shot by government security forces on 16 January (W1).

ONM reported that ENDF soldiers opened fire on primary school students in Baqoo Jal'isaa school in Meta Walqixe district, West Showa on 28 March, injuring Grade 1 students Yohanis Fayisa and Samu Boxo and Grade 2 students Dajane Iyasu and Dajane Tullu (ONM, 29 March).

Dajane Caati, an elderly man well-known for his mediation skills, in Tume village, Tole district, Southwest Showa, was falsely accused of owning a weapon and severely beaten by government forces on 31 March (ONM, 3 and 4 April).

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<sup>19</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/25/the-pp-mafia-army-killed-and-dumped-two-oromo-youths-in-bachoo-district-of-south-west-shaggar-region/>



## Disappearances

Four youngsters, Adisu Banti, Tesfaye Gejera, Ms Lalistu Jabessa, and Akawak Getu, were taken to an unknown location from their homes in Burayu, Ashewa Meda and Gefersa, in and around Finfinnee, in the middle of the night of 11 January (W1).



Ziad Jemal (right), a resident of Adama city, East Showa, was taken to an unknown place around 9 March.



Dawit Fiqiruu (left), a teacher in Buusa town, Dawo district, Southwest Showa, was arrested 'for no reason' on 16 February and remained disappeared, at least up to 29 March (Ir).

## Detention and beating

Four women were detained in Adare camp, Darra district, North Showa, on 9 January, because their husbands were suspected of having links to OLA (W1): Tiringo Ahmed, Domboshe Habtamu, Ima Koricho and Genet Abite.

Many young men and women were reported to have been detained in Burayu (west Finfinnee), Adama and Bishoftu (East Showa) on 13 January (W1).

Among many arrests reported from Amaya district, Southwest Showa, on 20 February, the following are known to have been taken to prison in Waliso (W1): Jabessa Olani, 62, Aschalew Gari, 51, and Ms Gete Wayessa, 49.

Government security forces took the following from Bosat district, to prison in Adama, East Showa, on or just before 21 February: Geda Wakayo, Jara Fantale and Hundera Hawas.

On 24 February, the following people from Jeldu Gindeberet were reportedly being held in Ambo prison, West Showa (W1): Dhinsa Alamu, Degefa Regassa and Oli Matiws

Also on 24 February, three persons were named among detainees in 06 Prison, Adama, East Showa (W1):

Ahmed Nuru and Kalil Ahmed, from Golgolcha district, West Hararge and Boru Hawas, from Metahara, East Showa.

Brothers Tesfaye Bekele and Alamu Bekele, from Metahara, were reported detained in 06 Prison, Adama, on 3 March, after being arrested in the Piazza area in Finfinnee (W1).

A photograph of women detainees (right) in Darra District Police Station, North Showa, was sent to OSG on 7 March (W1). They were detained because their children had reportedly joined OLA.



On 12 March, many men and women civilians, including farmers and teachers, were detained in Waliso police station, Tole district, Southwest Showa (W1). Among them were teachers:

Ms Caline Asefa  
Ms Gelane Abdissa  
Andualem Geleta  
Ashenafi Manaye

Farmers Gemechis Tola and Denebo Hawas were reported detained in Abomsa district, East Showa, on 13 March (W1).

On 20 March, OSG received a report that Dechasa Tolamariam (right), a father of three, and his wife, Yeshe Regassa, were detained and severely mistreated. Dechasa was detained 'in a pit' for over two months from 22 September 2024 and has been sought and harassed while seeking treatment since then. His wife, Yeshe, was detained in Bishoftu 14 Police Station for two weeks. Their children were described as being 'in great trouble.'



Of those reported detained by government forces in Jibat district, West Showa, on 21 March (W1), four were named:

Abdissa keno

Abate Baisa

Hunduma Jiregna

Negashe Tesfaye

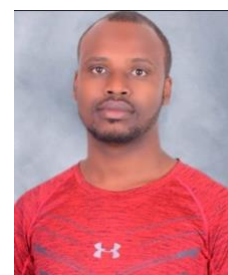
Twelve civilians from Arfijo Daga village, Incini district, West Showa, were detained in late March. Biranu Gelana was detained on 25 March. Jifara Akkuma and his whole family of ten, were detained one week previously. Biranu was reported to be severely tortured (W1 and ONM, 29 March).

Arrests of elderly and mothers of young children were reported in Wadeyi Giranche village, Iluu Galan district, and in Agalgobo Basale village, Liban Jawi district, West Showa, on 25 March (ONM, 29 March).

Habtam Kasa, Oda Korma village, Bakko Tibe district, West Showa, was arrested on 25 March for 'feeding OLA' (ONM, 30 March). Six more were arrested in Tullu Adiyio village, Ilu Galan district, West Showa on 27 March (ONM, 1 April).

On 30 March, ONM named five out of more than 200 prisoners in Bora district, East Showa. The 200 include 45 women in the district police station. They all had been detained for more than 18 months.

Dame Girma (right), a teacher, was reported on 29 March to have developed a mental illness following repeated episodes of detention, harassment and mistreatment and to be undergoing treatment at Amanuel hospital in Finfinnee (Ir).



In Babo Gasaso village, Dano district, West Showa, Guluma Asafa was arrested by government forces on 29 March. Fantu Guluma and his wife were severely beaten and their son was taken to Gedo hospital after being beaten (ONM, 2 April).

Three were arbitrarily arrested 'from the street' by government forces in Oda Gudaya village, Bako Tibe district, West Showa, on 29 March and were named by ONM (4 April).

On 2 April, a resident of Dano Roge town, Dano district, West Showa, who had established a small pharmacy to serve the community, was accused of supplying medication to OLA and detained in the district police station. On the same day, residents were forced to contribute money for the local militia to buy ammunition (ONM, 6 April, see below).

ENDF beat several villagers in Dhaye Walinco, Kuyu district, North Showa, on 2 April and detained Didha Gadisa after he was badly beaten (ONM, 6 April).

## **Extortion**

Civilians are being impoverished by authorities demanding taxes and other payments, as elsewhere in Oromia. For example, residents of Gobu Walda village, Bako Tibe district, West Showa, have been demanded to pay thousands of birr for ‘village office construction’ despite exposure to looting of their properties at gunpoint (ONM, 2 April).

On 2 April, residents of Dano Roge town, Dano district, in West Showa were beaten and robbed of 5000 birr to buy ammunition for local militia. Four were named by ONM on 6 April.

## **Forced conscription/detention**

Youths taken for forced conscription were detained in Tulu Bolo district, ‘Waliso zone’, Southwest Showa, reported 23 March (W1). They include:

Alemgenat Ishetu  
Barecha Sori  
Jamal Ali  
Sutuma Kefyalew  
Indalu Akewak  
Mulatu Jiregna

## **Detention and extortion by Fano**

It was reported on 18 February that the following individuals had been detained by Fano forces in Darra district, North Showa, and ransom had been demanded for their release (W1):

Indris Ahmed  
Kadir Ahmed  
Abdu Hasan  
Mohammed Siraj Hasan  
Jemal Muye  
Ajibew Ashetu  
Husen Deju  
Abdu Nugusu  
Ahmed Mohammed  
Jemal Siraj  
Mohammed Mustafa  
Tadesse Yasin  
Arabu Shifera

When Fano militants killed two in Gato village, Abuna Gindeberet district, West Showa (see above), two other villagers, Negero Muleta and Dinsa Kelbessa, were abducted and ransom of 400,000 birr each was demanded for their release (reported 19 March, W1 and ONM, 29 March).

On 26 March more car passengers were taken by Fano in Darra district (ONM, 29 March).

## **Abduction**

At least 56 passengers on a bus travelling from Finfinnee to Debre Markos in East Gojjam were abducted when the bus was attacked by armed men ‘with braided hair’ on 17 March near Ali Doro town, North Showa. Regional special forces were engaged by the armed group and the driver was shot while passengers were beaten and taken from the bus downhill off the

road to an unknown location.<sup>20</sup> Their description fits ‘Government Shane,’ masquerading as OLA, or criminal groups operating in the area. Over 100 university students were kidnapped from Garba Guracha, North Showa, in July 2024, when returning to Finfinnee from Amhara Region and taken for ransom.

### **Destruction and looting**

Government forces burnt homes and looted grain and cattle in Salale district, North Showa, on 9 January. In a single village, Menketa Wario Gombore, the following losses were reported (W1):

Gedefa Bahiru – 2 buildings burnt, 3 cattle stolen

Boshe Bahiru – 2 buildings burnt, 7 cattle stolen

Bogale Boshe – dwelling burnt, 200 kg maize stolen

Abaye Imime – dwelling burnt, 300 kg maize stolen

Abitu Girma – dwelling burnt, 1100 kg maize stolen

On 8 February, three homes in Abuna Gindeberet, West Showa, were razed to the ground by government forces (W1). These belonged to:

Shukke Mengesha, a 65 year-old woman

Abdissa Sime

Boja Negash

A farmer (below) interviewed on 6 March spoke of the destruction of 8 properties and the removal of equipment, grain, sheep and cattle by government soldiers in Goda Jaba village, Yaya Gulale district, North Showa.<sup>21</sup>



There was burning of homes and confiscation of livestock by ENDF in Bacho district, Southwest Showa, on 17 March (ONM, 29 March).

In Abuna Gindeberet district of West Showa, Goro Dhoqonu village, the following were robbed on 24 March because their sons ‘were in the forest’ (had joined OLA):

Galasa Ejeta, 32 cows

Wayesa Girany 14 cows

Faye Goshu, 40 cows and 4 cows slaughtered on his property.

In Amarti Gibee village, Bakko Tibe district, West Showa, on 25 March, government forces burned down the home of Getachew Xalo, who was detained and tortured at the district police station three months previously (ONM, 30 March).

On 26 March, government forces burnt properties and stole cows and grain from farmers Addunya Hayilu and Nagasa Ragasa in Warabo village, Meta Robi district, West Showa. At 10:00 pm, they ‘gathered the people and threatened them with guns in the name of paying taxes and told them to bring 8000-10,000 birr.’ They severely beat and injured three women, suspecting them of being families of OLA (ONM 29 March).

<sup>20</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/over-56-passengers-abducted-in-armed-attack-on-bus-en-route-from-addis-abeba-to-debre-markos-in-north-shewa-zone-oromia/>

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/100088020949464/videos/632527829477460/?mibextid=rS40aB7S9Ucbxw6v>



Government militia were reported to be taking large sums of cash from residents in Dhaye Willinco village in Kuyyu district, North Showa, during the last week of March, with sums of up to 60,000 birr (mostly 33,000) recorded being taken from dozens of villagers (ONM, 29 March).

In attacks on 27 March by Fano forces, properties were burned and livestock looted in Ada'a Barga district, West Showa. In Tullu Lami village, homes of at least 7 were razed and grain and over 28 cattle were taken. In Adada Sodalbe village, 39 cattle and three goats were taken from eight farmers. Three were severely injured by the assailants (ONM, 30 March).

ENDF looted Ali Babo village and Gabo Arere, Amaya district, Southwest Showa at the end of March, taking nine cows, two pigs and a calf to their base in Jibat, West Showa. Two cows were slaughtered and eaten by them in Gado Arere (ONM 4 April).

Again in West Showa, ENDF looted soya beans and cash from villagers in Meti Haro, Meta Walqixe district on 1 April (ONM, 5 April).

Large amounts of grain were looted at gunpoint from villagers in Daro Danisa, Kuyu district, North Showa, while there were widespread arrests and mistreatment throughout the district in early April (ONM, 5 April).

