

L'AFEM in 2016 - 2017



Rambelison François d'Assise is carts'shootes as hundreds of men



← à Madagascar.

Last May, Rambelison's cart fell over and its loads fell on his back. He was hospitalized for fracture of the pelvis. His family and his neighbours were able to support him financially during a week then they requested the help of NSAM (the Amis des Ecoles et Familles à Madagascar), our partner association in Tananarive for the operation and all the medical expenses required by his state. Now he cannot walk any more normally but he is well. His family and himself thank NSAM-AFEM for the help.

During the past year, Madam Toly took care of 97 (93 *) new patients among whom 53 (48 *) underwent an operation in one of the two big hospitals of Tananarive. The increase of the number of taken care patients (* previous exercise), costs of the health and the staple commodities (rice, oil, sugar etc.) distributed to the sick during their treatment, ended in the increase of the expenses of 58.7%! Eight sick died because, in many cases, they consulted a doctor too late.

A request of help is accepted after our collaborator has made "investigations" with the concerned families and with the neighbourhood in order to make sure that the request is justified. The opinion of the medical profession is also required. In 2016-2017 seven requests were refused.

During my stay to Tananarive, last August, I met, with the committee of NSAM, the headteacher of the EPP, the teachers and our grant holders (EA)

« Merci à vous AFEM-NSAM »



← Madam Myriame took the direction of the school last April. She is has young woman full of dynamism and projects for her school. She has very good contacts with Madam Adéline (white jacket) in charge of our school sector and Madam Bakoly ← President of NSAM, on the left.



71 pupils had a grant of NSAM-AFEM during the last school year:

At the high school (1 EA): Erika splendidly succeeded in the second, her name appeared in the "honor list" and she passed to the first degree (pre baccalauréat).

In the CEG (10 grant holders = EA): the grant is maintained for six pupils. Two EA failed, two others either had success with their BEPC, or Onja who, in view of her excellent results will have a grant

and will pass into the second degree of the Lycée. NSAM is going to select, with the teachers, 4 new grant holders to maintain the number of 10 Pupils Accompanied in the CEG(JUNIOR COLLEGE),

To the EPP (50 EA): 9 had no success in their school year and 3 others are excluded for miscellaneous reasons. NSAM is thus going to proceed to the selection of new 12 EA for the next school year.

We shall have 73 grant holders in 2017-2018: 3 (Erika, Onja and Julien) at the high school, 10 in the CEG (JUNIOR COLLEGE) and 50 in the EPP. It is again a great pleasure to mention the very good studies of Berthine (our oldest grant holder, of whom we have already spoken to you) who is achieving the writing of her dissertation of her Master degree in economy and accounting.



Berthine, Onja, Erika et Julien
We wish them the best !

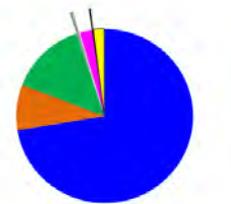
We are satisfied by the good results of our grant holders who are obliged to attend the class of support organized outside the school hours. They are regularly followed (as well as their parents) by Madam Adéline. If necessary she is also responsible for accompanying them to medical consultations.

Koba Tsinjo: offered to 650 pupils of the primary school (590 previous year). Strangely, the liter of oil costed between 5'700 and 5'500 ariary in 2015-2016 while it fell to 5'000 - 5'200 ariary during the past year. The price of the flour of koba tsinjo, one the other hand, increased from 4'560 to 5'020 ariary the kilo.

10 Swiss franks is the price of the KT served to a pupil one every other week during a school year



A pot of koba tsinjo ready to be served to the 330 morning pupils



Information exchanges by e-mails allow us to follow almost in real time the work which is being made in Anosizato Andrefana, *thanks to your faithful support*. My recent stay among our friends enabled me, one more time, to estimate the commitment of the members of NSAM committee (volunteers) and of our two collaborators who salaried are, certainly, but who take their work really in heart. They live in this very poor district. As I was walking in Anosizato Andrefana in their company, many people used come to greet them and to give news of their families. They know the personal situations of every Accompanied Pupil and every sick person of this year and an of last years.



