

## FALSE: TDF has not taken control of the cities of Dessie

*Dessie city refuted the information, communicating that town is now peaceful and the residents are doing their daily work.*

A Facebook [Post](#) claiming that the Tigray Defense Forces has taken control city of Dessie is FALSE.

The post, in Amharic, translates “The heroic Tigray People's Army (TDF) left Wuchale and took control of Dessie this evening”.



The Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF), which Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed’s administration refers to as [junta](#), is fighting against government forces, north of the country. The group has renamed itself the Tigray Defence Forces [\(TDF\)](#). The fighting escalated since June when the rebels, made up

of the TPLF and its allies, recaptured much of Tigray in an offensive. The Tigray conflict has split over to the Afar and the Amhara region, where the rebels are reported to have taken control of [Lalibela city](#).

Regions and city administrations are providing support to displaced people in various parts of the Amhara region, including North Wollo. [The Addis Ababa City](#) Administration has provided 385 million birrs to the IDPs (**internally displaced persons**) in the Amhara region and the army to save the country.

More than 2700,000 IDPs from North Wollo sheltered in Dessie and Kombolcha are being assisted by the Amhara Regional State, the Federal Government, and patriotic investors. On 16/09/2021, Athlete [Haile Gebreselassie](#) donated 2.5 million birr worth of food items to the displaced people in the Amhara region.

A local resident told [Deutsche Welle \(DW\)](#) that government forces and allies had taken control of the TPLF-controlled town of WOchale on Monday, October 18/2021.

However, the news from the south Wollo\_ [Facebook post](#) that the TDF has taken control of Dessie is untrue. The TDF's plan to control Dessie and Kombolcha and move forward was destroyed by the Ethiopian army in various places like Worbabu woreda. Speaking to [Deutsche Welle's \(DW\)](#) correspondent in Bahir Dar, Dessie City Administration Mayor Abebe Gebre-Meskel on his part said there is a peaceful movement in Dessie, except for the increase in the number of IDPs. It's especially good. ”

Arts TV received a call from Dessie Mayor Abebe Gebre-Meskel told Arts TV that “Dessie is now peaceful and its residents are doing their daily work”.

ARS TV has investigated a Facebook post claiming the Tigray Defense Forces has taken control of Dessie is FALSE.

This fact-check was produced by Kindalem Mesfin in partnership with Code for Africa.

