

REPORT 70

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Human Rights Abuses in Ethiopia

Contents

Hacaaluu Hundeessa	p.3
Health professionals and teachers strike	p.3
Extortion: punitive taxation at gunpoint	p.5
Coercion: cultivation	p.10
Forced conscription	p.11
Adding fuel to the Fano/Oromo fire	p.13
Restrictions	p.14
Attacks by Fano in Oromia, Amhara and Benishangul-Gumuz Regions	p.15
Expropriation and eviction for 'development': Borana airport	p.16
Malaria, health care denied	p.17
Miscellany: Cutting maize; Forests burned	p.17
Drunken brawls and gunfights; Water shortages, Kidnapping,	p.18
Somali incursions	p.18
Finfinnee and Shaggar City	
Killings	p.19
Detention	p.19
Prisoners moved after ethnic attacks	p.19
Showa	
Killings: North Showa; West Showa	p.19
Southwest Showa	p.21
East Showa	p.22
North Showa: Detention, looting, beating	p.22
Attacks by ENDF in North Showa	p.23
Detention and attacks by ENDF in West Showa	p.23
Southwest Showa: detention, looting, beating	p.24
Attacks by ENDF in Southwest Showa	p.25
East Showa: detention, beating, extortion	p.26
Attacks by ENDF in East Showa	p.27
Wollo, Oromia Special Zone, Amhara Region	
Killings	p.27
Fano killings in West Gojjam	p.28
Detention	p.28
Killings in Northwest Amhara Region	p.29

Continued overleaf

Wollo contd.	
Drone Strike	p.29
Arsi and West Arsi	
Killings by ENDF	p.29
Killings by Fano	p.29
Detention and restrictions	p.30
Attacks by ENDF in Arsi and West Arsi	p.30
Hararge and Bale	
Killings	p.31
Detention	p.32
Burning of Waaqeffannaa Worship Hall, <i>Galma</i> , in West Hararge	p.33
Attacks by ENDF	p.33
Horo Guduru and East Wallega	
Killings by Fano	p.33
Killings by ENDF	p.35
Detention	p.36
Rape	p.38
Attacks by ENDF: Horo Guduru	p.38
East Wallega	p.39
Qellem and West Wallega, Illubabor, Buno Bedele and Jimma	
Killings	p.39
Shot and injured	p.43
Rape and control of movement	p.43
Detention	p.44
Beating, looting, burning	p.45
Qellem Wallega	p.45
West Wallega	p.46
Illubabor: Buno Bedele	p.47
Guji and Borana	
Killings	p.47
Rape	p.47
Beatings	p.48
Detention	p.48
Benishangul-Gumuz Region	
Killings	p.48
Detention, looting, burning, beating	p.49
Refugees Kenya	p.49
Eastern Route: Djibouti, Somaliland, Puntland, Yemen, Saudi Arabia.	p.50

Abbreviations

ENDF	Ethiopian National Defence Force
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

Hacaaluu Hundeessaa



29 June marks the fifth anniversary of the killing of Hacaaluu Hundeessaa in Finfinnee by government forces or those acting on their behalf. More than a cultural icon, Hacaaluu was a strongly unifying figure. Like Baate Urgeessa (assassinated in April 2024), Hacaaluu was a proponent of a peaceful solution to Ethiopia's problems and a man who celebrated diversity.

Hacaaluu's joyful and proudly Oromo songs and performances inspired and encapsulated the history-changing Qeerroo movement.

Health professionals and teachers strike

Health professionals conveyed their 12-point demands to the Ministry of Health on 11 April, giving 30 days warning of a full national strike if discussions had not been agreed to address their concerns.



On 4 May, the President of the Ethiopian Healthcare Professionals Association, Yonatan Dagnaw (left) was arrested. There was no response from the government to a few days of partial strikes: the national strike began on 13 May, after the 30-day deadline had passed.



For days before the national strike, there were reports of doctors being beaten and arrested. In

Maqi (Meki) town, East Showa, the staff at the hospital were threatened with detention on 9 May if they took part in demonstrations. The



photograph of the young doctor with a severe scalp wound (above right) was sent on 10 May. Related arrests were reported from several districts in West Arsi on 11 and 12 May.

Among those arrested in Siraro city, Arsi, on 12 May, were three doctors (Bedassa Aliyi, Mohammed Ararso, Adicho Hasan) and two unnamed teachers (left).

Health services in Arsi and West Arsi 'ground to a halt' by 14 May. The strike was observed in Arba Minch (Gamo zone, South Ethiopia), Walaita, and in Amhara and Tigray Regions as well as widely in Oromia Region.

Doctors and other health professionals demonstrated outside major hospitals in Finfinnee (Alert Hospital, Kolf-Keranyo sub-city, 12 May – near right; Black Lion Hospital, 19 May – far right).



Borkena.com reported 78 health professionals had been arrested by 21 May. On 22 May, twelve doctors and nurses were arrested from Goba General Hospital in Bale and held in the city police station. At least 25 were detained in a single night in Gondar, Amhara Region. Head officials of the well-known hospital in Aira, West Wallega, and of Mekane Yesus

Evangelical Church which runs it, were detained on 24 May. Over 120 health workers had been detained by 2 June after strikes from Bahar Dar to Mekele and from Finfinnee to Dire Dawa in the east and Qellem Wallega in the west.

Midnight police raids on doctors' dormitories were also part of the harassment to discourage strike action. Doctors were thrown on the street.

Although the strike is only partly about salaries, pay is a large factor. The miserly pay for most doctors is not enough for a single person to survive in Finfinnee. The minimum for one person without a family or any other dependents, is said to be 17,000 birr/month, approximately \$135.

Doctors are expected to work punishing hours for a mere 11,000 birr/month (\$81), which is simply unsustainable; impossible if they have dependents. Sometimes even these paltry payments, in common with all government employees, are delayed or remain unpaid.

Teachers' pay is even lower and free accommodation has also been taken from them. On 23 May, ONM reported that the Caancoo town administration in Sululta district, North Showa, had instigated charges for accommodation and had also imposed 'registration fees' amounting to 173,000 birr for each teacher. Teachers complained that '5,500 to 10,000 birr is not enough to live on. We eat only bread for breakfast and lunch and there are those who support their families.'

Government employees have been protesting since early April, when ONM reported the arrest of teachers and a nurse in Diga district, East Wallega, for demanding salary increases because their pay did not cover their rent. A few days earlier, government officials in Jima Ganati district, Horo Guduru, announced 50% pay-cuts for teachers and civil servants to fund building a district office.

Civil servants in Guji zone told ONM that when they complained about their salaries not being paid on time, they were accused of being supporters of OLA.

The protests by health workers, teachers and other civil servants are not only for better pay. Years of neglect have left a poorly-organised, chronically underfunded health system with outdated equipment, lacking in medical supplies and protective gear. Hospitals are understaffed with over-worked doctors and nurses on punishing long shifts. Three quarters of health workers have reported having to cut back on their family's food. Working hours must be reduced and adequate rest provided. There should be good postgraduate training for teachers and health professionals to invest in future excellence.

Dr Tesho Eshetu, above right, was killed by government forces in Adama hospital on Tuesday 27 May.

The government's heavy-handed response to the protests has been criticised by Amnesty International and the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission. There was no sign of resolution of the protests as this report went to press. In Jimma, schools were closed early for summer at the beginning of May, to avoid student protests gathering momentum.



Extortion: punitive taxation at gunpoint

Starting from 19 April, government forces in Saqa Coqorsa district, Jimma zone, were deployed to villages, going house-to-house 'in the name of supporting the imperial defence forces' collecting 500 birr from 'poor mothers who have nothing to eat' and up to 10,000 birr from others. They began at 6.00 p.m. to ensure villagers were home.

Excessive, punitive taxation levied at zonal, district and local levels has severely impoverished and weakened Oromo communities throughout Ethiopia.

Destitution to the present degree and extent, due to government extortion, looting and violence, has not been experienced since conflict and drought brought famine centuries ago nor since the subjugation and enslavement of Oromo at the end of the 19th century.

Several hundred reports of crippling taxation and extortion have been published by ONM in recent months, too many to include in this OSG report. Only a selection of examples in Wollo, all zones of Showa and Wallega, Jimma, Buno Bedele, Illubabor, Arsi, Guji, Borana, Hararge and Bale is given below.

Ethiopia is being bankrupted by policies and conflicts instigated or worsened by its government. Extracting more revenue from its poverty-stricken population is unlikely to stave off economic collapse for long.

Increasing and recurrent extortion is announced at public meetings and gatherings, including at markets. It is imposed even at funerals. Soldiers and militia members go from house-to-house making demands in villages, punishing non-compliance with beating, looting and detention, as evidenced below. Arbitrary taxes are levied by security forces on pedestrians, trucks and passengers at roadsides to and from markets.

Gonofa and corruption

Often, no specific reason is given for imposed taxes (*gonofa*). For example, on 8 April, 3,000 to 6,000 birr per person was demanded in Faji Ejersa, Jarso district, West Showa; on 7 April, 5-6,000 birr was demanded at gunpoint from villagers in Gamo and Tuchi Sumaya in Dugda district, East Showa; on 15 April, 1,000 per person was levied in villages and towns in Suudee district, Arsi, for *gonofa* payment; and on 5 May, taxes of 5,000 birr for 'unknown support payments' were taken in Darimu district, Illubabor, causing 'many of the poor to flee their homes and families.'

On 30 May, villagers in Abakuu Aannoo village, Ilu Galan district, West Showa, were robbed at gunpoint of 1000 birr per person, without the purpose of payment being specified or their being given a receipt. In Nekemte city, East Wallega, property owners were charged 'house tax' and those in rented properties were charged for having televisions.

Levies were reportedly a little more appropriate in Saqa Coqorsa district, Jimma, where on 31 May it was reported that poor people paid 200 birr and those 'living better lives' were charged 5,000.

The process is rife with corruption because of the arbitrary nature of the extortion. For example, after 'robbing the people in various ways' in Shanan Dhugo district, West Hararge, on 20 May, another 500 birr was being taken from each person 'under the name of *buusa gonofa* for personal gain.'

On 15 April, ONM reported that officials were demanding 2-4,000 birr from residents of Darimu district, Illubabor, but pocketing it all except the 300 birr which was paid to the office.

In another reported example of corrupt practice reported on 20 May, 7,000 birr was being taken from residents of Daqala village in Dedoo district, Jimma, ‘in the name of an unknown type of payment’ but receipts for only 2,000 birr were given, ‘to fulfil their personal interests,’ so ‘the community has nothing to eat in the spring season.’

Construction

There were numerous examples of extortion of monies for ‘construction work’, usually of village offices. There were other demands too.

For example, there was ‘repeated looting’ in Wabeko village, Darimu district, Illubabor, ‘in the name of building village offices’ on 2 April; villagers in Ifaa Jiruu, Habroo district, West Hararge, were forced to pay 500 birr on 10 April ‘to build village offices’; and on 30 April up to 28,000 birr was being taken from individuals in East Hararge to build village offices.

Beyond the violent repression of protests in East Bale, residents in more than 54 villages report being coerced by local authorities to pay between 4,000 and 7,000 birr per person under the pretext of funding the construction of administrative offices. Community members say that after the initial payments were collected, officials claimed the funds had been depleted and began demanding an additional 3,000 birr or more, placing enormous financial pressure on already impoverished households.

Payments of 700-5,000 birr per person for building village offices have been demanded in Sayo Nole district, West Wallega; Dambii district, Buno Bedele; Sinana and Dinsho districts, West Bale; and in Horo Bulluq and Guduru districts of Horo Guduru.

Demands for these payments were not isolated from other abuses. For example, there was looting of properties, goats, sheep and cattle in Sodu Welmali village, Harana Bulluq district, East Bale, before payments of 3-10,000 birr were demanded for building a village office on 17 April. ONM reported that people were fleeing the area because of extortion and looting.

Money for building materials, the materials themselves and forced labour to construct buildings were also demanded. For example, on 17 April, residents of several villages in Bako Tibe district, West Showa, were forced to contribute 1,500 birr to buy wood to build the village offices. Each resident of Amuma Goorgisi village, Lata Sibu district, West Wallega, was ordered to pay 1,000 birr, supply four pieces of wood and to build their office within a few days, before it was completed and reported on 29 May.

When farmers in two villages in Bosat district, East Showa, were ordered to build village offices in April, each person was told to give 50 kg of soya beans. Also in April, the administrator and the security chief in Torbayo village Mi’esso district, West Hararge, demanded oxen and 250 birr per person for the inauguration of their village office. Similarly, when villagers in Jireenya, Guto Gida district, East Wallega, were forced to build an office in two days, 30 April and 1 May, after paying thousands of birr, they were then made to donate an ox to celebrate the opening.

A report on 1 June gave a broader perspective. Residents of Guyo Dale village, Qiltu Kara district, West Wallega, described four days of coercion during which they were forced to give 100 birr per household, along with four sacks of grain and construction materials. At this time a district-wide levy of 1,000 birr was also imposed separately, under threat of violence.

Failure to comply has resulted in villagers being beaten, fired upon, detained, and being denied government fertiliser or aid (see below). Criticism is also punished. When a resident of Jalata Cawaqa, Sayo Nole district, West Wallega, queried the need for provision of free labour as well as money in May, he was detained in the district police station.

Defence forces

One of the other most often used reasons given for extorting money is in support of local militia and federal security forces. For example, in April, residents of Sude district, Arsi, were told 'each village should buy 15 guns for the government' and charged 500 birr per person. In May, each resident was charged 1,000 birr for the ENDF, 600 birr for local militia, 1,000 birr for general *gonofa* payment and 500 birr for 'night security.'

Similar demands were known to have been made in Siraro district, West Arsi; Tulo district, West Hararge (1,500 for militia, 1,700 for *gonofa* payment); Bedeno district, East Hararge (500 birr 'for militia uniforms'); and Gasara and Agarfa districts, West Bale (5-700 birr per person so each village could buy 8 AKM rifles and 1 breech weapon).

Villagers in Lata Sibu district, West Wallega, were forced to provide food or money to feed militia. Traders in Mako district, Buno Bedele, were made to pay 500-1,000 birr 'for slaughtering cattle for the army at Easter.'

In Artuma Furse district, Wollo, families of three farmers, detained in April, were ordered to deliver firearms to the police station to secure their release, but they remained in detention. In May, residents in Bate and other districts of Wollo, were ordered to pay 100 birr for food and uniforms for local militia.

It was reported on 4 June that in several districts of East Showa, including Bora, Dugda, Fantale and Adama city, government officials were taking 55,000 birr 'from each person in the name of buying guns' but using the money as private income.

Trade and transport

There were almost as many reports of extortion of money from traders and the owners and drivers of buses, bajaj and motorcycle taxis.

As well as being charged 500 birr to buy guns 'for protection,' shops in Daraba town, Arsi, were closed down in April for failing to pay for taxes and licences. Small and large businesses in Haramaya, East Hararge, and those moving goods for sale were looted and robbed in May 'for not having legal permits' or failing to renew licences. 1,000 birr was demanded from each. Oromo businesses were reported to be particularly affected.

Markets have been especially targeted for extortion. In Sayo Nole district, West Wallega, traders in Gute Mika'el village were each forced at gunpoint to hand over 500 birr in 'taxes' for which they received no receipt, in April. In Nekemte, East Wallega, traders at the market were charged for each commodity up for sale, including qat. Motorcycle taxis were each charged 200 birr. In Chafa Robit city, Wollo, soap sellers were charged 250 birr for 'not having licences.'

In Maqi (Meki) town, East Showa, militia at every access road collected 1,000 birr for each motor vehicle and 500 for horse carts 'not only on market days but every day in the name of militia assistance.'

In Harana Bulluq district, West Bale, shops were closed in May if owners refused to pay more taxes, and 1-2,000 birr was demanded from bajaj and motorcycle taxi drivers in the name of 'annual tax.' Motorcycle taxi drivers were forced to pay 1,000 birr if taking people from Jireenya, Guto Gida district, to Nekemte in April.

In Bule Hora city, West Guji, bajaj drivers paid 500 birr in May 'in the name of supporting the construction of a football stadium.'

