



Opening of The 4th Level Class For a Beautiful 4th New School Year



TIEMOGO BIO Harouna ,collège TANAT
director

New School Year in October 2012

This fourth new school year went off quite well with the new 4th level class and the wall of the college completed.

TANAT school now welcomes 275 pupils among which 80 in college (6th, 5th and 4th level classes) and 195 in primary school with 43% girls in primary level, which brings us close to our goal of 50%, but only 24% in college for the time being.



Mouhamadoune Abdoussamed, director of
TANAT primary school.

It has not been possible to accept all the children wishing to join TANAT school.

This year medical examination was fulfilled by Brigitte, doctor, assisted by Sylvie and Mohamed for vision and audition tests.

Many pupils suffering from malaria were missing during first days of the new school.

The new school year of TIEMOGO BIO, director of college

“The sky is light blue spotted in places with little clouds. October is coming, bringing fresh and strong wind .Young figures appear in the distance, all of them beautiful, fresh and radiant. They move forward, chatting and laughing towards TANAT college. It is October 1st 2012 and this is the day of the new school year at TANAT school. Two main innovations for this year:

- first the opening of the 4th level class

- the coming of a new director : TIEMOGO BIO Harouna

I am 32 years old. I am married and father of a 1 year 9 months old daughter. I am originating from Niamey. I am one of those who think that the best knowledge is the one that leads men towards men. I liked and supported this tremendous TANAT enterprise as soon as I heard about it. This year we are going to start up new plans in the college:

- a football team

(TANAT FC)

- a vegetable garden

- a theatrical troupe (LA COMPAGNIE TANAT)

And we know that we can depend upon the heart to work of each of them for the achievement of these plans.

To all those who near or far contribute to the sustainability of this just cause, I deeply thank them and do know that, quite Up there, an Eye is watching and is proud of you.....”

TIEMOGO BIO Harouna ,director of collège TANAT



The collège TANAT with his new wall

Mouhamadoune’s Goals As director of the Primary School

“ Private school TANAT opens its doors with the joy and pride of all...children look like un-ripe fruit. They are too frail. We must help them to become strong minded by teaching, educating and providing them solid foundation allowing a radiant future...

Emphasis will be placed on some subjects as drawing and PPA (Practical and Productive Activities) which develop above all child’s expertise. The purpose intended through these subjects is to teach pupils elements enabling them to earn a living even though they did not get the opportunity to achieve long studies.

With this aim the school is already gardening a kitchen garden every year and has the use of a computer room fitting international standards.

To secure a good running of the school, pupils’ parents will be more involved through the following structures: “SMC” (School management Committees), “ APP” (Association of Parents’ Pupils) and “ AEM” (Association of Educating Mothers). AEM helps to register more girls for school and pursuing their studies.”

Mouhamadoune Abdoussamed, director of TANAT primary school

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.



A full backwater after the rains

Peaceful Situation in Abalak

Present events in northern Mali do not concern up to now Abalak and its neighbourhood.

The government of Niger, whose prime minister is a tuareg, has managed to maintain a strong national cohesion among the various ethnic groups.

Controls are strengthened as you can see it upon arrival in the airport and there is an unobtrusive but strong military presence in northern Niger.

The various celebrations which traditionally take place at the end of summer, after the "Cure salée", could occur and speeches delivered on that occasion have emphasized strongly peace culture.



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Rain and Paludism in Abalak

"We must say that nature this year was mild to Abalak, a very high pluviometry, unprecedented but in 1995, beat down on the whole department. From the beginning of August till the end of September, it was not happening two days without rain. Most of houses are built with "banco" (clay brick) and it is not unusual to see a collapsed or almost fallen down wall. Most of inhabitants in this part of Niger are cattle breeders, then the drained and stiffened ribs by the long craving for water and by endless transhumances disappear on the animals to give way to a supple, thick and lively wool. Grass is high, green and available.

We must also underline that this heavy pluviometry has not been without outcome on the sanitary level.

An Haoussa adage quotes : "When crops are good not many people will consume them.

Famous malaria ("palu") hit severely Abalak. The most delicate, the children and the elderly, paid a heavy toll. The health center could no longer meet the demand of almost 50 sick persons per week, then it grew up to over 400 ; prescribed drugs were no longer available in pharmacies. Funeral were common. Everybody has lost a close relative, either a brother or a sister, an uncle or a cousin. Since September 25th rain has stopped and the death rate has decreased sharply. You meet less and less people suffering from malaria...."

TIEMOGO BIO Harouna ,director of collège TANAT

Tea, Touareg's Delicacy

Tea is the sole delicacy of Tuaregs, that they drink very hot and sweet.

Introduced by arab tradesmen as early as the 18th century, tea was initially a luxury reserved for chiefs then it became common in all tuareg camps.

The most appreciated tea is a high quality chinese green tea called "arageyga" and of course the most expensive with entire leaves.

Preparation of tea complies with a real rite and savouring it is one of the best moments of the day. The first gesture of hospitality consists in offering a tea to visitors.

Needed utensils are: the small enamelled iron teapot, the iron wire embers holder light to carry, the small fluted glasses, the sugar hammer often replaced by an engine piston to break the conical sugar loaf and finally "achai" tea.

During the tea ceremony, first you pour the amount of a small glass of tea filled to the brim into the teapot and the leaves are scalded. Then you throw out this water and the tea is set to infuse, fragments of sugar loaf are added. Afterwards the tea is moved between the teapot and a glass to get the sugar melted.

The first tea is quite bitter and piping hot. It is poured from very high into glasses to aerate and lather it.

This slow ritual will be repeated several times before drinking it. Then some more water is added to have it infused a second time to serve a second tea and after a third time. Tea is clearer and clearer since the same leaves are used till the end.

It is said that:

First tea is bitter like death

Second tea is sweet as life

Third tea is sweet like love

« This beverage haunts nomads' fancy. Neighbours come to ask for some tea with the sole aim in being relieved of an horrible headache which nothing else than "arageyga" can cure. Each one among Tuaregs knows that the lack of tea creates a specific disease " aneghu" which involves besides varied pains skin bleaching. "

Edmond Bernus Chronique de l'Azawagh



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 Mactar, 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.