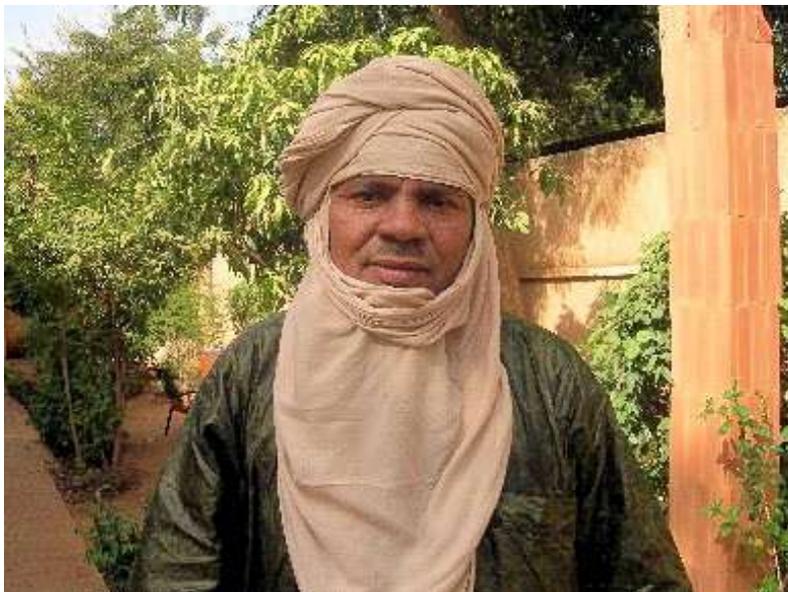


(photo: Poul Kruse)

A baobab has fallen

- translated from Danish by Kristian Katholm Olsen – original <http://gtu.dk/PK134-3.pdf>



(photo: Isabelle Grignon)

Ghabdouane Mohamed died the 4th of January, 64 years old. He was a secretary in the Cooperative of Amatal, Agadez Region, Niger, and a coordinator in Project Regional Development in Amatal. When he died he was a mayor in the municipality of Ingall and had earlier been a member of the National Assembly. People from Agadez and Amatal met up with his family in Amatal and a lot of people said to his son, Ahmed Ghabdouane: “It is a baobab tree that has fallen”.

Ghabdouane was a bundle of energy and a capable organisator who included the whole of the population of the Amataltal-zone in the Cooperative, whether they were Tuaregs as the majority, or they were Fulani, Igdalen or Hausa.

GtU learned to know Ghabdouane through our honorary member, Karl-G. Prasse. For a number of years Karl had enjoyed Ghabdouane's inspiration in relation to Karl's linguistic research. And one day the correspondence addressed the development in Ghabdouane's home region.

Pursuant to this inquiry GtU took on themselves to administer the funds from DANIDA, The Foreign Ministry, to Project Regional Development in Amataltal. The DANIDA part of the cooperation lasted from 1999 to 2010 but we also had a cooperation going on before this course with financing from the National Lotteries and different foundations as well as private contributions.

After the cessation of the big stake we have continued sending packs of glasses, a little education material as well as used clothes, which saves lives, as the temperature lies around the freezing point in the night from November to February, and a lot of tents does not protect adequately.



First pump ever on a well in the Amataltal Zone. Daouda swings the pump, and the water under Housseini's hand is just as clean as the water from taps in Denmark
(photo: Jørgen Olsen)

In the DANIDA years renovation of wells, a grain mill, grain banks, horticulture and not at least versatile teaching was included, directed towards children and adults. In the village of Amataltal lies the bilingual Karl-G. Prasse School where children learn French and Tuareg in the same alphabet, because Professor Prasse has developed a Latin lettering of the Tuareg language.

05/07/2018

In 2001 we had a visit in Denmark by Ghabdouane, assisted by the village leader in Amatalal, Housseïni Akanawa. They got a little impression of our country and met a broad segment of the members of GtU and cooperation organizations.

You can read a lot more about the cooperation on www.gtu.dk/Kooperativet_i_Amataltal.htm.

All honour to Ghabdouane Mohamed's name!

- Jørgen Olsen.



Ghabdouane as a teacher on the bilingual school, the Karl-G. Prasse School
(photo: The Cooperative in Amatalal)