At least ten homes were burned down by ENDF in Giicoo, Walda Qal'ina village, Dugda district, East Showa, on 4 April. The victims were named by ONM on 6 April. Movement of people is severely restricted in the district.

### **Teachers unpaid**

Teachers in rural and urban areas of Dugda district, East Showa, reported being threatened by government forces for complaining that their payments have been cut or delayed (ONM, 27 March).

### **Displacement and extortion**

On 6 March, it was reported that 24,000 homes were to be destroyed around Finfinnee, and their occupants displaced to make way for government building projects. On 12 March (W1), the government was described as 'starting to destroy all homes in Shaggar city' (sub-cities surrounding Finfinnee).

While demolitions occur in some areas of Shaggar city, residents in other areas are subject to demands for 6,000 birr as fees for changing their house numbers as addresses are renewed (ONM, 3 April). 'It is difficult to live in Shaggar city, not only because of the destruction of property. Militiamen are extorting money from people every day in order to survive.'

### **Judges beaten and court suspended**

*Addis Standard* reported on 22 January that two judges at the Yaya Gulele District Court, North Showa, had been beaten and intimidated by government security forces so much that the court had been suspended. Judges Jinenus Negasa and Kenenisa Kebebew had been detained and Jinenus had been severely assaulted at a military camp.<sup>22</sup> Both have left the district.

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<sup>22</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/yaya-gulele-district-court-in-oromia-suspends-operations-after-judges-report-assault-intimidation-by-security-forces/>

## Karrayyu update: eruption, earthquake, detention and destitution

In mid to late January, there was significant seismic activity associated with the escape of gas and smoke from Mount Fantale in East Showa (below).



*Addis Standard* reported that earthquakes, which began in September 2024, had displaced close to 20,000 in Fantale district and almost 100,000 across Amhara, Afar and Oromia regions in total. Severe humanitarian needs were compounded by conflict and drought and were noted in Daga Heddu and Benti kebeles, with other vulnerable kebeles near the epicentre at Mount Fantale, including Haro Kersa, Debiti, and Kobo.<sup>23</sup>

There were concerns about the disappearance of Karrayyu Gadaa leaders and others after their arrest in January. W1 reported that on 24 January, the following members of the Karrayyu Michile Gada were taken to an unknown location from their homes in East Showa (W1):

Roba Jilo Jenbo  
Guro Roba Hambu  
Hawe Latu  
Ababa Abulo  
Haldago Fantale

Hawe Jilo  
Harole Bula  
Hawe Jilo Boru  
Konjo Jilo Godet

Reports in *Addis Standard* on 24 and 28 January,<sup>24,25</sup> together with information relayed to OSG from local sources revealed that there was indiscriminate mass arrest of Karrayyu, especially those wearing cultural clothing, on 6 January. About 300 were arrested and taken to a fenced compound in Merti. According to *Addis Standard*, these included ten Gadaa leaders and ten other elders who were called from their homes by the Fantale district administration. In addition to these 300, another 150, including market goers, were detained in Metahara town administration office, according to *Addis Standard*.

**Three women** among the 300 held in the open-air site **died** because of lack of shelter and water or food. Most of the 300 were released after a short period but at least 14 Gadaa leaders (some reports were of 20) and eight parents of children suspected of joining OLA, remained in detention. The place where the Gadaa leaders were held was not known for almost three weeks, until their release on 26 January.



<sup>23</sup> [https://addisstandard.com/earthquake-assessment-declares-humanitarian-needs-in-omias-fentale-district-severe-seismic-activities-affect-three-out-of-four-residents/#google\\_vignette](https://addisstandard.com/earthquake-assessment-declares-humanitarian-needs-in-omias-fentale-district-severe-seismic-activities-affect-three-out-of-four-residents/#google_vignette)

<sup>24</sup> [https://addisstandard.com/families-residents-voice-concerns-as-20-karrayyu-gadaa-leaders-community-elders-remain-missing-for-18-days/#google\\_vignette](https://addisstandard.com/families-residents-voice-concerns-as-20-karrayyu-gadaa-leaders-community-elders-remain-missing-for-18-days/#google_vignette)

<sup>25</sup> [https://addisstandard.com/twenty-karrayyu-gadaa-leaders-community-elders-released-after-three-weeks-of-detention/#google\\_vignette](https://addisstandard.com/twenty-karrayyu-gadaa-leaders-community-elders-released-after-three-weeks-of-detention/#google_vignette)

*Addis Standard* reported they were held in an ENDF military camp in Awash Arba before being transferred to Metahara one day before their release. They were immediately summoned to a meeting with Fantale district officials to discuss the ‘reintegration of OLA members’ into the community.

OSG was informed of the destitution and dire needs of the Karrayyu Oromo on 7 February (W1). *Addis Standard* reported on 18 March that seven villages out of 18 kebeles in Fantale district were entirely displaced.<sup>26</sup>

Repeated attacks from Amhara militants and government forces and denial of resources, including water, has resulted in the death of many of their animals – camels, sheep and goats – as shown below (30 March, W1 and ONM).



ONM reported on 1 April that more than 100 animals, especially camels and goats, were dying from hunger and thirst every day, especially in the districts of Fantale, Bosat, Adama, Dugda, Bora and Liban Cuqala.

ONM also reported that the situation has been worsening for two months and that farmers were being forced into urban areas from the countryside in Haro Qarsa, Eebiti, Xoxoxila and Qobbo villages in Fantale district, suffering because of the earthquake, and attacks by militants from Afar and Amhara regions.

Residents were reportedly told ‘unless you become poor, you will not bow your head.’

## Abuses in Arsi and West Arsi

### Killings, disappearances, injuries and torture

Two young men in Arsi were killed by government security forces on 13 or 14 January (W1):

**Kadire Shueb Alisha** was killed in Cole.

**Hasan Nuru** (right) was killed in Doree village, Jaju district.

**Abduljelil Kediro** and **Mohammed Amin Wabe**, Digalu Guna village, Sirka district, Arsi, were killed by government soldiers on 17 January (W1).



<sup>26</sup> [https://addisstandard.com/the-politics-of-drought-and-pastoralism-in-ethiopia/#google\\_vignette](https://addisstandard.com/the-politics-of-drought-and-pastoralism-in-ethiopia/#google_vignette)



ONM reported that **Guta Tubulu** and **Abarra Arsoo Buloo** were taken by ENDF from their homes in Heban district, West Arsi, on 14 March and executed. They had no political affiliation.<sup>27</sup>

On 16 March, government forces abducted three men on their way to market in Hunxee Aloolaa village, Adaabbaa district, West Arsi.<sup>28</sup>

**Anduljabbaar Haajii Fattoo**, father of ten, was killed that evening.

His brother **Saadiq Haajii Fattoo** and **Maammaa Goduu** disappeared in detention.

On the same day, at 3.00 a.m., **Kadir Haajii Kamaal**, a youth, was abducted from Golagotaa town, Martii district, Arsi, falsely accused of supporting OLA and summarily executed. His family was denied his body for burial.

Two days later, four more civilians were detained in Adaabbaa town, where they were reportedly tortured.

**Hassan Adam Haji Abdallah** was killed, another wounded, and houses were looted in a reprisal attack by ENDF after engagement with OLA in Sirka district, Arsi, on 24 March (ONM, 29 March).

**Amsalu Tafara** from Malka Oda, Shashemane, West Arsi, died in prison on 27 March from injuries sustained by beating. His request for hospital admission had been refused (ONM, 31 March).

ONM reported on 2 April that **Redwan Haji Bakar** of Saadiqa Tokkichumma village, Robe Dida'a district, Arsi, was taken from his home and shot dead by government forces on or around 28 March. On the same day, a girl from the same village named Bulbulee Haji Faqo was severely beaten and described as being 'between life and death.'

### Abduction, possible execution



A longer version of a video recording, which was originally sent to OSG in October 2024, was received on 10 February. The original clip, posted 19 October, showed two men bound and sitting in the back of a pickup truck before they were

taken away, possibly for execution (p.24, Report 68). Two other men are also seated in the back of the pickup. A member of the public is heard taunting one of the men, calling 'Gurraachee' [Black man]. This was reportedly filmed in Munessa district, which is on the Arsi side of the border with West Arsi.

The longer recording is a continuation of that clip and shows the same ENDF officer smiling as he films on his phone the apprehension of a young man being pushed and manhandled by a plain-clothed security agent (above). His right arms is tied tightly above his elbow as he shuffles along before being punched and kicked to the ground by members of the public. The incident took place over the border in West Arsi, at Hulluqoo village, Gadab Asasa (Gedeb Hassasa) district. It was posted on Facebook on 9 February.<sup>29</sup>

<sup>27</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/17/ethiopian-regimes-death-squads-execute-oromo-youths-in-west-arsi-as-reign-of-terror-intensifies/>

<sup>28</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/23/escalating-atrocities-in-oromia-prosperity-partys-militia-intensifies-killings-abductions-and-ethnic-cleansing/>

<sup>29</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/100074741810402/videos/634179929009428/?mibextid=rS40aB7S9Ucbxw6v&rdi=d=jd88dKUrCCSo8Ijz#>



## **Detention, destruction, looting, eviction**

On 20 March, many were arrested in Cabi Qame village, Shanan Kolu district, Arsi, accused of links with OLA.<sup>30</sup> Among those arrested were brothers Ibsa and Nasiro Yusuf, Warqina Baqala and his son Ambalu Warqina.

ONM reported on 23 March that civilians, including nursing mothers separated from their children, were arrested by government forces from Heela Akiya village, Marti district, Arsi, accused of supporting OLA.<sup>31</sup> Among those detained (mostly women) were:

|                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| Halima Dita      | Dadu Jundi     |
| Na'ima Adam      | Darartu Kadiro |
| Fatima Adam      | Shukare Adam   |
| Hawwa Ibrahim    | Buli Kamal     |
| Asha Muhammadnur | Rosa Jibro     |
| Misra Hussein    | Amarti Guto    |
| Dite Kamal       | Sartuu Wazir   |
| Timire Jibril    | Fatima Hamid   |
| Kamila Abdo      | Raisa Musxafa  |
| Rahima Ahmed     | Diire Abbe     |
| Fatima Abdala    | Leyilla Gabi   |
| Fatiya Arara     |                |

On 2 April, ONM reported the claims of residents in Dodota district, Arsi, that there were increasing attacks by government forces on the families of OLA members, including killings, arrests, looting and burning of their homes.

On 5 April, ONM wrote that ENDF opened fire on Hela Akiya village, Marti district, Arsi, on 30 March, during Ramadan, displacing 92 from their homes, detaining 20 women and looting 19 cattle and 96 chickens.

The homes and property of many villagers in Amba Goda Sade, Heban district, West Arsi, were burned and destroyed by ENDF at the beginning of April. Thirteen of the victims were named by ONM on 5 April.

## **Extortion and coercion**

Local government cadres were reportedly coercing residents of Negele Arsi district in Arsi to provide labour to build their offices, and government troops began on 20 March to force them to contribute money to pay their salaries and support their military operations, despite 'severe inflation, widespread hunger and lack of basic necessities' especially affecting children.<sup>32</sup>

Farmers in Munessa and Sagure districts of Arsi who cultivated potatoes are now being compelled to sow wheat instead, with many facing beatings, fines, and denial of access to fertilizer. Many villages were involved, including Garambota Lolee, Didibe, Garbi Xuso and Hofi in Sagure district. This has left families struggling with a crop they have no experience growing and one that is not traditionally cultivated in the area (ONM, 28 and 29 March).

