



Extrajudicial Killings of Innocent Civilians in Oromia, Ethiopia

November 2020 Report

Oromo Legacy Leadership and Advocacy Association

Ethiopian government security forces continue to commit grave human rights violations, with numerous extrajudicial executions, arbitrary arrests and detentions documented over the past month in the Oromia region. In November alone, more than 70 civilians were gunned down by security forces. These killings all occurred in violation of Ethiopia's own justice system as well as its obligations under international human rights law. Individuals were shot on the street, in their homes, or taken out of prison and executed. Many of the bodies were then dumped and left to scavengers, denying their families a proper burial.

It is important to note that the cases reported here include only those deaths that we were able to validate and support, suggesting that the real number could be much higher.

In May, a report released by Amnesty International found that serious human rights violations were committed by Ethiopian security forces between December 2018 and December 2019, including extrajudicial killings and the arbitrary arrest and detention of thousands of people suspected of supporting the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) and other opposition groups. Amnesty International's Director for East and Southern Africa, Deprese Mucheria called upon the government for action:

"The authorities must immediately stop these horrific killings. They must also ensure that those responsible for these callous and brutal acts face justice."

Despite this, the situation has continued to worsen.

Many have lost hope after the early promise of political reforms brought in by the Abiy Ahmed Government in 2018. Prime Minister Ahmed initially brought in a suite of reforms that aimed to reinforce civil and political liberties, including the release of hundreds of political prisoners and admitting the use of torture by government security forces. Many of the Oromo people, who - despite making up the largest ethnic group in Ethiopia - have long faced oppression and political



marginalization by successive central governments, saw this as a turning point for the region. Yet, despite this, research conducted independently by OLLAA, Amnesty International, and Human Rights Watch have all revealed that mass killings and arbitrary detention by security forces have not stopped, and instead risk reaching unprecedented levels in the Oromia region.

The assassination of popular Oromo musician and human rights activist, Hachalu Hundessa, in June, provided a critical moment in an already volatile climate in the region. Mass protests erupted in the days following his death, resulting in a violent clash that left more than 178 people dead and over 7000 people arrested for violence and property damage (Reuters, August 13, 2020). Since then, government forces have continued to use the protests as justification for an increasingly heavy clampdown on human rights. This is despite clear evidence, as per the Amnesty International report and our own data, that extrajudicial killings, imprisonment without trial, and the general revocation of civil and political rights were common well before the June protests.

In the months since, the number of mass killings and arbitrary arrests have continued to grow, with those suspected of links to opposition parties, such as the Oromo Liberation Front (OLF), targeted by security forces. This is in direct breach of the Ethiopian Constitution, which explicitly enshrines the right to “equal and effective protection of the law without discrimination on the grounds of... political or other opinion” (Articles 25 and 26). An investigation by Human Rights Watch into the government response to the assassination of Hachalu Hundessa, found that “detentions and investigations have been marred by serious due process violations” (August 15, 2020), with many being held without charge and detained in undisclosed locations.

In addition to government critics from across the political spectrum, including members of powerful opposition groups in the region, such as the Oromo Federalist Congress (OFC), many journalists from various media outlets have also been detained. This presents serious concern for the right to freedom of expression and freedom of the press, as do the widespread internet blackouts that were imposed following the June protests. The research conducted by OLLAA in the Oromia region seeks to address this information gap, ensuring that these human rights abuses do not pass unnoticed by the international community.



Our data shows that among the murdered civilians were teachers and economists, respected members of the community, young and old. In one case, armed forces opened fire on a bus full of travelling civilians, killing four. Some were targeted while simply walking on the street with friends.

The Constitution of Ethiopia, which represents the highest law in the nation, sets out the rights of its citizens clearly. Yet, these cases documented here reveal a blatant violation of all but two of the articles set out in *Part One: Human Rights (Articles 14 to 28) of Chapter Three: Fundamental Rights and Freedoms* of the Constitution. These range from breaches of the Rights to Life, the Security of Person and Liberty, to Prohibition against Inhuman Treatment, the Right of Persons Accused and Crimes Against Humanity.

