



CARD

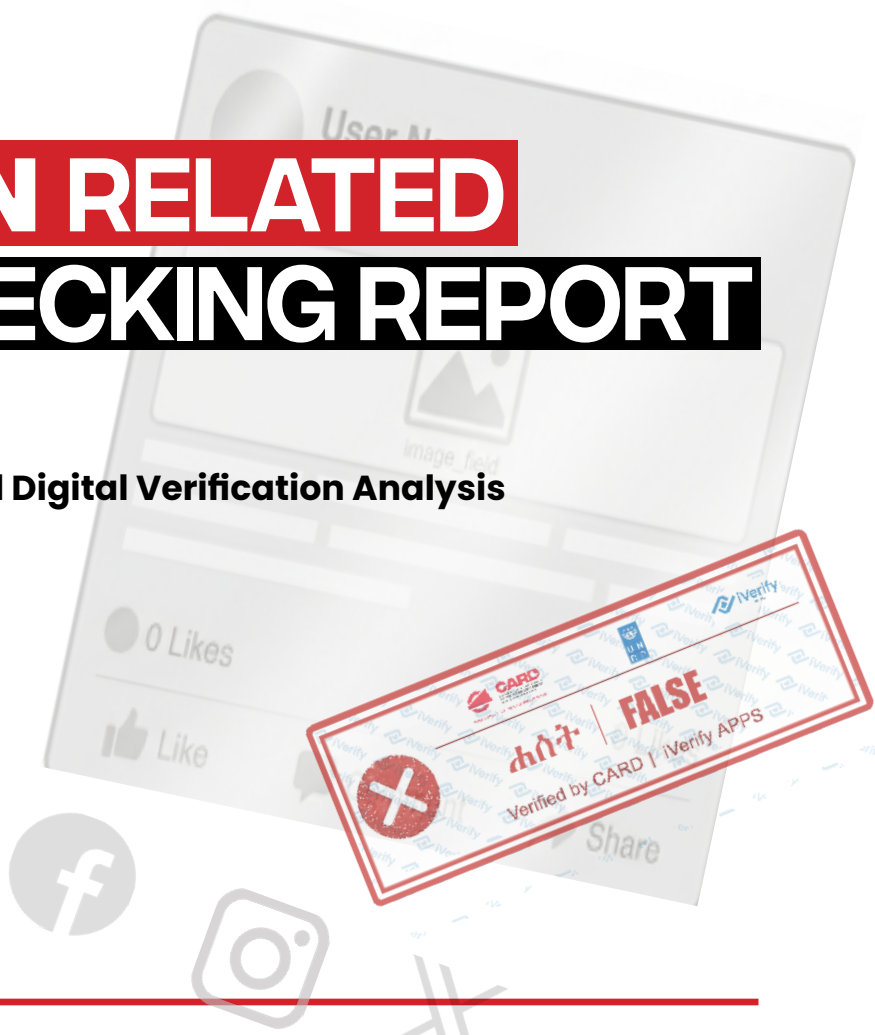
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CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
OF RIGHTS AND DEMOCRACY

MAKE DEMOCRACY THE ONLY RULE OF THE GAME!



ELECTION RELATED FACT-CHECKING REPORT

Week 2 Fact Checking and Digital Verification Analysis



Prepared by

CARD Fact
Checking Team



Date

June-2026

NOTE

This report contains verified findings from the investigation of misleading or false information circulated on social media platforms.