I met again Doctor Miadana and his wife who offer free the examinations of the beginning and of the end of the school year. " Because the Swiss people help for our children, we too, want to make an effort " did they tell me few years ago. They still keep their promise.



My (subjective?) impressions after my journey

Jean Schwarzenbach entrusted me the presidency of the AFEM about ten years ago. Since then, I went several times to Madagascar for our association. I always reported you it in circulars or annual reports. I decided, this year, to ravel in this vast country for my pleasure and to share with you my feelings.

All the people I met warned me against the general insecurity which threatens the Malagasy as well as the foreigners, in Tananarive and all over the country! I certainly paid attention, but I used almost exclusively public buses (but always in the daytime). But I must say that I

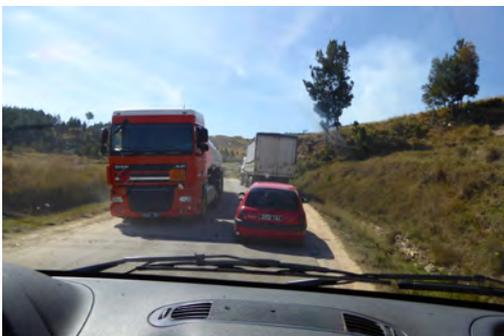
have never felt threatened during my stay. Then my friends declared. « People take you for a catholic priest because of your white beard! It is true that sometimes I was greeted « Salama mon Père » while boarding a bus ! But...

Up to you to judge →

To speak about the insecurity forces me to underline the discouragement of the majority of my interlocutors. They are tired of the inefficiency of the political authorities and the generalized corruption, added to the administrative mess and to the lack of maintenance of the streets and state highways which disturbs the life of all the nation. The cases of patients who died in the hospital, because of lack of money, such doctor refusing to treat them before being paid, another state employee not delivering an important paper before « getting small gift! »



I " enjoyed " the enormous traffic jams during my movings in city of Tananarive, where light signals are replaced by policemen whose hands remain riveted on strident whistles. Everybody: pedestrians, handcarts, carts with oxen, cyclists, coaches and trucks sneak with great difficulty.



On the state highways, no wider than cantonal Swiss road, the chauffeurs of → haevy lorries (40 tonnes and more) cross with great care on a market day in a village,!

←



And I do not mention the potholes nor the vestiges of the railroad which used, long ago, to connect Tananarive with Antsirabe.

All this is distressing, because Madagascar has a very important economic potential, but where is the will, outside the official speeches, to exploit and develop it?

I want to end these pages with some pictures to make you discover the beauty of the Red Island which is reflected in the kindness of the Malagasy people.



Winter is the season of manufacturing bricks on the High Lands. There are smoking ovens in all the countryside.



A village and its rice fields near Tananarive. The first blossoming trees announce the quite close spring →



Lemur and whale at Sainte Marie, a small Island on the East coast of Madagascar.



I decided to write this long (a too long one), report because beyond our modest action in the district of Anosizato Andrefana, I wanted to share with you the questions, even the concerns, which worry many people who know and love the Red Island.

Th very last news are very worrying. An epidemic of pneumonic and bubonic plague haunts the big cities of the island ! At first, the Ministry of Health declared that the situation was mastered but announced, two days later, that it was necessary to take drastic measures: no more soccer matches, schools and universities are closed, public meetingd are forbidden etc. Collection of the heaps of garbage, which have multiplied all over the country and which are the favorite dens of rats and fleas.

There has already been nearly 124 deaths and more than 1100 déclaré sick persons (26/10/2017). Tthe Swiss embassy invited by e-mails the Swiss people living or travelling in Madagascar to be very careful.

Up to now, there is no announced case in Anosizato Andrefana.

Receive, dear friends and donnors, the warm greetingd and thanks of those whom you allow us to help !

For the committee of AFEM

President

+41 79 794 64 72 [christian.grosclaude@gmail-com](mailto:christian.grosclaude@gmail.com)

CCP **Ecole** : 17-295871-4 IBAN : CH43 0900 0000 1729 5871 4

CCP **Famille** : 10-734077-3 IBAN : CH14 0900 0000 1073 4077 3