The suppression of commerce and movement is aptly described in a report from East Wallega on 29 May. Government forces based in Guto Gida district set up road blocks there and in Sibu Sire district, from where they demanded 500 birr from each driver ‘in support of militia.’ Pedestrians were harassed and robbed of mobile phones and money. Some were detained because they were ‘new faces’ in the community.

Ransom payments for detainees and forced conscripts

The largest amounts are being demanded for the release of prisoners, especially those who are detained before being sent to military training camps (See Forced conscription, pp.11-14).

Some, like farmers from Baraka village, Shanan Dhugo district, West Hararge, have been released after paying as little as 2,000 birr in May, following spurious allegations of supporting OLA were made solely for the personal gain of government officials.

Others, like residents of ten villages in Shashemane district, West Arsi, were forced to pay between 100,000 and 500,000 birr to be released. In Dugda district, East Showa, 10,000 birr was demanded for each of 35 political prisoners. Further harm to the prisoners was threatened if payment was not made on 2 May.

On April 29, party officials and militiamen extorted 200 birr from each person while they were at a funeral in Tuuluu Gundaaraa village of Begii district, West Wallega

Other examples include 30,000 birr demanded for the release of conscripts in Sude district, Arsi; 200,000 birr for detainees in Horo district, Horo Guduru; ‘large sums’ for those held in Diga district police station, East Wallega; and 43,200 birr for political prisoners in Hurumu district, Illubabor.

Other charges

Numerous reports included demands for 45,000 birr from bus owners and 5,000 from bajaj drivers for ‘corridor development’ in Bishoftu, East Showa; fines of 2,000 birr for failure to demolish homes for road widening in Lokkee town, Siraro district, Arsi, within five days; ‘election contribution payments’ of 500 birr collected in house-to-house visits in Shanan Dhugo district, West Hararge; payments ‘to help the poor’ in Saqa Coqorsa district, Jimma; 1,000 birr per person for ‘party support’ in Shaggar city, Finfinnee; another 500-2,000 birr for ‘tribal tax contributions’ in Shanan Dhugo district, West Hararge; and 300 birr for ‘Red Cross aid’ in Robe city, West Bale.

Up to 3,000 birr has been levied for ‘health insurance’ in many places, including Gidami district, Qellem Wallega; Bedeno district, West Hararge; and Diga district, East Wallega.

Other demands are being made including 900 birr (increased from 200) for renewing ID cards in Bako Tibe district, West Showa; unspecified amounts for ID cards in Hurumu district, Illubabor; 3,500-4,000 for ID cards in Artuma Furse district, Wollo; 30,000 birr per household in Saqa Coqorsa district, Jimma, for ‘house map renewal’; up to 500 birr for school pupils in Mi’esso district, West Hararge, because of ‘budget problems’; and 150 birr per pupil in Shambu city, Horo Guduru, ‘to avoid expulsion.’

Residents of Cirrati (Jumaatee) town, Artuma Furse district, Wollo, were gathered together to be told they would collectively have to pay 17 million birr to rebuild their school.

‘Never ending’ payments

Recurring and increasing payments are being demanded because of the bankruptcy of national and regional governments and because of corruption.

In Cafa Robit town, Artuma Furse district, Wollo, house taxes were 300 birr in 2024 but 3,000 in 2025. Taxes of 5,000 birr were doubled and 10,000 increased to 15,000 birr in Waliso district, Southwest Showa, in June. They were doubled, from 3,000 to 6,000 birr, in Warra Jarso district, North Showa, and increased from 5,000 to 6,000 birr on average in Dugda district, East Showa, so that many were arrested for non-payment.

In Oda Bultum district, West Hararge, a 'second round' of taxes of 3,000 birr per person was imposed because previous payments were 'not enough; the revenue collected is less than the said amount.' Residents of Abado Jawe village, Bako Tibe district, West Showa, were told in May that money collected previously for building an office 'was used for other purposes.'

General *gonofa* payments of 1,000 birr in Sude district, Arsi, were closely followed with demands for another 700 birr to 'support defence forces' in May.

Residents of Haro village in Tulo district, West Hararge, were reported in April to have paid 1,500 birr for 'militia payment', another 1,700 for '*gonofa buusa*' and complained they were paying 1,000 birr per week 'without reason.'

In Bedeno district, East Hararge, ONM reported demands of 500 birr per person 'in the name of militia uniforms' on 15 April, only two weeks after they made payments for 'health insurance.'

As noted above, corruption is a major factor in these repeated and increasing demands.

Punishment

Throughout Oromia Region, residents have been beaten and detained for refusing to pay taxes or contribute labour for village construction projects. More than 400 villagers in Yemalogi Walal district, West Wallega, were detained at the end of April.

Punishment for non-compliance has included being denied aid from non-governmental organisations and access to government fertiliser stocks and health facilities for family members.

The distinction between punishment and looting by government forces is often blurred. For example, ONM reported on 1 June that in Qiltu Kara district, West Wallega 'soldiers have been operating in rural villages for four days, looting property, threatening, detaining and arresting people and conducting heavy pressure in the name of village construction.'

On 3 April, a 65 year old father of ten in West Showa was beaten and detained on his way to Bako town to collect fertiliser because he was simply unable to pay a four-fold increase in yearly taxes.

On 26 May, soldiers in Sirka district, Arsi, took 35 kg of wheat and 3,000 birr from all farmers and arrested 'poor people who have nothing to pay' for being 'anti-development.'

The taking of livestock in lieu of payment of taxes has been reported. Cattle were taken and driven away in Oda Bultum district, West Hararge, in mid-May, for example.

Consequences

In addition to the direct and obvious effects of extortion and abuse on the health and well-being of Oromia's citizens, the associated depression of commerce and movement of goods and people has had severe negative effects on the country's development and the national and regional economy.

The results of these punitive policies are not limited to the destitution of individuals and their families. There are wider consequences for the whole population of Ethiopia. The country's

development depends on the health of its rural economy. By crippling agriculture and animal husbandry, the government is ensuring that Ethiopia's development is put back by decades.

Protests are met with more violence and oppression. Protests on 27 May by villagers in Ilani Doyo, Gindhir district, East Bale, were met with arrests and detention. In Waliso district, Southwest Showa, protestors in Abado Jawe village on 30 May complained that as the spring farming season began, they were unable to pay double the taxes of last year, which they had duly paid. They were beaten and detained and roads to the village were closed, leading to further problems with transport services and supply of fertiliser.

Heavy taxation, forced conscription, forced labour for government building and agricultural schemes, poverty and hunger are driving large numbers of Oromo from their land, swelling the crowds fleeing the country and so becoming prey to traffickers and people smugglers.

Coercion: cultivation

Other forms of coercion are practised. Farmers are ordered to grow particular crops and not to grow others, despite economic drawbacks. Relatives of individuals known to have joined OLA are punished in many ways. Some are detained, looted or have their property destroyed. Others are simply forbidden to tend their fields, thus rendering their families destitute.

As well as paying much-increased taxes, villagers are forced to work on constructing government offices or tilling the fields belonging to government officials.

Such is the degree of control which soldiers exert that residents of Minaaree town, Meta Walqite district, West Showa, were told in mid-May to buy whistles to blow when OLA marched by. Action was threatened for those who did not comply.

Farmers in Shanan Dhugo district, West Hararge, complain of being unable to farm because of the many restrictions. On 3 June, it was reported that all communities in the district were being forced to 'cultivate militia land by force with the mouth of a gun.' Some, for example in Wama Hagalo district, East Wallega, and are forbidden to plough because their sons are in OLA.

Many have been forced off land which their families have used for generations. Public land in Finfinnee, Shaggar city, and in Adama and Bishoftu, East Showa, is being commandeered by central government. After demanding 50,000 birr from each of the 370 owners of a site in Shaggar city for 'party support, military, urban development and so on' the Joint Development Association announced it was taking the land (right).



Other examples of coercive practice include coercing farmers to grow wheat in Malka Ballo district, East Hararge, and charging for the use of 300 ha of common grazing ground (paid to the mayor, former mayor and security chief), Ukkee town, Guto Gida district, East Wallega.

In Darimu district, Illubabor, people who bought land for development were fined 10-20,000 birr for not building on it and land was being confiscated from some.

In Saqa Coqorsa district, Jimma, villagers are being forced to cultivate tea, despite their lack of experience and expertise in the field. Similarly, in Mattu district, Illubabor, residents are told to produce only tea. Objections at a public meeting were silenced with threats of detention. Villagers were told that the budget allocated for building the village office was used up and they were made to mine and transport five truckloads of stone for that too.

Forced Conscription

Brute force, extortion and destitution are forcing scores of thousands into camps for training soldiers, members of regional and district police forces and party militia. A continuous effort is necessary to replenish ENDF losses as officers and men are killed, wounded, or retire on their looted gains, while other ENDF members defect to join Fano in and around Amhara Region and OLA in Oromia Region.

A discriminatory abusive system has evolved. Corrupt officials buy and sell quotas of recruits, just like people-smugglers and traffickers. Middlemen profit from this 21st century trade of humans as commodities.

Youngsters are taken unwillingly from their homes, market stalls, the roadside, places of recreation or school and bundled away to kebele or district police stations, warehouses or other detention centres where they may be held for a few weeks so that parents have the opportunity to buy the teenagers' freedom, sometimes for several hundred thousand birr.

'Even families without eligible children to give to the regime aren't spared, facing compulsory payments of 30,000 – 50,000 birr.' Those who manage to secure their child's freedom often report being made to supply up to three other children in their stead.

A wave of conscription drives began in April, as children as young as 11 or 12 were abducted and taken for training. Kebeles were ordered to each provide 30 young men or women. Families, already impoverished by increased taxation, are thereby forced to survive without manpower. Middle-aged men and those with poor health are among those taken as conscripts.

Four young boys were interviewed by OLA after they had been trained for four months in a school in Cobi district, West Showa. The translated and subtitled recording of the interview was published on 29 May.¹ They were said to be as young as 11 and some appear younger in the recording. One said he had been taken from school. Another said he had been recruited voluntarily. They were shown how to load and fire a rifle but not how to take one apart. They had been promised 3,000 birr each if they told government soldiers where the OLA camp was and what weapons they had. It is easy to see they are not of military age.



A resident of Adama told *BBC Amharic Service* 'The leaders have been told how many people are expected of them; so they just round up whoever they find to meet their assigned quotas. They even arrest shoe-shiners working on the streets.' Young men are staying at home, keeping a low public profile, to avoid being press-ganged.

Coercion, such as threatened withdrawal of government services, is used to enforce compliance. For example, in Bako Tibe district, West Showa on 26 May, villagers were

¹ https://x.com/OLF_OLA/status/1928005341284794872

forced to wear militia uniforms and carry guns for militia training under threat of losing access to fertiliser.

The Ethiopian Human Rights Commission reportedly visited detention centres for forced conscripts in Adama, Bishoftu, Jimma and Shashemane.

Forced conscription, its violent enforcement and its associated corruption has been reported across Oromia Region – in Adama, East Showa; all districts of West Hararge; Darimu and Algee Sachi districts, Illubabor; Jimma city; Bedeno and Malka Ballo districts, East Hararge; Jaju, Guna, Martii and Sude districts, Arsi; Negele Arsi, Kofale, Qore, Siraro, Shashemane and Gadab Hasaasa districts, West Arsi; Warra Jarso district, North Showa; Dano, Ilu Galan and Cobi districts, West Showa; Laga Xafoo-Laga Daadhi, Oromia Special Zone Finfinnee; Shagar city; Burayu sub-city, Finfinnee; Bora and Maqi districts, East Showa; Horo Bulluq and Jima Ganati districts and Shambu town, Horo Guduru; Sayo Nole, Yamalogi Walal and Babo Gambel districts, West Wallega; and Gawo Qebe district, Qellem Wallega. Forced conscription into the army, police, kebele and district militias, is ubiquitous.

Lorryloads and TATA public transport vehicles full of conscripts have been taken for training from major conurbations.

According to ONM on 5 May, children of 15 years are also being trained separately and paid to plant bombs in OLA areas in Qellem and East Wallega, West and North Showa. The boys who were interviewed by OLA (see above) were presumably in this poorly trained group.

‘This isn’t defence. It’s genocide wrapped in a flag’

A soldier defecting from ENDF to OLA, 20 April, ONM

Punishment for obstructing the conscription process commonly includes severe beating and detention. Killings have also been reported. **Three** young detained **forced conscripts were shot dead** and two others were wounded in Gadab Hasaasa district, West Arsi, on 26 April, when they attempted to escape.

Families may also be punished by looting. In Bora district, East Showa, on 26 April, government soldiers drove away 82 cattle after severely beating relatives of youths who had ran from the militia camp where they had been trained for a month. They were also ordered to pay 40,000 birr for their sons’ training.

The Prosperity Party government has abused and caused the death of some its own members because of a campaign related to the forced conscription of new members to the security forces. An edict was issued at the end of April which ordered district and kebele administrators to attend 45-60 days military training, ‘in case they were attacked by OLA.’

At the beginning of May, 17,000 government employees duly began training, organised by Sagni Nagasa, who defected from OLA last year. The training, which is said to have included a 90 mile march, has had to be reduced to 30 days. Six government officials died during the training and 200 fled from the training camps in Bulbula and Arwash Bishola, near Adama, East Showa.

Underage recruits, beating and suicide: ‘bullet food’

Chala Abdo (right) was a grade 7 student aged 14, when he was taken as a forced conscript from Tortora Kala village, Bedeno district, East Hararge (W1), reported 26 April.





The boy shown left was not named by W1 on 26 April. He is a 6th grade student from Xulo district, East Hararge, and is unlikely to be more than 14.

The group of young conscripts shown right was photographed in East Hararge in late April. A video which appeared on Facebook on 28 April, shows about 15 mainly young men, with a few older men and women, in the back of a truck, destined for military training in Jaarso district, East Hararge.²



Tajudin (left) was beaten with a stick by security forces because he resisted the conscription of his son, in Oda Bultum district, West Hararge, in early May.

Shamsu Mohammed (right), from Malka Ballo district, East Hararge, was beaten and received the scalp injury as shown, when he resisted forced conscription (12 May, W1).



In its 15 May report on the abduction of two young men for conscription while they were walking along the road in Dhabello village, Jarso district, East Hararge, ONM referred to the youngsters as ‘bullet food,’ the modern equivalent of ‘cannon fodder.’ These youngsters, even if they survive attacks by OLA and Fano, will have been deprived of their family and of their education during their most energetic and fruitful years.

OSG received a sad report on 2 June concerning the suicide of Lachisa Tashome of Hawi Gudina, Sulula Finca district, Horo Guduru. After being forced to begin training in a local government militia, he electrocuted himself on a high voltage cable, saying ‘I would rather die than be a militia man.’

Resistance

A few breakouts of forced conscripts have been reported. Several youths and farmers in Bedeno district, East Hararge, broke out of prison on 10 May after two weeks of detention as forced conscripts. ONM reported that 27 had broken out of detention in Burayu, west of the capital, in April, and others had done so on a previous occasion in Gadab Hasaasa district, West Arsi.

Adding fuel to the Fano/Oromo fire

The Ethiopian government uses clandestine forces outside official command structures, forces which masquerade as OLA and commit atrocities against Amhara, Oromo and other citizens; and forces which masquerade as Fano and commit crimes against Oromo civilians. The objective of both groups is to deepen hostility, to divide opposition forces apart, into Oromo and Amhara, so their energies are dissipated in their mutual hostility and therefore less-effectively engaged with opposing the government and its forces.

Amhara nationalist forces and the federal defence forces have a vested interest in portraying the current security crisis as an ethnic-based conflict between an Oromo government and

² <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1G1D51HKjP/>

Amhara nationalist forces. Every death in the armed forces and in armed Oromo and Amhara opposition movements is used to widen this ethnic divide.

It is imperative, if an equitable and peaceful solution to Ethiopia's historical and structural problems is ever to be found, that stake-holders all realise that the Prosperity Party government does not represent Oromo interests, outside of a greedy few. This is not an Oromo government. The Oromo people have everything to gain from a relationship with Amhara neighbours which is based on peace, equality and respect.

Restrictions

Limits to movement, electricity cuts, access to health facilities, schools, markets

ONM reported on 12 April how difficulties in moving around – people, crops, livestock, produce – are making life problematic in Ethiopia. In Honqolo Wabe district, Arsi, villagers were prevented from going to town, taking the sick to hospital, or going to farm their land. Fruit and vegetables were spoiling instead of being taken for sale to market.

