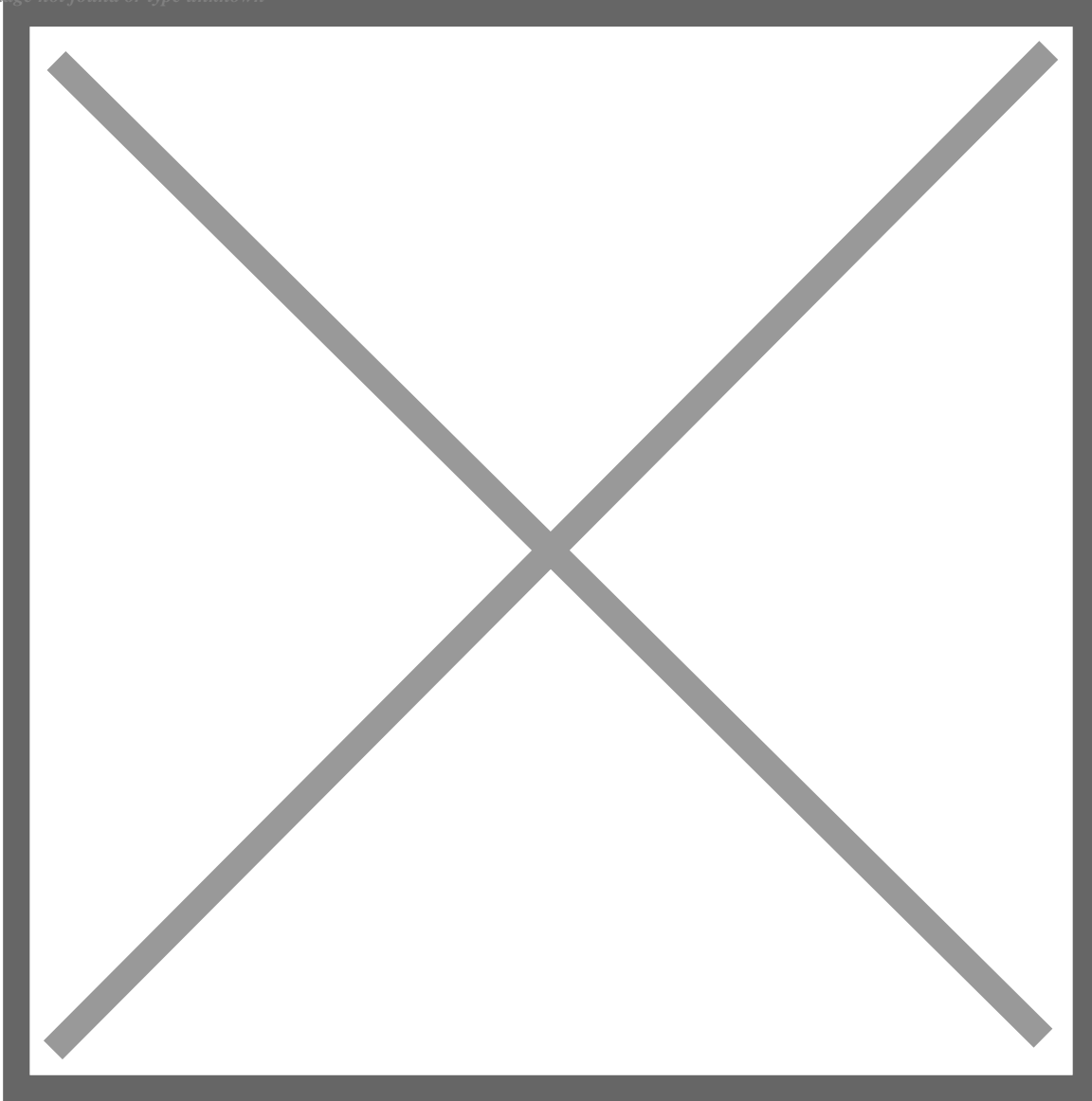


Cubans in the Sahara

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Cubans in Sahara. Image: PL

Havana, Jan 4 (RHC) Cuba means hope for life in the Sahara, said the coordinator of the brigade of Cuban educators in the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), Antonio Tamayo.

With a degree in Physics and Electronics, this teacher from the eastern province of Guantanamo highlighted the work done by the 11 members of this group, who prepare about 400 Saharawi students from sixth to

12th grade.

We prepare them in Spanish, we measure their educational objectives and we carry out a process of selection of those who master the language so they continue their studies in the Caribbean nation, he explained to Prensa Latina.

The island offers a scholarship plan every year, so that the work of these professionals, together with four Saharawi educators, is essential as a prelude to that moment, he added.

People from almost all the provinces of the country are part of the Cuban brigade. Each of the members specialized in different subjects, and spend up to three years in Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic lands.

The Simón Bolívar school is the realm where Cuban educators offer their solidarity and cooperation; it is a joint project between Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic, Venezuela, and the island. It has 10 classrooms, three laboratories, and four dormitories.

The coordinator added that when they speak of the Caribbean nation, they do it with great affection, and especially when they mention the historic leader of the Cuban Revolution, Fidel Castro, for whom they say they feel great admiration and respect.

For this teacher, who worked as municipal director of Education in Niceto Pérez, in Guantánamo, the lived in the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic in the four years he has been there is unforgettable experience

The culture of the region, different from that of Cuba and centered on the fulfillment of religious precepts, did not imply a drastic change for them, as they always assumed a respectful position towards it, Tamayo told Prensa Latina, however, adapting to the geography and climate was complex.

"No matter how difficult the situation is in our country, Cuba is Cuba, and the dignified Cuban always remembers and recognizes his country, there is nothing like being at home, with your people, with your loved ones," he emphasized.

However, the educator affirms that when he returns, he will bring with him admiration for the Saharawis and their lessons of unity, bravery, and courage.

Also, the gratitude of many, and the memory of that special gleam in the eyes of relatives who wish to see their children studying on the island.

"Every Cuban, every teacher, is a hope of life for them, for their future," he remarked and meant that education is the greatest bulwark a human being has.

"The work of Fidel Castro and the Revolution, in terms of education, must be defended, education is the light of hope," he said. (Source: PL)



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