

TANAT SCHOOL AT WORK

NEWS FROM THE PRIMARY SCHOOL



The Primary school vegetable garden is beautiful following last year rainfalls.

Moral of A small story

In the ancient times, when the Tuaregs went to the market once a year for their supplies, two shepherds with two cows an old one and a lean one went to a market where was spoken only the French language. While pushing their beasts in front of them, a shepherd asks his friend:

"By the way, do you speak French? »

"Yes, I understand that language a little bit. "

Arrived in the market our two sellers are welcomed by buyers who after several examinations of animals declare:

"This one is old and this one is lean".

The shepherd who does not know the French language asks his friend:

"What has said this gentleman, you who knows this dialect? "

"He said "old" that means we have to act with malice aforethought and "lean" that means we have to be caught and slaughtered."

The two frightened shepherds ran away and left their cows tied in the market without being able to bring back gifts to their families. This is the fate that is reserved to ignorant.

Rissa Mohamadou
Superintendent

« In addition to normal classes given from Monday to Friday, other activities are held during the weekend. The most significant are the school support sessions for pupils having difficulties. This support is done every Saturday. In addition to this activity there are mini-CAPEP (Pedagogical Animation Cell) during which pedagogical exchanges between the teaching staff are made on a very specific theme often proposed by the director according to his observation in the classrooms during the pedagogical supervision. This allowed teachers to perform well in their respective classes.

Since January 15, 2018, because of the difficulties of education in Niger in general and in Abalak in particular, a program called emergency program has been established in the primary schools of Niger.

This program is only related to reading, writing and maths. To evaluate this program, the ministry organized a pre-test in late November and a post-test in December. In these two tests our pupils showed their difference from those in public schools. It should be noted that in TANAT this emergency program was not followed because our students have a good level.

This is why, with the approval of the Inspector, we have always followed the initial official program. But we had it assessed as it has been done in all schools of Niger.

In the interest of an harmonious functioning of the school, pupils democratically elected their school government. The task of this government is to ensure, with the assistance of the keeper, the cleanliness of the premises of the school and of its environment. It also intervenes with the collaboration of the teachers in the follow-up of the learning of the lessons and the respect of the internal rules of the school.

As usual every year, the school received in November the visit of the team of the national leadership responsible for controlling the operation of private schools. The members of this team visited each class and conversed with the director about the running of the school. During this interview, they appreciated the quality of the infrastructures and didactic materials, including the computers available in TANAT school. »

Mouhamadoune Abdoussamed: Primary School
Headmaster

NOVELTIES IN THE HIGH SCHOOL

« From the start of the school year until today, several events have marked the life of our beloved school.

First, working groups were formed by each responsible teacher in his class. Each group has been provided with manuals necessary for its operation: books, annals. These documents were purchased at great expense this year, and pupils are made responsible for their appearance and protection. The teacher in charge has an eye on the operation of these groups and is strict about the attendance of learners. Any group seeking the support of a teacher of any subject informs the head teacher who takes care of it. Other groups are applying for refresher courses for the weakest in a subject and, as far as possible, we satisfy this request.

During the Christmas holidays, the teacher of life and earth sciences, Mr. Bouraima Abdoul-Fataou, took care of the pupils of the terminal D class, which allowed them to advance on the program. This teacher is one of the three new

professors recruited this year by ONODEP to improve our educational system and make us more autonomous. To put the pupils in the examination conditions, we organized supervised homework every Sunday. These exercises enabled us first of all to have grades for the class average and thus to evaluate our future candidates more quickly.

We also held class councils for all high school classes and the 3rd class for college level, in the presence of the responsible teachers, some participants in the class, the administration and pupils parents' representatives. The goal is to make pupils aware of their work during the term and, for the weakest, to commit that the next school report will be better. It started to bring benefits since, during the various councils, we were able to detect hidden problems that slowed students' learning. Some tell us about the difficulties they have, either at home or at school, or their lack in certain subjects.»

Hassane Moumouni, Principal of TANAT High School

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.