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<sup>30</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/26/human-rights-violations-by-regime-agents-have-intensified-in-shanan-koolu-district-of-east-arsi-zone/>

<sup>31</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/23/civilians-arrested-in-marti-district-of-east-arsi-region-residents-report/>

<sup>32</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/24/escalation-of-civilian-abuse-in-nageelle-arsi-district-amid-pp-office-construction/>

## Drone attack and burning of forest

The illustrated drone ordnance (below) was photographed and sent to OSG on 16 January. It was taken in Ayage village, in the border area of Arsi and East Showa. The burning in Arsi zone was photographed and sent to OSG on 20 February. The rationale for the blaze was reportedly to deny OLA forest cover (W1).



## Abuses in Hararge and Bale

### Killings

**Aanaa Usmaa'il Alishoo** (right), aged 16/17, Ifa Jiru village (also reported as Balballeettii village), Habro district, West Hararge, was shot dead on 3 January by a local government militia member, Toofiqoo Yusuuf, when he attempted to flee from his parents' home to avoid forced conscription by local militia. His mother was protesting as he tried to flee but he was shot in front of her and died from a bullet wound to his neck (E1).



**Two young men** were shot dead by two militia members in Kurfa Chele district, East Hararge, on the evening of 13 January.<sup>33</sup> **Kadire Shuaibe** and **Jafar Abdulrazzaq**, were returning from Maya town on a newly bought motorcycle to their homes in Lafto, Gurawa district.

**Dito Abaso**, father of two living in Guba Qoricha district, East Hararge, was killed by government security forces ('militia') on 28 January (W1).



**Damaksa Mohammed Andu** (left), a father of six in Sheikh Mohammed Rashid village, Habro district, near Galamso town, West Hararge, was killed by the deputy village chief on 28 January, because he refused to give 1000 birr to fund uniforms for the local paramilitary militia (W1 and E1).

**Inspector Wakuma Ayana** (right), Deputy Police Chief of Habro district (Galamso town), West Hararge, was shot dead on 17 February. He was known to be critical of human rights abuses being perpetrated by local security forces. 'He believed police shouldn't be the tools of



the ruling political party but loyal to the constitution' and was frequently at odds with district Prosperity Party Chairman, Abu Anshu and his senior commander 'Asafa' (E1).

<sup>33</sup> [https://addisstandard.com/two-youths-shot-dead-by-militia-members-in-east-hararghe-oromia-region-families-report/#google\\_vignette](https://addisstandard.com/two-youths-shot-dead-by-militia-members-in-east-hararghe-oromia-region-families-report/#google_vignette)

**Seven men and women**, farmers in Daro Labu district, near Machara town, West Hararge, with no known political affiliation, were killed by government forces on 6 March (E1).

**Musa Ali**, 51 year-old father of three, a civilian in Ancar district, West Hararge, was killed by ENDF in reprisal following fighting with OLA in the district on 26 March (W1).

### **Rape, killing, looting and detention**

Young mother **Calee Yusufe** from Usman Musa village, Ciro district, West Hararge, was abducted in late March during Ramadan by an ENDF commander named Mame, taken to a school in Dirre town and brutally raped, leaving her wounded. Commander Mame then shot her dead.

500 or more ENDF soldiers are camped in the village of Sheikh Adam in Ciro district and were reported on 4 April by ONM to be ‘robbing the people of their food and drink with guns and committing horrific acts against those who have nothing to give . . . Many people are leaving their homes’ due to intimidation, arrests, torture and killing. Two recent detainees were named in the report.

### **Attempted killing of dissident**

**Kelifa Hassen Ahmed**, a 41 year-old former refugee in Somaliland and Djibouti, had complained about killings, including that of Aanaa Usmaa’il Alishoo (above) at a Prosperity Party conference in Galamso, West Hararge, before returning home on 9 January.

He had also complained about heavy taxation, forced conscription, extortion of money to avoid conscription and the detention and robbing of farmers, merchants, teachers and others. During the night of his return, local militia surrounded his rented property and beat his landlord to the ground.

He telephoned the Prosperity Party District Chairman, Abu Anshu, and Hasan Mohammed, the District Administrator, but they refused to answer his calls. Shots were fired into his home as he escaped. He received threatening phone calls from party officials and later learned that he was being sought as far as Adama to the west and as far as the borders of Djibouti and Somaliland to the east. Kelifa’s relatives have since been harassed and detained (E1).

### **Detention**

OSG’s correspondent in Djibouti, reported on 7 March that hundreds had been detained in Mi’esso town, West Hararge, since May 2024, including Mahammed Mussa Ware (Disco) and Ahmed Usman Abdi.

Among teachers arrested in Ciro, West Hararge, on 13 March are (W1):

Mohammed Ali

Said Jifar

Ayetu Tola

Seven civilians were detained in Ancar district, West Hararge, on 26 March, following military activity in the area, during a reprisal action in which Musa Ali was killed (see above, W1).

Among those taken in widespread arbitrary detentions in West Hararge, it was reported on 25 March that brothers Qasim Jara and Adam Jara, along with Ms. Nagate Qasim, were seized from Midhagdu village, Hancari district.<sup>34</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/25/alleged-human-rights-violations-in-oromia-reports-of-killings-torture-and-extortion-under-ethiopian-government-forces/>

Abdalla Hissa and his young son, Ibrahim Abdalla, in Dagaga town, Gammachis district, West Hararge, were detained on 30 March. Villagers told ONM that they were tortured and stabbed after arrest. On the same day, three other young men were detained at the district police station – Haji Ahmed Nure, Mohammed Jawar and Ibsa Abdalla (ONM, 2 April).

Farmer Musim Mohammed Kabira from Furda town, Bedeno district, East Hararge, was reported by ONM on 2 April to have been detained for several weeks in the town police station and denied medical treatment.

ONM, when reporting the detention and torture of Gadisa Hasan Mammudee, in Jaja town, Malka Balo district of East Hararge on 3 April, stated that there over 150 political prisoners in the district, for whose release government cadres were demanding large sums of money.

### **Burning, destruction, detention, deprivation and extortion**

In Agarfa district of West Bale, one family's home was burned down and four of the family detained on 8 March.<sup>35</sup>

Government agents are extorting money from already impoverished villagers in West Bale. In Dinsho district, up to 5,000 birr is being demanded for 'health insurance,' constructing local offices and other taxes and dues. Even men who pull 'horse carts' are being charged up to 2,000 birr in order to work. Government forces are demanding up to 10,000 birr at gunpoint according to ONM (27 March).

In Goro Wado village, Bedeno district, East Hararge, teachers and students were developing land around the school to supplement their meagre income and benefit the school. On 25 March they were forced off the land and prevented from using it. At the same time, 200 birr was demanded from each resident to pay for weapons for local militia. Refusal was met with detention and beating (ONM, 29 March).

Even clothes collected for the poor were reported confiscated by local government in Goro Wado on 28 March to be used to buy votes (ONM, 1 April).

In Daro Labu and Hancar districts of West Hararge on 30 March, government forces raided villages, stole cattle and stole money at gun point. A young man, Hussein Kadiro, was shot in his knee in Midhagu village, Hancar district, when cattle were taken to the military camp. He tried to attend the health centre next morning but soldiers 'beat him to the ground like a snake.' They then detained more than 15 people, including those who took him to the health centre, Calaqa town (ONM, 3 and 4 April).

More than 50 cows were taken from Tofiqo Juneidi and three were killed and eaten. Over 90 cows were taken from Gabis Amee and Caffee Haraa villages in Daro Labu district and driven to Machara town. Security forces justified this, claiming the cattle 'belonged to OLA.' Thousands of birr were demanded from farmers such as Mammad Jara for the return of their livestock (ONM, 3 and 4 April).

In Agarfa district, West Bale, ENDF, militia, police and 'Prosperity Party thugs' were reported on 6 April to be robbing more than 5,000 birr from villagers in areas such as Amalama and in Alii town. Perpetrators were named by ONM. Spies and those with personal grudges against citizens were directing the extortion. Those failing to pay were imprisoned.

Kadir Abdusalam, from Gamora, Hamalama Garmamo village, Sinana district, West Bale, was detained at Robe bus station on 29 March and beaten for two days before being taken

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<sup>35</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/18/genocidal-onslaught-against-oromos-intensifies-in-horroo-guduruu-wallagga/>



back to his village where ENDF destroyed his home and all his property. He is being again sought after escaping from custody and an attempt on his life (ONM, 6 April).

## Abuses in Horo Guduru and East Wallega

### Killings and injuries

**Fikadu Ayana** (right), father of three, was a High School teacher in Nekemte and a resident of Sasiga, 10-15 km north of Nekemte, East Wallega. He was taken from his home on 18 October 2023 and held in Nekemte prison for 5-6 months before he disappeared from there and his personal effects were returned to his wife. It was confirmed in February 2025 that he was killed in the first few months of 2024. His family are now destitute and living in Nekemte (W1).



Two ambulance drivers were badly injured when fired upon by unknown assailants in separate incidents in Sibu Sire district, East Wallega, and Tach Armachiho district of North Gondar, Amhara Region in late December 2024.<sup>36</sup>

**Seven civilians** were reported killed on 13 January in Jangir, Gida KIRAMU district, East Wallega (W1). Among the dead were:

**Getachew Mamo**

**Alemnesh Biratu**

**Ali Hassan**



In a wave of killings by government forces reported to have occurred across Oromia on 13/14 January (W1), **Wako Adugna** was killed at an undisclosed location in Horo Guduru zone.

**Sagni Fikadu** (far left), 9<sup>th</sup> Grade student in Abe Dulacha district, Horo Guduru, was detained for five days before he was killed and his body thrown on the road, reported 13 February (W1).

**Efrem Tesfa** (near left), a preacher in the Mekane Yesus Church in Sasiga, East Wallega, was killed by government forces on or just before 13 February (W1).

**Four young men** (pictured right) were also reported killed by government forces in Sasiga district, East Wallega on 13 February (W1). They were named:

**Tamirat Ayana**

**Eyasu Abate**

**Samuel Bokore**

**Adam Adisu**



<sup>36</sup> [https://addisstandard.com/ethiopian-red-cross-condemns-horrific-attacks-on-two-ambulances-in-amhara-and-romia-reports-severe-driver-injuries/#google\\_vignette](https://addisstandard.com/ethiopian-red-cross-condemns-horrific-attacks-on-two-ambulances-in-amhara-and-romia-reports-severe-driver-injuries/#google_vignette)

**Masgabu Dachasa** was shot dead by Fano forces in Gortee village, Waamaa area, Abe Dongoro district, Horo Guduru, while traveling from Gararo to Tulu Wayu market on 12 March.<sup>37</sup>

On 18 March, **Mulugeetaa Nagaash Dhuguma** (right), a farmer and father of five in Sagiyo Gudina village, Haro Limu district, East Wallega, was dragged from his home by government militia and shot dead. His body was ‘thrown on the road.’ He was falsely accused of supporting OLA.<sup>38</sup>



Renowned Oromo elder and Abbaa Gadaa, 60 year-old **Olana Mamo** (below right), in Sirba Loya village, Ababo Guduru district, Horo Guduru, was killed during the night of 18 March by government militia (W1 and ONM).



