



Another excellent school year for TANAT School



Everything is ready for opening the high school

The building that will accommodate the 2nd class is finished but above all we are sure that it will be possible to recruit qualified teachers for high school, who are so difficult to find.

Indeed, an agreement has been signed between Mrs. Bety Aichatou Habibou Oumani, Minister for secondary education in Niger and Billou Mohamed Moctar, President of ONODEP association which sets up and manages TANAT school.

In this agreement, considering the quality of the pedagogical project of the school and the excellent school results already achieved, the Ministry of secondary education has committed himself to put at disposal part of the teachers with all required qualifications for high school.

Reform for the admission to the 6th level class in Niger

First Degree certificate is suppressed in Niger. Now anyone must get an average equal or higher than 5 out of 10 through the three quarterly assessments of CM2 to be allowed to reach secondary school.



Great assesment for the school year of primary school

« 2013-2014 school year ends for TANAT primary school on a global satisfaction touch. It closes its doors today with a total number of 200 pupils, among which 87 girls. School year went on well on all levels.

For pupils with learning difficulties, lessons for bringing them up to an acceptable level have been set up by their teachers. This school support program has allowed to show an important number of admissions during the last test that took place by the end of May 2014.

The total results are as follows: 188 pupils admitted in upper class, i.e. 92 %. Most pupils who repeat come from outside and are in great number in CE1 (8 pupils); they have difficulties mostly in reading.

During the year and when preparing the school party, parents met themselves to talk about the school. Many topics were discussed among which discipline within school. Every-

one was unanimous that the utmost requirement for school success is discipline first. Besides, the pupils' school government has been taking part in all tasks during the year by carrying out tidiness of buildings and of school environment with the involvement of all pupils.

During the celebrations organized to commemorate April 24th, 1995, date of signature of the peace agreements with former rebellion, TANAT schools were involved in the success of this event by singing the national anthem (the "Nigérienne") along with members of Abalak National Guard and singing also a song dedicated to peace.

In addition they have performed sketches dealing with freedom (freedom of coming and going, liberty of expression...). Delight was present in the population of the district represented in all its ethnic and socio-cultural aspects.»

Mouhamadoune Abdoussamed primary school director

Acknowledgment of the excellence of the college

« In the name of all the 5th class pupils and in my own name, we pay our deep congratulations and thanks for all these efforts that you repeatedly provide for aiming at all these so noble goals that we had decided on. We are eager to inform you that the 5th class pupils have spent an excellent year especially con-

cerning their work. That is why all of them are admitted in 4th class; it is comforting because all of them have proved that they are determined to hold up Tanat flag and to work somehow with the aim of promoting excellence and of ranking Tanat among reference schools... »

Hassane Mamane in charge of the 5th class

Solidarity facing water shortage

« Rains are expected eagerly and temperatures rise constantly These scorching heats affect the life of all inhabitants of Abalak because it deprives us of water. You see areas deprived of water during months and these nice people head for districts that have some. These are smartness periods. Women and men rush in search of water, by means of cars, motorcycles, carts and sometimes on his or her head.

This state of shortage upsets pupils' parents and pupils who run out their stock of water at school. Management does its best to meet with this need which is crucial, even vital.»

Ahmed Intinikar in charge of the 4th class

« In the city a «rock solidarity» has developed among Abalak population and even within pupils. Inhabitants who had still water running at pump have never closed their portal. And I have never seen anybody selling his water because of such situation. In the city neighbours meet each other every night in front of pumps, they take advantage of that to talk together. Often a neighbour who has got more water may give one or two barrels to his neighbour. When water runs around two or three a.m., the first awake then wakes up his neighbours... At school, children are used to share a unique bag of "pure water" and those who have more money pay water to their schoolmate ... »

Kadri Garba principal of Tanat CSP

Sponsor a class or a pupil of Tanat school

Sponsorships are essential to provide scholarship to underprivileged children (pupil sponsorship) or to balance operating expenses (teachers' wages...) of the school (class sponsorship). Tanat school needs you to receive more sponsorships and supports to offer more children the possibility to take in charge their future.



