

PRESS RELEASE

8 September 2022

Pillaging and ethnic cleansing in Horo Guduru and East Wallega zones of Oromia Region by Fano and Amhara Region militia

Early morning on 30 August, as townspeople of Agamsa, in Amuru district of western Oromia, were preparing to go to work, the town was attacked by Fano militia. At least 63 civilians, including children and elderly, were killed (see Appendix 1).

Some hid in surrounding crops according to the [Addis Standard report on 2 September](#) as Fano militia members killed indiscriminately, burning a 97 year-old to death in his hut. A child of five years was among the dead.

Shops and banks were looted: goods and furniture were loaded into the assailants' vehicles and taken away. Over 5,000 cattle, corralled in the town from surrounding areas, were stolen.



Zones of Oromia (Blue), Amhara (Yellow) and Benishangul-Gumuz (Green) Regions

A few days later **on 3 September**, according to an Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) radio station *Sagalee Bilisummaa Oromoo* report next day, **at least 12 villagers of Bonee Abuna, Horo Buluk district, Horo Guduru zone were killed and more were injured by Fano** (see Appendix 2).

Horo Guduru zone, in which Amuru and Horo Buluk districts lie, and East Wallega zone, to which it is adjacent, both border Amhara Region and have been subjected to similar attacks on several occasions. Amhara militants

call for the removal of Oromo people from Amhara 'ancestral' land in Showa and Wallega. In a recorded video, [Mekonnen Kebede](#), a US citizen, recruiting in Ethiopia for Amhara militia said 'Amhara can only live in peace; Ethiopia can only live in peace, if we remove Oromia from the map. If the Oromo want demarcation based on their nationality, they have to leave Wallega and Showa.'

The first reported major incursion by Amhara forces occurred in Lalistu Anger, Gida Ayana district, East Wallega on 15 February 2021, when 'dozens' were killed ([OSG Report 55](#), p.16), although sporadic attacks and killings in Horo Guduru and East Wallega zones have occurred for over two years as part of the government's campaign to eradicate Qeerroo members and suspected supporters of OLF and Oromo Liberation Army - OLA ([OSG Report 54](#), p.16; [Report 55](#), pp.16-17; [Report 56](#), pp.17-20; [Report 60](#), pp.4-5 and Appendix 2).

On 12 October 2021, at least 25 Oromo villagers of Haro 01 kebele were killed in Kiramu district, East Wallega, by heavily armed Amhara militia, shortly after government Oromia

Special Forces were withdrawn against the wishes of local elders ([OSG Report 58](#), p.21). They ‘killed randomly, looted what they could and burned what they couldn’t carry’. Hundreds of houses were burned down. Shops, crops and hundreds of cattle were taken or destroyed. Dozens more were killed in Nole and in Lugo town, Guto Gida district. Most of the 19 kebeles in Gida Kiramu woreda were affected, leading to the displacement of about 56,400 people.

Two major incursions occurred in February 2022. On 12 or 15 February, at least 29, including women and children, were killed by Amhara militia and Fano in Botoro Bora village, Abay Dongoro district, Horo Guduru zone, looting and burning at least 64 homes ([OSG Report 59](#), p.22).

On 22 February, at least six were killed by the same forces in Abuna Gudina, Horo Buluk district, Horo Guduru ([Report 59](#), p.22).

The OLF reported that 36 Oromo civilians were killed by government forces in Kiramu district, Horo Guduru zone, on 16 April and four more on 26 April. The Oromo Federalist Congress wrote that 11 farmers were shot and killed by Fano in Jardega Jarte, Horo Guduru, in the last week of April ([Report 60](#), p.4).

A farming family and their 20 year-old student son were killed in Jardega Jarte on 11 May.

Fourteen farming villagers were killed in Ababo Guduru, Horo Guduru, on 24 May and 15 were killed by Fano in Biftuu Nuuf Batee, Hababo district, Horo Guduru, on 25 May. A 12 year-old boy and his farming parents were killed by Fano in Jardega Jarte on 30 May ([Report 60](#), p.5).

As reported in OSG Press Release 16 August 2022, Fano militia, ‘cooperating’ with government forces, attacked a village in Amuru district, Horo Guduru Wallega on 4 August. The Fano brigade ‘looted more than 100 horned cattle and 50 sheep from the people and drove them away’. They killed an 8-month pregnant woman and her 3 year-old child ‘while they were fleeing in the forest.’

