



The Well at Tin Gnere

The Y-shaped stem holds a pulley, rope and bucket, which lower a man down to dig out the well, plastering the walls with sand-mud as he goes. Against incredible odds they have already dug this well to eighty meters!

Friends of Mali - Ireland

An Appeal by *The Peoples of the World Foundation*



Friends of Mali – Ireland (FOMI) was established in September, 2008 by Dr. Elizabeth Healy. FOMI is a voluntary, not-for-profit organization that promotes sustainable, community-based development projects in one of the world's poorest countries – Mali, West Africa. Among those projects is the conversion of a temporary, single-room school into a permanent, three-room school (with toilets and a teachers' room) for Tuareg students in the remote, Saharan village of Tin Gnere. This project is partly funded under our Institutional Education Grant program.

Tin Gnere is a newly-established village of recently-settled Tuareg nomads, whose decision to forgo their ancient, nomadic lifestyle was based on their desire to ensure that their children receive formal education. The village is extremely remote, lying about six hours into the Sahara Desert from the legendary town of Timbuktu. There is no electricity and no mobile phone coverage. It is a dawn-until-dusk task just to draw the water needed for everyday use.

In the past 3 years, the proactive people of the village have built around

forty new mud-houses, received approval for employment of a teacher, constructed a small, straw hut for use as a make-shift school and they are gradually digging a new well. It has so far reached a depth of eighty meters but needs to be dug to 115 meters to ensure a constant supply of water.

How can you help FOMI?

- **Attend a fundraising event.** If you live in or plan to visit Ireland FOMI hosts regular fundraising events there. These are usually cultural entertainment events. Details of their events are posted on their web site at

<http://www.friendsofmali-ireland.org>

- **Donate directly.** You can donate directly to Friends of Mali – Ireland using the following bank details. (Please include your name in the narrative.)

Name of Account: "Elizabeth Healy for Friends of Mali – Ireland"

Account Number: 17231470

National Sort Code (NSC): 903998

IBAN (SWIFT) Number: IE79 BOFI 9039 9817 2314 70

BIC Number: BOFIIIE2D

Bank Address: Westport, County Mayo, Ireland

- **Donate via us.** FOMI is one of our beneficiaries. Funds awarded to FOMI will help to complete the conversion of this school, buy school supplies and pay teachers' salaries.

You can make a donation to our Foundation, earmarked for FOMI, at any time. Since we are a 501(c)(3) registered public charity, donations by US tax payers are normally tax-deductible. Donations made from our web site are rewarded with limited-edition, fine-art prints of photos taken during our field assignments or our documentaries produced from our field assignments. You can also donate online by credit card at the one-click link to JustGive.org provided on our web site. Or you can send a check or money order, made payable to "The Peoples of the World Foundation" to:

The Peoples of the World Foundation

P.O. Box 563327

Charlotte, NC 28256-3327

USA

If you have any questions we can be contacted at the above address or via our online contact form at

<http://www.peoplesoftheworld.org/contact.jsp>

With warm regards,

The Board of Directors,

The Peoples of the World Foundation



Tin Gnere School

There are 150 children in Tin Gnere, ranging from 4 to 18 years old, who are eligible to attend the school. Since it can currently accommodate only 50 children – seated on the floor – most of the children in the village do not receive any education. The school has no desks, chairs or books. There aren't even any pens. In fact the only resources are a blackboard and a torn, faded poster of people visiting Niagara Falls.