In Dire Guda, Gida Ayana district (bordering Amhara Region), East Wallega, Fano forces killed the following, reported 26 March (W1):

**Merga Mengesha** (shot)

**Arare Merga** (killed by knife)

**Abdissa Adule**

**Lome Geneti with her 5 year-old child**

**Olika Goba** (‘robbed his everything’)

**Wakjira Ababe**, a preacher in Meseret Kiristoos church (also robbed)

**Gudata Tolu Gadafa**, a 17 year-old 11<sup>th</sup> Grade student, was abducted by government forces from his home in Burqitu Obora village, Horo district, Horo Guduru, at 4.00 a.m. on 15 March, falsely accused of having links with OLA and summarily executed.<sup>39</sup>

**Kafalo Fiqadu**, from ‘Agamsa village’, Sulula Finca’aa district, Horo Guduru, was killed on 15 March when a federal police vehicle deliberately ran him over near Campus 4 when he was on his way home from business.<sup>40</sup>

A young man named **Gaari Hayilu** in Qajela village, Gutu Gida district, East Wallega, was reportedly killed by government forces on 15 March shortly after being released following detention and torture at a military camp in Eeba village (ONM, 29 March).

**Marga Mangasha** was shot dead and Ms Araaree Marga received a stab wound to her head when ENDF attacked civilians in Dire Guda village, Gida Ayana district, East Wallega, on 25 March. Several more, including a nursing mother and a preacher were severely beaten (ONM, 29 March).

**Twenty one were killed and three were abducted and remain missing** after Fano militants attacked civilians in Tullu Moti village at a place named Tamajo, Abe Dongoro district, Horo Guduru, on 27 March (ONM, 30 March; *Addis Standard*, 3 April<sup>41</sup>).

<sup>37</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/18/genocidal-onslaught-against-omros-intensifies-in-horoo-guduruu-wallagga/>

<sup>38</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/23/escalating-atrocities-in-oromia-prosperity-partys-militia-intensifies-killings-abductions-and-ethnic-cleansing/> and W1.

<sup>39</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/18/genocidal-onslaught-against-omros-intensifies-in-horoo-guduruu-wallagga/>

<sup>40</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/20/pp-regime-kills-oromo-man-in-horoo-guduruu-wallagga-tortures-youth-in-jimma-gannat/>

<sup>41</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/more-than-20-killed-three-abducted-in-omromias-horo-guduru-wollega-zone-officials-blame-fano-militants/>

Fifteen of those killed in Tullu Moti were named:

**Gabayo Kumsa**  
**Gadafa Biru**  
**Faqada Baqala**  
**Garamu Hordofa**  
**Gadafa Dabalo**  
**Temesgen Dasale**  
**Giduma Gari**  
**Moortuma Nugusa**

**Danye**  
**Hurumo Elemo**  
**Kafale Gorash**  
**Abdi Bakar**  
**Camada Daraje**  
**Obsa Abdalla**  
**Tamiru Tolasa**

In an earlier report by ONM on the same day, it was stated that 15 of those killed had been beheaded.

On 29 March, **Fayisa Shure**, from Haro Gudisa village, was killed shortly after being released from more than two years of detention and mistreatment in Gudaya Bila district police station (ONM, 1 April).

Also on 29 March, teacher **Shalamu Biranu** was shot dead in Cari village, Sibu Sire district, East Wallega, accused of supporting OLA (ONM, 5 April).

**Abdi Hinkosa**, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade student, was shot and killed by ENDF in Tolu, Hole Walage village, Amuru district, Horo Guduru, on 2 April. He and his family were displaced from Sidan village by Fano militants in 2022. Soldiers took 30,000 birr from his family when they killed him (ONM, 5 April).

A young man named **Geleta** who was helping his father to farm in Ali village, Haro Limu district, East Wallega, was killed on 6 April (W1).

**Thirteen villagers** were killed when Fano militants attacked and looted Habo village, Jardega Jarte district, Horo Guduru, on 6 April (W1 and ISS). The dead included:

**Hirkisa Habtamu** (far right – his father was killed by Fano two years ago)

**Dalasa Namomsa**  
**Gutama Namomsa**  
**Tamasgen Rata**  
**Fiqadu Imiru**  
**Addisu Fiqadu**  
**Tasfaye Amanu**  
**Kumura Amanu**  
**Dasale Borana**

The infant girl, pictured right, was among the dead.

Cattle and equipment were looted in the raid.  
Burial scenes are shown below.



## Detention, disappearance and disinformation

Over 200 workers at the Finchaa Sugar Factory in Horo Guduru were detained without trial or court order in the military compound in Sulula Finchaa 01 kebele in early December 2024 and remained in detention at least until 9 January.<sup>42</sup> They were accused of farming illegally on factory grounds, where they had been farming to supplement their income for over a decade. About 5,000 quintals of crops were confiscated.

On 29 January it was reported that five men were detained in Nekemte, East Wallega, and taken to 'Mexico' prison in Finfinnee (W1):

Tujuba Getahun  
Gemechis Olkeba  
Bedassa  
Daba  
Abdi

Second (father's) names were not recorded for three of them.

The destitute wife and two young children (right) of an OLA member who died in West Showa were taken from Diga, Sasiga district, East Wallega and imprisoned on or a few days prior to 14 February (W1).



Four civilians were taken from Done village, Bilo Boshe district, East Wallega, and reported to be imprisoned on 27 February (W1):

Tariku Anuma  
Tesfaye Dilgassa  
Ms Lelistu Oluma  
Girma Muleta

Three more, from Hinde village, were reported as imprisoned in 01 Kebele Police Station, Gida Ayana, on 1 March (W1):

Teshita Tsegaye  
Tujube Melka  
Aynalem Matios

On 13 March, seven young men from Kalala Didimtu village, Jimma Gannat district, Horo Guduru, were arrested, **dressed in military uniforms**, and tortured overnight in the kebele office. Next day, they were taken, unconscious from the beatings, to Hararto police station and accused of being members of OLA.<sup>43</sup>

Motuma Abarra  
Enyuma Abarra  
Roba Abdana  
Tamiru Magarsa  
Ifa Guluma  
Yardano Tashala  
Hunde Dassu

On 21 March, four young women were detained in Allee Gordomo village, Wayu Tuqa district, East Wallega. They were named by ONM on 29 March as sisters Marta and Ababaye Shifara, and sisters Badhane and Eebise Daraje.

<sup>42</sup> [https://addisstandard.com/over-200-finchaa-sugar-factory-workers-detained-for-over-a-month-without-court-appearance/#google\\_vignette](https://addisstandard.com/over-200-finchaa-sugar-factory-workers-detained-for-over-a-month-without-court-appearance/#google_vignette)

<sup>43</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/20/pp-regime-kills-oromo-man-in-horoo-guduruu-wallagga-tortures-youth-in-jimma-gannat/>



On 25 March, OSG was informed that Daba Fikadu, (right), a business graduate from Wallega University, and a former detainee in Kilinto prison, was so badly injured after seven months torture in Nekemte 05 Police Station, that he was no longer able to sustain his family. He is now living ‘on the road’ with his wife and two children (W1).



On 25 March, in Adami village, Ebantu district, East Wallega, government forces detained Malke Tolasa, Yadatu Gamada, Shashe Yadata, Sunqe Galata, Hika Gamada, Lalisa Jamara and Marame Joote (ONM 29 March).

On 27 March, farmers were detained in Burqa Xalo village, Sibu Sire district, East Wallega. Six were named – Nigatu Baca, Bayana Baca, Waaqasa Tolasa, Fayera Irana, Sirqiyo Irana, and Kuse Adami. There were several others (ONM 29 March).

ONM reported on 30 March that many had been detained in Haro Limu and Ebantu districts of East Wallega, including two named in Haro town, Limu, and three in Yaa’aa village in Ebantu district. Another arrest (Darara Temesgen on 28 March) in Gaarii, Guto Gida district, East Wallega, was reported on 1 April. ONM later reported three more had been detained in Gaarii on 30 March.

On 3 April, Federal Police arrested Gudata Waqqari from Guta Gida district, in 03 kebele, Nekemte city, East Wallega. He had been held for six months at 07 kebele police station and released only two weeks before his re-arrest. His location was not known when ONM reported his detention on 6 April.

### **Burning, beating, forced conscription, extortion, looting and displacement**

Properties belonging to relatives of OLA leader Marroo Dirriba in Horo Guduru were seized by government forces on 19 January, including maize, sheep and cows (W1).

Properties belonging to Dinsa Gerba and his son, Nugusa Dinsa, in Gobu village, Amuru district, Horo Guduru, were burned down and all equipment destroyed on 4 March (W1). Maize and two cows were taken.

On 7 March, it was reported that more people were being arrested in Arjo Gudeta, Jirma,, and Sasiga in East Wallega and taken for forced military training in ‘Sankale prison’ (W1).

On 11 March, Fano militants torched 200 homes in Homa Galesa village, looted properties and displaced hundreds of families from Loomica, Gararo and Caru villages in Abe Dongoro district, Horo Guduru.<sup>44</sup>

Fano forces took more than ten cattle from farmer Dasale Nagash in Darge Koticha village, ‘Abe Dongoro, Jardega Jarte district,’ Horo Guduru, on 20 March (ONM, 28 March).

Among those hundreds, probably thousands, detained and forcibly conscripted, in East Wallega, the following were reported detained from Arjo Gudetu district on 21 March (W1):

Miratu Nemera

Amanuel Fromsa

Elias Said

Latu Mikael, a young woman

<sup>44</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/18/genocidal-onslaught-against-oromos-intensifies-in-horoo-guduruu-wallagga/>

On 22 March, government forces entered the village of Allee Gordomo, Wayu Tuqa district, East Wallega, beat the villagers and took mobile phones and food from them (ONM, 28 March).

Government forces robbed all equipment and animals and burned homes of civilians in Haro Limu, Gatira and Dambi districts of East Wallega, reported 25 March (W1):

Desale Bekele – 50 cows and all equipment robbed

Fikadu Olana – all cows and sheep robbed

Irana Borana – all possessions

Dechasa Dhuguma – 10 cows ‘and they burned his home’

In Bakanisa village, Ebantu district, East Wallega, government forces burned homes and took 23 cattle from farmers Jamara Baqala Garbi and Dasale Gudata (ONM, 29 March).

In East Wallega, on 26 March, the Nekemte city administration announced it was demanding 500 birr from buses and bajaj drivers. They were threatened with dismissal and imprisonment if they failed to comply (ONM, 30 March).

On 26 March, ENDF burned the houses of Mohammed Adam and Bayan Mohammed in Qorkee village, Leeqaa Dullacha district, East Wallega, ‘in the name of feeding OLA.’ Civilians were said to be fleeing to the cities (ONM, 29 March).

In Horo Guduru, on 27 March, government forces burned the house of Qarse Jaarsaa in Abe Dulacha village, Horo district.

In Goobuu Sirba village of Amuru district, they were forcing people to go for training in the military camp and demanding 10,000 to 50,000 birr from those unwilling to go (ONM).

ONM reported on 31 March that the Oromo residents of Balo Bareeda village in Sasiga district, East Wallega, had been driven out by combined forces of ENDF and Benishangul-Gumuz regional government forces.

Looting by Fano forces in Jardega Jarte and Horo Buluq districts of Horo Guduru continues at the time of writing. Eight named occupants of a minibus were robbed when their vehicle was stopped on its way from Saqala to Jaarte on 27 March (ONM, 1 April).

In the name of search and destroy operations targeting OLA, ENDF burned down homes and destroyed all belongings of Halima Rashid and Bayan Ahimad in Haro village, Jimma Arjo district, East Wallega, on 26 March. In Badhasa Dhidheesa village, they also stole and feasted on a cow belonging to Ababa Kabule, took sheep from Galana Hambissa and robbed Abarra Wayessa of 1,400 birr (ONM, 4 April).

ENDF burned houses in Qorke, Leqa Dullacha district, East Wallega, on 27 March. The owners of nine were named by ONM (1 April). The occupants were arrested and their property destroyed because some of their relatives had joined OLA.