This pattern of commercial inertia pervades rural and urban Ethiopia within a few miles of all major cities. The restrictions to movement appeared ethnically biased to villagers in Shanan Kolu district, Arsi. Recent arrivals from Amhara Region were being allowed to move on to West Hararge, but Oromo were being prevented from doing so.

In East Wallega on 9 April ONM reported that movement restrictions were preventing visits to detainees in Sibu Sire district.

Restricted electricity supplies in five districts of East Wallega because of overdue repairs and maintenance caused problems for mills, workshops, public and private institutions in early April. In early May, residents of Coman Guduru district, Horo Guduru, complained they had been without electricity for five weeks and that children and elderly were suffering because of lack of services.

In Gololcha district, East Bale, Anubar Harar village is virtually cut off from Jara town which is only four km away because of the lack of road and transportation services. 'There is no road to take a sick person to the health centre.'

The road from Baate town to nearby Warra Wayu, within Baate district, Wollo, was closed for undisclosed reasons on 24 April, causing fresh fruit and vegetables to deteriorate before reaching Baate town markets. Even goods transported by camels and donkeys were prohibited from reaching them. Farmers with irrigation systems are denied access to necessary products and there are no ambulances to take mothers to delivery units.

On 7 May, W1 sent photographs of a woman being carried on a home-made stretcher to hospital in North Wollo, Oromia Special Zone, Amara Region, including the two images, shown right. There are no ambulances there.

Among many reports of school closures in Oromia and Amhara Region, the closure of Ifa Bas Core village school in Dabo Hanna district, Buno Bedele, was reported on 19 May. It was established in 2014 and this was the first time it had been closed. Pupils had been without the school for three months at the time of the report.



Attacks by Fano in Oromia, Amhara and Benishangul-Gumuz Regions

Fano forces, swelled by defections of scores of ENDF members based in Gida Ayana and Kiramu districts of East Wallega, have attacked civilians in Horo Guduru and East Wallega, North Showa, Wollo (in Oromia Special Zone, Amhara Region) and in Metekel zone of Benishangul-Gumuz Region.

East Wallega and Horo Guduru

Among many villages attacked by Fano is Cabi village, Kiramu district, where many homes were reported burned on 22 April (right).

There are several Fano camps in Kiramu district, according to ONM. There is cooperation between ENDF and Fano, despite defections from the ENDF to the Amhara insurgents.



On 27 April ONM reported attacks by Fano on Loomica village, Abee Dongoro district, Horo Guduru, where they looted cash, mobile phones and other goods. Fano groups based in the district looted travellers from Homa Galessa village to Tulluu Ghana at Arusee, taking all their goods.

Three farmers were attacked and over 20 cattle taken when Fano attacked Taliloo, Homa Galessa village, Abee Dongoro district, Horo Guduru, on 27 April. The district governor was paid large sums of money by the insurgents, funded by their raids.

On 28 April, 27 cattle were taken by Fano from Makano village, Amuru district, Horo Guduru.

On 4 May, Fano raided travellers from Gida Ayana to Finfinnee, at a place near Dicho Mountain, Andodee village, Gida Ayana district. More than 60 were travelling in a TATA vehicle when most of the men were held for ransom for large sums of money, although a few escaped. A group based around Dicho mountain has been kidnapping travellers along this road repeatedly.

On May 30, 2025, the Amhara militants attacked the Oromo farmers in Wasti village of Kiramu district, East Wallagga, taking 40 cattle from Dhugumaa Alamuu and 55 cows from Warqinaa Galataa.

On 3 June, W1 reported that Fano had attacked Loko village in East Wallega and abducted four farmers:

Bayu Wayesa
Akabe Jiru

Mamo Urgessa
Ababe Getaneh

North Showa

ONM reported at the end of April that Fano groups entered Darra district, North Showa, from three directions, 'making strong movements especially through Saralkulla.'

W1 reported fighting between Oromo villagers and Fano in Darra district on 3 June. OLA is fighting both Fano and ENDF in the same district.

Wollo

Killings, burning and destruction continue. Oromo farmers are repeatedly disarmed by government forces, leaving them open to attacks by Fano. Affected villages in Artuma Furse district include Coqorso, Doobi and Ashawa Luxee.

On 7 May, **Mahammad Ahimed Daa'idee**, in Coqorso village, was **decapitated** by Fano using a farm implement. One day previously, Fano members fired on cattle herders along the Coqorso road in the village of Goola, killing two cows and wounding two herders, Ahmed Hassan Ali and Ali Girrigriri, and six other cattle.

Metekel zone, Benishangul-Gumuz Region

Fano insurgents in Bulan district, Metekel zone, attacked and abducted two youths in Moora village, Asafa Daraje and Tamasgeen Sawageny, on 16 May. Their location remains unknown.

Expropriation and eviction for 'development': Borana airport

Across Oromia Region, land is being taken illegally by government forces and Oromo are being cleared from their traditional areas. A representative sample of reports follows.

Major evictions are taking place in Shaggar city. Farmers tending orchards and bergamot nurseries were deprived of 2.5 hectares of land and ordered to leave their plot in the Beero district/Sangota area of Burayu town, west of the capital, on 24 April. They protested when quarrying and rock-crushing equipment arrived over the next two days.

During the violence which followed, at least six farmers were beaten and several oxen stolen. Three hectares was reportedly taken from 212 people without compensation. One farmer's wife committed suicide.

In Bako Tibe district, West Showa, farmers were forced to hand over their land to the district or otherwise be denied fertiliser, on 15 May. Once handed over, the land was sold for profit.

In Shanan Dhugo district, West Hararge, the farm belonging to Ismail Harahaa was confiscated on 24 April and handed over to a militiaman who had previously worked the land with him, while the farmer was detained and mistreated for over a month.

Six families were evicted from their homes in kebele 01, Figa town, Boji Coqorsa district, West Wallega, at the beginning of April. The families were thrown on the street and their homes given to militia members.

On 24 March, land which had belonged to Tigrayans in Antoo village, Hurumu district, Illubabor, was handed to government party supporters. The owners went to Tigray during the 2020-2022 war. The land is rich and used for banana, coffee and other crops.

Another farmer, Idiris Suleiman, was evicted from his home in Babo Gambel town, West Wallega, in early May. He and his family are destitute and homeless. On 22 May, ONM reported that 'farmers from districts such as Agarfaa, Gobbaa and Diinshoo along the Wabee River to Gaara Sannate in West Bale' had been evicted and their land put up for sale.

Roadside vendors were cleared in early April in the Walda Betel area of 01 kebele, Dembi Dollo, Qellem Wallega, because they 'narrowed the road and pollute the city.' Trucks are prevented from offloading in the city. A pervasive system of informants is present to report infringements.

More than 30 homes were demolished for road-widening in the village of Bachoo Booree in Saqa Coqorsaa district, Jimmaa zone, in late April. Residents of Lokkee 01 town in Siraro

<p>Throughout the empire, . . . [government forces] are destroying houses and compounds of residents in the name of corridors and causing serious economic problems</p> <p>ONM, April 2025</p>

district, Arsi, were ordered to demolish their homes or face death threats, beating and detention.

As with other major development projects, the proposed international airport at Yabelo in Borana zone takes no account of farmers who are forced from their land. On 8 April, W1 sent a list of 26 farmers, each owning between one and six hectares of land, who had been evicted without compensation (see Appendix, p.52).

Malaria, health care denied

ONM reported that malaria is rife once again in Western Oromia. Four of the many villages affected in Dabo Hanna district in Buno Bedele were named on 13 April. 'Turning health posts into military camps' has not helped the situation and has impeded medicines reaching rural areas. Residents complained of 'lack of access to hospitals and the expensive medicines from private shops.'

Villagers told ONM that if they went to a district health centre, officials tried to extort money for 'health insurance' and had no medicines or only expensive ones.

Kali Metu Hospital in Metu, Illubabor, suspended services to 12 districts on 30 April. Employees were stealing medicines and selling them to private clinics and pharmacies. The hospital was charging 5,000 birr for each hospital death, without stating a reason.

Villagers in Garo, Baate district, Wollo, are used to being beaten and detained on suspicion of having ties with OLA. It was reported on 26 April that they were being denied treatment at health posts, including mother and baby clinics, leaving them 'in dire straits.'

Miscellany

Cutting maize

Giving the reason of denying cover for OLA fighters, the government has been ordering the cutting down of maize from along roadsides in districts including Dugda district of East Showa and telling farmers to grow wheat instead of maize.

At public meetings in Waldaa Qallinaa village on 6 May and Tuchi Sumayan village on 11 May, the residents of Dugda district were told that growing maize among other crops was punishable with death.

Residents of Qorii, Abbaayyoo and Hagamtii villages in Shanan Kollu district, Arsi, were evicted and their homes burnt down on 7 May because they were 'close to the forest' and therefore liable to help OLA. They were reported to be 'scattered in various places with their livestock and children.'

Maize belonging to seven farmers that was several months grown was destroyed and an elderly resident beaten in Dawa Cafa district, Wollo, on 13 May.

On 22 May ONM reported that government forces had 'dug up farmers' lands in every village along the main road from Asalla town in East Arsi to Maqii town in East Showa which is close to the roads' and therefore amenable for launching attacks by opposition forces.

Forests burned

Deliberate forest fires have been set to deny cover to OLA fighters in at least two places. On 6 April, the ENDF set fire to forests of Hanqallisaa and Basqalloo villages in Jaju district, Arsi.

From about 10-15 April, Mount Qallima forest in Shanan Dhugo district, West Hararge, ‘which has lions, leopards and deer’ was ‘being cut down and destroyed ‘because OLA lives in it.’

Drunken brawls and gunfights leave soldiers dead

Undisciplined and disorderly government soldiers have been killing and wounding each other in drunken disputes across Oromia. Two were reportedly killed and two others seriously wounded in a market in Yaya Gulale district, North Showa, on 3 April.

A militia man was killed and two civilians injured when a drunk militiaman opened fire in Liban Jawi district, West Showa, on 20 April. In Shino town, Meta Robe district, West Showa, soldiers were reported to be robbing people on 8 May and turning their guns on each other ‘killing many.’

In Bedeno, East Hararge, rival militias fought when dividing up the profits from their corrupt over-taxation, and ransom demands for detainees and conscripts on 9 May. They were arguing about whether to include underage children among the forced conscripts, when the fighting broke out.

On 14 May, three soldiers, including a commander of 50, were killed and five badly wounded when they fired on each other in Gurago Kallacha village, Saden Sodo district, Southwest Showa. A Nekempte policeman shot and killed a militiaman in 05 kebele of the city on 15 May.

Water shortages in East and West Hararge, West Showa and Buno Bedele

Areas of Dire Dawa city, East Hararge, have available drinking water only once each week, since April at least. Despite frequent contributions imposed for developing infrastructure, the townspeople of Shunqoo, Oda Bultum district, West Hararge, are paying up to 150 birr for a 20 litre container of water, because of shortages.

Similar shortages were reported from Galessa town, Dandi district, West Showa, and from Burqa Jalala village in Dhidhessa district, Buno Bedele.

Kidnapping and atrocities by imposters of OLA

In various districts of West Hararge, more than 100 soldiers have been deployed in Goba district disguised as OLA fighters by wearing long braided hair extensions. On 27 April, they attacked Faranjo Wageda village, Agarafa district, northwest Bale, and kidnapped people with loose ties to the government, holding them for ransom for large sums of money.

The ‘government shane’ were also active in Arsi in late April, especially in the districts of Gololcha and Sude, where, dressed in fake uniforms, they reportedly stole money and property, demanded meals at gunpoint and were accused of widespread rape and intimidation.

Somali incursions

Oromo villagers in Bale, Hararge and Borana zones have been attacked by Somali Region Ethiopian forces and by armed forces operating from Somalia. Somali Regional State Special Forces took part in attacks on Oromo villages in Dawe Kachani and Dawe Sarar districts in East Bale in early May, after crossing into the zone several weeks before.

Villagers have fled from the killing and looting. There is no commercial activity. Oromo are discriminated against for not speaking Somali in markets. Friction between Oromo and Somali residents of Dire Dawa is being deliberately driven by the Ethiopian government.

Earlier, on 5 April, Somali militants crossed the border into Liban district of Borana zone, attacked a village and wounded a man badly in his legs. There was extensive looting.

Finfinnee and Shaggar City

Killings

The killing of young man **Gemechu Bekele Refisa** (right) was reported on 18 May (W1). He was taken from his rented home in Burayu Kela, Shaggar City, on the evening of 17 May and his body left on the road. His family is in West Wallega.



Detention

A teacher, Magarsa Baqqalaa was arrested and thrown in jail in 'Mexico' part of the city on 13 April.

Among hundreds of detentions every day, it is difficult to remember the personal hardships for those detained and their families. W1 pointed out the detention of four individuals from a pool house in Burayu, in the Oromo zone around Finfinnee, on 17 June.

Nugusu Bati

Olkeba Moti

Jalane Umeta

Raguel Amanu and 'many more' people were arrested

Prisoners moved after ethnic attacks

Following beatings by Amhara and Southern prisoners a few days previously, Oromo detainees in Caffee Tumaa Abbaa Samuel prison, Shaggar City, were moved to Batu federal prison (Zeway, East Showa) on 18 May.

One person died three weeks ago due to inadequate care. **Joshua Garramoo** was only four months away from being released after 11 years in prison. Another prisoner, named **Masfin** died on 17 May because of lack of medical attention. **Four Oromo prisoners have died** in less than four months in the prison.

Showa

Killings

North Showa

On 14 April, ENDF fired mortars into civilian homes in Jallisa Luxuu village, Kuyu district, North Showa, killing a 55 year old mother, Mrs. **Gulummaa Shuumii** instantly and seriously injuring 45 year old Fayisaa Bojaa, currently between 'death and life.'

West Showa

Two villagers were killed by government forces in Goro Dokonu, Abuna Gindeberet district, on 17 April:

Adune/Addunyee Warkina/Warqina

Hunde Kirbo

two other farmers, Teshoma Kebeba and Kiso Ababe, were imprisoned (W1).

Father of a young family, **Addunyee Warqinaa**, was released from prison on 16 April after being briefly detained and taken to Qalaatee village in the same district where he was shot dead. His body was denied to his family and was left for wild animals to feed on.

Abarraa Alamaayyoo, was killed by ENDF at a place named Xamboo, in Gamo Jibaat village, Jibaat district, on 19 April. He was described as being independent of politics. His body was dumped 'in the forest near the regime's military camp.'

On 24 April, **Damee Raggaasaa Gammachuu** and **Naggasaa Dheerressaa Hurrissaa** were taken from their homes in Siiba village, Jaldū district, and shot dead ‘for no apparent reason.’ On the same day, in Warqee Waleensuu village, Meta Robi district, **Tasfaayee Dhaabaa Jamaree** was arrested on his way home and shot dead. His body was left on the road.

Two villagers were killed when government forces fired heavy weapons on Gago Bite village, Abuna Gindeberet district, on 22 April. **Bisheessaa Tulluu** and **Gizumaa Dhaabaa** were killed, their livestock and property destroyed.

A man with learning difficulties, **Lamma Oljirraa**, in Doggomaa Kibbi village of Abuna Gindeberet district, was beaten and killed by government soldiers on 2 May.

A correspondent from West Showa wrote on 10 May that **12 had been killed** and four wounded in Ganji Ofu kebeles of Chobi district in the previous week. The following six were among the 12 killed.

Mogora Megersa



Abebe Jifar



Bayisa Lachisa



Abdeta Gudisa



Fita Megersa



Gichene Guta



Bayisa Lachisa was a church and community leader, teacher of students and director of the local charity club. Abdeta Gudisa was also a church and community leader and a teacher.

Two youths were killed by ENDF in Dirre Hincini district on 14 May: **Gabbisa Lammeessa** from Abuyee village and **Mulgeetaa Fufaa** from Laaftoo village. Two other youths reportedly ran away before they could be killed.

Boja Boki Daba (right), a resident of Kersa Mirti village, Jaldū district, West Showa, was shot dead by government soldiers during the night of 25 May (W1).

