



CARD

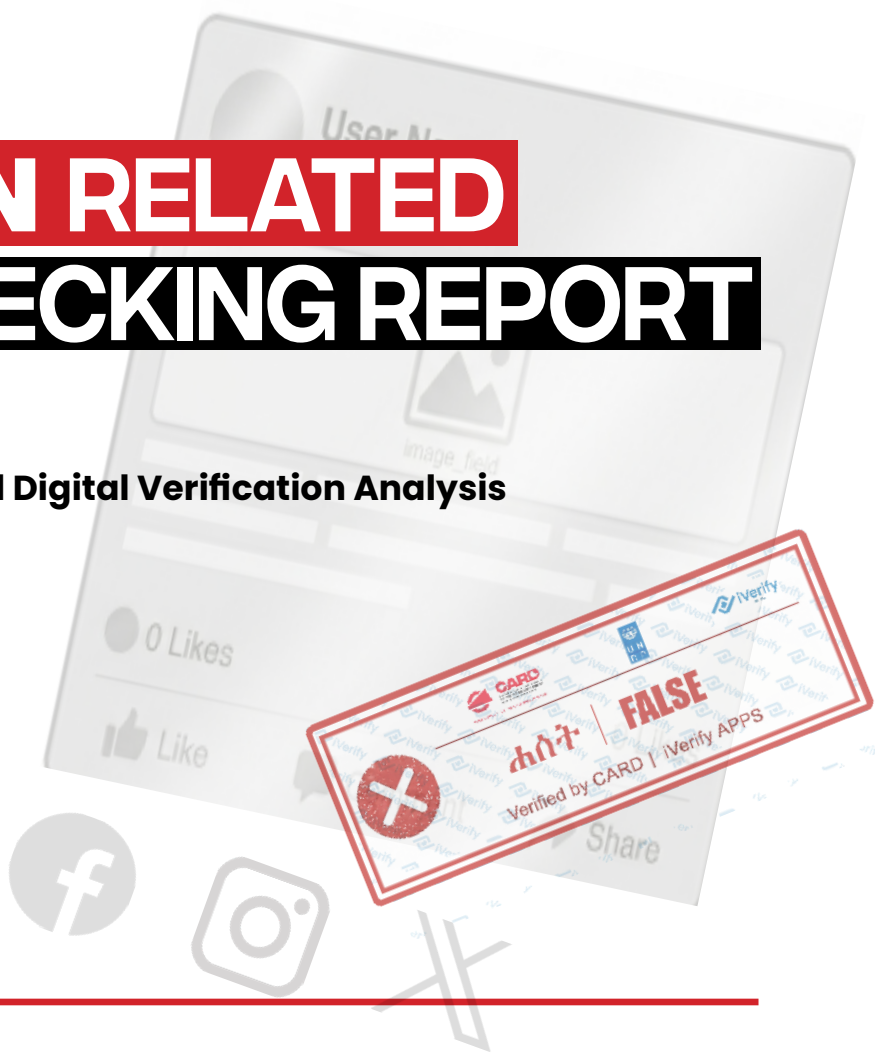
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CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT
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ELECTION RELATED FACT-CHECKING REPORT

Week 3 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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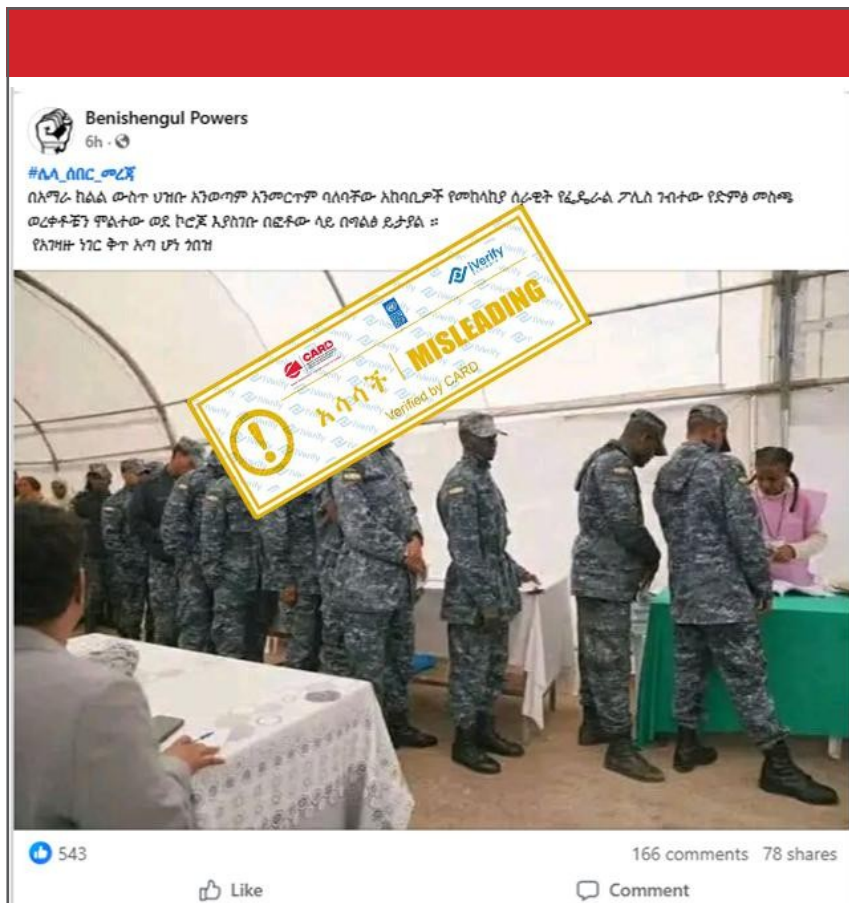
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1

