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## CELEBRATING THE WORLD INTERFAITH HARMONY WEEK

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### United by charity : spreading Love and Hope

The world interfaith harmony week in Niamey-Niger started on the 4<sup>th</sup> February 2017 and ended on the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

My goal was to unite christians and muslims (the two principles religions in Niger) and show the whole world that we can live, work and share many things together apart all our differences. The values : love of God, love of Good and love of the neighbor are common to both of us and we wanted to make them revive trough charity.

So, I organized and held three activities :

#### **❖ Conference :**

Theme : Charity in Islam and Christianity

Leaders : Imam Cheikh Ben Salah and Pastor Cherif Chako

Honor Guest : Representative of the Minister in charge of religious affairs

Date : 4<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Time : 10:00 am to 12:00 am

Muslims and Christians were gathered to hear about charity in their both religions.

The goal was to make them realize that charity is the same in Islam and christianism and that it's one of the common point between us ; so that we can work on it together and freely.

This first event had such a big success, more than what I expected and was reported on 4<sup>th</sup> National Televisions : Bonferey Tv, Labari Tv, Saraounia Tv and Dounia Tv.

And how much honored were we to have Dr. Mahamadou Moustapha Ousmane who was representing the Minister in charge of religious affairs.

#### **❖ Visit and Donations in orphanages :**

Ophanage "Douyoufou-Rahman" and Orphanage "Myriam de Nazareth"

Date : 4<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Time : 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm

This event was particularly full of emotions. I was greatly happy of the motivation and donations of people to help those orphans who were 7 to 20 years old.

Trough my posts on facebook, at university and letters to many persons, I received so many calls and so many donations : some people gave food, clothes, shoes and others contribute by giving money that we used to buy rations, house hold products and cosmetics for the orphans.

With all the generous donations that we collected,

- Orphanage “Douyoufou Rahman” received :
  - 1) One sugar sack of 50 kg
  - 2) Three rice sacks of 25 kg
  - 3) Two cardboards of 24 soaps
  - 4) One milk cardboard of 24 packages of 500g each
  - 5) One couscous cardboard of 12 packages of 500g each
  - 6) Two macaroni cardboards of 12 packages of 500g each
  - 7) One tomato paste cardboard of 24 packages of 250g each
  - 8) 25 litters of vegetal oil
  - 9) One Macedonia cardboard of 12 packages of 500g
  - 10) One big mayonnaise bottle
  - 11) One big moutard bottle
  - 12) One big bottle of butter
  - 13) 2 packages of maggi seasoning
  - 14) Two big bottles of ointment
  - 15) 1l of perfume
  - 16) 10 meters of green fabric
  - 17) 10 meters of khaki fabric
  - 18) 50 notebooks of 200 pages
  - 19) Books “Read and write” (2 for each class from first to fourth class of primary school)
  - 20) 25 geometrical assembles
  - 21) One cardboard of 50 blue pens
  - 22) 60 pencils
  - 23) 25 school bags
  - 24) One “OMO” cardboard of 6 kg
  - 25) Some clothes
  - 26) Two soaps and two small packages of “OMO”
- Orphanage “ Myriam de Nazareth” received :
  - 1) One tomato paste cardboard of 24 packages of 250g each
  - 2) Two rice sacks of 25 kg
  - 3) One sugar sack of 50 kg
  - 4) One milk cardboard of 24 packages of 500g each
  - 5) One macaroni cardboard of 24 packages of 500g each
  - 6) One couscous cardboard of 12 packages of 500g each
  - 7) 25 l of vegetal oil
  - 8) One Macedonia cardboard of 12 packages of 500g
  - 9) One big mayonnaise bottle
  - 10) One big moutard bottle

- 11) One big bottle of butter
- 12) 2 packages of maggi seasoning
- 13) Two big bottles of ointment
- 14) 1l of perfume
- 15) 10 meters of white fabric
- 16) 10 meters of blue fabric
- 17) 50 notebooks of 200 pages
- 18) Two cardboards of 24 soaps
- 19) One "OMO" cardboard of 6 kg
- 20) 36 geometrical assembles
- 21) 84 pencils
- 22) 50 blue pens
- 23) Books "Read and write" (2 for each class from first to fourth class of primary school)
- 24) One cardboard of 38 diapers
- 25) First age baby's milk : 3 bottles
- 26) Clothes, shoes, bags

#### ❖ Blood Donation :

Date : 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017

On this date, we wanted to gather muslims and Christians around "most valuable and cheapest gift in this world" which is giving blood. This goal was completely achieved because more than 100 hundred people was there to make this beautiful act of charity 75 blood poaches of 200 to 450 ml were filled

In short, The World interfaith Harmony week was celebrated for the very first time in Niamey-Niger ; and its success was more than expected.

It helped us in reinforcing our harmony relations with our Christian brothers. And together during two days we were able to achieve incredible things and put smiles on many faces.

We pray that God keep on bestowing his blessings on the whole world !  
May peace prevail in our world !

And God willing, from this exact time, the World Interfaith Harmony week will be celebrated each year in Niger.

**Abdou Gado Mariama, the Organizer**