The Ethiopian government is also in direct contravention of its responsibilities under international law - Ethiopia is a signatory of numerous international human rights treaties, including the African Charter on Human and People's Rights as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT).

These deaths represent not only a breach of law on regional, federal and international levels, but a serious moral failing on behalf of a government which has the core mandate to protect its citizens.

We call upon Abiy Ahmed and his government to end these illegal actions and to move towards a permanent and lasting peace in the region. Furthermore, we call on the international community to hold Abiy and his government accountable for their continued breach of international law.



Figure 1. Killings by region

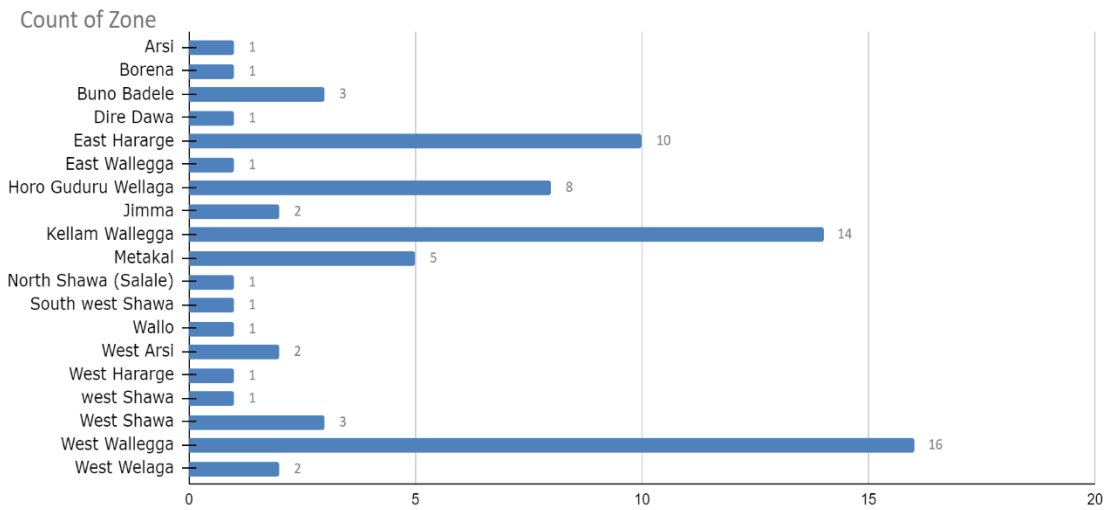


Figure 2. Killings over time

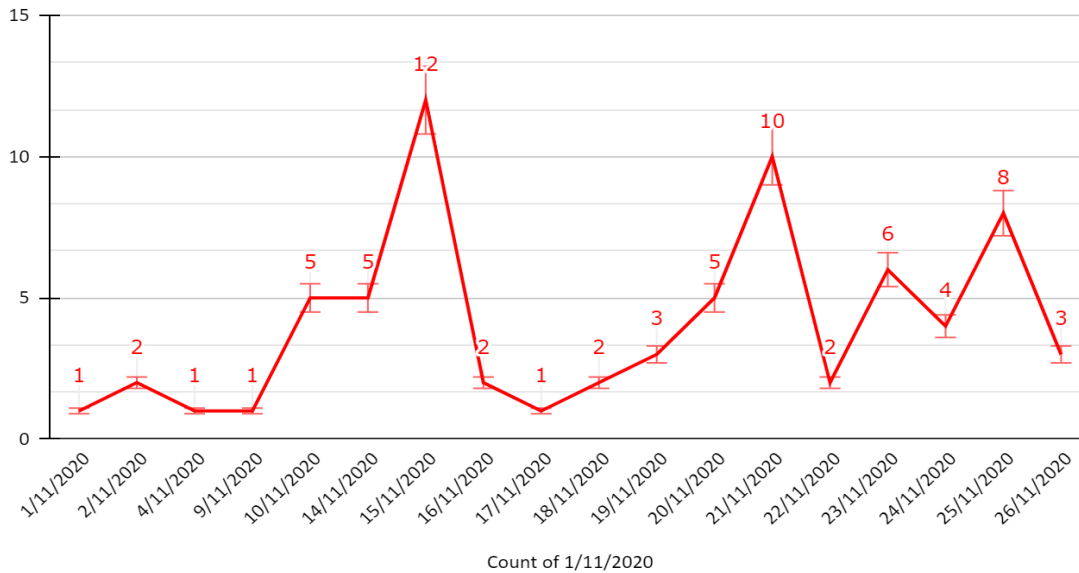




Figure 3: All Incidents documented over the month of November 2020.

