

The start of our 12th school year - 453 pupils

Very good results in the 2020 BEPC exam

The results of the 2020 BEPC exam are as follows: out of the 34 students in TANAT's 3rd grade, 28 passed in the 1st group (written) and 4 in the second group (oral), i.e. a total of 32 students.

This success rate of 94%, well above our target of 80%, is a very good outcome and well above the national average.

In the ranking of all the candidates from the Tahoua region, the 1st, 3rd and 5th placed are TANAT pupils.

Congratulations to the students, the Principal and the entire teaching staff, all of whom spared no effort to achieve this great result.

Good results in the 2020 BAC exam

TANAT's results for the 2020 BAC exam are as follows:

For series A (literature), 9 students passed directly (1st group) and 7 after the oral test (2nd group), i.e. a total of 16 out of 25 candidates (64%).

For series D (Scientific), 6 students passed directly (1st group) and 4 after the oral (2nd group), i.e. a total of 10 out of 17 candidates (58.8%).

All in all, TANAT had a success rate of 61.9% compared to 32.5% nationally. This is a considerable improvement over the previous two years and clearly shows that all the efforts of the teachers and the management of the high school have borne fruit, especially during the period when the school was closed due to Covid-19, so we are clearly going in the right direction.

Congratulations to the new high school graduates and congratulations to their teachers and to the management of TANAT high school!



Secondary school: news from the Principal, Mr Hassane



"Here we are again at the beginning of a new year. A year in which the start of the school year has been postponed twice due to the flooding suffered country-wide. These floods created hundreds of thousands of victims who found refuge in the classrooms of various schools, the only freely available places equipped with the right resources. The government, with the support of the Red Cross and other organisations, is working to resolve the situation.

The day before the start of the school year, we held a meeting with all the teachers in order to tell them about the measures to be taken for the next year (particularly measures to combat the coronavirus) and to give them the duty rosters and finalise the class timetables.

On the first day of school, Thursday, October 15th, staff greeted the students at the door, inviting them to wash their hands as soon as they entered the courtyard before taking the washable masks from the supervisor.

When the bell was rung, the flag was quickly raised. We handed out the notebooks and pens to the students who then took their timetables and the various teachers' programmes.

At around 10 a.m., the academic, customary, municipal, departmental authorities and parents with the Prefect at their head, arrived to confirm the effectiveness of the start of the school year, to congratulate the staff on the previous year's results and to provide advice to the students that would set them in the footsteps of their elders.

Our enrolment is 242 students, including 97 girls.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have contributed in one way or another to achieving our good exam results. My thanks go first to the sponsors of our students whose assistance helps so many receive a quality education.

My thanks also go to our sponsor Billou, to the teaching staff and the administration and to the parents of our students."

Hassane Moumouni,
Principal of TANAT secondary school

Primary School: news from Principal Mouhamadoune

"The 2020-2021 school year in Niger began on October 15th when our pupils happily set off to school for the start of TANAT's twelfth school year.

To make this start of the school year effective and to prepare for the school's smooth running throughout the year, each teacher began to ready his class from the last week of September. Among these preparations we highlight the review of our school rules and the provision of the necessary equipment and manuals. There is also the question of the strict compliance with certain sections of the school rules, particularly the monitoring of absences. Coronavirus prevention measures were also at the centre of discussions.

At the start of this year we have 211 pupils, including 96 girls.

They are safely welcomed because the school has everything that might be required; the teaching staff is at full strength with the replacement of a member of staff who left by a Togolese teacher, Agaouhouande Lazare Mahoutin.

Ten days before the start of the school year, the Principal and two teachers underwent training in Tahoua on the programme known as PMAQ (Minimum Package Based on Quality), a sort of upgrade in Maths and French which must be taught from CP to CM throughout the first term. It consists of first doing a test to classify the pupils into 3 levels and then improving them.

These levels are based on reading and numeracy. As far as our pupils are concerned, this programme will be provided to those who are having difficulty during school hours.

As at the beginning of every year, a student council will be democratically elected to empower students to participate in the running of the school. Its tasks will be to protect the school environment, monitor the learning of lessons and comply with the school's rules."

Mouhamadoune Abdoussamed, Primary School Principal



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.



Schoolchildren return to school through a flooded street.

Yacoub our outstanding student

First in TANAT's 3rd grade, Yacoubou Ikya Mohamed came 1st in the BEPC exam in the Tahoua region and 2nd nation-wide.

His achievement was honoured by Issoufou Mahamadou, President of the Republic of Niger, during the award ceremony for the Outstanding students of the year. He is pictured in the photo below, just to the right of the President.

In the high school competition, he came 7th nationally out of more than 2,000 candidates for the 54 places offered.

Congratulations to Yacoub for these brilliant results and also to the teachers and the management of TANAT, who thus confirm the excellence of the education it provides.



Yacoubou to the right of the President of Niger at the ceremony celebrating the "Outstanding students of the year".

Rains, malaria and bush fires

"This year Niger recorded heavy rainfall and the start of the school year had to be postponed to October 15th because families whose houses had collapsed had to be sheltered in classrooms due to the lack of appropriate infrastructure.

But also, due to the lack of gutters and drainage, there are many puddles in people's houses and in the streets where mosquitoes and flies have thrived. This is not without consequences for citizens who face diseases such as malaria and diarrhoea.

Hospitals are overwhelmed with patients and sometimes face very difficult conditions.

In addition to the diseases caused by these "abundant rains", Abalak experienced another phenomenon: that of bush fires.

Since it rained a lot, there was a lot of "straw" (dried grass). As the result of the behaviour and lack of public spirit of some people, bush fires often break out. These fires are still causing enormous damage to the natural resources on which the area depends for its survival and, worse still, animals have also died."

Ghissa Hamed Alyakib, Secondary school censor



After a bushfire in the Abalak region

Tea, the delicacy of the Tuaregs

The Tuareg's only delicacy is tea, which they drink very hot and very sweet. Introduced by Arab merchants in the 18th century, tea was initially a luxury reserved for chiefs, then it became popular throughout Tuareg camps. The most popular tea is a high-quality Chinese green tea called "arageyga" and of course this whole-leaf tea is the most expensive.

The preparation of tea is a real ritual and drinking it is one of the best times of the day.

The first gesture of hospitality is always to offer tea to visitors. The necessary utensils are: a small enamelled iron teapot, a light-wire portable ember holder, small fluted glasses, a sugar hammer often replaced by an engine piston to break the conical sugar loaf and lastly the tea "achai".

During the tea ceremony, the equivalent of a small tea glass filled to the brim with water is first poured into the teapot and the leaves are scalded. This water is then thrown out and the tea is allowed to infuse, pieces of sugar loaf are added then the tea is transferred from the teapot to a glass to melt the sugar. The first tea is very bitter and hot. It is poured from a height into the glasses to aerate it and make it foam. This slow ritual will be repeated several

times before drinking it. Then water is added to infuse the tea a second time and serve a second tea, then a third time. The tea becomes increasingly more clear because the same leaves are used until the end. It is said that: The first tea is "like death"; The second tea is "like life"; The third tea is "like love".



This beverage haunts the imagination of nomads. Neighbours come asking for it just to get rid of a terrible headache that only arageyga can cure. Everyone knows that among the Tuaregs the lack of tea causes a specific aneghu disease which, apart from various aches and pains, results in discoloration of the skin.

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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.