In Fayisa village, Guto Gida district, East Wallega, on 1 April, ENDF took six cows from two residents, claiming one had weapons and another’s son had joined OLA. On 2 April they set fire to Waxe forest ‘because OLA attacked them from there’ (ONM, 5 April).

On 2 April, villagers of Allee Gordomo, Wayu Tuqa district, East Wallega, were attacked by ENDF again. Mothers Zawudee Oluma Baisa and Baqalu Waqqari Gudina were severely beaten because they were suspected of feeding OLA fighters. Adde Zawudee, who was carrying a small infant, was beaten twice in one week (ONM, 5 April).

Residents of Horo Buluq district, at Bahamane, including over 200 at the market in Saqala town were beaten by government forces during the first few days of April. ‘Large or small, the sick and the healthy’ were beaten ‘day and night’ (ONM, 6 April).

Eight cattle were stolen by government forces from two innocent villagers, Ijigu Adunya and Shuma Gutata, in Babo Kuwe village, Sibu Sire district, East Wallega, on 3 April (ONM, 6 April). They were falsely accused of owning weapons of OLA.

### Community informants

ONM reported on 29 March that in Nekemte city, East Wallega, the government was paying small amounts of money to ‘shoe cleaners, market vendors, poor children, street dwellers, unemployed’ to act as spies on the local community.

### Fano activity

On 14 February, OSG was informed that Fano forces had increased their presence in East Wallega, with more entering from Horo Guduru, via the districts of Haro Limmu and Gida Ayana. They were reported to be cooperating with government forces in Cabbii, Somboo, Baalimmoo and Ali Dooroo/Siree in Kिरामु district; Ali, Fandaqaa, Sotalo, Malakata and Abajoo in Gida Ayana district; and Bijiit, Mander 20 and 21, and Wubanchi in Abe Dongoro district. They were attacking civilians with artillery, mortars and other equipment supplied by government forces.

In a separate communication received on 8 March, a captured member of government forces in Gida Ayana (said to belong to Oromia Special Forces – see left) is recorded confirming that Fano, in Gida Ayana and Kिरामु districts at least, is being armed and supplied by the Ethiopian government.<sup>45</sup>



## Abuses in Qellem, West Wallega, Jimma and Illubabor

### Killings

**Dawit Hailu Gemechu** (right) was shot dead at the Jinenus Hotel in Mandi city, Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, on 8 January (W1).

Government forces killed brothers **Lalisa Igazu** and **Dinka Igazu** when they were returning home to Duli village, Sayo district, Qellem Wallega, ‘because they were not carrying their ID cards’ (reported 11 January, W1).

**Tolera Cibsaa** and **Gemechiis Ayale** were killed by government forces in Darimu district, Illubabor (reported 12 January, W1).

During a reported wave of shootings by government forces of young men and women across Oromia on 13/14 January, **Abdii Gemechu**, Babo district, West Wallega, and **Amanuel Efrem**, Boji Dirmaji district, West Wallega, were killed (W1).

On 14 January, in Maneti village, Haru district, West Wallega, **Eyasu Tsegaye** was shot dead by government forces and three of his friends were admitted to hospital with gunshot wounds (W1).

**Abushe** (right, second/father’s name not given) was killed by government forces in Gimbi city, West Wallega, early morning on 17 or 18 January (W1).



<sup>45</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/16AQWXsMka/>

**Indarge Etana**, was killed by government forces in ‘Gute Silase’, Wandi Dale village, Kiltu Kara district, West Wallega, on 19 January (W1).

On 24 January, **five relatives** were killed by government forces ‘in one home’ at ‘Facha’ in Yeti village, Anfilo district, Qellem Wallega (W1):

**Ashenafi Abiye**

**Abram Tadesa**

**Firaol Mitiku**

**Abulu Fikadu**

**Tame Tesfa**

During the night of 24 January, **Tilahun Daba** (right), 60 year-old father of six, was killed in Alaku village, Qellem Wallega (W1).



Brothers **Tesema Baro** and **Teshome Baro** were killed in the area of Babo Bund school, Kiltu Kara district, West Wallega, on 24 January (W1).



Another killing by government forces reported on 24 January is that of 65 year-old **Dangela Geleta**, father of six, in Arroji Walbata, Dale Wabera district, Qellem Wallega (W1).

**Dawit Shumi** (left) was reported killed by ‘regime militia’ on 31 January in Nabo village, Lalo Asebi district, West Wallega (W1).

Father of seven, **Mohammed Nur Yasin**, was taken from prison in Begi, West Wallega, and killed by ENDF on 2 February (W1).

**Yohanis Bokona Terefa** (right), father of five, was killed with six shots outside his village, Nimai, Leta district, West Wallega, on 6 February. His wife had been killed by government forces two years previously (W1).



**Ebise Berki** (below left), a 45 year-old widow, two of her daughters – **Aster Abera**, aged 12, and **Senaol Abera**, aged 8 – and their 5 year-old neighbour, **Ogeti Balina**, (from left to right, respectively, below) were shot dead by an ENDF soldier in Wanki village, Mandi district, West Wallega, on 12 February (W1).





Addee Ebise's young son, aged about 10 years, (shown right with his surviving youngest sister) in an interview with a queerroo activist three days later, said the following, in Afaan Oromoo:<sup>46</sup>

'My sister was home making breakfast and asked me to do some chores. I made coffee and then decided to go outside to play. My little sister, who is sitting by me, joined me outside. My other two sisters [his younger sister Senaol and the little girl from next door, Ogeti] stayed in the house sitting by the fire, playing on a phone. I was called to the back of the house where my mum was talking to a soldier, dressed in a military uniform. He slapped and kicked my mum. She shut the back door and ran into the house, trying to escape through the front door.



But he followed her into the kitchen and fired his gun at my sister Aster and then at the two girls sitting by the fire. They fell to the floor and I ran screaming into the house followed by my little sister.

Aster was laying on the ground outside by the front door and I tried to help the girls that were hit by the fire, and then I heard my mum calling out for help. She asked me to call for people to help but they were frightened away by the gunshots. Then we started screaming loud.

My mum called out saying 'help me, hold me.' She was hit in the stomach. I tried to help and to hold her up but I couldn't.

My sister Aster was shot in the eye and my sister Sena was hit in the mouth. All her teeth were shattered. She was also shot around the kidney area. Then the man who shot her left through the back door.'



Father of two, **Melkamu Kejela** (left) of Shogo village, Sayo district, Qellem Wallega, was killed by government forces and his house was burned down during the night of 12 February (W1).

**Zakir Oli** (right), a wealthy man living in Gera district, Jimma zone, was killed by government forces on 12/13 February. The government falsely claimed that Fano forces were responsible for the killing (W1).



**Eliyas Mitiku** (left) was killed on his way to school in Gimbi, West Wallega, on 19 February. He was falsely accused of 'taking food to OLA' and 'was shot dead on the road' (W1).



**Girmosa Dano** (right), 11<sup>th</sup> Grade student in Kiltu Kara district, West Wallega, was killed by government forces on 21 February (W1).



Government forces stopped and fired on three men on their way to Mekana Yesus Church from Kolobo village, Aira district, West Wallega, on 23 February, killing **Gutema Telila**, aged 48, and wounding Yadessa Wabi, 32, and Chala Tadesse, 27 (W1).

<sup>46</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/18dEX3EtB3/?mibextid=rS40aB7S9Ucbxw6v>

**Ramata Hasan**, 25, from Warajiru Barko village, Babo Gambel district, West Wallega, was killed on 24 February (W1).

**Amanuel (Gobe)**, father's name not known, from Dabaka village, Babo Gambel district, West Wallega, was killed on 25 February (W1). His body was then dragged behind a vehicle and paraded around Gambel town.

**Latera Takilu** (right), a 12<sup>th</sup> Grade student living in 06 Kebele, Gimbi town, West Wallega, was killed on the road in Gimbi on 26 February (W1).

**Daba Tamane**, an elderly man from Telemso village, Kiltu Kara district, West Wallega, was taken from his Mekana Yesus Church on Sunday 9 March and killed by government forces (W1).

On 10 March, government militia shot dead **Dago Warqu Masqala**, a youth in the Qanqalcha area of Walga'ii Bubbukaa village, Sayo district, Qellem Wallega 'without warning or justification, solely based on ethnic targeting.'<sup>47</sup>

**Elias Tesfaye**, of Dildila Gelel, Alebanta village, Haru district, West Wallega, was killed when government forces opened fire on civilians in early March. A young woman, Biranu Gutata, was also badly injured.<sup>48</sup>

**Abram Olkeba**, a health worker at a primary care station in Jarso Geba Defino, West Wallega, was killed by government forces, reported 14 March (W1).

On 16 March, **Bona Yazacho Fufa** and **Jalata Tamana Dheresa** were shot dead by government forces in Amuma Bore town, Boji Dirmaji district, West Wallega, accused of having pictures of OLA on their phones.<sup>49</sup>

**Shibiru Tamiru** was killed and Yohanis Galata was abducted by government forces in Garjo Biqila village, Gimbi district, West Wallega, on 21 March (ONM 29 March).

Third year agriculture student at Bedele University, Illubabor, **Hinsermu Zeleke** (right), was detained in January, incorrectly accused of having links with OLA. On 23 March, he was taken from prison and killed (W1, 27 March).

**Gutama Asaffa**, father of two, in Waba village, 'in the vicinity of Bogga,' Anfilo district, West Wallega, was killed by government forces, early evening on 26 March. His family were prevented from taking his body for 24 hours (ONM).

**Musxafa Ali**, of Haru town, Haru district, West Wallega, was killed by government forces on 28 March, accused of having links to OLA (ONM, 1 April).

**Biqila Galgalo**, a 17 year-old in Guri Mariyam village, Gawo Qebbee district, Qellem Wallega, was taken from his home on 30 March by ENDF and shot dead. **Lalisa Idosa** was



<sup>47</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/16/escalating-violence-in-ormia-reports-of-torture-killings-and-looting-by-government-forces/>

<sup>48</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/18/genocidal-onslaught-against-ormos-intensifies-in-horroo-guduruu-wallagga/>

<sup>49</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/20/prosperity-partys-fascist-thugs-ramp-up-killings-and-abductions-across-ormia/>

also abducted and ordered to guide soldiers to the location of OLA fighters. His subsequent fate was not reported (ONM, 2 April).

**Amshiru Betaro**, a young man, was taken by ENDF soldiers from his family home in Tobare, in Gaba Kamisa village, Begi district, West Wallega, and shot dead on 1 April (ONM, 3 April).

Teacher, **Andualem Gemta** and a young man, **Obsa Bati**, were killed in Cisa Bori village, Yubdo district, West Wallega, on 6 April. **Two people** were also killed as they left a Mekane Yesus Church in Ganji district, West Wallega (W1).

### **Rape and killing of young women and children**

**Bonsitu Gudeta**, a ten year-old girl from Hagamsa Bala village, Kiltu Kara district, West Wallega, was taken from her home by government soldiers during the night of 9 February and raped. She received treatment at Kiltu Kara clinic before being transferred to Nejo hospital (W1).

**Mimi Danno**, a 13 year-old in Begi town, 01 kebele, was raped and then **killed** by government militia on 18 March. Her body was left at the kebele office, where it was found next day.<sup>50</sup>

ONM reported on 29 March that girls on their way to Gurale secondary school in Kiltu Kara town, West Wallega, were being raped by soldiers at the Kiltu Kara military camp. Many had dropped out of school despite threats to families who refused to send them.

### **Detention, disappearance, intimidation, robbery, looting and extortion**

It was reported on 10 January that numbers of arrests had been made in Gimbi (West Wallega), Nekemte (East Wallega) and in Bako (West Showa, on the road to Nekemte).

