

## Another great school year for TANAT



### African Wisdom

Here in Abalak, the rainy season has begun timidly, alternating between high heat and beautiful sunny spells, in an atmosphere that is both demanding and inspiring. In its own way, this climate symbolises the fragile but precious balance between the trials and hopes that characterise school life and every day human life.

Let us share with you, at the close of this school year, an African tale that often accompanies us in our educational reflections:

“One day, a colony of birds decided to cross an arid desert. None of them could have gone far on their own, but by flying in formation and taking turns at the head of the flock, they reached the oasis together. When one faltered, another took the lead without ever abandoning his companion. On arrival, everyone was tired, but no-one was lost.”

This tale reminds us of an essential truth: success is built on unity, perseverance and solidarity. It is in this spirit that we have lived this school year and that we will approach the next one.

Fabrice Ogatchin, High School Teacher



### Secondary School: Exam Ready

Dear godparents,

Please receive our respectful greetings and deep gratitude for the continued attention, the moral and material support you give to the students of our school. Your commitment to them is a source of inspiration and motivation for the entire educational community.

In order to closely monitor the evolution of the standard of our learners, several continuous evaluations were carried out. The grades achieved show encouraging progress, especially among those students who benefitted from close monitoring.

A regional mock exam, covering the BEPC and BAC programmes, was held from May 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> 2025, under conditions as close as possible to the official exam. The papers were corrected by a joint board in order to guarantee objectivity and coherence. This exercise allowed students to identify their strengths and weaknesses, and teachers to adjust their teaching strategies before the final deadline.

Given the efforts made by the students, the dedication of the teaching team, the logistical

support of the administration and your invaluable support, we are optimistic about the end of year results.

We are aiming for BEPC and BAC success rates similar to previous years. The official results will be communicated to you as soon as they are published by the relevant authorities.

Dear godparents,

Your support changes lives. Thanks to you, these young people – sometimes from very modest backgrounds – build their self-confidence, nurture new ambitions and launch themselves into a better future.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Kindest regards,

*Moussa Samaila, Secondary School Principal*



Moussa Samaila, Secondary School Principal

### Primary School: another good school year

TANAT Primary School has a student complement of 231, including 106 girls. This number has not undergone any significant change since the start of the school year. The goal of gender parity, however, remains a challenge.

No major disruptions occurred during this school year. and the current curriculum was fully implemented in all the classes. All this was possible thanks to the devotion of the teaching staff, as well as the management and other educators such as the inspector and advisors.

Tutoring sessions were organised for students experiencing difficulty. This support is provided every Saturday. In addition to this activity, there are mini-CAPEDs (Pedagogical Animation Units) during which educational exchanges between the teaching team are held on a very specific theme, often proposed by the di-

rector, based on his observation in the classes during supervision. This allowed the teachers to perform well in their respective classes.

It should also be noted that the municipality, under the direction of the new Managing Director, whose portfolio includes the well-being of children

(sanitation in schools), has already sent his team three times to ensure that the toilets and classrooms are clean.

*Agaouhouande Lazare, Acting Primary School Principal*



Agaouhouande Lazare, Acting 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.



## Beautiful letters from the godchildren to their godparents

Sponsored students write to their sponsor twice a year. Often these beautiful and touching letters express all their gratitude and show the impact of sponsorship for these underprivileged children. Below are excerpts from 3 letters:

*"I am writing these words to you simply to thank you. Since I was little, you have held a special place in my life. Thank you for always being there to encourage and guide me. I am so lucky to have you as my sponsor. Thank you for all the wonderful memories we are creating together. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart. I'm so proud of you."*

*"I am writing this letter to you with immense gratitude to express my gratitude for your constant and valuable support in my studies. Thanks to your efforts and investment, I was*

*able to climb the ladder in my knowledge and improve my level in the class. I am proud to tell you that my results have improved and that I am now among the best students in my class."*

*"I live in Abalak, it's a peaceful village where the population lives mainly from livestock farming and a little from agriculture. Access to education is sometimes difficult, but thanks to your help, I am lucky enough to go to TAN-AT. With this letter, I would like to sincerely thank you for the support you give me in my studies. Thanks to you, I have the courage to continue my studies with hope and motivation. I am motivated to work harder to progress and reach the best level." »*

## Climate and weather conditions

The city of Abalak is currently experiencing a severe heat wave, which sometimes makes working conditions difficult for students and teachers. We are taking the necessary steps to adapt schedules and ensure everyone's wellbeing.

Ghissa Hamed Alyakib, Secondary School  
Deputy Head

## New solar installation at the secondary school

The secondary school solar installation, which was more than 10 years old, had to be completely renovated: new solar panels, a new inverter and new batteries. Everything is now working properly: the computer room, the administration building and the classrooms can be supplied without problem.

## Health

Abalak has been affected by a measles outbreak and several cases of chickenpox have been reported among students.



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## Tea, the delicacy of the Tuaregs

Tea is the only delicacy of the Tuaregs which they drink very hot and sweet.

Introduced by Arab merchants as early as the 18th century, tea was initially a luxury reserved for chiefs, later becoming popular in all Tuareg camps.

The most popular tea is a high-quality green tea from China called "arageyga" and of course the most expensive with its whole leaves.

The preparation of tea follows a real ritual and its tasting is one of the best moments of the day. The first gesture of hospitality is always to offer tea to visitors.

The necessary utensils are: a small enamelled iron teapot, the wire ember holder which is light to carry, small fluted glasses, the sugar hammer often replaced by a crushing device to break the conical sugar loaf and finally the "achai" tea.

During the tea ceremony, the equivalent of a small tea glass filled to the brim is first poured into the teapot and the leaves are scalded. This water is then thrown away and the tea is infused, shards of sugar loaf are added and the tea is transferred between the teapot and a glass to melt the sugar.

The first tea is very bitter and hot. It is poured very high above the glasses to aerate it and make it froth. 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 and then a third time. The tea is becoming clearer and clearer because the same leaves are used until the end. It is said that:

The first tea is as bitter as death.

The second tea is as sweet as life.

The third tea is as sweet as love.



*"This beverage haunts the imagination of nomads. Neighbours come to ask for it for the sole purpose of being delivered from a horrible headache that only the arageyga can cure. Everyone among the Tuaregs knows that the lack of tea causes a specific disease, the aneghu, which results in various pain, in addition to discoloration of the skin."*

Edmond Bernus: Chronicle of the Azawagh

## 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 Mactar, 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.