



Newsletter n°21 - February 2016

TANAT School being on the way up

Improvement of human and material resources for secondary level



Physical training lesson in the 5th class with Mrs Zeinabou Mouhamadoune who has allowed a great increase in the participation of girls.



Hassane Moumouni Headmaster of the second level school and Mrs Zeinabou Mouhamadoune teacher of physical training.

A reformed educative project for TANAT school

Since January 15th 2016, in all first and second level classes, the values that the whole educative team wants to live within Tanat school have been pinned up : kindness, honesty, solidarity, tolerance, respect, freedom and work.

These values have been drawn up by the management and the teachers and then deeply explained by the head teachers in all classes. They are the fundamentals of the common life and the leading thread of the new school rules.

To be seen in the next future on the website of TANAT Association : www.associationtanat.fr

Hassane Moumouni, Headmaster of second level-high school, gives us news from the 2015/2016 school start:

« It is always a great pleasure for me to speak to you and let you know what is going on in the Tanat second level-High school of Abalak. Several events have marked the school life since this new start.

We have welcome 2 women in our teaching team, one of them Zeinabou Mouhamadoune, teaches physical training.

Electrification of the institution thanks to solar power has also changed the school. Indeed, this has contributed to setting up a multimedia room used for screening movies and laboratory experiments for practical works.

And that is not all, this year we have a little library with a reading room where pupils and even teachers may read books there or take them at home.

An office in the administrative block is used as a computer room but we hope being able soon to construct a new building in order to have a dedicated and roomy enough place to install 20 PC (to 5 only at present) and also a bigger library ».

Hassane Moumouni, Headmaster for secondary level

Testimony from a sponsor in Abalak

« We have been sponsors of the TANAT school since 5 years.

Every year we meet Billou in June when he comes to France. He makes an accurate feedback of the school situation and of the development of the projects in progress from one year to another.

This year I had the opportunity to go there and I was able to notice the wonderful work achieved by Billou.

I visited the two sites of the school, the primary and the second level –high school. Pupils enjoy a teaching of quality thanks to the pedagogic teams. It is an headache for Billou to recruit good teachers in each subject. They are requested to be competent and also to be in the proper spirit to put a lot into TANAT pedagogic plan.

I have been able to notice to what extent this school is important for children as life conditions are so hard in Abalak. TANAT is really a reference and an example in Niger compared to public education where for example there are approximately 120 pupils per

class in the five 6th classes of the public second level school this year.

It is a true happiness to have been among these children who are so happy to go to a good school every day. The future of these children will come through TANAT school.

Our financial support from FRANCE is essential and I can ensure you that each paid euro is usefully devoted to the school.

A great thank to teachers and children for their welcome and kindness.

Thanks TANAT. »



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 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.



Pupils of TANAT school welcoming the President of Niger

News

President's visit

On Thursday 21st, January, His Excellence Issoufou Mahamadou, President of the Republic of Niger came to visit Abalak. Billou in his quality of mayor was in charge of the heavy duty of the organization of his coming.

The population of Abalak gathered along the "tar" (i.e. the road that crosses Abalak which is the only one tarred) in order to cheer the president.

Of course the pupils of TANAT school were attending with their banner.

Weather forecast

January is a cold month (13° min., 28° max.) and very windy in Abalak.

Air is very dry and dust filters into everywhere. Nearly everybody is affected by flues and bronchitis.



Tombola and Solidarity

Many of you were approached in late November for a tombola of which goal was to make progress toward our target to put a book in every discipline at each second level pupil's disposal. Till now due to lack of means several of them share together school textbooks.

Thanks to your generous efforts, it has been possible to gather 2300 €, after deduction of the bottles cost. This sum will allow the pupils of the 3rd and of the upper class to get for each of them a school textbook per discipline as soon as this year.

Pupils warmly thank the new sponsors who have joined us on this occasion and all those who have joined their forces in this operation.

Especially certain persons despite serious health problems managed to rally strongly

their circle and were very efficient to sell lottery tickets. They have shown that TANAT association, beyond its humanitarian role, could also play a social role and allow them to act for other people.

« Looking at me, I am upset, looking at the others, I am consoled »



English lesson : One book for two currently .

Achak: tuareg behavior code

Tuareg society has no written code. It owns a moral behavior code so-called "Achak", it is the whole of social rules that everyone must observe for the continuity of the society in the hostile environment which is the framework of the Tuareg life : solidarity, protection of woman and child irrespective of their racial or ethnic belonging, protection and respect of the elderly.

Achak imposes on everyone a decent behavior in view of facing surrounding difficulties : thirst, tiredness, despair, sickness or grief.

In order to embody this spirit, Achak has been pledged to a music instrument that has become therefore famous, the "inzad" or the single chord Tuareg violin. The instrument gets its name in Tamachek language from its main component, the horse hair. It is very simply built up : a semi-calabash upon which a goat hide is braced, two pieces of wood making the hand and the bow, two horse hairs, and a bridge.

The sound full of meaning for the Tuareg personifies the notion of Achak, courage, honesty and responsible behavior. "In the name of the violin" is a common term synonymous of "In the name of honour". Upright and courageous men who respect Achak, Tuareg say that they deserve inzad, that they are "in compliance with inzad".

Any violation of the standing rules such as : eating in the street, refusing water to women

or children, not respecting the elderly, complaining openly from aches, not helping a person in danger, even though an enemy, stealing with no risk, lying, is synonymous of insensibility to the inzad.



Inzad or tuareg violin

The violin should come to the mind of a man each time he must act, either in a fair or unfair way, each time he is in danger or facing any difficulty. This becomes an habit, to such an extent that each time a man takes a decision reluctantly, he refers to the Inzad.

According to <http://temet.over-blog.net>

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TANAT School

Faced with the condition of the educative system in the Abalak department of Niger, inhabitants gathered in 2008, within the ONODEP association chaired by the mayor Billou Mohamed Moctar, to open and manage a school from nursery to high school, with the support of the French TANAT association.

The TANAT education plan is :

- To welcome 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.