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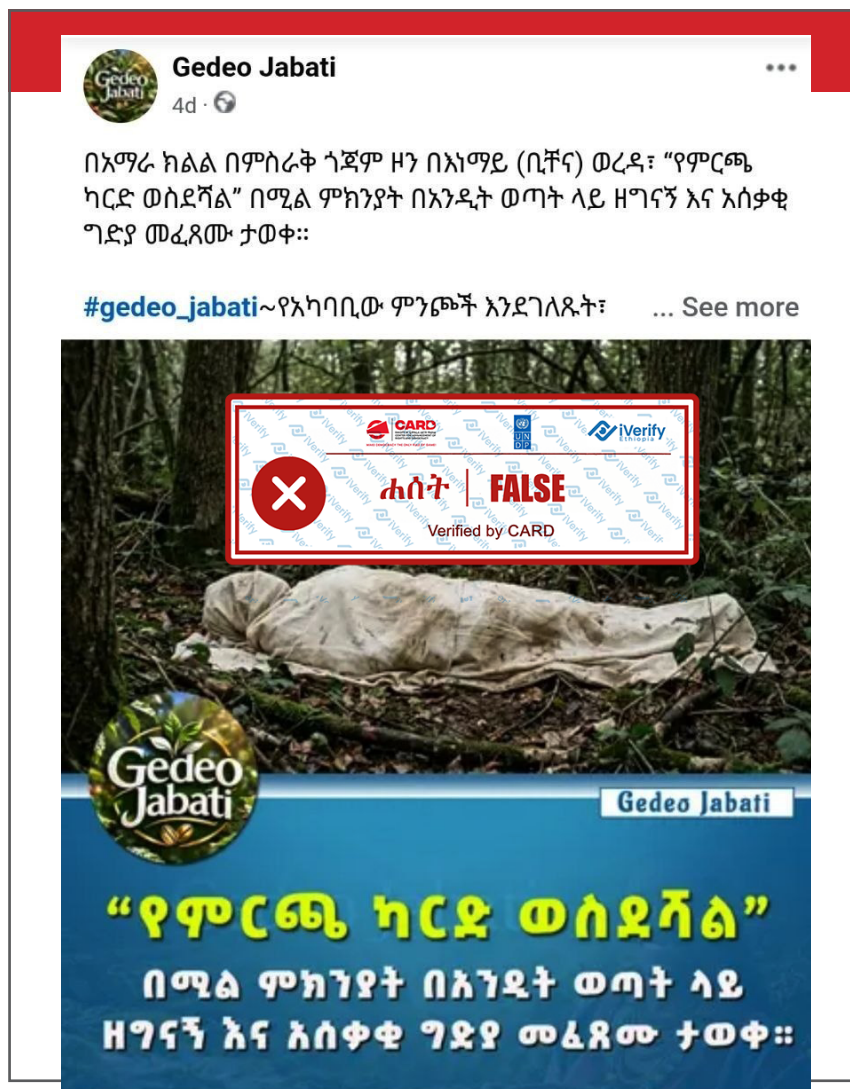
1

FALSE CLAIM

Was a Young Woman Killed in Enemay Woreda for Allegedly Obtaining a Voter Registration Card?

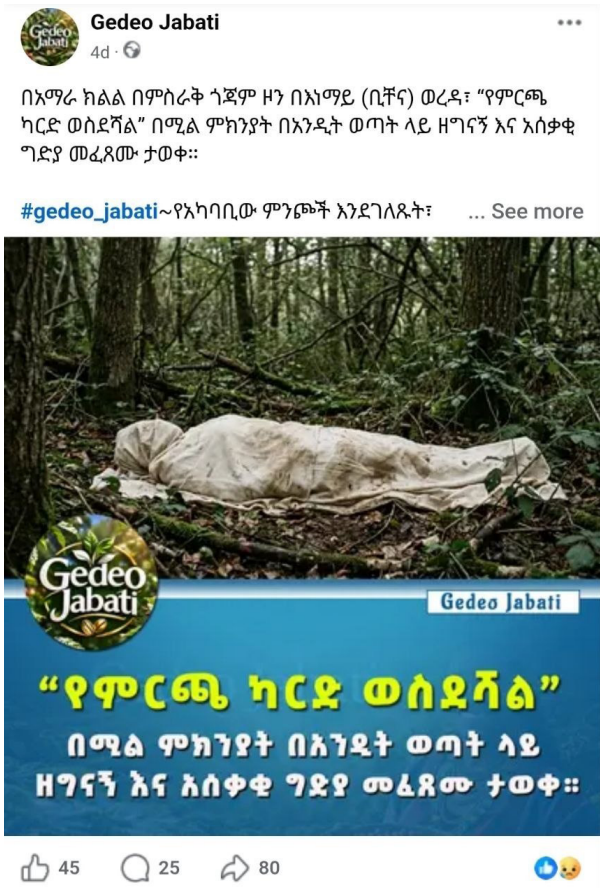
On May 24, 2026, a Facebook page named Gedeo Jabati, which has over 13,000 followers, shared the image attached below claiming that “a horrifying murder was committed against a young woman because she had taken an election card.

The claim alleges that a young woman in Enemay (Bichena) Woreda, East Gojjam Zone of the Amhara Region, was abducted, gang raped, and brutally killed by armed men after obtaining a voter registration card to participate in the election. The post further claims the attack was intended to intimidate the local community and discourage people from taking voter cards.