Extracts from letters to godfathers and godmothers

Here below some nice words taken from the letters to godfathers and godmothers:

« It is with a joyful heart that I have sat to a table to write to you this missive that will probably give you pleasure . »

« I write to you to tell you my deep and sincere greetings for you first and for your whole family . »

« Goodmorning, I greet you and thank you for godmothering me ... »

« I am very happy to write this letter to you that comes from my deep heart. I respect you as I respect my teacher and I thank you for your support. »

« First all my greetings to you. I write this letter to give you my news. I thank you very much and I wish you a happy year and a nice day. »

« This year in Abalak, rains take a long time coming and heat is at its peak. »

« I belong to the school government, I am the Minister of Justice... I am still young. I thank you also for your help and for making your acquaintance. »



Help us to get more sponsorships

On new school year of next October, primary and secondary schools of TANAT school will accommodate over 350 pupils.

Ever since the start of the project of setting up the school, it was decided that one third of the places would be saved for pupils from underprivileged families who would not pay their schooling expenses since they would be sponsored.

Thus on next school start, 116 pupils will be exempted from school fees, however at present only 79 pupils are in fact sponsored.

More over the 54 present school sponsorships allow also to balance partly the fact that families who can

afford school expenses of 100 € per year, pay in fact less than the actual cost of these fees which amount approximately to 180 €.

We thus call on you, already godfathers and godmothers, men and female donors to find generous people around your circle who might commit to a sponsorship of a pupil or a class of TANAT School.

All needed documents are available on the website of the association (www.associationtantat.fr), or let us know by mail or phone the concerned people's names and addresses to whom we shall send these documents. Thank you in advance for your valuable contribution.



The « cure salée » : the big nomadic gathering of Niger

The “cure salée” originates from tuareg shepherds’ expansion towards south Niger where they had built up multi secular relationships.

Each year, they were moving in order to regenerate their cattle through a cure stay in the salted pastures of Irhazer.

So called « tenekert » in local language, the “cure salée” mainly involves Tuaregs and Peuls nomads from the areas of Agadez, Tahoua, Maradi and Zinder .

This nomad’s transhumance, while it is worthwhile to bring up cattle to good condition, also allows to clear arable lands and to protect useful pastures for dry season .

In the past, the “cure salée” was the occasion for nomads to prepare transactions with the “tagalam” (caravan of salt) but overall to talk and to deal with other caravaners coming from various backgrounds, especially from North Africa.

The “cure salée” had two main meanings: moving herds towards north called transhumance and the political meaning since by that time it gave the opportunity of a big meeting so called “amaniy” where nomads, gathered around the sultan, settled the existing disputes between different tuareg communities who, at the same time, renewed their allegiance to the sultan’s authority .

This meaning of the cure treatment, since the mists of time, has been the most important

since it allowed solving the main problems of nomadic populations. Colonial administration found there a unique opportunity to meet chiefs of tribes .

Thus, it endowed the meeting with an administrative component through the setting up of a ministry in charge of the saharian and nomadic affairs entrusted to a Tuareg. Afterwards improvements were brought to the “cure salée”, among others vaccination of cattle, information conveyed by relevant public departments, broadcasting clubs and radio Niger, alphabetization sessions etc ...

The 1968 and 1974 droughts caused direct consequences on the “cure salée”. In 1972 and 1974, it did not take place because of cattle disappearance.

At present, the priority is to restore to the “cure salée” its real economic, social and cultural component, to be inspired by what it used to be and to endow it with meaning matching with modern times problems.

This economic component is very important for a country such Niger, where cattle breeding constitutes the second lifeblood of the national economy. Indeed, cattle and meat sectors should benefit from opportunities which occur especially through exports towards northern countries .

From Abdoulaye Harouna <http://www.lesahel.org/>

TANAT School Project

Faced with the condition of the educative system in the Abalak department of Niger, inhabitants gathered within the ONODEP association chaired by the mayor Billou Mohamed Moutar, to open and manage a school with the support of the French TANAT association.

The TANAT pedagogic plan is :

- To welcome children, boys and girls, irrespective of social, cultural and religious background.
- To give the young entrusted to Tanat school on top of a sound academic education, human training to prepare them for behaving in life like trustworthy men and women.
- To foster a family atmosphere that allows young people to feel loved, accepted, supported and valued.

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