

Safia in Burkina

Day 1, Monday afternoon October 25

In the early afternoon, Safia had lunch with Christiane Toé, responsible for all our affairs in Burkina Faso. With her was Mariam Ilboudo (left), the representative of our US affiliate, Chance for Change. Christine joined in.



Safia soon had them all in a good mood.



Back to the hotel, where the meetings continued, starting with Adissa. Adissa is studying something practical--she is a first-year student in Transport and Logistics.



Adissa had been supported at the secondary level by our sister association, *Solidarité Goëlo-Burkina*. She failed her baccalaureate exam two years running and *Solidarité* dropped their support, but we've had good experience helping girls pull themselves out of this kind of hole and we paid for a third try. She made it, even while having a baby.

Flashback: Christine visited Adissa at the home of the father of her baby, Wilfride.



Wilfried had asked forgiveness of her family for getting her pregnant and wants to marry her. He asked their permission. We're waiting to see how that works out. Their daughter Amalse is almost one.



Flash-forward: Meanwhile, Adissa seems motivated and we expect great things of her.



The last appointment of the day was with Chérifa, a third-year student in agriculture.



Flashback: Chérifa was proposed to us by Mme. Toé. When her mother died in 2017, Chérifa moved in with her grandmother. She did the first two years of study for a *Licence* diploma in agriculture when her grandmother died suddenly. She had no way of finishing her studies. We said we would help.

Christine visited her at her uncle's home where she is now staying.



She introduced Christine to her aunt and her younger sister. (She is one of four children.)



She said she wanted to succeed.



Flash-forward: Safia thinks she can do it. She either wants to work for the Ministry of Agriculture or go into farming on her own.



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