In his Amharic word it said “በአማራ ክልል በምስራቅ ጎጃም ዞን በአነማይ (ቢቸና) ወረዳ፣ “የምርጫ ካርድ ወስደሻል” በሚል ምክንያት በአንዲት ወጣት ላይ ዘግናኝ እና አስቃቂ ግድያ መፈጸሙ ታወቀ። [#gedeo_jabati](#) የአካባቢው ምንጮች እንደገለጹት፣ ድርጊቱ የተፈጸመው ግንቦት 14 ቀን 2018 ዓ.ም. ከምሽቱ 2:30 ሰዓት አካባቢ ነው። ተጎጂዋ ወጣት ዜጋዊ የመምረጥ መብቷን ላይም የምርጫ ካርድ ወስደው በቤቷ በመመላለስ ላይ ሳሉት፣ በአካባቢው በሚንቀሳቀሱ ታጣቂዎች እገታ ተፈጽሞባታል። የዓይን እማኞች እና የሚች የቅርብ ቤተሰብ አባላት እንዳረጋገጡት፣ ታጣቂዎቹ ወጣቷን ካገቷት በኋላ ወደ ጫካ አካባቢ በመውሰድ መጀመሪያ የቡድን አስገድዶ መድፈር ወንጀል ፈጽመውባታል። ታጣቂዎቹ ይህንን ስቅጣጭ ድርጊት የፈጸሙት በአካባቢው ማህበረሰብ ላይ ሽብር ላይም ሆኖ ለሆኑት እና “ላምን ምርጫ ካርድ ወስድሽ” የሚል የዛቻ መልሰክት ላይ ለማስተላለፍ እንደሆነ ታውቋል።

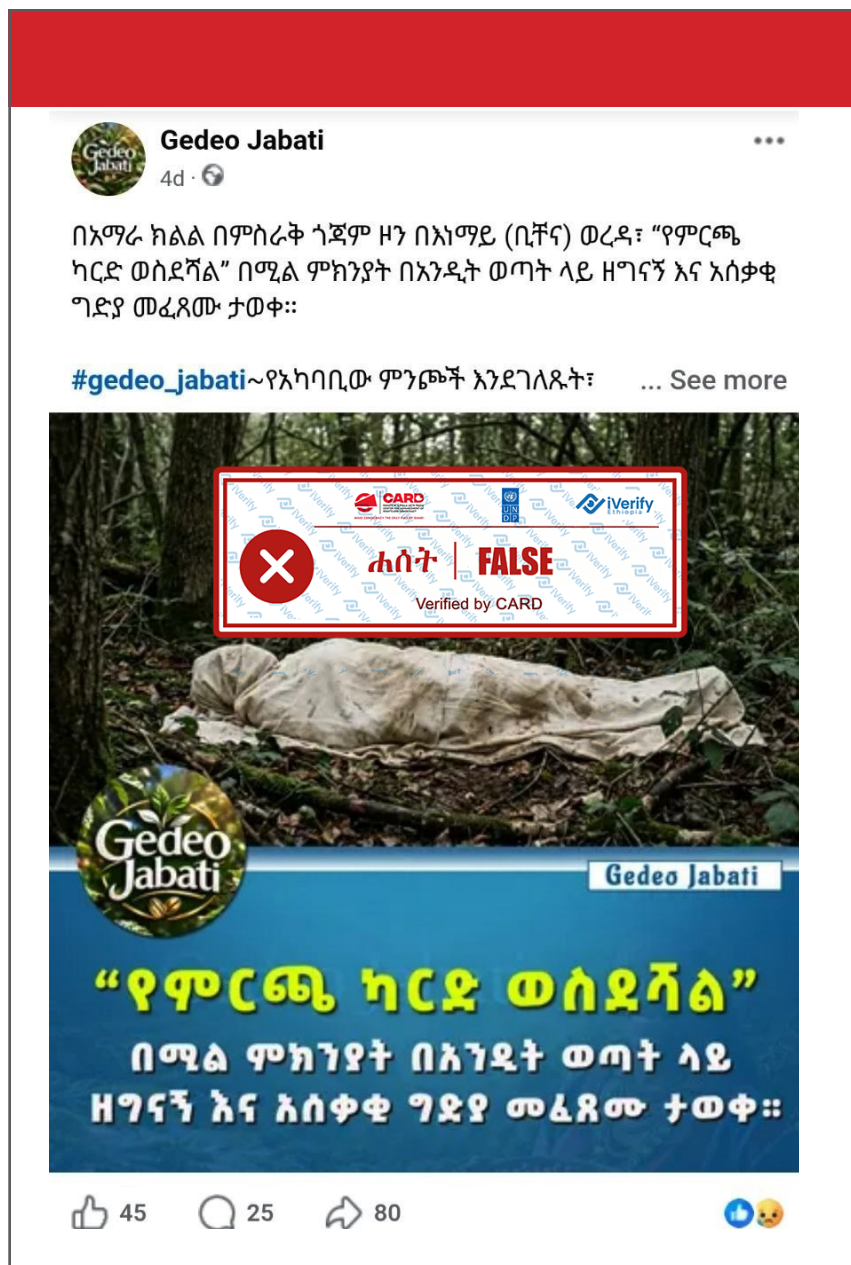
It has been reported that a horrific and brutal killing was committed against a young woman in Enemay (Bichena) Woreda, East Gojjam Zone of the Amhara Region, allegedly because she had „taken a voter registration card. According to local sources under the hashtag [#gedeo_jabati](#), the incident reportedly occurred on May 22, 2026 (Ginbot 14, 2018 E.C.) at around 8:30 PM. The victim, a young woman, was returning home after obtaining a voter registration card in order to exercise her constitutional right to vote when she was allegedly abducted by armed men operating in the area. Eyewitnesses and close family members of the deceased stated that after abducting the young woman, the armed men reportedly took her to a forested area where they first subjected her to gang rape. It is alleged that the attackers committed this horrifying act to spread terror among the local community and to send a threatening message saying, „Why did you take a voter registration card? „The act is completely inhumane and horrifying. The young woman was made to suffer terribly before losing her life, said a local resident who requested anonymity, expressing deep sorrow.”