Leyla final year student, testimony

Leyla Souleymane is in Terminale A, she sends us this very beautiful testimony:

"As you all know, every child needs an education that will contribute to his general culture and allow him in conditions of luck and equality, to develop his faculties, his personal judgment, his sense of moral and social responsibilities and become a useful member of society.

That is why I consider education as the basis of everything and I attach great importance to it. That's what encourages me to be always better than I was yesterday.

When I arrived in Abalak with my parents, I was very sorry to leave my school and my friends.

I wanted to enroll in the best school in town; This is how I have chosen TANAT not because it is a private institution but for the quality of its teaching.

During my first days, I was alone because I had no friends but it did not last 3 days. The more the days go by, the more I am proud of my choice because TANAT is a school where peace, solidarity, fraternity and love of one's neighbor are enhanced and to be found in every individual who is attending there. Skin color, social rank, ethnicity, religion do not really matter to us.

We respect each other and the essential for us is to acquire knowledge that can help us but also develop our country because we are

the men and women of tomorrow and our country is depending on us.

At TANAT, we have a competent teaching staff, worthy of the name. The courses are taught explicitly to facilitate the understanding of all, the teachers never tire of going backward to re-explain a part not understood.

Our administration is very rigorous, not to mention our general supervisor who does everything to maintain order.

TANAT is teaching in pursuit of excellence and I hope I shall obtain my bachelor degree this year to make not only my parents and supervisors proud but also my country.

I found in TANAT a second family. »

Leyla Souleymane final year student



Leyla Souleymane final year student

News

The period of November, December and January is that of the cold season in Niger. This cold accompanied by wind raising dust causes diseases (cold, malaria, infections, pneumonia ...) to populations especially with children. This is the reason for the absences of some pupils in the school.

Once again this year, Ahmed, a young doctor native from Abalak, has come to volunteer for the TANAT new school year medical check-up.

The Tuareg cultural unity

It is not the color of the skin, it is not the long or frizzy hair, nor the wealth or the social condition or the tradition of origin that can be held for criteria revealing the Tuareg. To distinguish himself from the Fulani woodabe, a nomad like him, or from the Hausa peasant, the Tuareg defines himself as part of the "Kel Tamasheq".

By this, he means that the Tuareg society is above all a cultural and linguistic fact.

The Tamasheq language, like the Arab language, is the bridge between the Maghreb and Sudan. But it does not have the same universal significance thanks to Islam and its marabouts. On the sidelines of the Tuareg country, in the multi-ethnic regions, the Hausa or Djerm dialects are used as a language of communication. Almost all the Tuaregs know the Hausa while the settled people do not know the Tamasheq. When Peuls and Tuaregs live together in the same area, they often communicate through Hausa.

Even more than the clothing or the lifestyle, it is the Tamasheq that is the alive symbol of the social cohesion. The Tuareg language is made of several sub-dialects which, despite some differences in vocabulary, some similarities taken from the arab in the Ahaggar and from the Haoussa in the Air, some differences in the pronunciations, the "t" passing to the "sh" from west to east, are such that Tuaregs can always understand each other without much difficulty.

But the language is not the only alive symbol of culture: Tifinagh written characters are known by almost all Tuaregs, men or women, warriors or religious people. This writing does not constitute the remaining of a dead culture that can be found alongside the rock engravings of all the mountain chains. It is a current writing and the rocky surfaces show just as well old inscriptions marked by the patina of time as shepherds or travelers' recent messages. The Tuaregs are the only ones having kept a writing system originated from the old alphabet called "Libyque". This alphabet only records consonants, which makes its reading difficult. Each letter is spelled aloud and then the rest of the letters is repeated to rebuild words and sentences. The Tifinagh is written down in all directions: from right to left, from left to right, from bottom to top and from top to bottom; the meaning of the reading is recognized thanks to the orientation of the asymmetrical letters.

Another factor of social cohesion, the clothing. It is not without reason that some people call themselves "Kel Tiggelmust" those of the veil of the head: it is the visible mark of the connection to the Tuareg world, the mark of obedience to the tradition of behavior of this society and also the mark of a certain modesty: all from the poorest to the most isolated shepherd have ever since adulthood, forehead and mouth covered by a veil.

From « Touaregs Nigériens » by Edmond Bernus

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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.