Two young civilians were killed in Warqee Waleensuu village, Meta Robi district, on 31 May: **Margee Ababa**, aged 22, and **Abdisa Dabala**, 17. They were taken from their homes in the early morning, killed and dumped.



In the week leading up to 5 June, ENDF soldiers attacked villages in Ada'a Berga district, West Showa, looting 7 fields of cattle and 10 more individual cattle from five farmers, burning 21 homes to the ground and detaining at least 11 farmers. In these attacks three unarmed farmers were killed:

Shantamee Alamuu

Damxoo Waqjira

Abdo Nuguse

On 7 June, ENDF soldiers killed **Baay'isa Tuuchoo**, right, a farmer of Qarsaa village, Jaldu district, West Showa (W1 and ONM).

An **unidentified farmer** was shot and killed on 8 June in Muuyyoo Jilaa village. Others in villages in Dirre Hincinnii and Jibaat districts complained of looting and detention for ransom of detainees on spurious allegations of involvement with OLA. Next day, there was an outbreak of widespread looting by 'government-aligned forces.'



Southwest Showa

On 12 May, in Bantu Bodha village, Tolee district, soldiers murdered a local farmer, **Mangistu Getacho**, and threw his body into a ditch. The 45-year-old father, known in his community as a peaceful man with no political affiliation, was simply on his way to his farmland when he was executed, according to local informants.

On 18 May, 2025, a young man was captured and killed by soldiers in Gololee Tamsaa village, Tolee district. **Gammachuu Haayiluu**, 25, was arrested by the army from Qarsa Malima district at 3:00 am and killed while the family was pleading for his life.

Respected local leader, **Abaata Tasammaa**, 20, of Algaa Wasarbii village, Sadan Sodo district, was shot and wounded on 30 May.

Six worshipers were killed by government forces on 8 June near the Waaqeffannaa Worship Hall (*Galma*) in Malka Finca'a (Langano kebele according to some reports), Sodo Daaccii district. They were, from left to right:

Kumaa Nagoo Jaambo, **Gurmeessaa Tashoomaa Hundee**, **Bashadaa Adii Midhaksa**, **Hundeessaa Naannesaa**, **Lameessaa Maaruu Gojoli**, **Dagaagaa Jiidhaa Baatii**



The Waaqeffannaa Religion Followers Organization wrote that the young men were youth leaders. They were preparing the *Galma* and performing a cleansing ritual at a nearby waterside sacred site. ENDF soldiers arrived and attacked them, mutilating them with knives. They were then taken to a forested area about one kilometre away and shot. At their funeral next day, ENDF came again from their camp, attacking and dispersing the mourners. **Two innocent farmers were killed** during this second attack.

Tariku Lamessa, 80, (right), was killed by security forces at his home in Tuka Gode village, Qarsa Malima district, on 1 June (W1).





Abu Degefa (left), a young man from Daale Daak village, Amaya district, was stabbed to death by government forces on 4 June (W1, ONM).

East Showa

On 6 April, **Caalaa Fayyisaa** was killed and dumped in Shaquur Xarafoo village of Bachoo district.

On 12 April government soldiers shot and killed **Hawas Bulgaa** (also known as **Abbaa Gannoo**) a resident of Dirra

Sadeen village in Fantalee district and father of two sons. He was summarily killed while on his way home from work, leaving his family in poverty. He was reported to have been politically neutral, and known to be skilled at mediation and reconciliation.

On Tuesday 27 May, during the doctors' strike, **Dr Tesho Eshetu** (right), working at Adama Hospital, was killed.



On 1 June, a young man, **Badhaanee Bulaa**, was shot dead by government forces as he entered his home in Walda Qal'ina village, Dugda district. His body was left for wild animals.

It was reported on 6 June that **Fayisaa Hajii Leencoo**, a young detainee in Maqi town, was taken from prison during the previous week and shot dead.

Gammachu Bulbulaa, a 20 year old student, Jirimee Bora village, Bora district, was killed and left on the street by government forces on 2 June. He was studying in the city and was on his way to visit his family in the countryside when he was killed. Six others, including his brother, Badhaso Bulbulaa, were detained when they tried to retrieve Gammachu's body.

ENDF soldiers shot and killed a 19 year old, **Malka Malkee**, in Shuubii Gamoo village, Dugda district, on 9 June.

On 9 June, an innocent youth, **Butaa Boruu**, was killed by government forces in Shuubii Gamoo village, Dugda district.

North Showa: detention, looting, beating

Respected elder, Kabbadee Tasfaayee Gabayyoo, of Darroo Willincoo village, Kuyu district, was detained on 12 April.

Teacher, Daraaraa Raggaasaa (right) was arrested 'from the stage' on 16 May while speaking at the district education office about teachers' rights.



On 26 May, in Kuyu district North Showa, Darroo Dannisa village, 25 were taken from their homes by government forces, including:

Figiruu Tashoomaa

Baayyisaa Mootummaa

Dirriboo Shallamaa

Abboomaa Firee

Ms Gazzee Magarsaa

12 year old girl Ciinchoo Shifarraa

Bojaa Tulluu

The robbers also roamed the village for more than 5 days and looted 53 cattle and 60 goats

Attacks by ENDF in North Showa

A former resident wrote that government attacks on residents of North Showa had particularly affected the districts of Yaya Gulale, Darra, Dagam (Degem), Kuyu, Warra Jarso, and Hidabu Abote, and also the district of Ada'a Berga in West Showa, where there had been a number of injuries and loss of livestock.

Yaya Gulale

5 April. Ali Dhera village. 4 homes/properties burnt

Darra district

25 May. Dambi Birje village. Drone attack (ordnance right)

26 May. Gabro Walu village (Ware Gabro village in Walu area) attacked by mortars and ZU-23 artillery. Young children were injured, including a severely injured 8 year old herder, Fayisa Tola Shafi. More than 40 animals were killed, including 20 cows and 15 goats (see below).



Hidabu Abote district

25 May. Amuma Machara village was heavily shelled with mortars, injuring a mother of three, Zufale Ragasa, 42, brothers Diriba, 30, and Sanbato Nagasa Asafa, 35 father of four, mother of two, Shawa Birru Hordofa, 32, Damee Tolcha Asafa, 40 father of five, and two youngsters – 10 year old Abbee Boju Waqjira and 16 year old Xilahun Misganu Atsade (in hospital with serious shrapnel injuries). Next day, similar weapons were used on Ware Gabro village in Darra district (see above).



Kuyu district

26 May. Darroo Dannisa village. Forces roamed the village for 5 days and took 53 cattle and 60 goats. (Arrested 25, including a 12 year old girl – see previous page.)

Detention and attacks by ENDF in West Showa

Three villagers were said to be between life and death after being taken from their homes in Bako Tibe district and severely beaten at the village office in early April.

In Bakkee Bal'aa, Gindeberet district, villagers were detained in April because their sons 'are in OLA.' Three were named among those detained in Bakkee Bal'aa and three elderly women were named among detainees from Cirracha village in a report on 10 April.

In this crackdown on families of OLA members, officials have posted lists across 32 districts of over 200 members whose families have experienced collective punishment, intimidation, and systematic harassment.

In Qare Dobi village, Gindeberet district, four heads of families were detained with their dependents in early April 'to bring their sons out of the forest.'

Arrests continued, with two youths from Migir village, Abuna Gindeberet on 15 April; five teachers from a primary school in Bako Tibe district on 6 May; another four civilians from Bako Tibe on 15 May; a single mother of three in Dirre Hincinni district on 14 May; and another two teachers from Chalia district on 19 May.

OSG was informed by OMN on 2 June that Abbas Jifar, the Abba Gada or Ayyaanduraa from Buyamaa Roggee village, Dirre Hincinni district, had been detained for one month because his son had joined OLA. After several days of *incommunicado* detention, he was held in Dirre Hincinni police station. He was seized from a Waaqeffanna prayer site.

Bako Tibe district

13 April. Amarti Gibe village. Giduma Tashoma and Mrs Abaru Cando beaten and hospitalised with injuries. Their liquor store and all property destroyed

16 April. Sombo Disasa village. 4 cattle taken from 2 residents

16 April. Bikiltu Laqu village. 2 cows taken

16 April. Wal-Qixuma Bakarere village. House demolished, 120 iron sheets, 3 doors, 3 windows taken in truck by local head of security

6 May. Gudina Biya village. When 5 teachers arrested from Lalistu Xaji primary school, their phones and 10,000+ birr taken from villagers, Balay Jambaru was forced to transfer 50,000 birr from his bank account.

Dire Hincini (Encini) district

19 April. Ajoo Bilii village. 70 year old Kumala Irgosa beaten, house and all property burnt, because son in OLA, 2 other properties looted and destroyed

16 May. Buyama Dabale village. Father and son (Galana Qixata and son Biranu) taken from home, bound and beaten to force them to locate OLA store

Meta Robi district

30 April. Warabo village. 6 cattle and 4 donkeys taken from two farmers

Meta Walqite district

3 June. Qundee Garasuu village. Residents harassed for one week for refusing to inform on location of OLA fighters

Southwest Showa: detention, looting, beating

A 14 year old, Addunya Jidha, from Dhokas village, Tolee district, was among those detained on 4 April. Jambalayaa Shorganaa and Jiidhaa Waamii disappeared in detention there after being abducted from the roadside.

Alongside widespread looting, kidnapping and burning of houses, the detention in the district police station of Miss Tadaluu Yaadasa and her brother, Aboma Yaadasa, from 01 kebele, Bantu town, Tolee district, on 25 and 28 March respectively, was reported on 10 April by ONM.

Four other recent detainees in Tolee district were named by W1 on 1 May:

Jemal Ibrahim

Yesuf Mohammed

Indarge Fufa
Yaikob Wake

Mrs. Angaatuu Garbii, a 50 year old mother, was detained in the last few days of April, when walking on her way home to Alгаа Wasarbi village, Sadeen Sodo district, from Culullee district market. The village had been looted of household items on 30 April. In the same area, Boqonu Garamu was detained from his farm six months ago and Wami Getachew, 30, was kidnapped and disappeared.

Five villagers were named out of those who were beaten and arrested after having ‘bullets rained down on them’ in Langano village, Sodo Daci district, on 9 May.

Attacks by ENDF in Southwest Showa

ONM reported on 30 April that for three months ENDF units had been attacking villages in Tolee, Amaya and other districts in Southwest Showa.

Qarsa Malima (Kersa and Malima) district

2 April. Goro Gabreli village. Properties destroyed, 4 cattle and 10 sheep taken

7 April. Qore village. Homes and grain stores burnt, 2 cattle taken

20 April. Golole Tamsa’a village. 1+ property burnt

23 April. Goro Gabreli village (Gare Eka area). Property belonging to family of six destroyed and young children threatened to be shot on sight

30 April. Dhawa Dhangaga village. Wedding party beaten during night

Tolee district

6 April. Golole village. Home of Laqo Xibabu burnt ‘for feeding OLA’

6 April. Homes, 3 grain barns and soybean crops burnt

23 April (report). Golole and Tamsa villages. 6+ properties burnt, 285 sheets of corrugated iron, 15+ quintals of wheat, Isuzu truck full of grain taken, 2 cows slaughtered; access to market in Adadi town lost

30 April. Gonan Bubisa village. 8+ properties, a barn, many crops in storage and 24+ fields of grain, furniture, 5,000 birr cash, 5+ oxen, burnt or stolen

28 April. Tume Yaya and Aladu Shinkora villages. 5 elderly men (aged 65-80) involved in house construction in Tume Yaya beaten and robbed. Three homes burnt, crops destroyed and 18 cattle taken from Aladu Shinkora

12 May. Heavily armed forces attacked Dhukat and Aqoce Maram villages, burning properties and taking 4+ livestock

15 May. Golole Tamsa village. Soldiers deployed from Qarsa Malima district burnt down the home of Abduljabbar Ali, having destroyed his two houses and other property one month previously.

20 May. Armufi Solo village. Three villagers lost 7 properties burnt down, 54 quintals of teff taken

20 May. Dhukat village. 14 Cattle stolen from four villagers, families detained

Sadan Sodo (Seden Sodo) district

30 April. Alгаа Wasarbi village. Five properties looted and burnt with contents

Bacho (Becho) district

8 April (reported). Shaqur Xarafo village. 4 oxen, 3 calving cows taken

30 May. Urage Xade village. Troops deployed from ENDF camps in Sadan Sodo and Sodo Dace districts took away 2 cows in the night and beat two innocent women for refusing to name OLA collaborators

East Showa: detention, beating, extortion

On 5 April, soldiers beat a young mother, while holding her 7 month old infant and stabbed another young mother in her head in Baddannootaa village, Fantale district. Others were taken to Gidara where they were detained and mistreated.

Detentions following spurious accusations of supporting OLA include those of Ayansa Gudisa Dabale on 6 April, Shaquur Xarafoo village, Bachoo district; and of Roba Hawe and Hawas Ababa, among others from villages such as Nuqusa, Qaxamure etc. in Fantale district on 9 April.

Soldiers entered the home of Budhaa Dharraa Bariisoo in Tulluu Jiddoo Kombolcha, Adaamii district, on 10 April and beat her, saying her husband was fighting for OLA. They demanded money from other fighters' families.

Teacher, Nuradin Ibrahim, right, living in kebele 14, Adama, and teaching in West Arsi, was arrested a few days before 3 May and taken to Shashemane prison (W1).

On 30 April, residents of Tamachaa and Saala villages in Fantale district were arrested and robbed by government soldiers. Homes of eight (including a three year old and other children) in Saala village and six in Tamachaa village were burned to the ground. 'Adam Ashoo was tied up with his children and beaten.'

Seventeen Gadaa leaders of Karrayyu Oromo in Fantale district were reported on 4 May to have been detained, including:

Abbaa Bookkuu Gadaa Michillee

Abbaa Kormaa

Hawaas Rooba

Yadee Fantoo

Roobaa Jaarraa

Bulaa Diidoo

Gumbii Wadaayi

They had armed themselves against Afar raiders but it is not known if this precipitated the arrests.

More detentions on 4 May, in reprisal for their sons having joined OLA, in Ilaala village, Fantale district, included villagers being exposed to hot sunlight during the day and to the cold at night.

On 15 May, ONM reported that residents of the villages of Aluto, Jela Alito, O'itu, Basaqu and Haroressa Qalbo in the district of Adaamii Tulluu Jiddoo Komboolchaa had been held in detention for more than one year. They were named:

Roobaa Tuuroo

Roobaa Miidhaasso

Naguu Jabee

Fayyisoo Bariisoo

Bashir Bushuuraa

Amaanoo Safoo

Quufaa Tuuroo, aged 70

Daddafoo Tuuroo, aged 60

Jabee Eda'oo, aged 80



Attacks by ENDF in East Showa

Fantale (Fentale) district

5 April. Qatamure and Haroresa villages. 200+ properties burnt and looted

30 April. Saala village. 7 families arrested and properties burnt

30 April. Tamacha village. 6 families detained and properties burnt

Dugda district

23 April. Walda Maqdala village. 7 properties and contents belonging to 4 villagers burnt

6 May. Walda Maqdala village. Soldiers emptied a shop belonging to Nugusu Fayisa and drank as much as they could without paying

28 May. Baqalee Girisaa village. A young man, Kurfaa Badhaasoo Naccii, was badly beaten by government forces

Wollo, Oromia Special Zone, Amhara Region

Killings

Taraf Abraham Aliyi (right), a village leader in Dawa Cafa district, was killed by Fano militants on 19 April (W1).



On 7 May, Fano troops decapitated farmer **Mahammad Ahimed Da'idee** with a farming implement; killed 9 year old **Khalid Sayid Adamee** from Dalgo village, and wounded Adam Aliyi, from Cirrii village, Artuma Furse district, on 10 May.

ENDF soldiers shot dead **Hassan Nasir** in Dimbat village, Artuma Furse district, 'while he was plowing his field' on 8 May.

Ali Arabu Hasee and **Usman Aga'is** were taken in house-to-house search operations around Gaara Utaaltee, Artuma Furse district, shortly before the ONM report on 13 May and shot dead. They were dumped by the road but the bodies of elders arrested with them have not been found. Widespread, severe beatings accompanied the arrests.