[OLA reported on 2 September](#) that Amhara region and Fano militia occupy 16 of the 21 kebeles in Amuru district with government approval and are trained in Birsheleko Military Training Camp near Bure, 50 kms away. OLA and others have claimed that Agamsa town residents were beaten and disarmed the day before the massacre by government-sponsored militia under the leadership of Faqada Abdisa. This group is known to impersonate OLA when committing atrocities against Amhara communities in Oromia, including the Church massacre in Jarte district in March 2021.

Amhara regional militia and Fano are supported and encouraged by the Amhara diaspora. Hundreds of thousands of people – Oromo, Amhara, Tigaru and others – are dead and Ethiopia is descending into chaos.

The root cause of Ethiopia’s distress is the conflict between ‘the followers of Menelik’ who desire return to central rule of an empire represented by Amhara culture, language, script, calendar and religion and those representing the oppressed majority peoples of Ethiopia who support a multinational federal system as written in the 1995 Ethiopian Constitution.

Understanding and acknowledgement of this by international stakeholders is fundamental to establishing an internationally sponsored dialogue and peace process.

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Appendix 1. Name and age of 63 killed by Fano in Agamsa town, Amuru district, Horo Guduru zone, on 30 August 2022.

1. Jarsoo Fantaa	32	33. Garamuu Dasuu	50
2. Getachoo Dhugumaa	64	34. Dastaa Animoo	34
3. Lalisee Jarsoo	5	35. Birtuu Jibaat	23
4. Tasfayee Getachoo	34	36. Abiraam Yesuuf	32
5. Galiilo Baabuu	37	37. Abdii Xilahun	23
6. Tasfayee Imiruu	43	38. Magarsaa Abdiisaa	27
7. Baqqalaa Gamachuu	62	39. Abdiisaa Tesoo	25
8. Waqjjiraa Ayanaa	87	40. Moosisaa Jamaa	47
9. Fufaa Hundee	85	41. Bayana Gamada	60
10. Dhufanii Bogalee	89	42. Misgaana Nugusee	40
11. Gammadaa Abdii	37	43. Dassaloo Jibaat	34
12. Tamasgeen Abdii	34	44. Assafaa Guggee	80
13. Guree Xiixaa	20	45. Shifaraa Gobotoo	85
14. Abiraam Yeesuuf	24	46. Abataa Bayanaa	50
15. Hordofaa Hundee	77	47. Bayanaa	47
16. Dassalee Alamuu	42	48. Indashaa Getanee	43
17. Tamee Bonger	25	49. Dani'eli Waqjjiraa	34
18. Simaa Bachii	67	50. Goboshoo Adimaasuu	42
19. Ayyanaa Abdii	37	51. Animoo Shifaraa	36
20. Zalaalem Tamsgeen	97	52. Abaatee Gobanaa	48
21. Malikamuu Babusii	39	53. Adamoo Galataa	56
22. Tasfayee Gecheer	67	54. Kinduu Tasfayee	34
23. Obsii Tasifayee	28	55. Goboshoo Galataa	33
24. Bayanaa Gichilee	73	56. Dassaloo Margaa	35
25. Obsii Amantee	48	57. Beenyaa Roobaa	27
26. Amsaaluu Gobanaa	80	58. Fiqaaduu Garbaa	34
27. Darajjee Tafarii	37	59. Tujee Miskir	24
28. Margaa Abdiisaa	55	60. Ganamee Duube	20
29. Tamsgeen Dassaloo	72	61. Asaantuu Dachaasa	19
30. Badhasaa Tamsgeen	49	62. Bareeduu Ganatii	17
31. Wayesaa Abdii	56	63. Awaqee Jalataa	88
32. Dassaloo Margas	26		

Appendix 2. Names of those killed by Fano in Bonee Abuna, Horo Buluk district, Horo Guduru, on 3 September 2022.

1. Waaqwayyaa Olaanii	7. Dinqiisaa Oliiqaa
2. Abbayyaa Gaddafaa	8. Konnisee Oliiqaa
3. Tarreessaa Abdiisaa	9. Qaroo Guddumaa
4. Dastaa Labataa (father of 7)	10. Bosaa Guddumaa
5. Assabaa Habtaamuu	11. Taakkalaa Abaataa
6. Badhaasaa Fiqaaduu, aged 18	12. Pastor Kaffaalee

Severely injured were Baabuu Nagaraa and Soorii Fiqaaduu, brother of murder victim Badhaasaa Fiqaaduu, above.