On 12 February, the following were taken to Guliso police station from Chalia village, Guliso district, West Wallega, accused of supplying food to OLA (W1):

Mamo Oljira

Gemechis Abram

Chaltu Degefa

Jalane Emana

Their relatives were told they would be killed unless they paid up to 400,000 birr (equivalent to more than \$3,000), but they are ‘very, very poor.’ Jalane Emana’s father sold three cows to pay 80,000 birr for her release.

Two women in Haru district, West Wallega, were reported detained on 27 February (W1):

Gelane Adamu, pregnant, and

Akafete Jiregna, aged 45

Young and old men were reported detained in Boji Cokorsa and Lalo Asebi districts of West Wallega on 8 March and taken to Gimbi prison (W1):

Abebe Atomsa, 62

Akawak Geleta, 49

Banti Imiru, 31

Wabi Olansa, 24

Chaltu Disasa, 21

A young unmarried woman was also detained but her name was not given.

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<sup>50</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/25/prosperity-party-security-forces-raped-and-killed-a-13-year-old-teenage-girl-in-west-oromia/>

More than 50 were later reported to have been detained in Gimbi prison (13 March, W1). Youngsters were reported to be hiding on the forest night and day, to avoid being detained. Among those detained either 'for being Qeerroo or Qaree', suspected of supporting OLA, or because they were being forcibly conscripted, W1 named the following in West Wallega, on 23 March.

In Kiltu Kara and Mandi:

Abiyot Motuma  
Dase Nigatu  
Debeli Yosef

Ifa Abshale  
Matiwos Olani (a teacher)

In Gimbi:

Zelalem Gindaba  
Fayisa Oli  
Mengistu Daba  
Merga Simon

Ms Yadate Robera  
Andualem Befikadu  
Mrs Dinke Gemtessa, 57 years old

At night on Sunday 23 March, Marga Musee, a chemistry student at Madda Walabu University, from Warra-Kura Suchi village, Aira district, West Wallega, was arrested and subsequently disappeared in detention (ONM, 28 March).

Government forces burned down the house of a farmer and arrested his family and another, 70 year-old, resident of Warsu village, Limu district, East Wallega, on 23 March (ONM, 29 March).

Civilians in Jimma zone were reported on 25 March to have been coerced by government forces into paying spurious fees of 5,000 to 10,000 birr in mandatory 'health insurance contributions' despite there being no health services available.<sup>51</sup>

On 25 March it was reported that residents of Begi town, West Wallega, were being arbitrarily detained and robbed if found outdoors at night.<sup>52</sup>

Abdullah Alfaki of Imboro village, Darimu district, Illubabor, had his arms broken and spine damaged by government soldiers on 25 March because his brother was suspected of joining OLA (ONM, 29 March).

More than 15 farmers in Safara, Dhidheessa village, Dabo Hanna district, Illubabor, were detained on 26 March for failing to pay demands for 'health insurance' and 'membership dues' for the Prosperity Party (ONM, 29 March).

On 26 March, ENDF attacked and stole money and phones from Biranu Kabada and Bulti Nagasa, and severely beat Takala Fixe, in Addaa suburb of Jimma city (ONM, 29 March).

Hairdressers, Tsaye Wandimu Mangasha and Gadisee Alamayo Qano of Alebanta village, Haru district, West Wallega, were detained on 26 March, accused of acting as hairdressers for OLA (ONM 29 March).

In Hurumu and Darimu districts, Illubabor, farm land which was being developed by youth has been taken by government cadres and handed over to private investors. Tea plantations in Uggee, Hurumu, were taken. Youths protested but fled after being threatened with detention (ONM, 30 March).

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<sup>51</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/25/alleged-human-rights-violations-in-oromia-reports-of-killings-torture-and-extortion-under-ethiopian-government-forces/>

<sup>52</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/25/prosperity-party-security-forces-raped-and-killed-a-13-year-old-teenage-girl-in-west-oromia/>



ONM reported on 31 March that teachers in Gimbi, West Wallega, were protesting after their salaries had been cut by 50%.

Arrests in Haru district, West Wallega, continued into April (ONM, 1 April) and more than 20 were detained in Dembi Dollo military camp (Qellem) in the last week of March. Villagers in Inimayi Sombo, Lata Sayu district, West Wallega, reported looting and detention on 30 March (ONM, 2 April). More than 50, including a young woman, were reported detained in Bila, Boji Dirmaji district, for more than five months (ONM, 3 April).

On 4 April, ONM reported that Ejeta Mohammed, a student of Romedi college in Asosa, and his wife, Dasgara Zakariyas, were attacked by government forces in Qondala district, West Wallega. He was detained and she was admitted to Begi hospital because of injuries from beating.

In the same bulletin, extortion for 'health insurance and membership fees' was reported in Liqixi town and in Biftu Liqixi and Shura Maramo villages.

On the same day, ONM reported on two arrests, including a teacher, in Gawo Qebe district, Qellem Wallega, and extortion of various payments, livestock and grain under threat of violence. Large numbers of military forces are deployed in rural and urban kebeles to extort money 'for various supports' every two months. Most, even the very poor, are paying 6,000 to 10,000 birr. Those who cannot pay are imprisoned or fleeing.

Four more arrests of named individuals in Nejo, West Wallega were reported by ONM on 4 April. ONM also reported that civil servants in Dedo district of Jimma zone were being dismissed unless they were paid up members of the Prosperity Party. Agriculture office employees were being dismissed or transferred outside the region merely for being Oromo, on false claims of their supporting OLA.

Several, including teacher Fufa Banti, were named among many long-term detainees without trial in Mandi city, Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, by ONM (4 April).

Government forces demanded payments of 1,500-3,000 birr from villagers of Duwiso, Sayo Nole district, West Wallega, in the first week of April and detained those unable to pay, for refusing to contribute to 'village development' (ONM, 6 April).

'Endless payments' demanded from villagers in Ifa-Jiru, Badeyi village, Hawa Galan district, Qellem Wallega, by militia headed by village party officials are forcing the community from their homes. ONM named officials and victims on 6 April. On top of inflation and expenses during the farming season, the payments are 'making life impossible.'

Also reported by ONM from Qellem Wallega on 6 April is a 'new form of looting' experienced by Loomica village, Yamalogi Walal district. For three months or more they have been subjected to extortion, paying 10,000 birr per household for construction, road widening, party membership and 'gonofa' contribution. Now kebele officials and militia are going from house to house demanding 'again in the name of health insurance.'

### **Burning, destruction and intimidation**

Civilians who are accused of supplying food to OLA, such as Tsegaye Firisa (right), in Lalo Kile town, Qellem Wallega, are liable to have their homes destroyed. His family is now homeless. Homes are being 'burnt and destroyed by militia and regime forces everywhere' (W1, 25 March).



In the name of urban development, ‘corridor development’ as in Finfinnee and Shaggar city, homes in towns are being demolished in Qellem and West Wallega. In rural areas, ENDF are burning homes ‘in the name of being supporters of OLA.’ Inango, Ayira, Guliso and other districts of West Wallega, and Haro Sabu, Sadan Canqaa, Dalle Wabara and other districts of Qellem Wallega are reported to be affected (ONM, 3 April).

In Qarsa Maru, Lata Sibu district, West Wallega, families of OLA members were told on 1 April to present their children to the kebele office for arrest, otherwise their properties would be burned down (ONM 5 April).

### **Forced conscription and militia training**

In early February, it was reported that across Oromia Region, in ‘all zones, districts and villages’ large numbers of people were detained as forced conscripts for the ENDF and local militia. Only a few were named (W1).

In Dale Wabera district, Qellem Wallega, forced conscripts for local militia included:

Getane and Degaga Amesu (brothers)

Adisu Banti and

Alemtsehay and Bedane (both women)

Forced conscription was reported by ONM on 29 March to have intensified on 24 March in Hurumu district, Illubabor. Villagers in Ogeti were faced with conscription or detention.

Over 80 were detained for military training in Begi, West Wallega, in late March, some of whom were named by ONM on 29 March.

On 30 March, ONM reported that forced conscription had intensified in Homa district, West Wallega. Four were named among many taken from 01 kebele, Homa town, on 27 March. Those who refused were detained and as a result, many fled from their homes.

In West Wallega, all government employees have been ordered to undergo military training. Militia are being recruited and trained to terrorise local communities. In Boji Dirmaji district alone, 119 had been recruited from 17 kebeles (seven from each) and given ‘shooting exercises’ (ONM, 3 April).

In Darimu district, Illubabor, detention, extortion and forced conscription have caused villagers to flee from their homes (ONM, 5 April).

## **Abuses in Guji and Borana**

### **Killings and torture**

Killings recorded below which took place in 2023 and 2024, apart from torture victim Osama Nageso Abara (next page), have not previously been reported by OSG.

**Six people** were taken by ENDF from their homes in Giwwee village, Galan district, West Guji, and shot dead on 24 November 2023 (W2):

**Badhaane Lole**, 60

**Taariku Miiraa**, 24

**Bushaa Atara**, 35

**Nuguse Gannale**, 38

**Halaakee Hoxxessoo**, 35

**Chuchuu Areeree**, 26

Four of the victims are shown overleaf, together with casings of bullets used in the execution.



**Birhanu Neenqoo** (left), in Lollootu, Sabba Boru district, Guji, was killed by government forces on 21 December 2023 (W2).

The sadistic **torture and killing** of a young man in Sarsara village, Goro Dola district, Guji, in February 2024, was reported at length in OSG Report 65 (pp.20-22). Further information about the atrocity was obtained from interviews with the victim's family (W2).

Screenshots from a ten-minute video of the incident taken by a perpetrator show the youngster lying in an earth pit with his hands tied in front of him while a well-built uniformed soldier, standing above him and on his body, taunts him in Amharic.

Several soldiers jeer as they film the incident on their phones. Another whips the boy's leg with a stick. The main perpetrator puts a bullet in his nose, threatens him with a rifle barrel inserted into his mouth, a knife held to his neck and a rifle with fixed bayonet held to his groin. A few of the previously published screenshots are shown below.

In the previous report, it was surmised that this event occurred in February 2024. It is now known that it occurred on 24 February, when the video was uploaded to social media. The boy's name was **Osama Nageso Abara** (not Ahmed Qasim, as previously reported). He was an outstanding student who had attended a special school in Adama for gifted pupils. He had achieved the top marks in Oromia Region and the second-best in the whole of Ethiopia.

When his body was retrieved, it had been mutilated. His tongue and genitalia had been removed. It is not known if this occurred before or after he was killed.





On 24 February 2024, **three young men** pictured below, were killed by government forces in the small town of Qarsaa, Galan, Guji (W2).

**Dawit Gamachu Dharo**



**Halchaye Dasta Dharo**



**Liban Duba Bariso**



Liban was taken out of school before being executed in public.

Also on 24 February 2024, **six young men**, three from Arsi, two from Guji and one from Borana zone, who were detained together in a small detention centre in Goro Dola district, Guji, were taken to a place called Biqa Fora near Sokora village and executed (right).

Their names were:

**Naga'o Qubsa**

**Hasano Adam**

**Kamaal Tusa**

**Mukura Mokonen**

**Safayi Liban**

**Abdala Gamada**

Local residents were shot and wounded when they attempted to recover the bodies three days later (W2).



On 17 March 2024, **Abdusalam Siraj Teessoo** (right) was killed by government forces in Shishu, Goro Dola district, Guji (W2).

On 29 March 2024, 'many people and many cows were killed' during the bombardment with heavy artillery ('ZU 24') of Goro Dola district, Guji. Among those killed were **Haroo Duba** and **Dido Odaa** (right). Two of many pictures of cattle killed in the bombardment, in a place named Awala, and the remains of one of the artillery shells are shown below (W2).







