



## TANAT School in Full Flight

### Secondary School: Intense Exam Preparation



Dear sponsors, in a unique context marked by the postponement of the 2024-2025 school year, we, the administration and teachers, have strived to give our best to ensure the smooth running of the school and also to raise the standards of our students.

We have therefore planned intensive assessments at all levels, the results of which have allowed us to implement corrective action where necessary.

It was decided to organise first-term exams, which will only apply to students in Year 9 and Year 12, and to have the results before the first day of 2025. These assessments, which serve as preliminary exams, were held between November 12 to 17, 2024 and the results, announced to a few parents, contained wise advice to our students, who promised to pull themselves together and do better.

The teachers for their part, are committed, as always, to working hard to enlighten these stu-

dents. **"Our only wish", according to one of the teachers, "is that tears of joy will fill the eyes of all our candidates when the results of the 2025 end-of-year exams are announced."** Let's hope so.

Dear sponsors, on behalf of all the students at Tanat, to whom you always bring joy, I would just like to express my heartfelt thanks. They are very lucky to have you in their lives; your support is and remains an enormous help.

I greatly appreciate your generosity. During this month of Ramadan, in the intense heat here in Niger, may the Lord reward you a hundred-fold, may His light illuminate your lives here and in the hereafter.

*Moussa Samaila, Secondary School Principal*



Moussa Samaila, proviseur du secondaire

### Vocational Education is now the pathway to a Diploma

TANAT School has obtained permission from the Ministry to open a Vocational Training Centre and can therefore officially present candidates for diplomas such as the CAP (Certificate of Vocational Training) or the BE (Certificate of Professional Excellence) in Electricity or Business Information Technology.

This year, there are two electricity classes, one for preparing for CAP's electrician diploma and the other for preparing for BE's electrician diploma for those who already passed their CAP last year.

Another class, composed exclusively of girls, is preparing for the BE in Business Information Technology.

We hope that these students achieve exam results as good as those in general education and then find jobs more easily, thanks to their diploma. .

### Primary School: Well-managed Teaching

No major disruption has been noted during these five months of teaching, given that this year's school year began on October 28th. Students and teachers are diligent and punctual. The weather this time of year has been unusual because we have experienced less wind and dust than normal.

As a result, more than 70% of the planned curriculum is being taught in all classes. However, we have not yet had a visit from the educational advisor or the inspector because there have been several re-assignments within their ranks.

In addition to the regular classes held Monday through Friday, other activities are carried out over the weekend. The most significant of these are the academic support sessions for students who are struggling. This extra support

is provided every Saturday.

In addition to this activity, there are mini-CAPEDs (Educational Support Units) during which educational discussions between members of the teaching team are held on a specific theme, often proposed by the principal and based on his observations in the classrooms during teaching supervision.

This has allowed teachers to deliver excellent performances in their respective classes.

*Agaouhouande Lazare, Interim Primary School Principal*



Agaouhouande Lazare, Directeur du primaire par interim



### 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.

## Miscellaneous News

### TANAT School is equipped with Starlink

Niger recently granted Starlink a five-year broadband internet operating license. For the past few weeks, TANAT has been equipped with a Starlink system. It now has a high-speed internet connection that will provide everyone with better access to information.



Starlink antenna

Currently, the holy month of Ramadan is being observed here and soon we'll be on holiday.

After that, the focus will shift to exam preparation and possible revision, as we technically only have 12 weeks of classes left.

We would like to express our deep gratitude to our partners, you who

have been so supportive. We also extend this gratitude to the founder and the entire administration. May you be strengthened in the fulfilment of your mission.

Fabrice OGATCHIN, High School Teacher

In the town of Abalak, several initiatives have emerged, aimed at strengthening social cohesion and community life.

As part of cultural and sports activities, students from TANAT organised an interclass soccer tournament.

This tournament culminated in a final between the first-year and final-year students. After a close match, the first-year classes won the cup 2 goals to 1.

*Ghissa Hamed Alyakib, High School Supervisor*



### National School Timetable Changes

The timetable has been changed following a decree from the Ministry of National Education.

From now on, Saturdays are no longer working days; classes are held Monday through Friday. The bell rings at 7:55 a.m. except on Fridays when classes start at 7:45 a.m.

So far, we haven't seen any problems with this new schedule, except that students in exam classes get off almost every day at 2:30 p.m., which isn't easy in the extreme heat.

Moustapha Mohamed, Head Supervisor at Tanat

### Tagelmoust: The Tuareg Turban

Tuareg men begin wearing a turban after puberty, when a young man is deemed fit to assume his adult status.

From then on, a man will only remove this garment in circumstances where neither his honour nor his life can be threatened; that is only within his immediate family, with his wife, or close friends.

The turban, known as a "tagelmoust," was once made of thin strips soaked in indigo and sewn together. Today, white, blue, or black cotton fabric replaces the expensive indigo material. The turban can be between two and a half meters and fifteen meters long, depending on the person's means.

The upper part, which covers the forehead, temples, ears, eyebrows, and eyes, is called "amawal," meaning "guardian" or "protector." It is considered to protect the individual's personal honour.

"Temedert," the "restraint," corresponds to the bottom of the turban, which, depending on the circumstances, covers the nose, mouth, cheeks, and chin. Temedert means "that which restrains, that which compels moderation and reserve." This barrier channels the collective honour that each individual derives from their rank, their family, their clan and their confederation.

Finally, "tabezt," the "handle," is the name given to the back part of the turban which, when pulled, serves to tighten the "restraint."

The meaning of the gestures associated with the turban refers to the warrior code of hon-

our. If honour is threatened by an attitude or remarks contrary to decorum, the first reaction will be to immediately pull the "restraint" upwards, above the nostrils and the tip of the nose.

"Isemeder": meaning "he exercises restraint". This is an expression referring to all the steps of raising the veil up to its final position on the bridge of the nose. This gesture signals the reserve and distance the subject establishes from these excesses of which he is the spectator and in which he himself refuses to participate.

Similarly, the arrival of a peer, that is to say a rival in the honour stakes who wishes to demonstrate and showcase his own nobility, will provoke an identical reflex.

Finally, in the presence of women who judge and reward warrior honour, raising the "restraint" is an essential requirement. In recent years, new ways of wearing the turban have flourished. The veiling of the fellaga, that is the "rebels," implies a demarcation from society's values and moral contracts. The fabric is wrapped haphazardly around the forehead and also covers the lower part of the face, but without respecting the traditional structure.

Today, the turban can also be worn around the neck in a relaxed way by young people who feel more free in their ways.

*According to H el ene Claudot-Hawad*



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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.