

Update: Wolaita People's Democratic Front says 21 people killed as uneasy calm returns

AUGUST 11, 2020



SEARCH HERE



Sodo city. August 10/2020.

Addis Standard staff

Addis Abeba— In a statement it released today, the opposition Wolaita People's Democratic Front (WPDF) said the number of people killed in various places in Wolaita zone has reached 21; countless others were also injured.

WPDF called for the immediate release of the arrested officials, activities, religious leaders, civil society organizations representatives and opposition party members. It also called for those who are responsible for the death of innocent civilians to be held to account.

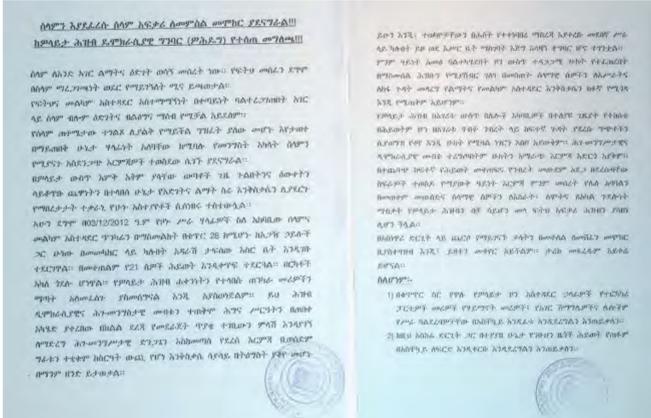
At least 10 people were killed yesterday by security forces, according to Reuters, six of whom in Bedeti, a town 295 km (180 miles) southwest of Addis Abeba. Reuters quoted Temesgen Hillina, a senior official at Boditi health center, as saying. "They were shot in the head, abdomen, and their chest," he said. "I was the one who gave them the first treatment and later they died."

Nebiyu Marqosa, a resident of Sodo city, the capital of Wolaita zone, told Addis Standard that the army's crackdown against protestors were intense in main towns of the zone including Boditi and Areka twons as well as in Sodo city. Among them were three people, including a child, who were shot dead in Sodo city in areas called Maedot, Maremiya and Qera (where the child was killed). Four people were also shot dead in Boditi town, and another one in Areka town. Nebiyu said that the the fatal shootings happened despite the nonviolent protests which only involved road blocking with rocks, burning of tyres and woods on the streets.

Twitter post from Addis Standard (@addisstandard) dated Aug 10, 2020. The tweet includes a note about Andualem Boltena and an update about a footballer named Aklilu Wana who was killed during protests in Wolaita Zone.

Footballer Aklilu Wana, in his 20s, was killed in his native city Bodeti.

Uneasy calm has returned in areas where tense situation were observed yesterday. According to Nebiyu large commercial and public institutes remain closed whereas small kiosks and medium restaurants in Sodo and Boditi were opened cautiously. All road transport means are still not functioning to and from all directions. Unlike yesterday, a large number of people in the towns are walking calmly while security forces are monitoring activities Nebiyu said. However, internet data has been disconnected as of yesterday afternoon.



The statement from WPDF accused the federal government of detaining the officials and triggering the protests. "To stir chaos and pretend to appear peaceful is confusing," the headline of the party said in reference to the federal government's action to round up 28 people from the meeting they were attending.

Sources from #Wolaita Soddo indicate that federal forces and the military are continuing randomly shooting live bullets at civilians – 16 total deaths & over 130 injured. @PMEthiopia government is employing massive brutal force @addisstandard — Ambachew A. Anjulo (@amaadona7a) August 10, 2020

Protests erupted in the city and its environs late on Sunday after the arrest by members of the federal police of at least 26 people [WPDF's statement said 28], including Dagato Kumbe, Wolaita Zone administrator. The arrested officials also include members of the council for Wolaita statehood request and opposition party members from Wolaita National Movement (WNM) during a meeting they were attending inside the city's Gutera conference hall. AS

WRITTEN BY ADDIS STANDARD

Posts you may also like

News: Fresh cross border attack by South Sudan's Murle militants kill 10, injure 12 in Gambella region. 22 MAY 2023

#ASDailyScoop: State owned utility suffers more than 23 m birr in loss due to theft, wanton destruction of electric infrastructure. 22 MAY 2023

News: Media authority temporarily suspends license of Orthodox Church affiliated TV. 21 MAY 2023

News: Interim president accuses Eritrean forces of blocking AU monitoring mission in Tigray. 20 MAY 2023

ABOUT US

Addis Standard Publications is a tri-lingual independent media in online and print formats, publishing public interest contents in English, Afan Oromoo and Amharic languages. Based in Ethiopia, Addis Standard Publications is owned by JAKENN Publishing P.L.C., which is registered with the Ministry of Trade and Industry of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia under license number 1552/2003 and recognized by the Ethiopian Media Authority's Online Media Certificate in accordance with the Ethiopian Media Law, Media Proclamation No. 1238/2021.



CONTACT DETAIL

Address: Leul Taz Building 3rd Floor Off No. 302 | Opposite CMC Compound | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Phone: +251 118 951 323 / 116 609 329. Mobile: +251 976 010 631. E-mail: info@addisstandard.com / addisstandard@gmail.com

NAVIGATION

- Contact Us
Legal & Privacy
Terms & Conditions
Privacy Policy
Cookies