FALSE CLAIM
About Federal Police Voting on Behalf of Residents in Amhara Region

Today, June 1, 2026, Ethiopia’s 7th National Election took place amid political debate and public attention across the country. At the same time, many false and misleading claims circulated on Facebook related to election activities, politicians, and security issues, highlighting the spread of misinformation during the election period.

A Facebook page named **Benishengul Powers**, which has **8.2K followers**, shared a photo of federal police officers at a polling station and claimed that the image shows members of the Defense Forces and Federal Police casting ballots in parts of the Amhara region where residents had refused or were unable to participate in the election. As of this writing, the post had received 546 reactions and 79 shares on Facebook.



“በአማራ ክልል ውስጥ ህዝቡ አንወጣም አንመርጥም ባላቸው አክባቢዎች የመከላከያ ሰራዊት የፌዴራል ፖሊስ ገብተው የድምፅ መስጫ ወረቀቶችን ሞልተው ወደ ኮሮጃ እያስገቡ በፎቶ ላይ በግልፅ ይታያል ።

የአገዛዙ ነገር ቅጥ አጣ ሆነ ጎበዝ” <https://web.facebook.com/share/p/16rK4n4UD6/>

“ድርጊቱ ፍጹም ኢ-ሰብአዊ እና ሰቅጣኔ ነው። ወጣቷ ህይወቷ ከማህፀን በፊት በአስቀድሞ ሁኔታ እንድትሰቃይ ተደርጓል” ሲሉ ሰማቸው እንዳይጠቀስ የፈረዱት የአካባቢው ነዋሪ በከፍተኛ ሃዘን ገልጸዋል።”



Screenshot: from Benishengul Powers on June 1,2026

The **CARD** Fact-Checking Team verified the photo using a reverse image search and found that it originally came from a June 1 Facebook post by **ETV Afan Oromo** original post, a national media outlet with 878K followers. The photo shows members of the Federal Police casting their votes during the 7th National Election in Addis Ababa. At the time of review, the ETV Afan Oromo post had received 503 reactions and 24 shares.



Screenshot: of original post from Etv Afan Oromo on June 1,2026

Verdict: Misleading and False: The claim is misleading and false. The photo does not show Defense Forces and Federal Police casting ballots in parts of the Amhara region where residents refused or were unable to participate in the election. A reverse image search shows the image originally came from a June 1 Facebook post by ETV Afan Oromo, a national media outlet. The post shows Federal Police members voting during the 7th National Election in Addis Ababa.

2

MISLEADING IMAGE

Misrepresented as Election Activity in Tigray Region

Following the election held today June 1, 2026, various unverified and misleading claims have been circulating on social media.

Among these, a Facebook page named [Henok Ab \(ዮኑስ ልግ ዘር\)](#), which has over 71K followers, shared a picture of polling station and asking “Is an election being held in the Tigray region, Comrade?”. Then after an hour ago the post immediately had over 400 likes, 173 comments, and 4 shares.



👍 479 💬 195 ➦ 4



The **CARD** Fact check Team found the pattern of the Facebook page and went deep to find the picture and there is a similarity between the Tigray and the Amhara regional Flag's. As we see the tendency the team found the original Image of [Amhara North Shewa Zone Communication bureau](#) AS part of a local news update showcasing the preparation of polling stations specifically within the North Shewa Zone, Efiratana Gidim Wereda of the Amhara region.



Henok Ab

3d · 🌐



Are there elections going on in Tigray region people?