Screenshot: of the Facebook post captured on May 23, 2026

The **CARD** fact-checking team reviewed the Facebook page and found that it primarily shares content that appears supportive of the government. As part of its verification, the team examined the claim circulated on the page and found it to be false and misleading. Although the claim has been reshared by more than 80 Facebook pages, officials have denied its accuracy. The Head of the Enemay Woreda Communication Office and security officials from the East Gojjam Zone Police Department confirmed to the Card fact-checking team that the information being circulated is false.

Verdict: False and Misleading: The claim shared on the Facebook page is false and misleading. Verification by local government and police officials found no evidence to support the claim, despite its circulation on social media.

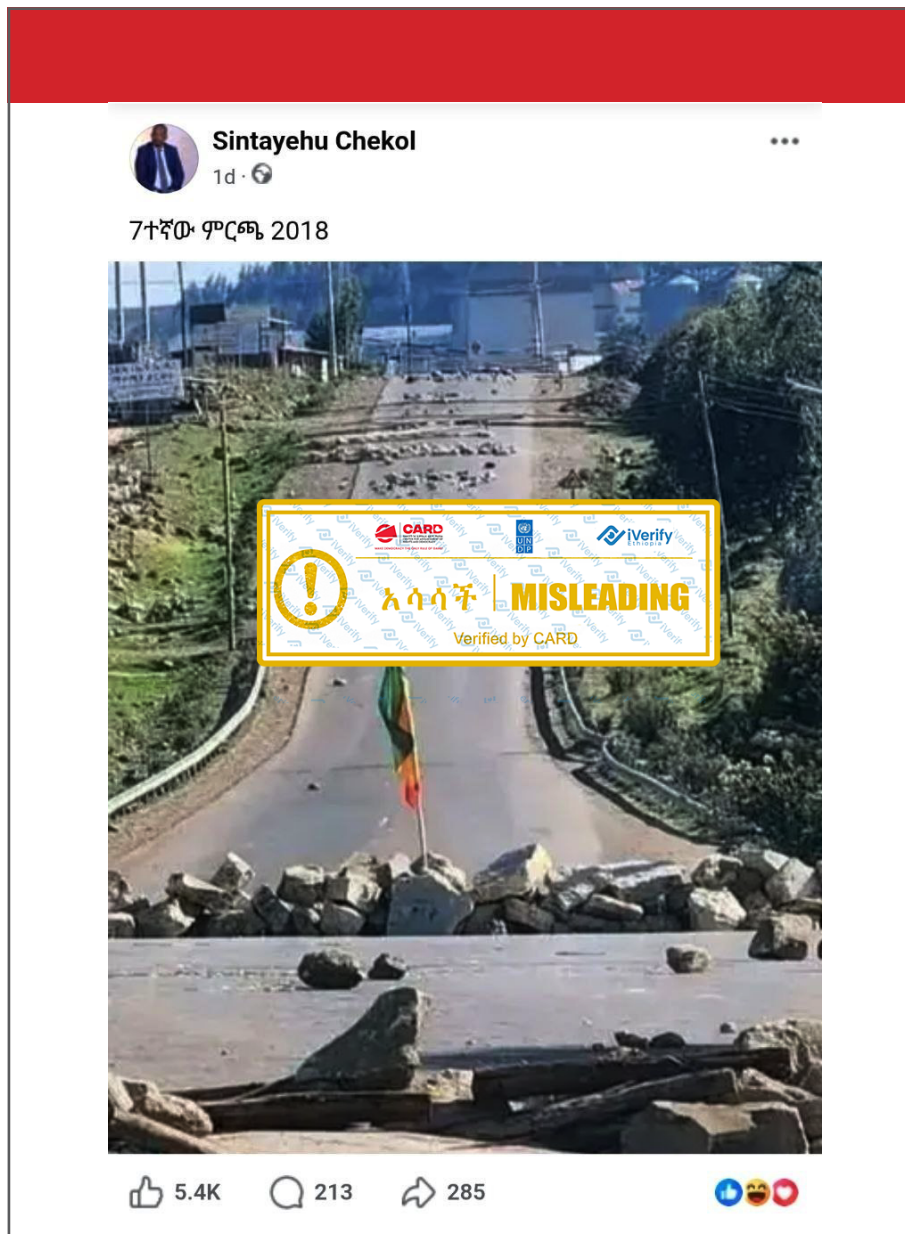


