

**Interview Transcript: Tamamounte Lilla (with her aunt)**  
**Grade 10 Interviewer: Niger Program Director Brian Nowak**

**Tell us about yourself and your parents.** My name is Tamoumounte Lilla and I'm from the village of Gofat, which is 25 km from Agadez. As for my mother, I have only memories because she died when I was younger. *[So you grew up with whom?]* With my grandmother. *[What does your father do?]* He is a herder. *[With what kind of animals? Horses, goats?]* Camels. *[So he has a lot of camels?]* Yes. *[About how many?]* He has 5 female camels and 7 males, with their young. He milks the camels to sell the milk. He leaves the village sometimes to come to Agadez to sell a camel to buy something for the family to eat.

**What illness caused you to suffer most in your life?** Tuberculosis and malaria. *[You have had tuberculosis at one time?]* Yes. *[And malaria?]* Yes. *[And how did you get treated for tuberculosis?]* I came to the hospital here in Agadez. I spent more than a year. They gave me medicine - injections. They gave me more than 8 injections. *[And IV's?]* Yes and IV's. *[About how many of those?]* Of IV's, I don't know, but more than 100 IV (drips). I really suffered a lot. I did not even eat. *[And who brought you to the hospital?]* It was my aunt. *[How did your aunt accompany you? How did you get to Agadez?]* She brought me, with my father also. *[Was it in a car? Was it in a market vehicle or does your father know someone who has a car?]* No, a market vehicle. *[And how old were you when you had tuberculosis?]* 9 years. *[You were very small.]* Yes. *[And the malaria that you had, how old were you?]* I was not even 15. It made me suffer because I did not get any medicine. I had spent 3 days in the bush (village) sick without any doctor. *[Without the (local) health agent?]* Yes. *[And after the 3 days what did you do?]* They brought me to a doctor in Agadez. *[And what did they do for you?]* We went to the hospital. They gave me medicine and told us to come back in two days. We left and then we came back. They gave me medicine again. Then my medicine finished. I was sick. I came back. *[You returned again?]* Yes. *[So it was not finished?]* No. *[And the second time? What did they do?]* I came and they gave me a little medicine and said it was finished.

**And now you are studying here in Agadez. Are there other girls in your family that are studying in middle school?** No. *[Are you the first child in your family to study in middle school?]* No. *[Who else has studied in middle school?]* I have two older brothers. *[But among the girls in your family, you are the only one to continuing studying after elementary school?]* Yes. *[And after you finish your studies, what would you like to do? What work would you like to do after your studies?]* A doctor. *[Why have you chosen a doctor?]* To care for the sick and to help my village, because sometimes I see people from my village getting sick and they don't find medicine because sometimes our doctor is not there. It is for that (reason). *[So you want to be a doctor but you want to work in your village?]* Yes. I would like to work in my village. *[That is very good idea. Good luck!]*

During our breaks and vacations I come to visit my aunt. I sit with her while she works and she shows me how to embroider. *[Aunt asks her to list the designs she has learned.]* Leaves, flowers, bananas, tomatoes.... and mangoes.