**Dambobi Boru** (left), father of four, in Qarsaa, Guji, was killed by government forces on 14 April 2024 (W2).

On 20 April 2024, **at least 34 civilians** were killed by ENDF soldiers in a single day in the small town of Qarsaa, Guji.



On 29 April 2024, **Badhee Nagee** (right), Wadara district, Guji, was killed by government forces (W2).

Also in Wadara district on 29 April 2024, **Gadaa Bonaye** (below right), was killed. His death was reported previously by OSG (p.40, Report 66). Since that report, it has been revealed that he was forced to watch the **gang rape** of his wife by four members of the security forces before being killed (W2).



**Aragash Bati** (left) was seven or eight months pregnant when there was a heavy artillery bombardment on her village, Haadha Dhadhacha, in Goro Dola district, Guji, on 5 May 2024. She bled to death over a two-week period after a shell hit her house.

On 9 May 2024, when properties and livestock were destroyed in Goro Dola district, Guji (see below), government forces killed **Ilanso Boru** (below left) after burning her house down and killing her cattle.



She had given birth recently and was raped 'in the forest,' reportedly by 'Inspector Dajane' (above right). Her father-in-law had been killed previously (W2).



On 8 August 2024, **Moti Waqo Jilo** (right) was shot dead by government forces in Wadara district, Guji. His brother Sida was detained when he attempted to retrieve Moti's body.



Their father, **Waqo Jilo** (left), was shot dead on 5 July 2021 when he attempted to protect his wife from being abducted to a nearby military camp. She became mentally ill after his death and since then she needs to be prevented from wandering around naked in the village (W2).

In September 2024, local militia fired on four motorcycle riders in Boku Luboma, Miyo district, Borana, **killing one** and injuring two others, after they had refused to pay a 50 birr checkpoint fee.<sup>53</sup>



**Uda Bada Shura** (right), Nuruu village, Goro Dola district, Guji, was killed by government forces on 16 November 2024 (W2).

<sup>53</sup> [https://addisstandard.com/two-youths-shot-dead-by-militia-members-in-east-hararghe-oromia-region-families-report/#google\\_vignette](https://addisstandard.com/two-youths-shot-dead-by-militia-members-in-east-hararghe-oromia-region-families-report/#google_vignette)



On 10 January 2025, **Boruu Alinur** (left), was killed by government forces in front of his home in Moyale, Borana zone. Residents protested after the killing (ISS). He was 14 years old and was killed by police, according to *Addis Standard*.<sup>54</sup>

A 24 year-old, **Kala Bonaya**, was killed by security forces in Miyo district, Borana, at an unspecified date (reported 15 January).<sup>55</sup>

**Roba Bantola** (shown right, before and after death), Dhuqqoo village, Goro Dola district, Guji, was killed by government forces on 14 February 2025 (W1 and W2).



**Ketelo Jedala** (left), a young man in Hardoti village, Liban district, East Borana, was killed by government forces in late February or early March. He was married only one week previously (reported 5 March, W1).

On 19 March, local government militia shot dead **Areri Gobana Udo**, an elderly man in Dhadacha Gola village, Liban district, East Borana. In the same attack, a young man, **Siraj Damise Qundhi**, was badly injured and taken to Saransar military camp, where he was denied medical care.<sup>56</sup>

**Gagasa Boru Dale**, aged 18, from Bore village, Gelana district, West Guji, was taken from prison at night on 8 April and killed (W1).

### Attempted killings, rape, severe injuries and beating

The **young woman** shown left was shot in the face and head and left for dead in Dugda Dawa district, West Guji, after being gang-raped in front of her family by six members of ENDF government forces on 24 October 2023. She survived after receiving hospital treatment and understandably wished to remain anonymous (W2).



**Bedatu Yamado** (left), a young woman in Goro Dola district, Guji, was shot and was admitted to hospital for treatment shortly before 11 January (W1).

On 18 January, **Yaqob Kintota** (right) was accused by government militia of using his motorbike in support of OLA in Ogo Denbi, Bula Hora district, West Guji. Militia members hung him by the neck with thin wire until neighbours protested his innocence and were able to secure his release. He was unable to speak due to his injuries, when being treated in hospital (W2).



On 18 March, a video recording of a young man being whipped 'like a snake' by a government militia member was shown on social media. The victim (left) is named **Felmata Uda**, in Aga Wayu district, Guji.<sup>57</sup>

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>55</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>56</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/25/alleged-human-rights-violations-in-oromia-reports-of-killings-torture-and-extortion-under-ethiopian-government-forces/>

<sup>57</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1MfiW5JemB/>



## Detention and disinformation

ONM reported on 30 March that eight young men were arrested by government forces in Alge Qarsaa Arda Dhaddacha Gola, Liban district, East Borana, on 19 March. They were detained in Saransari.

The government announced on social media on 27 March that they had captured OLA soldiers. They fired on civilians at the time of the arrests injuring some. Villagers claim those arrested were innocent.

Seven (right) were named Badhadha Girja, Nuriya Nagesa, Ali Abdo, Moolida Gololcha, Ayana Ware, Siraj Cokka and Siraj Damise.



## Burning, destruction, looting and displacement

On 14 March 2024, government Oromia Police set fire to Qilxaa village, Sabba Boru district, Guji. The pictures below show homes that were destroyed. Screenshots from a video taken by the police show their members rejoicing and whooping with delight as homes are burning and collapsing. Two members of the government forces are shown posing in front of the conflagration (W2).



At least ten homes were burned down and 130 cattle were killed by government forces (see below) in Goro Dola district on 9 May 2024 (W2).



Residents fled to the to the tented settlement at Iyoob, shown below, after attacks on Saransar, Goro Dola district, Guji, in early 2024..



On 17 January 2025, properties belonging to Nura Jilo, siblings Negessa Liban, Roba Liban, Gambela Liban and their mother (name not reported) in Goro Dola district, Guji, were burnt by government forces. After burning down the houses, they arrested the owners and then returned and detained their children (W1 and W2).

Beating, large numbers of arrests and looting of livestock in Guji and Borana zones were reported by ONM on 6 April. At least 28 were taken from their homes in Adadi village, Goro Dola district, Guji, and Nura Humba, Hardoti and Qarsaa Male villages, Liban district, East Borana, on 1 and 3 April, 16 of whom were named by ONM. The detainees include an elderly man, Waqo, in his seventies. They were taken to Adadi military camp, with livestock, including at least 20 cattle belonging to a single resident of Adadi village.

### Abuse in Afar Region

*Addis Standard* reported on 1 February that at least **eight civilians** were killed during a drone strike on 30 January, launched by Djibouti against the opposition group, Front for the Restoration of Unity and Democracy (FRUD) in the Afar region.<sup>58</sup> At least another four, including a pregnant woman, were injured during night-time attacks on nomad camps.

The attack occurred near the Djibouti border at Siyaru kebele, Elidar district. This was reportedly the second attack in two months.

The League for Human Rights in Djibouti (LDDH) claimed that 14, including four women, were killed and that several more were injured, including women and children. Local residents claimed that civilians were deliberately targeted.

### Abuses in Benishangul-Gumuz Region

#### Killings

On 11 January, OSG was informed of the killing by government forces of **Ashenafi Melka** (right) in Wanbara district, Metekel zone (W1).

‘**Balatooli**’, a ‘well-known resident’ of Asosa town, was executed by government forces on 13 March ‘with a bullet to the forehead in broad daylight.’<sup>59</sup>



<sup>58</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/drone-attack-in-ethiopias-afar-region-kills-more-than-eight-residents-accuse-djiboutian-govt/>

<sup>59</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/20/prosperity-partys-fascist-thugs-ramp-up-killings-and-abductions-across-omoria/>



## Abuses in Amhara Region

### Killings, injuries, beating and displacement

The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission, according to an EEPA bulletin on 27 January, reported that at least 115 civilians were killed by ENDF and Fano forces in Amhara Region between September and December 2024. Fighting prevented information being retrieved from many areas. Civilians were killed by ENDF for being suspected of supporting Fano and vice versa.

Another **three**, including a pregnant woman and her six-year old daughter, **were killed** in a drone strike on 7 February, in Zenbo kebele, Efratana district, North Showa zone.

*Addis Standard* reported that **four**, a woman and three children, **were killed** in a drone strike on a residential area in Ambasel district, South Wollo, zone, on 13 February.<sup>60</sup> The attack followed days of fighting between Fano and ENDF in which heavy artillery was used. There were severe injuries and destruction of properties.

**Another 16**, including children, **were killed** and several injured in a drone strike on Hamus Gebeya, East Gojjam zone, on 23 February.<sup>61</sup>

EEPA reported on 6 March that over 560,000 were displaced and destitute in Amhara Region.

During heavy bombardment of Coqorsa Funyan Sullee village in Artuma Furse district, Oromia Special Zone, 15 year-old **Foziya Ami** was killed on 8 March. Fano militants continued targeting the area, preventing her family from retrieving her body and injuring several cattle owners. A few days previously, on 3 March, they abducted a mentally ill Oromo from a nearby town, since when he has disappeared.<sup>62</sup>

Beatings of civilians by government militia were reported by ONM.<sup>63</sup> On 8 March, Mame Mahamad Sayidu, in Golboo Arbaa, Oromia Special Zone, was falsely accused of owning a firearm. Militia ‘bound his hands, beat him and shattered one of his hands.’

On 9 March, Aliyi Mahamad Hasan, a farmer from Gohee village, Artuma Furse, district, was severely beaten by government militia and detained in Qiciicoo town.

Also in Artuma Furse district, Fano forces reportedly attacked Oromo civilians in early March. One of those wounded, Aliyi Said, is shown right in Kemise hospital (W1, 13 March).



**Two Oromo civilians were killed** by Fano fighters during fighting in Saden Meken and Kemise, reported 21 March. **Three more** were killed by Fano on 25 March (W1):

**Usman Ali**

**Tokuma (Abdurahman)**

**Wajitu Said**

ONM reported (1 April) that a shop owner named **Yasufe** was shot dead by government militia when they opened fire on Shaaklaa village in Daawa Caffa district, Oromia Special

<sup>60</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/drone-strike-in-amharas-ambasel-district-kills-three-children-aunt-amid-escalating-clashes/>

<sup>61</sup> <https://www.thereporterethiopia.com/44009/>

<sup>62</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/17/amhara-militants-kill-oromo-civilians-including-a-15-year-old-girl-in-harxummaa-fursee/>

<sup>63</sup> <https://qbo-abo-wbo.org/2025/03/16/escalating-violence-in-oromia-reports-of-torture-killings-and-looting-by-government-forces/>

Zone, on 23 March. His wife, Rabia, was badly beaten and injured. Yasufe's shop was looted and the contents, together with a television from his house, were loaded on a patrol vehicle and taken to Kemise town.

More than **40 civilians were killed** on 31 March, in Brakat town and the surrounding areas of Senka, Arsema, and Fita in Mecha district, North Gojjam, during house-to-house searches by government forces 'killing anyone they found . . . including mothers, children and a church administrator' after military engagement with Fano.<sup>64</sup>

According to ONM (3 April) a truck driver was stopped by government forces and ordered to pay 10,000 birr because he was carrying wheat which should have been 'marketed through the regime.' He was detained for a few days but was later followed and shot in Kemise town. He survived with leg injuries.

### **Refugees attacked and subjected to extortion**

Eritrean refugee families reported in January that at least five individuals were detained without charge in North Gondar zone for two months and that ransom of 100,000-500,000 birr was demanded for their release.<sup>65</sup> They had been arrested from Alemwach camp in Dabat and had since been transferred to Debarq, 40 km away, making it difficult for families to visit.