🗳️ Rate this translation



👍 479 💬 195 ➦ 4



Screenshot: of a facebook post by Henok Ab on June 1, 2026



Screenshot: of the original image on May 31, 2026



Tigray regional state flag

Verdict: Misleading

The image does not show an election taking place in the Tigray region. It actually captures the setup of polling stations in the North Shewa Zone of the Amhara region from May 2026. The post intentionally used the visual similarity of the flags to misinform the public, and the claim is officially rated Misleading.

3 FALSE ALLEGATION **That Enat Party Leader Dr. Seifeselassie Ayalew Misappropriated Party Funds and Fled to the United States**

Amid the current national election, disinformation campaigns and defamatory claims targeting political party leaders are widely circulating on social media.

On May 26, 2026, a Facebook page named “[yihune Ephrem kassahun](#)” which has 97,000 followers, posted an accusation claiming that Dr. Seife Selassie Ayalew “took the party’s money and fled to the USA.” The post reads: “ሰሞኑን የእናት ፓርቲ ሊቀመንበር አቶ ሰይፈስላሴ አያሌው የፓርቲውን ካዝና አጽድቶ ወደ አሜሪካ መሸበሉንና አባላቱ እርስ በርስ መናቆራቸውን ስንሰማ አደ ደህ ምስኪን ህዝብ አልን።” [\[Archived Link\]](#)





Yihune Ephrem Kassahun

1d · 🌐

ሰሞን የእናት ፓርቲ ሊቀመንበር አቶ ሰይፈሰላሴ እያሌው የፓርቲውን ካዝና አጽድቶ ወደ አሜሪካ መሸበለሉንና አባላቱ እርስ በርስ መናቆራቸውን ስንሰማ እይ ይህ ምስኪን ህዝብ አልን።

አፍሪካ ውስጥ ፓርቲ ማለት የሊቀመንበር የግል ቢዝነስ ነው። ሊቀመንበር ሲቆጣ ፓርቲው ይዘጋል፤ ሊቀመንበር ሲታመም ፓርቲው አልጋ ይይዛል፤ ሊቀመንበር ሲያገርፍ ደግሞ የፓርቲውን ዶላር በሻንጣ ጠቅልሎ አሜሪካ ይገባል። ፓርቲው የእሱ፣ እሱ ደግሞ የፓርቲው ነው!

ሀገር ላይን፤ ድምጽ ሁኔታ እየተባለ በየGoFundMe የሚሰበሰበው ዶላር መጨረሻው የት ነው? ህዝብ ለዲሞክራሲ ሳንቲም ያዋጣል፤ መሪዎቹ ግን የራሳቸውንና የቤተሰባቸውን የፈረንጅ ሀገር ኑሮ ያደላድሱበታል።

አባላቱ ትግሉ እውነት እየመሰላቸው በየውሩ ሳንቲም ሲያዋጡ ሊቀመንበር በጭንቅላቱ ያንን ገንዘብ ሊቀጣይ ህይወቱ እያመቻቸው ነው። ሪፖርት ሲጠየቅ ሚስጥራዊ የትግል ስልት ስለሆነ አይነገርም ይልሃል ይመቻው።

በአፍሪካ ፖለቲካ ውስጥ ርዕዮተ 9ላም ማለት ገንዘብ ስብሰቦ መሸበለል ነው። የእናት ፓርቲ አባላትም እሁን የሚጮኹት ለሀገር ዲሞክራሲ ሳይሆን ከገንዘቡ ላይ የድርሻቸውን ባለመውሰዳቸው ነው። በዓይን ያላዩት ዶላር ሲበለ ማልቀስ እኮ ከባድ ነው። እኔን አልሰማ ያልክ የጦቢያ ህዝብ በዚህ ምንም ወዝ በሌለው ግለሰብ ትሸውዳለህ?

የተወሰነ የተገባላቸው ደጋፊዎቹ ኮሚቴ ላይ ይመጡና ገንዘቡን ይዘ አልሸሸም የዶላር ምንዛሬ እስኪስተካከል አሜሪካ ሊያስቀምጠው ይዘት ሄዶ ነው ይልሃል።



👍 1.1K 💬 289 ➦ 49

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

The **CARD** Fact-Checking Team conducted a verification of this allegation and reviewed the available evidence. The following findings are relevant to the claim: the first one is that the Chairman’s Media Appearance. It is true that Dr. Seife Selassie is currently in the United States. On May 24, 2026, he appeared in an online video interview on YouTube with [Anchor Media](#), a diaspora-based media outlet. During the interview, he strongly criticized the current government and the upcoming election. However, the interview did not provide any evidence or indication that he had fled the country or taken the party’s money.