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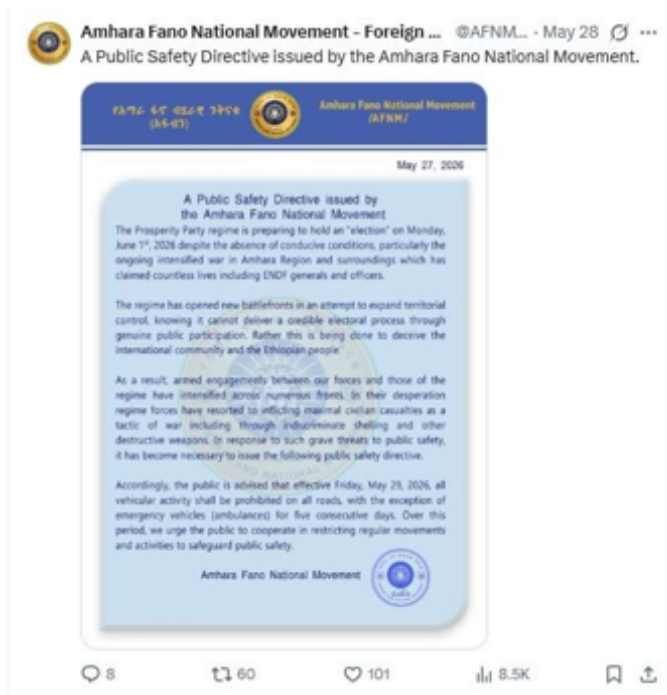
MISLEADING IMAGE

Does This Photo Show a Roadblock During Ethiopia’s 2026 7th General Election?

As the voting day for the 7th General Election drew near, the Amhara Fano National Movement (AFNM), an armed group operating in the Amhara Region, announced a five-day movement restriction or blockade from May 29 to June 2. Following the announcement, various claims and messages began circulating on social media.



Following this, different posts were shared on different platforms. One of the pages on A Facebook account Sintayehu Chekol, with over 114K followers, recently shared a photo. The post claims an image was taken as part of the 7th Ethiopian General Election in 2026. Since we shared this information the post had close to 6K likes, over 200 comments and over 300 accounts shared each other.



Screenshot: of Amhara Fano National Movement from X (Twitter)

