



DAILY REPORT (6)

Formation des formateurs

The "formation des formateurs" is finished. Tired of the long days, the stress and the heat, but with certificates and bags with the inscription "formation des formateurs 2014 Nouakchott Mauritanie" as a souvenir of these four months.



And now to the market to buy nice stout paper for the certificates and indelible pencils in every colour for this official document.

The certificates have been signed, the photos taken and at the end men and women were dancing with such a team-spirit that I felt a strong emotion.

I think back at the first days, the older skilled teachers refused to sit next to the young men, the women not next to the men, the men not next to the women, the deaf persons not to the hearing etc.

We carefully made 5 small groups, one with the elder men, one with the women, one with the students, one with the young graduates. We divided the deaf participants so good as possible into every group.

Step by step we mixed the groups and with the intense collaboration during the practice lessons and the role-play games, ties of friendship started to develop, something what in the beginning I thought it was not possible.

I know (a bit) the Mauretians, the customs of the different tribes and the problems with it. I know the hierarchy : women and men, old and young people, graduates and students, poor and rich.

The media heard about our training and published it in all the newspapers, radio, internet and several tv transmissions.

We sat round the table in a chat-program : an Arab, a Peul, a deaf person, an elder and a young person...and a white person! It caused a sensation but in a positive way.





Every student reached the finish line. Of course there were several levels. But application and enthusiasm was there and is there. 80% of the students enrolled to work as a volunteer besides their work and study. The unemployed enrolled 100% as long as they did not find a job. A solid group with a broader understanding of the deaf and a new outlook upon life together. Of course it is a small step but what can a group of 30 persons change. I do not know, not yet.



But we talked frankly about religion, sex, corporal punishment, exclusion, condemnation, the racial separateness, here in Mauretania as well. We talked about respect, not only with words, but also in your attitude towards the other. For each other, for everybody, for the children. We talked about actions and contact with the authorities. At the beginning they were gloomy about it but my contact to an important person, who I took along to the group gave new hope. I hope that in future in Mauretania all the children can go to school, the deaf as well.



A solid group, a new family as they called it themselves.

Many thanks to M. Khalifa from Togo, a specialist in gesture-language, but perhaps more important, a warm nice person with his heart on the right place. He brought a big contribution to this training-course, especially to a new kind of thinking and acting.

Thankfull greetings from Mauretania.
Formatrice of Longue Colorée
And a new member of the family
Formation des Formateurs 2014.

Woodi Wiljo Oosterom Bâh



For new concerned people at Silent Work:
Silent Work has been setup by Mrs Wiljo Woodi Oosterom in 2000 and has
been registered at the Chamber of Commerce.

Silent Work works for the forgotten children in Africa and takes care in
inaccessible territories for
Clean drinking water
Healthy nutrition (agriculture>)
Health care
Education and employment

And with this it does not forget the deaf and/or handicapped child.

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