In the past year, *Addis Standard* reported, robbery, kidnappings and that violence at the camp, which hosts 21,000 Sudanese and Eritrean refugees, had left nine dead.

In the first two weeks of February, Fano forces attacked Sudanese refugees in Aftit refugee camp, shooting and wounding two and stealing over 100 mobile phones.<sup>66</sup> The refugees fled from violent attacks in Awlala and Kumer camps in early 2024. Many spent several months living in a forest area near the camps before fleeing from repeated attacks and going to Aftit and a transit camp near Metema in July and August. Several were killed and hundreds were forced back to Sudan.<sup>67</sup>

### **Refugees in Djibouti**

Long-term refugees and asylum-seekers in Djibouti city and in Ali Addeh refugee camp in the Djibouti desert continue to write concerning the lack of financial assistance and rations, and the lack of medical help.

OSG has received no more reports of refoulement in the last six months and no reports of resettlement of refugees from Djibouti for several years. Most of OSG's correspondents from the city and refugee camp have been there for 14 years or more.

Unknown numbers are still dying in the desert trying to reach Djibouti. The photograph of some who died in the desert (right) was sent to OSG on 10 March. Many arrive only to attempt to join the scores of thousands in Yemen trying to reach Saudi Arabia.



In 2024, 60,000 migrants arrived in Yemen, despite the risk of violence, detention, forced labour, kidnap and extortion. Since 2014, the International Organisation for Migration has recorded over 3,400 deaths on this eastern route, including more than 580 women and 100

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<sup>64</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/over-40-civilians-including-children-allegedly-killed-by-govt-security-forces-in-amharas-north-gojjam-zone/>

<sup>65</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/families-of-detained-eritrean-refugees-allege-ransom-demands-of-up-to-half-a-million-birr-prolonged-detention-in-amhara/>

<sup>66</sup> *The Continent*, Issue 191, 22 February 2025.

<sup>67</sup> See OSG Report 68, p.35.

children. 1,400 of these deaths were caused by drowning. The IOM reported that another 180 migrants drowned when attempting the crossing on 6 March.<sup>68</sup>

## Refugees in Kenya

Refugees continue to suffer in Kenya. Conflict hindered travel from the border at Moyale to Nairobi, at least in early February when Kenyan National Police, responding to intelligence information from Ethiopia, attacked OLA hideouts in Marsabit and Isiolo counties for three days.

Ethiopian agents continue to attack refugees in Nairobi and life in refugee camps in the northeast at Dadaab and northwest in Kakuma and Kalobeyei continues to get even harsher.

Reductions in food rations as UNHCR and its partner agencies are increasingly strapped for cash have precipitated angry demonstrations outside the UNHCR sub-office in Kakuma, which oversees the Kakuma/Kalobeyei complex.

These two camps included over 289,000 refugees one year ago, before more arrivals of those fleeing conflicts in Sudan and South Sudan. *Eye Radio* reported that Kalobeyei now hosts over 148,000 South Sudanese alone.<sup>69</sup> In addition, the camps contain refugees from Congo, Burundi, Ethiopia and Somalia.

The World Food Program, which feeds the camps, reduced rations to 40% of the acknowledged minimum requirement last year due to ‘resource constraints’ and refugees are hungry. The WFP announced in March that it was closing its office in South Africa due to Trump administration cuts to aid.

Demonstrators also complained of severe water shortages (up to five days without water), poor healthcare and the introduction of school fees for the limited education facilities at the camps.

On 3 March, Kenyan police fired rubber bullets and live ammunition at demonstrators, injuring several, at least one seriously (below right).



Plans to close the camps and integrate their populations into impoverished local communities have yet to reach fruition and are seen as a cynical ploy, merely to attract donor funds and are likely to increase tension between refugee and host communities (see OSG Reports 66 and 67).

<sup>68</sup> <https://www.iom.int/news/over-180-migrants-feared-dead-after-shipwrecks-yemens-coast>

<sup>69</sup> <https://www.eyeradio.org/kenya-police-sent-to-kakuma-camp-amid-days-of-hunger-related-protests/>

## Refugees in Somaliland and Puntland

In January and February, there were mass arrests and deportations of Oromo from Somaliland and Puntland and many reports of violent attacks, at least five of which were lethal. The increase in tension between immigrant and host communities, which was apparently related to Ethiopia's plans to establish a port and naval base in Somaliland, appears to have subsided somewhat following the meeting to achieve agreement between Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed and Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud on 27 February.

However, sporadic violence and deportations, especially of newly arrived migrants, was continuing according to information received on 7 April.

### Attacks, arrests, killings and rape

Attacks and extortion by police in Hargeisa were reported in January, in continuity with similar reports in 2024 (see for example OSG Reports 67, pp.36-38 and 68, pp.39-40). Hate speech on social media encouraged attacks on immigrants and their deportation in 2025.

**Murad Zuber** (right) was shot in the head and killed by Somaliland military in Arabsiyo, between Hargeisa and the border, around 1 January.

**Jundi Abdirahman** (below right), a recent arrival in Hargeisa, was killed in a knife attack at the beginning of the year.

Abdi Adem Mume, a registered refugee/asylum-seeker, was wounded in a knife attack in the Dami area of Hargeisa at 2 pm on 1 January. Mohammed Abdulkadir Ahmed, also registered, was attacked mid-January at Isha Borama, Masala.

Ms Eman Nurdin Jemal, a registered asylum-seeker/refugee, was injured when she was forced into a car during an attempted kidnapping in Hargeisa in January. Ramadan Sheik Dawud, a new arrival, was attacked with a knife in early February.



*Addis Standard* reported that security forces killed **one Oromo** in Puntland on 26 January and **two more** were **beaten to death** by the public in Bosasso next day.<sup>70</sup>

Attacks were justified by false accusations of involvement with ISIS. More than 500 were detained in Garowe and thousands in Puntland as a whole.

Mohammed Anuwar Adem (above left), a recent arrival in Somaliland, received knife wounds when attacked by youths in Hargeisa on 29 January. A registered refugee/asylum-seeker, Girmalul Sigab Gabremeskan, was attacked at night by a group of local youths on 30 January.



Khalid Mohammed Yusuf (left), a registered refugee, also received knife wounds when attacked in Hargeisa on 2 February.

Registered individuals, Ahmed Abdushakur Mohammed, had his 'hand broken' when attacked at night by a local gang, and Abdulrahman Ibrahim



<sup>70</sup> <https://addisstandard.com/three-ethiopians-killed-in-somalias-puntland-several-reportedly-detained-over-alleged-isis-links/>



Hassan also had his ‘hand broken’ during an attack at his workplace, both reported on 7 February.



An Oromo man injured in Garowe in January during the wave of arrests and deportations is shown left.

Contacts in Puntland reported that many were attacked and robbed of their personal belongings and many women and girls were raped.

One registered asylum-seeker, Abdalla Adem Ahmed, reported to OSG’s contact in Hargeisa that on 5 February many youths and police took him from his home to a police station. More than ten youths then returned to his home and **raped his wife and another girl** there. Abdalla was kept at the police station for five days.

As Report 69 was going to press, OSG’s Hargeisa correspondent sent information about the killing of an Oromo migrant by police in Las Anod at the end of February and a recent knife attack on an asylum-seeker in Hargeisa.

**Muftii Shukar Muhumed** (right) left Puntland with many other Oromo youngsters, fleeing the wave of deportations in February. After traveling by foot, he arrived in Las Anod, a city which was taken from Puntland by Somaliland in 2007, at the end of



February. On his arrival in the city, he was shot dead by Las Anod police ‘without any reason.’

Fuad Abduraman Mohamed was abducted by Immigration Police on 6 April and taken outside the city where he was robbed of his money and possessions (as is common practice of Hargeisa Immigration Police – see OSG Report 65, p.35). He was accosted by a gang of local youths when walking back to the city and stabbed multiple times by a stiletto knife in his back and legs. He is shown left having one of his wounds stitched and dressed in Hargeisa.

## Deportations

On 29 January, OSG was informed that thousands of Oromo had been rounded up in the Puntland cities of Bosasso, Garowe, Qardho and Galkayo. At least 300 Oromo were deported from Garowe and almost 1,000 from Bosasso, according to refugee representatives. Unknown numbers were deported from Qardho.

Many newcomers and registered asylum-seekers and refugees were reported to be still in prison after two weeks, on 16 February, especially in Bosasso and Garowe.

The majority of Oromo deportees were new arrivals but there were at least one mandated refugee couple and their family and one registered asylum-seeker among those deported from Garowe. Tawfik Ahmed Mumed



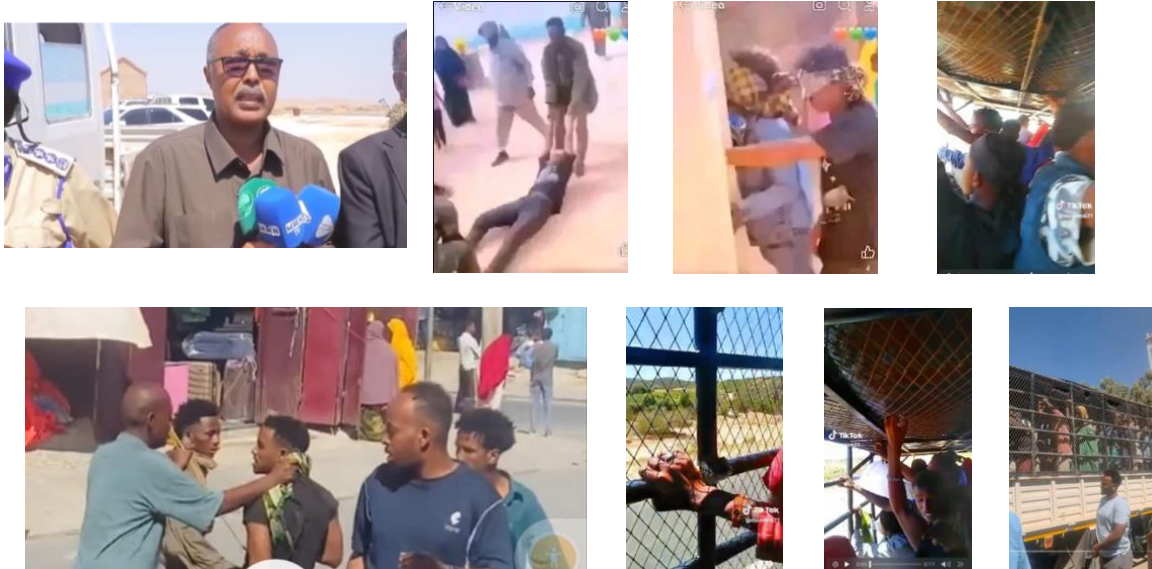
(registration certificate shown right) was deported one day after his wife, Bilisuma Aliyi Mumee, and their six children were returned to Ethiopia near the end of January.

Ms Caltu Aliyi Mumee, a registered asylum-seeker, presumed by OSG to be a sister of Tawfik’s wife, was also among the deportees.



Local social media reported that the deportation of ‘illegal’ migrants ‘like cattle’ (left) was commendable.

Pictured below are an official in Garowe announcing the deportations to media, images of young Oromo being rounded up in Puntland in January and early February and screenshots from a video taken from inside a truck of deportees, sent to OSG on 24 February.



### **Fire in Hargeisa**

Premises of more than 100 small businesses were destroyed in an accidental fire at the beginning of February in the Idada area of Hargeisa (right). Two belonged to Oromo refugees who had secured small loans to establish them.