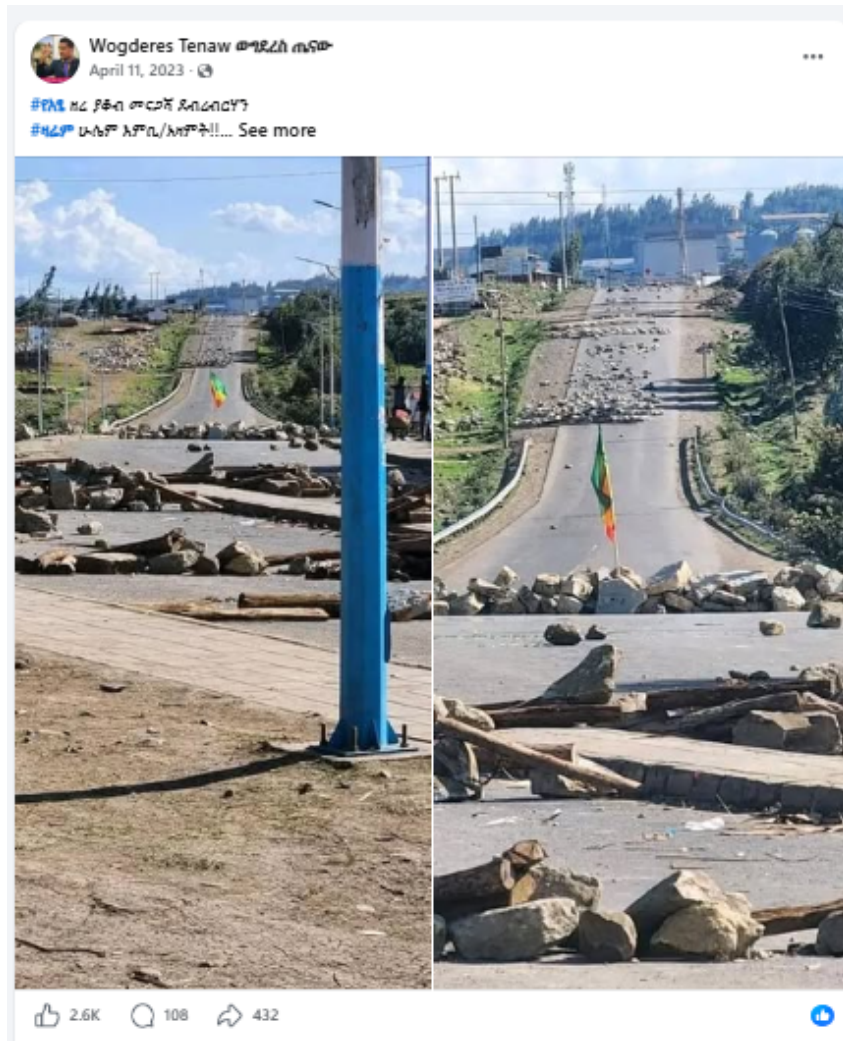


Screenshot: of the Facebook post shared by "Sintayehu Chekol" on May 29, 2026

The **CARD** Fact-Checking Team conducted a Google reverse image search and found that the image was first posted on April 11, 2023, on the Facebook page "[Wogderes Tenaw ማግኛ ረሰብ ጤናው](#)" which has approximately 88,000 followers. Based on this verification, the team confirmed that the post is misleading. The image is old and is being recirculated without its original context, creating a false impression about current events.

As part of our verification, we found conflicting information about transportation services in the Amhara Region. The Amhara media network reported that there were no transportation disruptions and that vehicles were operating normally. However, during phone interviews with officials from the Amhara Police Commission, bus station authorities, and Wollo University, we were told that vehicle operations had been suspended.

Because of these conflicting accounts, we could not independently confirm the current transportation situation. However, our verification confirmed that the image being shared is old. A reverse image search showed that it was first posted in April 2023 and is not related to the current situation.



Screenshot: of the Facebook post shared by “wogderes Tenaw ወግ ደ ረ ስ ጠኔና ጡ ” on April 11, 2023.

Verdict: Misleading

The image is outdated and is being shared without its original context. There is no evidence that it shows a current event. Using an old image to support a current claim creates a misleading impression.

3

MISLEADING IMAGE

Is This an Official NEBE Ballot Paper and Does It Display the Correct Candidate Order?

The 7th general election is scheduled for June 1, 2026. In relation to the election, different social media outlets are circulating images of ballot papers; some claim they are forged, while others state they are actual official ballot papers.

The **Card** Fact-Checking Team verified that a Facebook page called “Geepa Voice,” which has 20K followers, shared an image with a stamp and claimed: “In the Bulen and Wonbera constituency ballot paper, this is the order in which parliamentary candidates appear. #Dr_Mebrate is on the third row.” The page is presenting this claim as if it represents an official ballot paper.



The team verified the claim using reverse image search on Google and consulted regional fact-checkers to investigate it. They also reached out to “Geepa Voice,” political parties in the region, and the National Electoral Board of Ethiopia (NEBE) to seek clarification and explain the situation.