No.	Name	Dates	Zone	District/Town	Incident	Remark
1	Shaban Abdela	23/11/2020	Dire Dawa	Dire Dawa	Killed	Gunned down by Ethiopian Military forces on the street. He died on the spot
2	Dawit Hambisa	23/11/2020	West Welaga	Guliso	Killed	Gunned down by Ethiopian Military forces on the street. He died on the spot
3	Jamara Babe	23/11/2020	Metakal	Metakal	Killed	Killed by Local Security forces
4	Galana Imana	23/11/2020	West Shawa	Ambo	Killed	On Nov. 21/2020 Oromia Security forces took him from his home and killed him. Dumped him at a place called Lega Dambi near Ambo Town. Galana was an economist by profession.
5	Fanja Woya	21/11/2020	West Arsi	Shala/ Aje	Killed	He was shot dead by the governor of Ajje (Government Cadre).
6	Galib Aba Sambi	22/11/2020	Jimma	Seka	Killed	Ethiopian Military took him from his home, shot him with three bullets and left him thinking him for dead, but later passersby found him alive and took him to Jimma hospital for treatment. Three days later he died in hospital from the injuries he sustained. Galib was a teacher and father of four.
7	Asefa Kush	20/11/2020	North Shawa (Salale)	Dera	Killed	Ethiopian Military took him out of prison and killed him.



8	Kitila Gudeta	20/11/2020	Horo Guduru Wellaga	Sekala	Killed	On 17/11 security forces took him from his home. Later, on 20/11 his body was found in the forest. He was a teacher by profession.
9	Biranu Gebayo	20/11/2020	Horo Guduru Wellaga	sekala	Killed	On 17/11 security forces took him from his home. On 20/11, his body was found in the forest.
10	Gadisa Alemayo	20/11/2020	Horo Guduru Wellaga	Sekala	Killed	On 17/11 security forces took him from his home. On 20/11 his body was found in the forest.
11	Kedir AbdulahiRobso	21/11/2020	East Hararge	Kobo	Killed	Security Forces shot dead this young man in Kobo town.
12	Getu Jiregna	20/11/2020	South west Shawa	Ameya	Killed	Taken from his home and imprisoned, security forces later took him out from prison and killed him. They accused him of being a supporter of OLA, the armed wing of OLF.
13	Maftu Yusuf	21/11/2020	East Hararge	Dire Xayara	Killed	Shot and killed by security forces while she was walking with her friends on the street.
14	Mamazen Teshome	24/11/2020	Buno Badele	Buno Badele	Killed	Killed by security forces for being supporter of an opposition party.
15	Mohamed Shamsadin	24/11/2020	Buno Badele	Buno Badele	Killed	Killed by security forces for being supporter of an opposition party.
16	Temasgen Taso	24/11/2020	West Welaga	Sayo Nole	Killed	Taken from his home and shot dead by government security forces.
17	Gemachu Muktar	22/11/2020	East Hararge	Awaday	Killed	Security forces opened fire on him, killing him instantly.



