



Newsletter N°. 31 - June 2019

2018-2019: an excellent 10th academic school year

Secondary school: intense preparation for exams



The new Nursery School building ready for the October 2019 commencement. As standard dictates, the building is physically separated by a wall from the rest of the primary school.

Abalak

Abalak, a sacred city
 Where we love to live
 Despite drought and poverty
 A cross-roads with its multitude of different
 Peoples and animals
 You, with your multicoloured, crowded market,
 Filled with produce, henna and tea,
 Provide the Tuareg with everything money can
 buy
 There we can also encounter well-covered Tuar-
 regs
 Mixing with other newly-arrived ethnic groups.
 We find you nestled in a valley
 Surrounded by dunes, dotted amongst
 Thirsty acacia trees
 You lie on a vast cultivated area
 With cement or earth-brick houses
 Your single paved road
 Characterised by its myriad bird's nests
 And your dry climate
 Which gives you the name of a beloved steppe
 I love you Abalak, my favourite city
 Rissa Mohamadou
 General Supervisor TANAT Secondary School

"I am writing to give you an overview of the 2018-2019 Academic Year. A year that started well and which did not produce any major upsets.

A year in which all eyes were on us to see what the end-of-year results would be. In preparation for all of this, we took the steps that I hope will bring success.

First of all, as you know, new foreign teachers (2 from Togo, one Muslim and one Christian, and one from Benin, also a Christian) were recruited to replace teachers who were unable to deliver the results we expected. They are young, dynamic and hardworking. We hope this will transform our misfortune from last year into a beautiful harvest. Immediately afterwards, additional textbooks and year books were made available to candidates in both grades. During the first quarter and beginning of the second quarter, we also organised supervised homework every Sunday. At the beginning of the 2nd quarter, we replaced these weekly homework sessions with a series of

block assignments where we took a week to do homework, in all subjects.

We took this decision because many teachers found that, firstly, the correction and return of the homework took time and interfered with their ability to complete the programmes on time; secondly; they also found that the students focused only on the subject matter contained in the assignment for that week so that if, by chance, a teacher arranged a surprise quiz, the marks were not good.

In the first quarter we saw a marked improvement in the level of achievement of the students. But this was not the case for the second quarter. As a result, management decided that additional lessons should be held in Arabic, Maths and Philo for Terminal A; Maths, PC and SVT for Terminal D; English, French and Maths for Grade 3.

Another innovation to boost student work has been the introduction of three reports during the year instead of the two official half-yearly ones. This is all designed to get our learners to work harder. "A Hassane Moumouni, proviseur de l'établissement secondaire TANAT

Primary School: an excellent report for the 2018- 2019 school

"The 2018-2019 school year at TANAT Private School ends on an overall note of satisfaction. Today it closes its doors with a complement of 179 students, including 80 girls. The formal education programme as planned was implemented 100%, without exception, in all classes.

During the year assessments were carried out. These helped to identify pupils with learning difficulties. For those students, remedial sessions were organised by their teachers over the weekends.

This tutoring programme has helped to improve the academic level of the students and it achieved a commendable number of passes during the last assessment that was held from May 20 to 24, 2018.

The overall results of that assessment are:

172 pupils go up to the next class,

i.e. 96%, and 7 must repeat, 2 of which are girls. Most repeat students have difficulties especially in reading, which is a prerequisite for acquiring knowledge in any school subject. As part of the effort to improve teaching practice, inspections were carried out by the School Director, the Inspector of the IEP of Abalak as well as Educational advisers.

In the same vein, two of our teachers benefited from educational interactions with the administration and teachers from the Institut Bayard and Philippine Duchesne ITEC Boisfleury in Grenoble from 8 to 12 April 2019. These exchanges enabled them to improve their teaching practices.

Next year, the school will open a mid-level Nursery School / Kindergarten class. A new building has already been built, it consists of a classroom and another room for rest periods. This Nursery School will allow us to better prepare our youngsters for the Upper Nursery School phase, known as the Initiation Class (CI) in Niger."