In Artuma Furse district, 'in villages like Harruqqee, Dhaddachaa and Utaaltee, gang rape of girls and women by the imperial security forces, militias and traitors continue' ONM wrote.

In the Giraar area of Dimtu village, Artuma Furse district, in the morning of 11 May, Fano militants killed **a mentally ill man** who was lying in a field. Next morning he had been partly eaten by wild animals.

In Dawa Caffa district and Kamisee town in Wollo, Abiy Ahmed's police in collaboration with militias and the Imperial Defense Forces have been disarming residents without any reason since the beginning of May. Even those with legal papers for their weapons in villages such as Garbii, Masanaa and Qaacur and in Kamise town, were disarmed on 11-12 May, leaving them vulnerable to attacks by Fano.

Abdusomad Habiibuu, an elderly man in Jimate town, Artuma Furse district, was detained in early April because his son had joined OLA. He was beaten and transferred to Qiciicoo town, where the mistreatment continued. He had recently undergone abdominal surgery. He became ill and escaped to seek treatment at Kemise before being transferred to Xuqur-Ambassa hospital. He died on 15 May in Jimate.

Abdu Adamu, father of nine and over 75 years old, was taken from his home in Ontuu Burqaa village, Artuma Furse district, on 31 May, handcuffed behind his back and beaten

severely before being shot dead by government security forces. ‘When he said he had no weapons, they beat him mercilessly and said “Kill all family members of freedom fighters” then killed him in cold blood.’

Aliyyii Umar Ammadaa was killed when Fano attacked Dullaa village, Jille Dhumuga district at the end of May. Heedar Adurroo, from Sanbatee town, was wounded by the Amhara militants.

On 2 June, Fano soldiers killed **Kamal Sayid**, a resident of Qorii, Dareessaa village, Artuma Furse district, wounded another and looted cattle. **Another** was reported by ONM to have been killed in Jille Dhumuga district on 1 June.

On 9 and 10 June, Fano held the village of Coqorsa, Artuma Furse district, under continuous fire, killing and wounding people and livestock and looting large numbers of cattle.

Fano killings in West Gojjam

On 23 May two Oromo men, **Takala Geta** and **Babee Humna** were abducted by Fano from Ixana, Cabo village, Buree district, West Gojjam, and murdered. Oromo are forbidden to carry arms in Amhara Region.

Detention

Torbi Hasan, a driver, was arrested from his vehicle on 27 March by ENDF soldiers, mistreated and hospitalised in Finfinnee because of his injuries. While still unwell, he was arrested for a second time on 10 April, when he returned to Kemise town.

Among many reported arrests was that of three farmers in Hara village, Artuma Furse district on 22 April, the beating of another villager and the detention and rape of another; beatings and detentions in Garo village, Baate district, on 26 April; another ten from Masjid village, others from Dirree Gamaa and Jaldetti villages and from Baate town, all on 26 April.

A farmer was injured and two teachers and a director of Malka Galana School in Baate were detained around 28 April. ONM reported the arrests were in ‘the name of being the families of the fighters and supporters of the WBO [OLA]’

Unarmed Oromo villagers in Isoye Gula, Daawa Caffaa district, were beaten and arrested on 28 April. ONM wrote that daily acts of rape and looting were going unreported.

Government security forces detained farmers and a young girl in Lugoo, Faca’a and Hagamsa villages on 28 April and attacked the villages of Dhaddacho, Sayo Arabe, Jaldeti Cobi, Madaafa, Qilaha, Hasan (Malkaa Luugoo) and Rorriso on 29 April, detaining many in Baate town.

Another 21 villagers were arrested on 7 May in Malkaa Luugoo, Faca’a, Goora, Samaa, Jaldeti, and Sallax villages and taken to Baate district jail.

Five farmers were taken from Abayo village, Artuma Furse district on 5 May and detained.

Government forces masquerading as OLA forced villagers from their homes in the Mashooree area near Qiciicoo town, Artuma Furse district on 20 May. Farmers were arrested in Wajiree village, and disarmed in Qiciicoo town in May, and detained from Dabagaloo village, Dawwe Harawa district, on 27 May.

Killings in Northwest Amhara Region

Martin Plaut wrote on X about ENDF reprisals against civilians in Birakat, in the northwest of Amhara Region.³ On 31 March, at least 56 bodies were counted by one observer after government soldiers went from house-to-house, ‘dragging people from their homes and rounding them up in the streets. One man saw four women made to kneel outside the bus station, with their hands behind their heads. Four soldiers then shot them from behind. The same man later watched a different group of soldiers kill a priest outside his church. Another witness, returning to Birakat the following morning, saw piles of corpses in the streets. He counted 56 bodies, his brother among them. The Ethiopian army did not respond to multiple requests for comment on this story.’

Drone strike

According to *Addis Standard*, more than 100 were reportedly killed in a drone strike in the rural town of Gedeb, in East Gojjam on 17 April. The strike hit an area near to the primary school where volunteers were engaged in construction work.

Arsi and West Arsi

Killings by ENDF

Young brothers, **Jawaar** and **Gazali Kalil**, were shot dead in Doyee Gorbee village, Martii district, Arsi, on 4 April. They were on their way home from Jimate town in Jaju district when they were stopped by ENDF soldiers and killed. Their bodies were left for animals to devour.

On 6 April, government forces killed farmer and father of six **Adam Hussein Gammada** in Heela Akkiya village, Martii district, Arsi.

A few days later, on 11 April, **Jannaa Sheikh Adam** was killed and his body dumped in an area called Lixxuu in the same village.

A young man named **Ukkaasha Hashim Haji** was taken from his house ‘without any legal questions and shot dead in front of his family and dumped in the hallway’ on 16 April in Xuullee, Eleelle Walana village, Sirka district, Arsi.

Two young men, **Yusuf Hussein Ahmed** and **Jamal Tahiro**, were ‘chased like animals’ before being shot dead in Hagamtii village, Shanan Kolu district, West Arsi, on 18 April. A second report located the killings at Cabbii Qaammee village (Qori area), added one more, **Abdii Amano Hoolee** and another, **Ahimad Hussein**, from Lafto Rifenso village.

An elderly man, **Furo Bulcha**, was shot dead while traveling to his farm in Gujichaa village, Muneessaa district, Arsi, on 24 April.

On 29 May, a young man **Fayisa Agabaas Leencoo** was murdered and dumped by the police in Qooqaa Arraatii village of Siraro district, West Arsi. The policeman who killed him had a personal grudge against him, it was said.

Killings by Fano

In Lafto Rifenso village, Shanan Kolu District, Arsi, Fano militants attacked and killed a **husband and wife** on 3 April. They were killed in a forest area when returning home from a funeral. Their bodies were reportedly mutilated (possibly beheaded).

³ <https://martinplaut.com/2025/05/30/ethiopia-the-massacre-at-birakat-dissected/>

‘In the village and other neighboring villages, the militants are kidnapping, displacing, looting, burning houses, killing and depriving Oromo people of their sovereignty.’

Detention and restrictions

On the day two brothers were killed in Doyee Gorbee village, Martii district, 4 April (see above), the government forces ‘also destroyed the house of a man named Awwal Xahaa without any crime, slaughtered and ate his livestock and then severely beat him and threw him in jail,’ ONM reported. Another young man, a laborer in the village from elsewhere, was abducted and disappeared a few days later.

Over 30 were arrested on 5 April from Iguu, Shambadoo and Gorbati villages in Jaju district and several from Heela Akkiya and other villages in Martii district two days later.

Two priests and a woman were detained on 9 April in a military camp in Honqolo Wabe district, Arsi. Ten, including an elderly man, a pregnant woman and children, were detained in Sirka district, Arsi, 12 April, and cash demanded for their release.

And so on: six or more farmers detained in Siree district, Arsi, 12 April; 24 civilians in Diigalu and Xiyo districts, Arsi, including a man in his 90s and an infant of two weeks, 15 April; two youths detained in Siree district for refusing to lead soldiers to OLA, 15 April; abduction of a youth and 5 detained in Robe Dida district police station, 16 April; looting, five homes abandoned and six more detained from Heela Akkiya village, Martii district, Arsi, 18 April; abduction, disappearance and five detained, Shanan Kolu district, Arsi, 27 April; eleven youths detained in Jaju district, Arsi, 28 April; looting and 22 detained from three villages in Sirka district, Arsi, 1 May; father and two daughters detained, Shashemane district, West Arsi, 10 May; ten detained, Jaju district, Arsi, 10 May; two teenagers detained, Heeban Arsi district, West Arsi, 10 May, three more adults on 13 May.

Ten individuals from five villages, including 70 year old Turo Dadafo and 80 year old Jabee Eda’o, were reported on 15 May to have been detained for over one year. From 2-9 May, over 60 were taken from a single village, Ambaa Goda-Sadee, in Heeban Arsi district, West Arsi, because their sons and other relatives had joined OLA. Beating and detention of residents because of suspected links to OLA was also reported from Jaju and Martii districts of Arsi later in May,

Attacks by ENDF in Arsi and West Arsi

Sirka district, Arsi

13 April. Waji Raphisa village. 13 homes burnt

1 May. Soldiers reportedly robbed villagers, including taking grain, in Biduu Huluun, Biduu Balaa and Sadiqa Tokkichuma villages (in Sirka and Robe districts)

9 May. ENDF robbed and looted from 24 shops in Gobessa town, saying they had no licences to trade. They severely beat a youth, Mamush, and destroyed his motorcycle when he refused to carry their goods on it. In villages such as Heela and Makana, youths were detained ‘*en masse*’ and taken to military camps for training

Martii district, Arsi

7 April. Heela Akkiya village. 10 homes burnt in reprisal ‘for supporting OLA’

16 May. Gofar-Gibe village. Two young men badly beaten and detained

17 May. Heela Akkiya village. 4 quintals of grain and 3 cattle looted

17 May. Dambaqa Iftu village. Looting and arrests (number not stated)

29 May. Dambaqa Iftu village was **jointly invaded by ENDF and Fano forces**, 70 year old Sheikh Bashir was beaten, his arm broken and his belongings destroyed, young man Sultan Hasano was stabbed in the face and Amad Adam was stabbed in the eye and blinded

29 May. Shamo Gado village. 19 homes and contents burned

31 May. Heela Akkiya village. A cow belonging to Nuru Sani, and 7.000 birr taken from Hussein Hamda's house. 4 of Haji Amano goats stolen and slaughtered a few days previously

Munesa district, Arsi

11 April. Heban Dhobo village. Homes belonging to two brothers and several other farmers destroyed with all contents.

Robe district, Arsi

26 May. Sadiqa Tokkichuma village. Several houses destroyed with all contents

Seraro district, West Arsi

26 April (report). Hundreds displaced, over 200 homes destroyed in Aman Guduru, Borana Qabato, Anbato and other villages

Heban Arsi district, West Arsi

2-9 May. Amba Goda-Sade village.

20 May. Homes destroyed as shown below, Shanan Kolu district, West Arsi



16 April. Qori village. Two young men killed, 10 cows driven away and slaughtered

Kofale district, West Arsi

28 May. Acaqate village. After failing to satisfy demands for taxes, Gashee Galchu was badly beaten and all his cattle and sheep were taken

Hararge and Bale

Killings

Idiris Ibrahim Hassan, a young man in Homocaa village, Caffee Haaraa, Daro Labu district, West Hararge, was shot dead by ENDF soldiers during the first week of April.

Halima Mohammed Ahimad (right), mother of two, was shot dead by a militiaman named Mohammed Siraj in Caffee Anani village, Habro district, West Hararge, on 14 April (W1 and ONM).





Nasir Jamal, Gujee town, Xullo district, West Hararge, was shot dead when government militia entered his home on 29 April.

Abdurahman Uwes (left), Harawe village, Sofi district, East Hararge, was detained for one month before being taken from prison and shot dead on 18 May. He had complained previously about pollution in Harar city from Harar Beer Factory.

A farmer, **Maammannuur Maammud**, was shot dead by government militia in Mul'isaa Haqaa village, Malka Balloo district, East Hararge during the week before 4 June.

Detention

ONM reported on 8 April that government forces were preparing for a search and destroy operation in Gola Odaa and Qumbi districts of East Hararge. There were also several reports of abuses by government forces in Shanan Dhugo district, West Hararge.

In Haroo Jibrii village, Shanan Dhugo district, two fathers of OLA members were detained on 7 April and 'in various villages of the district' the government officials 'continue to rob the Oromo community under various names and use it for their personal benefit.' 'The regime's militia are torturing the community wherever they think OLA is present.'

They throw people in jail and torture them whenever they want

ONM respondent, Shanan Dhugo district, April 2025

The following incidents all took place in Shanan Dhugo district, West Hararge:

5 May

Haqan Jirata village, fathers of four and five abducted from their homes, taken to Waldaya police station and then a detention centre in Shanan Dhugo town

6 May

Among large numbers detained from Gabbis village, six are named by ONM.

10 May

Three severely beaten and detained in Baraka village, paid 2,000 birr each to be released

In addition, they are robbing people of 4,000-7,000 birr in the name of building village offices in more than 54 villages of the district

ONM, 27 May

Abuses in other districts included:

23 April

Farmer and businessman Mammadsani Haji taken from Ilu Kerisha village, Sinaana district, West Bale, 'being tortured at Sinaana district police station.' Arrests intensified in Sinaana district 'under Prosperity Party occupation.'

7 May

Four villagers from Tokkummaa Jaalalaa, Malkaa Bal'oo district, East Hararge, detained at local police station

27 May

Seven named among several detained demonstrators from Ilaani Doyo village, Gindhir district, East Bale. They were protesting about 'the killings, beatings, torture, imprisonment, forced conscription, and lack of services such as electricity, water, roads and others.'

ONM wrote 'In addition, they are robbing people of 4,000-7,000 birr in the name of building village offices in more than 54 villages of the district.'

Burning of Waaqeffannaa Worship Halls, *Galma*, in West Hararge

On 9 June, extremists among the Muslim community in West Hararge attacked and burned down three *Galma*, Waaqeffannaa Worship Halls, in Rimetti town, the administrative centre for Hawi Gudina district (see right). Government security forces stood by, unable or unwilling to intervene. The Waaqeffaataas, the followers, have been persecuted, especially in West Wallega,⁴ and Eastern Hararge.⁵ Several killings have been documented and followers believe they are now being driven from West Hararge.



Attacks by ENDF

Malka Balo district, East Hararge

29 April. Alisho village. Sharif Mammad Abdo taken from his shop and beaten

29 April. Jaja town. A man named Shambal was hospitalised after being beaten by government militia member

30 April. Yusuf village. Youth, Shamso Amatad, was beaten with his friends and relatives at his home. Militia organised by the village administrator, Dachas Ahimad Umar, applied faeces to Shamso's head and hands before they were taken away to prison

29 May. Firii Qabsoo village. Elderly mother of nine, Kadija Abdurazak, formerly a resident of West Hararge, was badly beaten by 'regime militiamen' Abdullah Badhaso and Ibsa Jamal, who told her that all people from West Hararge were members of OLA and would not be tolerated in East Hararge.

Shanan Dhugo district, West Hararge

10-15 April. Gabbis village. Two farmers, Abdullah Rashid and Ali Mohammed Abdullah, were badly beaten by militia, led by police sergeant Awwal.

Mount Qallina forest in the district, which has lions, leopards and deer, is being cut down and destroyed by government forces 'because OLA lives in it.'

Horo Guduru and East Wallega

Killings by Fano

Seven were killed when Fano militants opened fire on a public transport bus traveling from Gararo village, Abee Dongoro district, Horo Guduru, to Tullu Wayu market, in Abee Dongoro town, on 9 April. ONM reported that Fano was operating with collaboration of Amhara militia, but the deputy district administrator, Ayana Waqe, emphasised that this and the previous attack, which killed 20 on 27 March,⁶ were 'not acts of the wider Amhara community.'⁷

The seven who died at the scene included:

Marii Garbii, a young man

Gamachuu Cimdeessaa, named **Gemachuu Lamessa** by *Addis Standard*

Xannaa Darajjee, a young man

⁴ OSG Report 65, p.15 <https://oromiasupport.org/wp-content/uploads/simple-file-list/OSG-Report-65-14-March-2024.pdf>

⁵ OSG Report 66, p.41 <https://oromiasupport.org/wp-content/uploads/simple-file-list/OSG-Report-66.pdf>

⁶ OSG Report 69, pp.22-3. <https://oromiasupport.org/wp-content/uploads/simple-file-list/OSG-Report-69-10-April-2025.pdf>

⁷ <https://addisstandard.com/second-deadly-ambush-in-oromias-horo-guduru-wollega-zone-claims-seven-lives-death-toll-rises-to-27-in-one-week/>

Tolaanee (Tolle) Garbaa, young health centre civil servant and militia member
Dingoo Garbaa, 45, traveling with his son, who survived
Yaadataa Aabbasaa

On 11 April, Fano soldiers killed **Dassaaloo Nugusee**, Haroo town, KIRAMU district, East Wallega. The Oromo who had been displaced from East Wallega are being killed after being 'lured back to their homes.'