18	Ayyana Wakgari	1/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Kake	Killed	Security forces took him from his home and killed him. They accused him of supporting OLA (Oromo Liberation Army).
19	Tulama Birhanu	1/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Dambi Dollo	Killed	Security forces killed him after taking him from his home. They accused him of being an OLF (Oromo Liberation Front) member.
20	Dani'el Ebbisa	2/11/2020	East Wallegga	Nakamte	Killed	Killed by security forces for being a supporter of an opposition party (i.e.; OLF)
21	Million Morka	2/11/2020	Horo Guduru Wellaga	Harato	Killed	Taken from prison and shot dead by government security forces.
22	Taklu Bekele	9/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Sayyo	Killed	Security forces killed him after taking him from his home. They accused him of being an OLF member.
23	Ahmed Abdulrahman Abbabulgu	10/11/2020	Jimma	Bulgu/Limmu Town	Killed	Killed by security forces for being a supporter of an opposition party (i.e.; OLF).
24	Mathios Banti	Oct-20	West Wallegga	Gimbi	Killed	Taken from home and imprisoned, later security forces took him out from prison and killed him. They accused him of being supporter of OLA, the armed wing of OLF.
25	Carrasa Horiya	10/11/2020	West Wallegga	Gimbi	Killed	Taken from home and imprisoned, later security forces took him out from prison and killed him. They accused him of being supporter of OLA, the armed wing of OLF.
26	Shanko Amanu	10/11/2020	Horo Guduru Wellaga	Amru	Killed	Taken from home and imprisoned, later security forces took him out from prison and



						killed him. They accused him of being supporter of OLA, the armed wing of OLF.
27	Ermias Olani	10/11/2020	Horo Guduru Wellaga	Amru	Killed	Taken from home and imprisoned, later security forces took him out from prison and killed him. They accused him of being supporter of OLA, the armed wing of OLF.
28	Natsennat Dassalegn	14/11/2020	Metakal	Metakal	Killed	She was murdered by an armed group while travelling to visit her family. Armed men opened fire on the bus she was in and killed her and many other people. The Government denied any involvement in this incident and has pointed to an opposition party.
29	Abarra Raggasa	14/11/2020	Metakal	Metakal	Killed	He was murdered by an armed group while travelling to visit his family. Armed men opened fire on the bus he was in and killed him and many other people. The Government denied any involvement in this incident and pointed at an opposition party.
30	Hailu Raggasa	14/11/2020	Metakal	Metakal	Killed	He was murdered by an armed group while travelling to visit his family. Armed men opened fire on the bus he was in and killed him and many other people. The Government denied any involvement in this incident and pointed at an opposition party.
31	Namarra Raggasa	14/11/2020	Metakal	Metakal	Killed	He was murdered by an armed group while travelling to visit his family. Armed men opened



						fire on the bus he was in and killed him and many other people. The Government denied any involvement in this incident and pointed at an opposition party.
32	Mammush Cali	14/11/2020	West Wallegga	Babbo Gambel	Killed	Security forces killed him after taking him from his home. They accused him of being an OLF member.
33	Kaffala Ayele	15/11/2020	Horo Guduru Wellaga	Amru	Killed	Security forces killed him after taking him from his home. They accused him of being an OLF member.
34	Isayas Israel	15/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Anfillo	Killed	Security forces killed him after taking him from his home. They accused him of being an OLF member.
35	George Gennat	15/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Anfillo	Killed	Security forces killed him after taking him from his home. They accused him of being an OLF member.
36	Abba Jitu	15/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Anfillo	Killed	Security forces killed him after taking him from his home. They accused him of being an OLF member.
37	Shone Raga	15/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Anfillo	Killed	Security forces killed him after taking him from his home. They accused him of being an OLF member.
38	Mange Ayee	15/11/2020	Horo Guduru Wellaga	Amru	Killed	Security took him from prison and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or member.
39	Ingabbu	15/11/2020	Kellam	Anfillo	Killed	Security took him from prison and killed him. He was accused



			Wallegga			of being an OLF supporter or member.
40	Abdubba Kotola	15/11/2020	Borena	Arero Goro	Killed	He was accused of being an OLF member. Security forces shot him dead.
41	Dirriba (Teacher)	15/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Kake	Killed	Security took him from his home and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or member.
42	Obsi Adino	15/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Anfillo	Killed	Security took him from his home and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or member.
43	Zakiyos Oliqa	15/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Anfillo	Killed	Security took him from his home and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or member.
44	Rahmata Mohammed	15/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Anfillo	Killed	Security took him from his home and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or member.
45	Abdulselam Abdella	18/11/2020	East Hararge	Aweday	Killed	Shot dead by security forces in the street.
46	Obsa Mohammed	19/11/2020	East Hararge	Aweday	Killed	Shot dead by security forces in the street.
47	Mitiku Yonas (Pipo)	18/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Dambi Dollo	Killed	Ethiopian Military took him out of prison, shot and killed him.
48	Tolosa Dabelo	17/11/2020	West Shawa	Gindabarat	Killed	Security took him from prison and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or member.
49	Borecha Geda	21/11/2020	Buno Badele	Buno Badele	Killed	Security forces killed him. He was accused of being an OLF