One of the contestants stated that there has been no such claim so far in the Bulen and Wembera woreda. NEBE also clarified that the image shown in the post is not an actual ballot paper. Prior to printing ballot papers, NEBE conducted a ballot paper lottery process. During this process, representatives of political parties and candidates were invited to observe the lottery and determine their order on the ballot. The representatives were provided with printed sheets showing the assigned order, similar to the image shown in the post. Therefore, the image does not represent an official ballot paper; rather, it appears to resemble documents used during the ballot lottery process.



Screenshot: of of the Facebook page “Geepa Voice” dated May 31, 2026

Verdict: False and misleading. The image is not an official NEBE ballot paper and does not show the actual ballot order for Bulen and Wembera woreda.

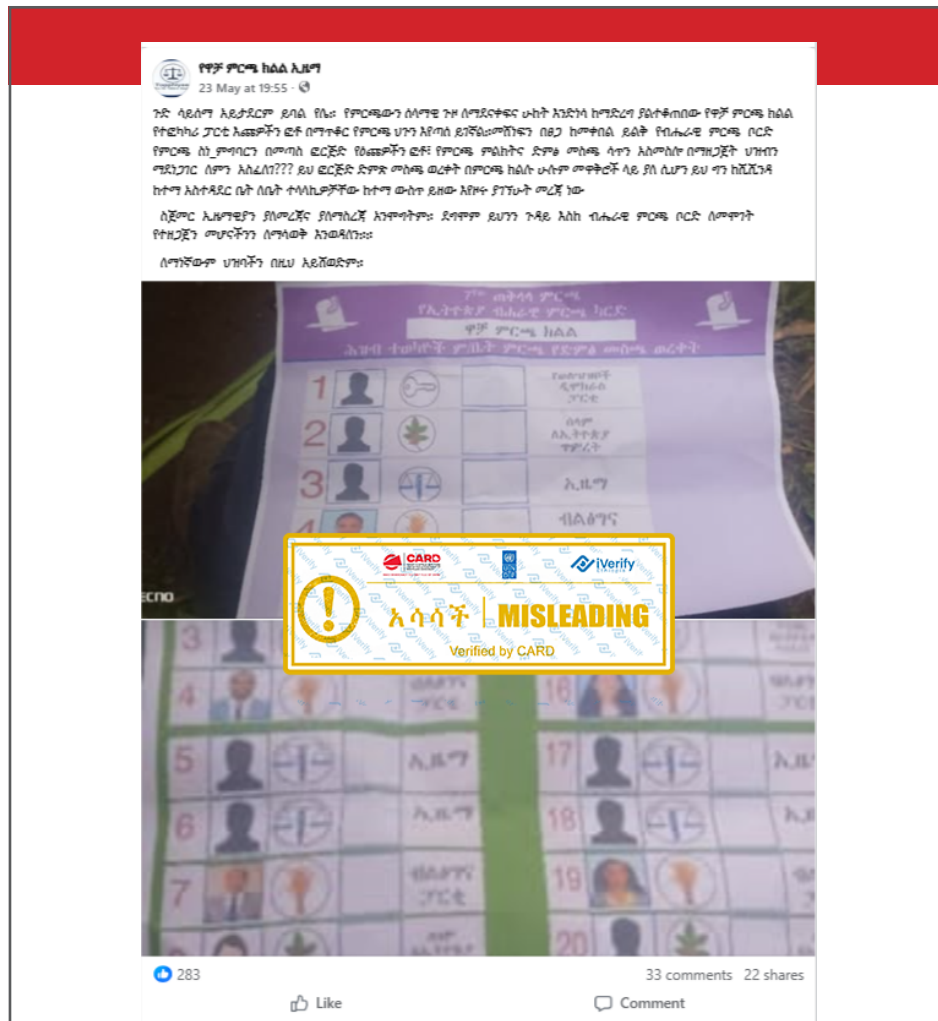
4

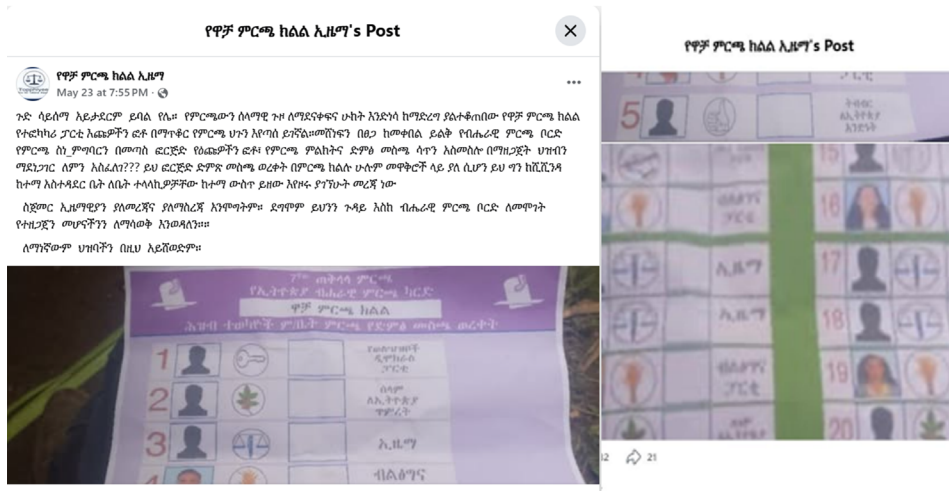
MISLEADING IMAGE

Did a Political Group Breach Electoral Rules by Using Forged Candidate Photos, Election Symbols, and Fake Ballot Boxes?

As the seventh general election day approached, numerous ballot papers circulated on social media. Similar claims appeared across different regions, spreading here and there in the lead-up to the election. Source link:

One of these claims was posted by a Facebook page called “የዋቻ ምርጫ ክልል ኢ.ዲ.ዲ.” The post claimed that on May 24, 2026, in Wacha Woreda, Kafa Zone, South West Region, the photos of opposition candidates on ballot papers had been covered up. It also claimed that fake candidate photos, election symbols, and ballot boxes that looked like official voting materials had been prepared. The claim spread widely on social media and raised concerns that the election process in the Wacha constituency had been unfairly influenced. It also led to suspicions that the photos of opposition candidates had been changed and that fake election materials had been produced.





Screenshot of a post shared by the Facebook page “የዋቻ ምርጫ ክልል ኢ.ዜ.ማ” on May 23, 2026.