Mouhamadoune Abdoussamed directeur du primaire

Sponsor a class or a pupil of TANAT school

Sponsorships are essential to offer schooling to underprivileged children (pupil sponsorship) or to balance the running costs of the school (class sponsorship). TANAT School needs you and your friends to give even more children the opportunity to take charge of their future.





Students from Terminale sing during the celebrations



6th grade students tell the story of Niger during celebrations

News Flash

"In Abalak, heat remains the top story. This heat is accompanied by problems with water. Indeed, Abalak has experienced a shortage of water that has spared no neighbourhood in this city. This cutting of water is linked to the poor state of the installations which are ageing and over-sensitive to heat. This is a daily problem in Abalak. Every year, as soon as the hot season sets in, water becomes a rare commodity.

Only neighbourhoods in the lowlands have water. This automatically causes a rush to those neighbourhoods and anxiety and fear sets in. "

"The month of Ramadan in the heat of the day has also doubled the energy needs and Nigelec's installations are not able to meet everyone's needs, which explain the disruptive cuts in Abalak.

Fortunately in the last days of June, we are seeing some minor rain in Abalak and surrounding areas which has considerably lowered temperatures and the situation has returned to normal.

June 7: Celebrating TANAT's fête

At the end of the school year, a school party was held this Friday, June 07, 2019 in the precincts of Tanat Primary School.

This celebration brought together all the students and teachers from both institutions.

In view of the preparations for the African Union summit which will shortly be held in Niamey, presentations from various countries were organised by teachers and students from different grades. Grade 6 presented Niger; Grade 5 Morocco; Grade 4 Mali; Grade 2 Benin and Grade 1 Togo. In addition to the cultural activities, singing, karaoke, dance, sketches and poems were on the menu at our school party. All these activities were open and attended by the public. Our visitors enjoyed, appreciated and were greatly moved and encouraged by the initiative of TANAT. Oumara Mamadou Salilissou EPS teacher

In the Primary School, CI pupils together with those from CP put on a sketch to demonstrate "the importance of washing one's hands" and then sang a poem about peace: "All the same, All different".

Classes CE1 and CE2 put on a play about shisha. This theme was chosen because it was found that shisha (or the hooka pipe) is used to excess by Niger youngsters today.

Class CM1 and CM2 sang the "Nigérienne" the national anthem of Niger. .



Presentation of Togo by High School students.

Wisdom of the Tuaregs

Among the Tuaregs, we know that proverbs are preceded by an introductory sentence, "Wise people " or "Kel Tamas-heq say", to show that proverbs are attributed to people of ancient times, holders of a wisdom from the mists of time ...

"Even the desert is never totally deserted."

"The desert is so much less that it makes you think more deeply."

"However long a winter night, the sun shall follow "

"It's better to walk without knowing where you are going than sitting without doing anything."

"Make your complaint a song of love to no longer know that you are suffering."

"Camels do not mock each other's bumps."

"Let him who dwelleth ensure that he who passeth does not underestimate or under value him."

"Man invented the watch, but God invented time".

"Whoever does what his father did not do, will

see what his father did not see."

"He who lives a long life knows a lot, but he who has travelled knows a lot more."

"Living with a beautiful woman increases a man's life expectancy."

"When you travel, take two bags: one to give, the other to receive."

"The good that is done to you, do not forget it, the good you did, do not speak about it."

At the creation of the world, God asked man to choose between eternal life without clothes and a limited life, but with clothes. Man opted for the second proposition. This choice means that Man did not conceive of living without honour because, among the Tuaregs, clothes symbolise the dignity of the person. The height of dishonour is to be naked, and even worse, to be laid bare.

This helps us to better understand the role of the turban for men and "taking the veil", which corresponds to the passing into adulthood of a woman.

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TANAT School

Given the state of the education system in the Abalak region of Niger, residents banded together in 2008, within the ONODEP association chaired by Mayor Billou Mohamed Moctar, to create and run a school that would cater for pupils from nursery school to final year graduation, in partnership with the French TANAT association.

The educational aim of Tanat School is to:

- Welcome boys and girls regardless of social, cultural or religious background.
- Give young people entrusted to them not only a solid school education but relevant training to prepare them for life as responsible men and women.
- Maintain a family atmosphere that allows young people to feel loved, recognised, supported and listened to.