On 15 April, **Darajjee Waaqumaa**, a farmer in Rifeentii Gabar village, Horro district, Horo Guduru, was killed by Fano. The Amhara militants had also opened fire on Haro Habo village, Jardega Jarte district, on 14 April, causing the villagers to flee to Digalu village.

On 20 April, **thirteen villagers were killed** by Fano in Badessa village, KIRAMU district, East Wallega. Eleven were named by W1:

Fekede Gobena

Tadele Abeba

Tefera Wayessa

Tesfaye Mamo

Abiti Tesfaye

Tamo Dayee

Gonfa Kiko

Getahun Negeri

Babe Alemayew

Firdisa Amanu Gusu

Adugna Hirpa

ONM, 20 April: 'Similarly, more than **20 residents** were killed and many others injured in attacks in KIRAMU, Gida Ayana, Haro Limu and other districts of East Wallega this week.'

On 25 April, four residents of Ali village, KIRAMU district, East Wallega, were killed by Fano (W1):

Habte Nagashu, 71 years old, father of six

Mrs **Fenet Balcha**, 54 years old, mother of four

Banti Yohanis, young man

Wanjiru Olkeba, teacher

Around the end of April, **Tasfaayee Dhugaasaa**, in Amuru district, Horo Guduru, was killed and beheaded by Fano insurgents who had been active in the area for two weeks. A young man, Rafisa Filee, was abducted.

Fiqaaduu Dhugumaa, a farmer in the Kooyyaa area of Janjimmar village, Jardega Jarte district, Horo Guduru, was 'killed and dumped' by Fano on 30 April.

Shibbiruu Dheeressaa, a farmer from Haro Habo village, Jardega Jarte district, Horo Guduru, was killed by Fano and dumped in the Wacale area on 2 May. He was taken while ploughing, his hands bound behind his back and shot dead.

Brothers **Mammo** and **Giftiye Gobana**, were killed by Fano on 15 May in the Andoodee area, Qoqooffee village, KIRAMU district, East Wallega.

Barrihuun Mokonnon, a farmer Wasti village, KIRAMU district, East Wallega, was killed by Fano on 17 May. His 30 cattle were driven away. 'The community throughout the village is worried that they will be displaced today or tomorrow.'

A farmer named **Baqale** in Warabboo village, Gida Ayana district, East Wallega, was killed together with his **wife** by Fano on 17 May. All their property was taken. Another farmer, **Gurmu**, was also taken from his house that night and killed.

On 2 June, Fano militants opened fire on the Oromo community in Homa Galessa village, Abee Dongoro district, Horo Guduru. Among those killed were:

Kaliifaa Bayyaan Abaadir

Ibiraahim Aliyyii

Junaddiin Abdallaasheek

Yusuuf Abdii

An unknown number of cattle were driven away by the insurgents.

Killings by ENDF

On 5 April, ENDF shot and killed **Abdalla Ashim**, a farmer in Baredu Balo village, Sasiga district, East Wallega. On same day in the same village, they shot farmer Mahammad Amma in the knee, severely wounding him. Both farmers were uninterested in politics.

Mokonon Deresa (right), farmer and father of six, was killed by government forces on 17 or 18 April in Dire Guda village (at a place known as Noolee), Gida Ayana district, East Wallega (W1).

A young cattle dealer who 'followed no politics' in Bareeda Sooroma village, Diga district, East Wallega, **Asheetuu Figaaduu**, was killed by ENDF on 13 April.



Fayera Saqata Hirpha, a young man from Dongoroo Muxaa village, Ebantu district. East Wallega, was killed 'in an unpleasant manner' and dumped on 13 April.

Waggaarii Dheeressaa, a farmer from Hunde Gudina village, Sulula Finca'a district, Horo Guduru, was killed by government forces at a place called '7th Mooraa' on 15 April. He was incorrectly accused of having links with OLA.

Boongee Tasfaa, Hagaloo Tuulamaa village, Sibu Sire district, East Wallega, was shot dead on 14 April. Two were arrested from nearby Omboossee Hoboo village on that day.

A government militiaman named Taye murdered a **young woman** in the Soorga area of Nekemte city during the week before 23 April. He had killed her brother in the recent past.

On 29 April, ENDF troops killed and dumped **Jireenyaa Hafaa** in Haroo village, Wayu Tuqa district, East Wallega. Religious leaders and elders were refused access to the body. He was falsely accused of having links with OLA.

On 3 May, **Dawit Uummataa Oliiqaa** was shot dead in Gosani Babo village, Diga district, East Wallega, and his body left for wild animals.

On 2 May, **Araru Kabada** was arrested from his home in Bata Awangiro village, Wama Hagalo district. After being held briefly locally, he was taken to the nearby village of Gosani Babo, where he was 'shot dead on the road leading to Qassoo town.'

Dawud Figaaduu, from kebele 01, Arjo Gudatu town, Diga district, East Wallega, sometime between 4 and 11 May, was 'chased like a beast, shot and wounded, and taken to a special place called Laga Harree,' where he was killed.

On 7 May, **Waaq-jiraa Taganyee**, a young man from Kichi village, Sibu Sire district, was taken to Jalale village, where he was shot dead.

A poorly trained militiaman ‘without even learning how to carry a gun properly’ **killed a woman** on 16 May in kebele 02, Nekemte city, East Wallega.

Tamasgeen Mirreessaa was taken from his home in Wayu Saqa, Jimma Arjo district, East Wallega, on 10 May. Government forces drove away his three cattle. His whereabouts were unknown at least one week later and it was feared he had been killed.

Habtaamuu Taganyee, a young man from Caffee Jalale village, Sibbu Sire district, East Wallega, was shot dead during the week before 18 May for ‘being an OLA supporter.’

On 15 May, in kebele 05, Nekemte city, East Wallega, a policeman shot and killed a militiaman named **Addunya**. There was an unconfirmed report that **a woman** was shot and killed by a militiaman in kebele 02, Nekemte city, the previous day, 14 May.

On 20 May, **Malasa Borana** and **Datta Hambisa** were killed by Benishangul-Gumuz special forces in Angar Station 5, Sasiga district, East Wallega. Next day, they set fire to an agricultural vehicle and fired on children who were herding cattle.

In the evening of 28 May, the three whose bodies are shown right were killed by government forces in Sasiga district, East Wallega (W1):

Amsalu Mosisa, father of two

Chali Negas

Workina Bula, aged 80 years

On 3 June, **Ayana Waquma**, a farmer in Looko village, Guto Gida district, East Wallega, was shot dead by government forces.



Around the end of May, **Mrs Bontu** died in hospital in Gawo Qebe district, Qellem, from being shot several weeks previously ‘by a militiaman named Zeenuu’ at the train station.

On 6 June, government forces took **Ayana Lata**, father of two, from his home in Qarsaa Mojoo village, Sasiga district, East Wallega, and killed him. He had been detained on occasions previously, accused of supporting OLA.

Detention

Among more than 36 reports from ONM concerning arrests, beating and detention of civilians from April to June, most of the detainees were named. The reports included: a man arrested while walking down a Nekemte city street, East Wallega, on 3 April; three detained in Wayu Tuqa district, East Wallega, on 30 March, another four on 3 April, and 11 named among many detained on 4 April; and in Limu district, East Wallega, from 1-7 April, a woman from Galilee town, and two fathers of OLA members from Mukarbaa Diima village were detained.

Nine followers (*Waaqeffataas*), of the traditional Oromo religion were arrested at the worship hall, the Diga district *Galma Waaqeffannaa* in East Wallega on 25 March, and were still detained at least two weeks later. They included three from West Wallega. Records of attendees and funding of the *Galma* were seized.

Reports were received of the arrest of five in Sibbu Sire district, East Wallega, on 5 April, a young man on 6 April, and another in Jimma Arjo district on 8 April.

More than 200 youths were imprisoned in Nekemte city, East Wallega, on 8 April and held in kebeles 03, 05 and 07.

Seven relatives of erstwhile regional leader Lema Megersa were detained in Gudaya Bila Jare village on 17 April (W1). Seven villagers of Amuma Gorgisi, Lata Sibu district, East Wallega, were detained on 8 April, and four youths from Burqa Wama village, Wayu Tuqa district, on 13 April.

When ONM reported the detention of young men in Burqa Wama village, it wrote that their heads were shaved, they were beaten and had their mobile phones stolen. The soldiers opened fire on the congregation of the village church, ‘dispersing the community.’

Arrests continued with two in Gudaya Bila, East Wallega, on 15 April; ten farmers in Leqa Dulacha, district, East Wallega, on 15 April; two villagers from Wama Hagalo district, East Wallega, on 2 May; five villagers in Wayu Tuqa district, looted and detained on 1 May; ten named among ‘many’ detained in Ifa Biya village, Jimma Rare district, Horo Guduru, on 4 May; and Nado Damara ‘an elderly man in his 50s’ detained in Arjo Gudata town, Diga district, East Wallega, on 3 May ‘because his son is in the forest.’

The father, mother and infant girl relative of an OLA fighter in Eebba village, Guto Gida district, East Wallega were taken to the military camp in early May.

Husband and wife, Waaqwayyaa Tarfaasaa and Baqqalee Bantii, another man, Kibiru Dinagdee, and a young girl named Mitikee were beaten in As Boro village on 6 May, and another four in Gari village on 9 May.

Mrs Shibirree Taakkalaa, mother of three in Boshee Timbakko village, Bonaya Boshe district, East Wallega, was unable to pay increased taxes and was thrown from her home. She was struggling to survive farming but was detained at the district police station on 9 May.

Two brothers in Jireenya village, Guto Gidda district, East Wallega, were detained on 9 May for ‘refusing to pay taxes.’

Villagers from Abbillee Igguu village, Horroo Bulluq district, Horo Guduru, were called together in a special place called Gooda Ibbee, where they were severely beaten, a few days before ONM reported the incident on 13 May. Seven were named out of more than 30 who were beaten.

Many were beaten and arrested when ENDF again visited homes in Haro village, Leqa Dullacha district, East Wallega, on 11 May. Among the detainees were respected local men, accused of failing to pay taxes.

More arrests included three civilians in Wayu Tuqa district, East Wallega, 2-6 May; more than 20 detained, including old and young, after being lured to a meeting to be given fertiliser in Gossani Babbo village, Wama Hagaloo district, East Wallega, 6 May; two men taken from the homes in Guto Gida district, East Wallega, 13 May; Boonaa Dassaaleeny, youngster detained in kebele 07, Nekemte city, 11 May; and three girls arrested in Sibu Sire district, falsely accused of providing information to OLA, 12 May.

W1 reported on 26 May that there had been widespread arrests of young men, Qeerroo, ‘in Horo Guduru, Jarte Jardega, Dongoro, Sulula Finca’a and Shambu city,’

On 20 May, ONM reported two more arrests in Guto Gida district and excessive looting in East Wallega, including in Nekemte city.

Two Christian church leaders, one a youth, were detained in Sasiga district, East Wallega, on 18 May, accused of links to OLA, ‘on behalf of their brothers in the forest.’ When the youth’s

other brother, recently married, visited him in Sasiga district police station on 19 May, he too was detained.

On 29 May, ONM reported that 20,000 birr was being demanded for the release of Gamachu Gudina, detained for one month in Diga district, East Wallega.

Three elderly villagers were badly beaten in Oda village, Sasiga district, East Wallega, on 27 May, another arrested from Lalisa Bareeda village on 28 May.

In Guto Gida district, Bashatu Biranu was detained with her 2 year old child, Singitan Shoonnee, from Fayisa village.

Among civilians detained in Gudatu Arjo village, Diga district, East Wallega on 14 June were Dawe Geneti, a wealthy hotel owner, Alemnesh Wagari, employee of Commercial Bank of Ethiopia and Alemayew Simegni, a farmer. They are held at the police station (W1).

Rape

Sisters Rafiiqaa and Feeruzaa Muummee were taken at night from their home in Horda Ambalta village, Leqa Dullacha district, East Wallega, and raped by ENDF members in Ambalta village school on 21 April.

ONM wrote that in Sasiga district, 'soldiers, who have no military discipline, take girls off their buses, bajaj taxis and motorbike taxis while families send them to the market, take them to the military camp, rape them and drive them away.'

On 14 May, Leensaa Taammiruu Jaal'ataa and Iftuu Tasfaa Guyyaasaa were abducted from their family homes by government soldiers in Jireenya village, Guto Gida district, East Wallega, and taken to the Abba Horii river where they were gang-raped by a large number of soldiers. Their screams were heard but villagers were turned away at gunpoint.

Attacks by ENDF

There were hundreds of reports of beatings, looting and burning by ENDF. A selection of ONM reports in April and May is given below.

Three days after demonstrations about killings by ENDF and Fano by secondary school students in Shambu city, Horo Guduru, on 11 April, it was reported that ENDF vehicles were present and had been threatening, beating and intimidating students at Wallega University in Nekemte, East Wallega, for that three-day period.

Horo Guduru

Horo district

8 April. Loti Anno village. Residents beaten and 8 cows taken to be slaughtered at the military camp

April. Abee Dulacha village. Home and all belongings of Dachasa Jaarsa burnt

10-20 May. Loti Anno village. Another 3 cows taken for slaughter

Horo Bulluq district

27 April. Bushke town. 5+ mourners (named) attacked because sons joined OLA

24 May. Haro Aga village, at a place called Haro Bayesa, a mother of three, Hawine Ulfata, and two men, Dalasa Mooti and Ebissa Tariku, severely beaten by ENDF.

Ababo Guduru district

30 April. Caala Boqa (Foqa) village. 7+ homes and entire contents burnt

Amuru district

6 May. Nafuro village. Homes and all property of Dasale Warqu and Tolasa Soori burnt 'because their children were in the forest'

'Kombolcha' district

24 May. Guto Abayi village. Farmers Qalbeesa Mijana and Abdisa Qalbeesa arrested and their livestock including 10+ cows, horses and goats taken

East Wallega

Leqa Dulacha district

12 April. Horo village. Soldiers attacked Tajudin Mammad and killed his cattle, broke into home of Mammad Sharif and stole 25,000 birr – both falsely accused of supporting OLA

21 April. Horo village. Farmer Mahammad Sharif severely beaten when soldiers broke into his house and stole 20,000 birr

Wayu Tuka district

25 April. Haro Calchis village. Home of Mrs Hana Misgana and all contents burned to ground because 'husband in forest'

1 May. Kichi village. 50 arrested and detained, 9 horses and large quantities of grain looted

Guto Gida district

Early April. Arjo village. Toleera Primary School closed after soldiers entered and beat teachers 'for teaching sons of OLA'

24 April. Fayisa village. Marga Gutata arrested and hospitalised in Nekemte after being stabbed in the head with bayonet

30 April. Jirenya village. Soldiers beat 7+ residents including two women

27 May. Fayisa village. Entire shop belonging to Baca Alamayo looted

Sibu Sire district

5 April. Babo Ku'ee and Badesa Abba Garmama villages. 13 cattle and 5 sheep looted from relatives of OLA fighters

10-17 May. Caffé Jalale village. 2 oxen taken from two farmers for consumption by soldiers

Limu district

8 April. Warsitu village. Property of Gammachu Abdissa burnt, 3 cows, 4 goats, 14 sheep, 10 quintals of coffee and various grains taken

Ebantu district

12 April. Safara village. Home of Taddasa Bayana Dame burnt and motorcycle looted

Jima Arjo district

10 May. Wayu Saqa village. Tamasgeen Miressa abducted and disappeared, feared killed after his 3 cattle taken

Diga district

28 May. Biqiltu village. Entire property of Malkamu Dagafa burnt

Qellem and West Wallega, Illubabor, Buno Bedele and Jimma

Killings

Previously unrecorded by OSG, government forces killed 12th grade student, **Jafar Nagaraa**, on 17 February, in Innimayy Somboo village, Lata Sibu district, West Wallega. He was 'shot three times and thrown on the street.'