						supporter.
50	Mohammed Jemal	21/11/2020	Wallo	Wallo	Killed	Security forces killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter.
51	Jemalo Guddina	21/11/2020	West Wallegga	Begi	Killed	Security forces killed him. His body was found in the forest. He was accused of being an OLF supporter.
52	Rashid Ali	21/11/2020	West Wallegga	Begi	Killed	Security forces killed him. His body was found in the forest. He was accused of being an OLF supporter.
53	Jibril	21/11/2020	West Wallegga	Begi	Killed	Security forces killed him. His body was found in the forest. He was accused of being an OLF supporter.
54	Dula Hambisa	23/11/2020	West Wallegga	Guliso	Killed	Security took him from his home and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or member.
55	Bonsa Hambisa	23/11/2020	West Wallegga	Guliso	Killed	Security took him from his home and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or member.
56	Dirriba	24/11/2020	West Wallegga	Guliso	Killed	Security took him from his home and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or member.
57	Moti Kaba	25/11/2020	West Wallegga	Lalo asabi	Killed	Security took him from his home and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or member.
58	Yosef Dingatu	25/11/2020	West Wallegga	Sayo Nole	Killed	Security took him from his home and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or



						member.
59	Negara Kukuba	25/11/2020	West Wallegga	Sayo Nole	Killed	Security took him from his home and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or member.
60	Wande Abdeta	25/11/2020	West Wallegga	Sayo Nole	Killed	Security took him from his home and killed him. He was accused of being an OLF supporter or member.
61	Moti Fikru	25/11/2020	West Wallegga	Gimbi	Killed	Killed by security forces at his home.
62	Mihretu.....	25/11/2020	Kellam Wallegga	Dambi Dollo	Killed	Ethiopian Military took him out of prison, shot and killed him.
63	Mu'az Aliyi	25/11/2020	East Hararge	Dire Xayara	Killed	Shot by security forces in Dire Xayara and killed.
64	Hayyu Yuya	26/11/2020	East Hararge	Awadey	Killed	Shot by security forces in Awadey town and killed.
65	Musabe Nesruddin	26/11/2020	East Hararge	Awadey	Killed	Shot by security forces in Awadey town and killed.
66	Abdi Ahmed (Abdi Gudda)	26/11/2020	East Hararge	Awadey	Injured	Shot by security forces in Awadey town currently being treated in Harar hospital.
67	Badhane Toyi Oluma	4/11/2020	West Shawa	Dirre	Injured	Shot By local militia in Incinni Town. Currently being treated in Ambo Hospital.
68	Faride Jibril	19/11/2020	East Hararge	Dirre Xayara/ Sukul	Injured	Currently under intensive care at local clinic.
69	Mohammed Ahmed	19/11/2020	West Hararge	Baddessa	Injured	Currently being treated in Ciro Hospital.
70	Sultan Gobena Wako	21/11/2020	West Arsi	Shashamanne	Injured	Currently being treated in Shashamanne Hospital.



71	Abuni Eda'o	21/11/2020	Arsi	Munessa	Killed	Security forces took him from his home during the night and killed Him. They accused him of helping rebels opposing the government. Abuni Was one of the most respected elders.
72	Abo Moroda	25/11/2020	West Shawa	Ambo	Killed	The Oromia Special Force came to his home at night. Shot and killed him. Abo was an old man.
73	Gizaw Markos	16/11/2020	West Wallegga	Guliso	Killed	He was taken from his home and killed.. After that his body was eaten by scavengers.
74	Imane Garoma	16/11/2020	West Wallegga	Guliso	Killed	He was taken from his home by security forces and later found dead. His body was left for Hyenas.



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