To verify the claim, the **CARD** Fact-Checking Team used tools such as Google Image Search and also gathered information through interviews and phone calls with political parties, election officials, independent organizations, local government institutions, administrative officials, and the National Election Board of Ethiopia. The Google Image Search and review of the Facebook post did not find any evidence to support the claim.

The **CARD** Fact-Checking Team also contacted the National Election Board of Ethiopia (NEBE), which stated that the ballot papers shown in the post are not official or sample ballot papers used for voter education. The Board said the documents do not match its official format, design, size, quality, or content, and warned that presenting them as real creates false and misleading information. Further checks with local sources did not support the claim. A representative of the Prosperity Party in Wacha Woreda and election officials said the Facebook post was misleading and no such incidents had occurred. The Wacha EZEMA office did not provide evidence, and officials from the Kafa Zone Communication Office and Wacha Town Administration also confirmed that the claim was false.

Verdict: Misleading

The Team, based on the evidence verified, found no proof to support the claim and no sign of the reported irregularities. Therefore, the claim is rated Misleading.

























For reference, see NEBE’s official mock paper below.

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ኮርድ ምርጫ ክልል

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እንደ ስልጠና ይህን ወረቀት ስለጠቀሱ በሌላ ማንኛውም ወይም የሌላ አይነት ማህበራዊ ሚዲያ ላይ ለሌሎች ለማሳደግ ለማይችሉ ይህን ወረቀት ለማይጠቀሙ ይጠበቃል

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2			<input type="text"/>	ዳዕሳ ሉሊካ የሰፊት መኪና ፓርቲ	8			<input type="text"/>	ብራን ቤሪው ሳይክል ፓርቲ
3			<input type="text"/>	ትዊሽት ፋሰ መጥረጊያ ፓርቲ	9			<input type="text"/>	ያገርመ በሬስ (የግል ተወዳዳሪ)
4			<input type="text"/>	ስንሀዮ ሞገንድ መደሻ ፓርቲ	10			<input type="text"/>	ንሳሞ ባሮም ኮምፒውተር ፓርቲ
5			<input type="text"/>	ያፊሰ በረዲን መሰላል ፓርቲ	11			<input type="text"/>	ቶሚ ተዳሞን ፖስታ ፓርቲ
6			<input type="text"/>	ትኩርብ ፋንካ የበግ ፓርቲ	12			<input type="text"/>	ባመ ፍራንኮ የአግር ኳስ ፓርቲ

Official Mock ballot paper of HoPR
Source: NEBE