On 4 April, **Daggafuu Sanbataa**, from Badesa Baro village, Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, was killed, two days before celebrating his wedding at his wife's parents' home.

Two men, **Kennasaa Lammeessaa** and **Gammachuu Dhugaasaa**, in Jogee Badhaso village, Gawo Qebe district, Qellem, were taken from their homes and summarily executed on 4 April. Both were married with families and were described as ‘non-political.’

On 5 April, two youths from Gudayyaa Doobbii village, Ganjii district, West Wallega, **Abdii Tolasaa Ejjetaa** and **Caalii Waaqjiraa Maammoo**, were killed and ‘dumped in a horrific manner.’ Another young man, Amanuu Margaa Olaanaa, was taken to prison.

Early in April, **Faqqadee Daggafaa**, a young man from Tokkummaa Congee village, Haru district, West Wallega, was shot dead and his body hung in a tree and set on fire. He was described as ‘the son of a poor man, working as a labourer with no political involvement or views.’

On 8 April, soldiers shot and killed **Abdoo Abiyyuu**, of Warra Jirruu Baarkoo village, Babo Gambel district, West Wallega.

On 10 April, a young man named **Qannoo Geetaachoo** was shot dead by militiamen in Siibaa Meetosaa village, Homa district, West Wallega.

On 12 April, government forces killed innocent youth **Misgana Gubba Tarreessaa** in Toggir Haroo Gombii village, Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, and dumped his body. Soldiers also took 18 cattle from Jiraa Fiqaaduu and set fire to his house and all his crops.

Two older men, **Diriba Bulcha Mura’u**, 57, from Tulu Incinni village and **Baru Dufera**, 60, from Awasi Gitan village, in Lata Sibu district, West Wallega, were killed at their homes late on 15 April (W1).

Iyyobee Kabaa, **Muddin Ittafa** and **Tedros Bungecha** (right) from Aba Jara village, Sayo district, were detained in ‘Chinese Camp’ near Dembi Dollo, Qellem, on 10 April and killed on 16 April. Their families were turned away from the camp when they went to collect their bodies. Later information was that Tedros was killed at the camp on 11 April and that Iyyobee and Muddin were taken from their homes on 16 April and killed near Maaxaa village school that evening.



On 21 April, two farmers were killed in Qellem and one in West Wallega by ENDF; **Ayana Kabeta**, Lalo Kile, Qellem; **Hailu Gonfa**, Dale Wabera district, Qellem, and **Babu Atomsa**, Ayira district, West Wallega.

On 15 April, government soldiers shot dead farmer **Birraatuu Dinagdee**, a resident of Amuma Alaltu village, Lata Sibu district, West Wallega. The 61 year old father of six was taken to the Baddeessoo area of Amuma Goorgisi villlage, where he was killed and dumped.

Abbittii Rufael, a 17 year old, was taken from his family home in Seertum town, Anfilo district, Qellem, and shot dead on 23 April. His body was left for wild animals to devour. He was falsely accused on social media of being linked to OLA.

On 25 April, three farmers were taken from the vicinity of Ashunfa town, Qondala district, West Wallega, and killed between Mana Sibu and Dabus, (at Mexi Alala Farda village according to one report):

Jemal Ahmed

Rashad Alamu
Demera Baca

Two young men were killed in Yeti district, Qellem, on 1 May:

Ashenafi Kata
Yadera Gelan

Dabala Atomsa was shot dead in the Shewa Bar, Sadi Canka town, Qellem by a soldier on 2 May.

Araarsaa Mulgeetaa and **Shuumaa Imaanaa**, residents of Manamo village, Gidami district, Qellem, were shot dead on 2 May. Young girl, Butugee Asaffaa, detained in the ‘water office’, 01 kebele, Gidami town.

Istaz Jabana, a farmer and a guard at a health post in Gunfi town, was killed and dumped in Tobbi village, Begii district, West Wallega, on 4 May, after being detained on 1 May.

A pregnant woman, **Alemnesh Desalegn**, was shot dead by a government soldier on 8 May in Kasiri, ‘Riphaa Guutee Soyama’ district, Qellem. Her husband joined OLA four years ago.

On 6 May, **Sharif Kamal** and **Abdulsalam Ali** were taken from their homes in ‘Area 23’, Canqoo village, Hawwaa Galaan district, Qellem, and executed. Sharif Kamal is the father of two children and Abdulsalam Aliyyi had been married for a week. Soldiers said they were looking for OLA.

ENDF soldiers shot and killed **Jibo Yadasa Musee** in Gemii Gabbaa village, Qondala district, West Wallega, on 10 May.

On 14 May, **Gammachuu Tooboo** (right) was shot dead at his residence in Abba Cannaloo (Cinalo) village, Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, while he was tying a beehive in a tree. The body of the father of eight was left on the road.



On 14 May, **Gaarii Addisu**, a father in Qoqora Gurati, Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, was shot dead by ENDF.



Four farmers (left) from Dangi village, Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, were arrested and executed on 16 May:

Gemechis Merga
Jirata Azachew
Dereje Wodejo
Birhanu Alemayew

Jibril Aliyi (right), from

Ambalo Dila, Babo Gambel district, West Wallega, was shot dead by government forces on 15 May and his body left on the road.

Jifar Negera, a 12th grade student in Inimayi village, Lata Sibu district, West Wallega, was killed by government forces on 17 May and his body thrown on the street (W1).





Lalise Shuma (left) died in Nekemte hospital after being shot on 16 May by security forces in Mojo, an area of Geba Robi, Hawa Gelan district, Qellem.

On 18 May, 26 year-old **Lalisa Aashim** was shot dead in the Baddeeyyi area of Guddinaa Mucoo village, near a military command post, Yemalogi Walal district, Qellem, 'without any reason.'

On 18 May, father of five, **Girma Hirkisaa** was taken from his home in the Albaadhessa area of Burqaa Loomicaa village, Yemalogi Walal district, Qellem, shot dead and his body abandoned at the roadside. He had 'no political party affiliation except to support his family by doing his own job.'

Temene Temesgen, farmer and father of four, Kaji village, Guliso district, West Wallega, was killed in reprisal for battlefield losses against OLA in nearby Jarso Badesso, on 19 May (W1).

On 20 May, in the rural villages of Beena 1ffaa and Beena 2ffaa, Darimu district, Illubabor, government soldiers killed six 13-16 year old boys and a 25 year old man because they had given directions to OLA fighters passing through their villages. Their names were:

Boonaa Abdurraman Buruysa, 13

Falmataa Abdallaa Ahimad, 14

Adinaan Sheekoo Abdullaa, 16

Firoo Aliyyii Adam, 13

Badhaasaa Ammee Maammud, 13

Naa'ol Asaffaa, 25

Maadii Misbaahuu, 16

On 20 May, young man **Bashir Tasfaa** was taken from his home in the Dafine area of Guumaa Gaara Arbaa village, Qondala district, West Wallega and shot dead.

On 21 May, a 12 year old boy, **Maadii Umar**, was killed by ENDF soldiers in the Golol area of Beena village, Darimu district, Illubabor, **the eighth child or youth to be killed in Darimu within two days.**

Surraa Qarsee Goobanoo, a 20 year old man, was shot dead by ENDF on 27 May in Geedoo Arangamaa village, Jaarsoo district, West Wallega. He was 'engaged in his own business and free from any political party relationship or support and opposition of any party.' However, his brother is with OLA.

Dawit Muluna was shot dead by ENDF on 28 May, in Amurru Abbba Waaree village of Lalo Asebi district, West Wallega, wrongfully accused of supporting OLA.

On 30 May, **a girl** (name not given) was shot dead in Homa district, West Wallega, and on 2 June, **three farmers** and heads of families were killed by ENDF in Tobara village, Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, leaving their families destitute (W1):

Bashir Lamu

Gudina Fekede

Yosef Asefa

A woman living in Koli Carba village, Qondala district, West Wallega, **Mubina Imana Tola**, was shot dead by ENDF on or just before 3 June.

On 1 June, two young men were taken from different villages in Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, and shot dead at 'Como Dabus' next day.

Beekamaa Waaqgaarii Abdisa, from Cafcafii Baabboo village
Guddinaa Olaanaa Atoomsaa, from Mattaarrii village

On 6 June, three were killed by ENDF in Aru village, Homa district, West Wallega (W1):

Teshome Alemu

Simegni Gara, a teacher

Chala, a nurse

Abdullahi Musa, from Kussii village Babo Gambel district, West Wallega had been detained for two months in a military camp and police station when he was taken out and shot dead on 3 June.

Abraham Imana, a 74 year old in Warra Jirruu village, Guliso district, West Wallega, was shot dead by government soldiers on 6 June.

Reta Lebeta (right) lived in Jimma city, where he worked as a driver, although he was born in Ambo, West Showa. He was killed in his house in the city by government soldiers on 6 June (W1 and ONM).



Kano Wayessa Jara, 65, was killed by ENDF in Hobora village, Mandi district, West Wallega, on or just before 11 June (W1).

Shot and injured

An innocent youth named Dabala was shot in the head and seriously injured on 29 April at Shawaa Baarrii, Sadan Canqa district, Qellem.

On 17 May, a young man driving his motorcycle taxi on his way to Guutee Mikaa'ilii town from his home in Filfilii Galaan village, Sayo Nole district, West Wallega, was ambushed by a militiaman holding a wire or rope across the road. Dabala Qana'a, without any political affiliation, was hospitalised with severe neck injuries.

Bontu, who is six months pregnant, was shot and injured by a militiaman around 28 April in Gudatu Qebe village, Gawo Qebe district, Qellem, and is in Nekemte hospital.

The young civilian shown right, Redwan Gali, 'living in Jimma but now in Choma' was hospitalised on 27 May after being injured by government forces.



Rape and control of movement

Rape is very much under-reported because of the guilt and stigma it attracts. Nevertheless, these reports were sent by ONM during April and May. On 19 May, ONM wrote that it had recorded 1,200 rapes in Oromia since 2020.

On 5 April, at the Roba Hotel in Babo Gambel, West Wallega, where a husband and wife had booked a room, at 4:00 pm, two ENDF soldiers used force to enter their room, beat and expel the husband and then rape his wife. Both were injured and needed admission to hospital.

On 11 April the 'administrator of Imboro village, Darimu district, Illubabor, Ebisa Tafari, sent Habib Musxafa to work in the village and then went to the farmer's home and raped his wife. In the same district, in Gungummii village, the village administrator, Tasfaayee Dooshee, is using his personal power to threaten the residents at gunpoint day and night and controlling movement of people in and out of the village.'

The mayor of Qaaqee town, Dale Wabera district, Qellem, Qajeelaa Gammachuu, raped a young mother on 16 April, according to hospital and court sources.

Government forces took three girls from the market in Gurii Maariyaam village, Gawo Qebe district, Qellem, and raped them on 2 May. Caaltuu Iggazuu, Boontuu Tsaggaayee and Ayyaanee Dassaalaa are recovering in Ayira hospital.

In Buno Bedele, it was reported on 20 May that three girls, named Asantu, Darartu and Iftu, were taken from Burqaa Barakaa village to Cawwaaqaa district police station of Boolee town and raped. Several women were reportedly raped there previously and pregnancies ensued.

On 27 May, at around 11:00 pm in Burqaa Barakaa village, Cawwaaqaa district, Buno Bedele, ENDF soldiers raped a farmer's wife in her own house. He complained and appealed to the authorities but met only intimidation and threats.

On 14 June, ONM reported the rape of Dirribee Bagiree who was taken by government forces from her family home in Eegoo Girmoos village, Begii district, West Wallega. She is being treated in Asosa hospital for her serious injuries.

Detention

Information from 47 communications within a two month period is summarised briefly in the following paragraphs.

Three men were detained in Darimu district police station, Illubabor, 2 April; two in Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, 7 April; two in Lata Sibu, West Wallega, 7 April; two men from Babo Gambel district, West Wallega, 9 April; and 30 detained and looted in 3 villages in Lata Sibu, West Wallega, 9 April.

Women and elderly were among detainees taken from Sudi village, Anfilo district, Qellem on 9 April, because their 'children are OLA'.

Arrests included 'many' being taken from Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, 10 April; four, including two teachers, from Nejo town and one from Jarso district, West Wallega, 12 April; four more from Mana Sibu, 12 April; church congregations in Qiltu Kara district, West Wallega, 13 April; two from Dabo Hanna district, Buno Bedele, 14 April; over six members of a church congregation in Geera district, Jimma, 16 April; and two young women beaten and detained on 17 April at Lata Sibu district police station, West Wallega, accused of hairdressing for OLA.

Six were taken from two villages in Qiltu Kara district, West Wallega, 22 April; six, including an 8th grade student and a 70 year old, on 22 and 27 April from Haru district, West Wallega; and two teachers and a nurse were detained in Lalo Kile district, Qellem, shortly before 3 May.

When mourners were ordered to pay 200 birr each at a funeral in Begi district, West Wallega, on 29 April, a large number were arrested, including seven named by ONM.

More than 400 villagers were detained from Akuku village, Yemalogi Walal district, Qellem, on 27 April, after being ordered to pay 1,500-2,000 birr each to build a village office. Many of the men fled but their wives are being forced to pay or be detained.

Twenty youths were arrested in Dagaaga village, Aira district, West Wallega, on 28 April. 110 were detained from four villages in the district in the week before 3 May.

Arrests continued throughout May and up to the preparation of this report. They include six detained in Qondala district police station, West Wallega, 3 May; three in Gidami district,

Qellem, 3 May; ‘many’ detained in Haro district police station, West Wallega, 4 May (two held for over 17 months); and eight at Makko district police station, Buno Bedele, 7 May.

Hundee Tasfaa, a 13 year old boy, was detained on 9 May in Ayira district, West Wallega, and exposed to cold at night and strong sunlight and beatings during the day because his brother is in OLA. Money is demanded for his release and that of other detainees.

Three farmers were detained in Babo Gambel district, West Wallega, 10 May, and large sums demanded for their release; two detained and one disappeared in Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, 13 May; a young man detained in Dabo Hanna district, Buno Bedele, for refusing to work for local government, 14 May; three teachers were detained in Jimma Horo district, Qellem, 16 May; ‘many’ detained in poor conditions in Hurumu district, Illubabor, 16 May; another in Mana Sibu district, West Wallega, 17 May; at least six including two young girls, one with diabetes, in Ayira district, West Wallega, from 13 to at least 22 May; a teacher from Lalo Kile, Qellem, detained 22 May; eight, including a 60 year old man, from two villages in Mana Sibu district, detained 22 May; two in Dirre Incinni, West Wallega, 25 May; seven young men taken while playing football and at least four others detained in Babo Gambel district, West Wallega on 27 May.

On 25 May, three were detained in Sayo Nole district, West Wallega. Two brothers were detained in Darimu district, Illubabor, on 27 May and another young man was detained there on 28 May, because ‘his face looked new.’ Another young man was beaten and detained in Dabo Hanna district, Buno Bedele, on 30 May. Six were detained in Boji Coqorsa district, West Wallega, on 30 May; two more, including a 70 year old man, were taken from Babo Gambel district, West Wallega, around 30 May and a young man was detained in Goma district, Jimma, on 31 May.



Arbitrary detention continues. The abduction of Habtamu Lamu from the street in Illubabor (left) was photographed and sent to OSG on 11 June (W1). Seven youngsters, farmers and teachers from Jiru village, Lalo Kile district, West Wallega, were detained in the police station three months before the report reached OSG on 12 June (W1).

Beating, looting, burning

Qellem Wallega

Yamalogi Walal district

23 April. Loomica Cabal village, at Gaba Jimata, Mitiku Dheeressa Disaasa was taken from his home, beaten, evicted and warned he would be killed if he returned. His wife Caaltu was abducted and forcibly married to militiaman Jirata Imiru.

