



**AEP Teaching Guide
for
Islamic Networks Group (ING) Curricula**



Overview

This curriculum, designed by the Islamic Networks Group (ING) is composed of five thematic lesson plans, entitled **Emir Abd el-Kader: A Muslim Hero for our Time**. It is based upon the book by John W. Kiser, Commander of the Faithful, *The Life and Times of Emir Abd el-Kader, A Story of True Jihad*.

Lesson plans each include:

- An introduction*
- Subject matter content
- Questions for post-presentations, comprehension, vocabulary, discussion, and assessments
- Activities
- Films and other resources.

* Extended introduction to ING Interactive Curriculum:

https://www.abdelkaderproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/ING_EmirAbdelKader_Introduction.pdf

Lesson One: Abd el-Kader's Formative Years provides historical and cultural context, including basic concepts and foundations of Islam, the religion that Abd el-Kader professed, influencing on his role as a military, religious, and national leader.

Lesson Two: "Commander of the Faithful" begins with the impending threat of a French colonial invasion in 1830 after their conquest of Algiers. Abd el-Kader spends the next fifteen years of his life fighting against the French, a war which he eventually gives up hope of winning. Along the way, his conduct and the understanding he shows even towards his enemies demonstrate his true mettle and character.

Lesson Three: Captivity in France describes the five years during which Abd el-Kader and his followers were held captive, where despite broken promise, but his French captors to re-settle in the Middle East, he used his time in France to build bridges of mutual understanding and respect.

Lesson Four: Living His Faith. Abd el-Kader's life in exile in Damascus where he finally settled in 1855, after leaving France with his family and soon finds himself called into a protector role when, in obedience to his faith, he risks his own life to save the lives of thousands of Christians during riots in Damascus in 1860. Accolades and honors pour in from all over the world, including from Pope Pius IX, Queen Victoria, President Lincoln, the Ottoman Sultan Murad V, Imam Shamil, Muslim freedom fighter from the Caucasus, and many others.

Lesson Five: Abd el-Kader's Legacy discusses ways in which Abd el-Kader has been honored, globally. This lesson enumerates examples of that recognition and also invites students to consider the relevance of Abd el-Kader's life for their lives today.

Additional ING resources

A digital PowerPoint presentation of the Abdelkader narrative is available. Registration required.

<https://ing.org/emir-abd-el-kader-a-muslim-hero-for-our-time-slide-presentation/>

For other educational and community engagement resources, please visit Islamic Networks Group (ING):

<https://ing.org/>

Tamar H. Miller MSW, MPA

Center for the Study of Jewish-Christian-Muslim Relations

Merrimack College, North Andover, MA

E: millert@merrimack.edu