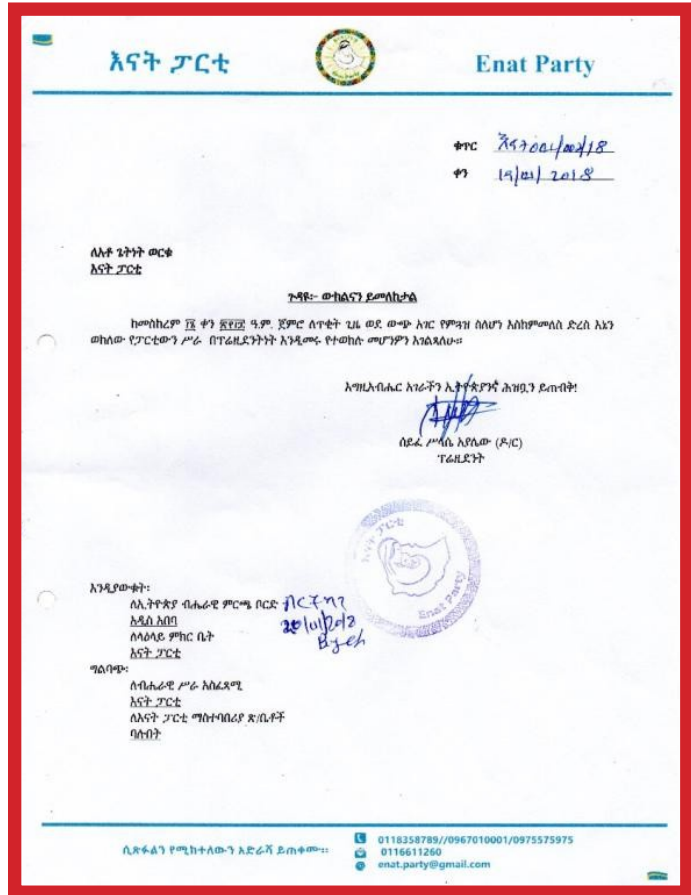
Anchor Media "በማንኛውም ሰዓት ከምርጫው ልንወ..."

@mesaymekonnen5 45K views 7d ago ...more



Screenshot: of the YouTube interview with Dr. Seife Selassie Ayalew on Anchor Media, dated May 24, 2026.

Following the allegations circulating on social media, Enat Party released an official statement on May 29, 2026 (May 21, 2018 EC). In the statement, the party said that Dr. Seife Selassie Ayalew traveled to the United States for personal reasons with the knowledge and approval of the party’s executive committee. The party also stated that he did not take any money or property belonging to the party. In addition, the statement explained that while in the United States, Dr. Seife Selassie legally established a branch of the Enat Party.



Screenshot: of the official position statement issued by Enat Party on May 29, 2026.

Image of the official delegation letter

The team also contacted the Vice Chairman of Enat Party, Mr. Getnet Worku, who rejected the allegations. He said the claim was false and was spread after the Chairman’s recent media interview. To support his statement, the party shared an official delegation letter with the team. The letter, dated September 2025, shows that before traveling to the United States for personal reasons, Dr. Seifeselassie officially delegated his presidential duties to the Vice Chairman before traveling abroad for personal reasons.

Verdict: Misleading

Our verification found no evidence that Dr. Seife Selassie Ayalew took the party’s ካዝና or fled the country. While he is currently in the United States, party documents show that he traveled with approval from the party leadership and delegated his responsibilities before leaving. Therefore, the post is misleading.

4

**MISLEADING CLAIM
of Voter Manipulation and Election Fraud in Humbo/Wolaita**

On June 1, 2026, unverified claims circulated widely across social media. Some of these posts used photos, while others shared videos from different regions, many of which were linked to the 7th General Election.

A Facebook page called [Wolaita TV Media supporter Team](#) with 127K followers, alleged that election fraud was taking place in the Humbo Tebela Electoral District, Wolaita Zone, [claiming](#) that election officials were manipulating votes involving persons with disabilities and elderly voters and that armed militia members were illegally instructing voters to choose the Prosperity Party's wheat-symbol ballot.





Screenshot: of Wolaita TV Media Supporter team post, on Jun 1, 2026

A visual review of the image shows that it is not related to the alleged events in the Humbo Tebela Electoral District. The photo appears to show a polling station tent in the Oromia Region, with Afaan Oromo text visible at the top of the image. However, the claim refers to incidents in Wolaita.

The post uses an unrelated image to support allegations of election fraud in Humbo Tebela Electoral District. The image actually shows a polling station tent in the Oromia Region, with Afaan Oromo text visible in the photo. However, the claim refers to incidents in Wolaita. There is no credible evidence, supporting images, or independent sources linking the photo to the alleged election irregularities. Therefore, the post creates a false impression and is rated misleading.