29 May. Akuku village, at Boonaya. Young man Gochoba Dagw was beaten and robbed of money when going to collect fertiliser

Anfilo district

ENDF patrols were reported abusing and detaining villagers of Waaba Eebba, Kuro, Yaadano Yati, Seertrum, Yalli and Goomi villages at the beginning of May.

3 May. Waaba Eebba village. Two homes burnt down.

Gidami district

29 April. After Sambo village, at Gosu. All property of father of three, Xaha Lammessa, burned down, making his family destitute

11 May. Girayi Sonka village. Tashoma Dasta, father of two, arrested. Two days later, security forces went to his home and stole his motorcycle

Qellem town

27 April. Haro area. Father of three, Zakare Barju, ‘severely beaten and tortured’

Sayo district

19 May. Ripha Gute Soyama village, at Shanqate. Three homes burnt and 2 oxen looted

West Wallega

Mana Sibu district

12 April. Toggir Haro Gombi village. On the day of the killing of youth Misgana Gubba Taresa, the home and all crops belonging to Jira Fiqadu were burnt and 18 cattle looted

15 April. Maxari village. 19 cattle looted from Mrs Tsihoon Abarra

15 April. Qella Daabus village. 17 cows taken from farmer Malkamu

16 April. Bengu’a village. 12 cattle and 2 goats looted from Tola Ittana; children and brothers Jirata Tola, 12, and Milkessa Tola, 10, were abducted

15 May. Toggir Haro Gombi village. Home of Ebba Nagasa burnt down, family destitute

18 May. Toggir Haro Gombi village. Homes of four more families burnt down and livestock including at least 2 oxen looted

18 May. Dangi village. Shops broken into and over 300,000 birr stolen

Babo Gambel district

21 April. Damota Mana Jaarte village. Malkamu Abdisa beaten, robbed of cash and driven away to military camp

1 June. Aggoo Haro village. 7 farmers beaten and jailed, 16 cattle looted from two

Qiltu Kara district

24 April. Wandi Dalle village. Three brothers (Emmanuel, Masarat and Dinqee Addunya) engaged in construction work, where properties were burnt down in 2024, beaten and detained in district police station, all construction materials destroyed

18 May. Bafano Qorache village. Home of Lammesa Jirata burnt down and property of Biranu Bari stolen

20 May. Babo Bundi village. Two properties, including that of the Abbaa Gadaa, Kafale Malaku Mulugeeta, burnt down, Mrs Mandoshe Gobana and 8 others severely beaten, at least 3 detained and shop belonging to Mengistu Mokonnnon looted of items and money

Boji Birmaji district

26 April. Market traders in the district robbed of money, mobile phones. Anyone moving around Bila town after curfew is arrested and detained if not a PP member. Many detained

Boji Coqorsa district

3 May. Tulu Guracha village. 4 cows of Gaari Teesso and 6 sheep of Samuel Asafa taken

Qondala district

3 May. A young girl, Mubina Imana Tola, was taken by soldiers raiding homes in Qoli Carpha village and badly beaten. In addition, six named residents of kebele 01 of Qondala town were detained at the district police station.

Guliso district

10 May (report). Sanki Kolati village at Dugda Gudda. House of Mitiku Caali burned down

Lata Sibu district

15 May. Lalisa Komis village. Ox belonging to teacher Ballisa Ittana taken by ENDF

29 May. Gida Dalle village. Villagers beaten, home and all belongings of Shifara Qano burnt

Sayo Nole district
25 May (report). Dabaso village. Two homes burned down

Illubabor

Darimu district
25 April. Effarsi village. Youth Ta'ani Daanye severely beaten while going to Darimu town

Hurumu district
6-7 May. Uggee village, ONM received many calls from villagers reporting an attack by ENDF but no further details were forthcoming
16 May. Two lorries loaded with coffee were confiscated by police

Alge Sachi district
6 April. Government agents impersonating Muslims attack Christian leaders to encourage religious intolerance

Buno Bedele

Mako (Meko) district
14 May. Shimala Iluu village. Six named among many whose homes were burnt down with all their belongings.

Guji and Borana

Killings

On 8 May, W1 wrote that the **civilian** whose body is shown right was killed the previous day by government forces in Arero district, Borana zone. W1 was unable to find his name.

Orasaa Xulii Wallaallee, a young woman from Goro Dola district, East Borana, was killed by government forces around 8.00 pm on 13 May.



Shora Bariso Galchu (left), a respected elder, was killed by government forces on 21 May. Informant W1 wrote that he was from Dilelessa village, Goro Dola district, East Borana. ONM reported he was in Heba Hida village, Wadera district, Guji zone when he was taken from his home and shot dead.

Cacu Fikadu (right) was abducted from his family home in Goro Dola district, East Borana, on or just before 23 May, shot dead and left on the road.



Rape

A 12 year old girl, Quutuu Birbirsaa, was going from school to her home in Hema Kinshoo village, Dugda Dawa district, West Guji, when 'a military commander in the town named Gada' took her and raped her at the roadside on 2 May.



Beating

Butulu Wariyo (left), Goro Tilo village, Adola Wayu district, Guji, was ordered by local militia to pay them money. He complained that he had nothing to give and was beaten, as shown. He is recovering in hospital.

Detention

ONM reported on 10 April that civilians in Goro Dola district of East Borana were being collectively punished because of OLA activity: 428 were being held in Goro Dola district prison, including '136 elderly, 110 youths, 117 mothers, 65 pregnant women and those with children.'

Trade is being disrupted. In Saransari village, Goro Dola district, a 65 year old woman, Shakkuu Guyyee, was among those detained on her way to market on 28 April. She was 'thrown from her home with her children.'

On 11 May, ONM named six of over 200 detained from two villages in Goro Dola district since early March, accused of being family members of OLA fighters.

In addition, ONM wrote, government forces 'are engaged in brutality against the community throughout the district and are detaining many youths and farmers from their normal workplaces without their consent and taking them to military training.'

Benishangul-Gumuz Region

Killings

Carana Baajato, father of three, was severely beaten by government forces in Dibaat district, Metekel zone, on 4 April and died from his injuries next day, 5 April.

Seven Oromo were killed on 22 April in Saido village, Dibaat district, Metekel. Their properties were destroyed by fire. It is not known if the seven were burnt to death (W1 and ONM). The dead included:

Brothers **Gemechu Fayisa**, father of seven, and **Asefa Fayisa**, father of eight, both shown right

Abdisa Fayisa, 12 year old

Merga Lami, 70

Aba Bogala, 60

Argeta Geleta and **Geneti Kusha**, from Congo village, in Dibaat for a wedding

Asefa Dereje, right, in Maxa village, Bulan district, Metekel, was killed by government forces on 20 May (W1 and ONM).

Seventeen were killed and their homes burnt in Meti village, Soge district, Kamashi zone, on 21 May (W1 and ONM). Soldiers belonging to Benishangul-Gumuz Special Forces separated villagers by ethnicity and shot the Oromo. Three names were obtained:

Umad Kungu

Ujulu Bate

Mohammed Said



Detention, looting, burning, beating

A selection and summary from many reports covering only a six week period from 7 April to 19 May follows.

One man detained, another robbed of 130,000 birr in one village and seven detained from another in Dibaat district, Metekel, on 7 April; businessman robbed of 360,000 birr, detained and disappeared, and five more detained in Dibaat, 11 April; five arrested and disappeared after three were robbed of 900,000, 340,000 and 4,000 birr, Bulan district, Metekel, 12 April;

Dibaat district, Metekel, was badly affected. On 10 April, four arrests, including a mother and daughter, were reported from two villages; three were detained on 14 and 15 April;

When seven were killed by ENDF on 22 April in Saido village, Dibaat district (see above), the soldiers burnt 15 houses.

An elderly man was beaten and robbed of 25,000 birr in Giiphoo village, Dibaat district, on 3 May; nine residents of Tongo district in the Ma'oo-Komo Special zone of Benishangul-Gumuz were taken from their village, Guree, and detained in Tongo Police Station on 9 May; eight among many detained in Asosa city were named by ONM on 17 May; another, Raggaasaa Ayyaanaa, was taken from Giphoo village, Dibaat district, on 19 May.

Refugees

Kenya

The southern route of escape from Ethiopia involves exposure to extortion and violence at the border crossing to Kenya and severe abuses from traffickers taking migrants further south, eventually to South Africa. According to UNHCR, Kenya hosts over 41,000 refugees and asylum-seekers from Ethiopia, among a total of 796,000, mostly from Somalia and South Sudan. About 45% are in Dadaab camps and 40% in Kakuma. Only 16% are urban refugees.

Violence and insecurity remain main features of refugee life in Kenya and have done so since OSG began reporting in 1994.

Agreements with the Ethiopian government have never gone well for Oromo residents or refugees in Kenya. The Kenyan Government Army campaign against Borana Oromo communities in Marsabit and Isiolo counties of North Kenya, which began in February, is true to form. Hundreds of arrests, demands for high bail payments and several disappearances in custody have been reported, all justified as a crackdown on OLA's support base.



Asylum-seekers and refugees remain prey items for the corrupt Nairobi police, as they have been since OSG's visit in 2010.⁸ Police violence, which has claimed the lives of many immigrants and Kenyans, was obvious in the youth anti-government demonstrations of recent months.

The use of rubber bullets to quell refugee demonstrations in Kakuma/Kalobeyi may have prevented a significant death toll in early March (see Report 69, p.43). A more sinister and less overt manifestation of police violence is the severe beating of human rights activist and photojournalist Boniface Mwangi (left) on 2 April and his continued harassment by the police and court system.

⁸ OSG Reports 46 and 46a. <https://oromiasupport.org/wp-content/uploads/simple-file-list/Report-46-Kenya-Dec-2010.pdf> and <https://oromiasupport.org/wp-content/uploads/simple-file-list/Report-46a-Kenya-Dec-2010-Ethiopia-exports-more-than-coffee-Oromo-refugees-fear-and-destitution-in-Kenya.pdf>

One of the worst manifestations of police violence is the mistreatment and death of detainees, as when four refugees died in detention in February 2024.

Institutional limits such as the funding of UNHCR and international aid agencies, in other words the financial institutions run by the big world economies, have resulted in repeated cutbacks so that the food ration for refugees in UNHCR camps in Dadaab, Kakuma and Kalobeyei has been a mere 40% of recommended amounts since February 2024.

It is therefore not surprising that the sluggish registration, refugee status determination and resettlement programs are rife with corruption – from sums handed over to arrange initial interviews to much more.

The announcement of the ‘Shirika’ plan of integrating refugees in 2024 has not been implemented or followed up with any tangible benefits for refugee or host communities.

Eastern Route: Djibouti, Somaliland, Puntland, Yemen, Saudi Arabia

Recent announcements by authorities in Djibouti and Somaliland of the rounding up and deportation of undocumented migrants began to be acted upon as OSG went to press. After giving undocumented migrants one month to leave both countries, it was expected that large scale deportations would have begun around the beginning of June.

It is unclear how draconian the round-up and deportation processes might be.

On Thursday 19 June, OSG’s correspondent in Hargeisa, sent a picture (right) of detainees in the Hargeisa Immigration Detention Centre. He said the deportations had begun but assured OSG that so far no registered asylum-seeker or recognised refugee had been included in the hundreds who had been deported. However, many registered asylum-seekers, as shown, are detained every day and kept for several hours before being released.



Although OSG has been informed of deportations from Djibouti, it has not been informed of the refoulement of any refugees or asylum seekers since Roba Elemo and Abdallah Ahmed Ali, were sent from Djibouti to detention in Dire Dawa, with about 15 others, in August 2024 (see OSG report 68, p.39).

The number of refugees and asylum-seekers in Djibouti has increased tenfold since 2011 (OSG Report 48). Out of the 31,500 total, there are about 13,000 from Ethiopia of whom 90-95% are Oromo. About 1,000 live in Ali Addeh camp. Most live in Djibouti-ville where some can get paid work.

In the past, thousands have been deported in lethal conditions, despite the efforts of UNHCR, but in the last two years a working relationship has developed between UNHCR and the Djibouti government so the once moribund registration and determination processes are now running more smoothly. UNHCR now also has a better dialogue with members of the Oromo refugee community.

Unknown numbers, certainly thousands, continue to die in the desert trying to reach the shore near to Obock, on the other side of the bay to Djibouti city and port. From there they make the dangerous sea crossing to Yemen. They do not seek protection from UNHCR. As many as 234,000 left Ethiopia for the Red Sea coast in 2024, up by 27% from 2023. In 2023, about ¾ of crossings to Yemen were from Djibouti but increased activity by Djibouti and Yemeni

Coast Guards has driven more to go from Bosaso, Puntland, as reported by *The New Humanitarian* (see map, below).⁹

At least 558 died, mostly by drowning, on the route in 2024. Those who die in the desert on their way into Djibouti are not included in these figures. People smugglers use ‘dalalas,’ agents to seduce young unemployed men with tales of job opportunities in Saudi Arabia.



The process continues, despite an increase in traffic in the opposite direction and the horrors of detention and torture by traffickers within Yemen.

Hundreds, if not thousands have been shot dead by Saudi armed forces on the border, according to an extensive investigation by Human Right Watch from 2022 to 2023.¹⁰ Thousands still cross into Saudi Arabia to seek employment despite their mistreatment once there and despite the risk of being held for months or years in lethally unsanitary conditions in overcrowded detention facilities, before deportation back to Ethiopia, where many will become ‘bullet food’ – forced conscripts.

An airstrike by the USA on Houthi positions in Saada, on the Yemen side of the border with Saudi Arabia, on 28 April, hit a migrant detention centre, killing at least 68 and wounding 47 (pictured right). As in the Saudi airforce attack in January 2022 on the same compound, in which 91 or more died and at least 236 were wounded, the majority of the migrants will have been Oromo.



An even more atrocious attack was by Houthi rebels in control of Sana’a on 7 March 2021, when 450 died after explosive devices were deliberately fired into a migrant detention facility.



After the return of 100,000 or more detained migrants in 2022 and the return of 70,000 in April-June 2024, thousands of Oromo migrants are again in detention in Saudi Arabia, according to *Shabo Media* and reported by *Oromia Today* (left).¹¹

The choice for young Oromo is stark; slave labour and the risk of detention and deportation in Saudi Arabia or becoming ‘bullet food’ in Ethiopia

⁹ <https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news-feature/2025/04/23/ethiopia-frustrated-youth-south-south-migration-africa>

¹⁰ <https://www.hrw.org/report/2023/08/21/they-fired-us-rain/saudi-arabian-mass-killings-ethiopian-migrants-yemensaudi>

¹¹ <https://oromia.today/save-oromo-refugees-trapped-in-saudi-detention/>

Appendix. Borana farmers evicted and farmland lost for Yabelo International Airport
(see p.17)

Abduuba Halakee Soraa, 2 hectares taken
Kiyyaa Halakee Soraa, 1 ha
Dhakkii Rooba Sora, 1 ha
Nagellee A/ruufa Galgalo, 3.2 ha
Kuna Duuba Dhadacha, 3 ha
Guracha Duuba Dhadacha, 3 ha
Saara Malichaa Galgaloo, 4 ha
Taadhii Galgaloo Dhadacha, 3 ha
Gurachaa Duuba Elema, 1 ha
Waaqoo Kateelo Allo, 1 ha
Abduuba Kateelo Allo, 1 ha
Kombaa Jaatanii Areroo, 4 ha
Jaatan Kombaa Jatan, 3 ha
Areroo Nuura Jirma, 4 ha
Waaqoo Areero Nuura, 3 ha
Bonayaa Areeroo, 3 ha
Karayyu Biqqaa Duuba, 1 ha
Rooba Soraa Bariisa, 2 ha
Galmaa Banaata Huqqa, 3.5 ha
Sakkee Dheenge Garundhe, 1 ha
Liiban Dheengee, 3.9 ha
Seebala Jaldessa, 6 ha
Belexuu Jaldeesa Diida, 4 ha
Abbatura Dabaso Guyo, 1 ha
Salleessa Xaxache Duub

OSG total recorded killings of Oromo civilians

OSG has now documented the killing of 6,689 Oromo civilians by Ethiopian government and Fano forces. This represents a small fraction of the real total, almost certainly under 20% and possibly much less.

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