



The FIRST Muslim School in Al-Andalus

A project for the Ummah



Ihya Al Andalus
Al Andalus | إحياء

IHYA -REVIVAL – AL- ANDALUS

We have a vision of offering our children and young ones an education based on traditional values and a Liberal Arts Curriculum, that will allow them to become the leaders of the next generation of Muslims. Something we believe our Ummah is particularly in need of in these troubled times.



Project: An international Muslim School in Órgiva (Andalusia)

BACKGROUND

There is no need to point out the incredible challenges facing our Muslim Youth – as is the case for the whole Ummah. We are undergoing a full-frontal attack on traditional values, especially targeting family and family values.

Children are exposed to what at any other time would be considered indecent from a young age, with such assiduity that they become imprinted in their minds, so they learn to take as natural and normal what is deviant.

The lack of faith in Allah is permeating all teaching institutions and is thus transmitted as a matter of fact to your children.

This exposure from such a young age, through tv, series, social media, as well as subliminal messages even in school books, and the personal lives of teachers – many of them activists rather than truth seekers, has made us feel it's our obligation to help equip our youngsters with the tools to withstand, or at least minimize the impact of the age of corruption that it seems their lot to live and grow in.

Allah's command in Qur'an 3-105 and the Prophet's injunction to oppose evil with our hands, tongues or, at least, heart, serves also as a guiding principle for this initiative.

In general, we have gotten excellent feedback on the timeliness of such an initiative. The people we speak to about this seem to have a general sense of: "At last!". Therefore, we think it's a project whose time has come.

THE PROJECT

Our vision is a school where children receive not only "Information" in the way of academic subjects (math, geometry, etc..) but most importantly an education in the sense of **adab** – respect – and an **Islamic approach -interpretation - to knowledge and to life**.

We also want to offer them an environment which is less virtual than what is now habitual, and which affords a more hands-on direct experience of life.

For this it is imperative that the teachers that work with the children are not only knowledgeable in their subject matters, but that they embody the Muslim way of life, and are excellent teachers. We are looking for **excellent people to be teachers** to our children.

We also aim for a school that is **international** in its appeal and workings (with appropriate certifications) with subjects taught mainly in English, and open to all, **independently of purchasing power**. Therefore, we will need to initially rely heavily on donors and financial backers.

THE LOCATION

In Órgiva, Granada, there is already a flourishing community of Muslims from all over the world, with more coming all the time. These families bring with them the longing for a better life for themselves and their children.

Órgiva affords the possibility of living closer to nature, without needing to change to a rural way of life. Families can continue to interact with society and earn a living while having access and contact with natural activities and resources.

The children will be very close to nature, and in contact with people from all over the world, so they can develop a real sense of belonging to the Ummah, independently of language, country of origin, race, etc. and at the same time be brought up with a much more real sense of what life is about.



ÓRGIVA IN THE GLOBE



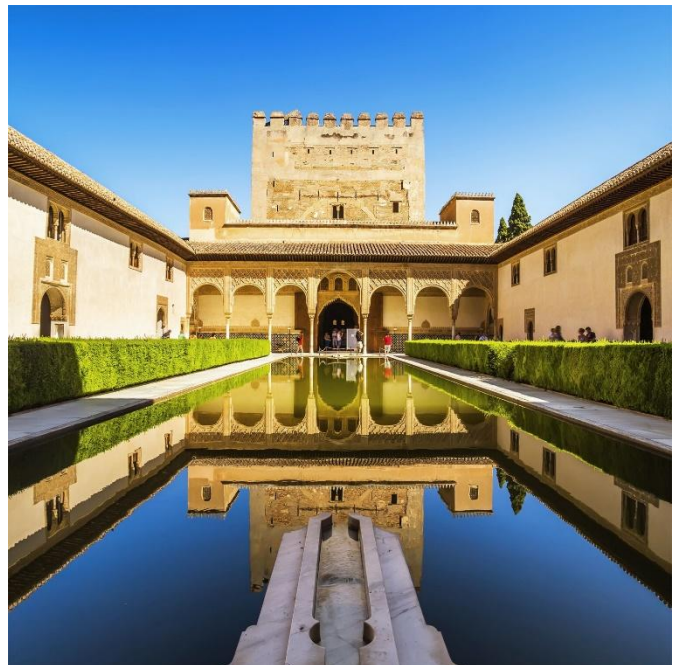
COORDINATES

36°54'36"N 3°25'29"W

Link in [GoogleEarth](#)

AL ANDALUS

Additionally, Órgiva is squarely set in Al Andalus, a name that immediately evokes the splendor and possibilities of Islam. And a longing to re-connect with it. We intend to make the heritage of Al-Andalus a part of our curriculum (from the Alhambra palace to the Grand Mosque in Córdoba. From the irrigation system still used here – dating back to Muslim times - to olive production).



PROJECT MILESTONES

This project started in 2023, with sisters Bahia Villa and Nadia Estrada. They had the idea to create a school for muslim children here in Órgiva. There had previously been several failed projects for “alternative” schools in the area. In August 2023, they approached brother Suleyman Martínez – who has business and coaching experience, to help them in the organization and management of the project.

Subsequently, Suleyman Martínez was charged with taking on the direction of the project.

Until September 2024, there was mostly work done on all the paperwork, administrative, and legal aspects, planning and identifying a curriculum and teaching methodology.

During this time, there were countless conversations with the Spanish Administration, with schools in other countries, with certification agencies, and with similar projects (successful or not). We have also invested a lot of time in identifying the best way to prepare a solid, well-grounded curriculum along Muslim lines.

By September 2024, all this was clear and under way (legal entity, association with Revival Ihya and their Liberal Arts curriculum, teacher training...)

The next step was to obtain a letter of acceptance into the certification process by MSA - CISNA (North American Certification Agencies). This we have already obtained.

Now the next steps involve identifying and securing premises, adapting the premises to legal requirements, finalizing the certification process, and finding and training teachers.

We have also a clear timeline, and a clear budget to get the project under way.

After 18 months of this preparatory work, we have now gone “public” and started a pilot project.

The pilot project got underway on October 2024 – Alhamdulillah! This pilot project will serve, insha’allah, to help us secure certification – so we are accepted as an international school, plus will allow us to have our methodology and results known by families.

THE TEAM

We are in the process of establishing a Not-for-Profit Association that will serve as the “managing entity” for the school.

In this initial phase, three people are currently involved in bringing the project to this stage:

Sister Bahía Villa, a lawyer and former Montessori School director / teacher and Sister Nadia Estrada, Montessori teacher with a degree in Telecommunications Engineering. Due to health reasons, sister Nadia had to withdraw from the project.

Brother Suleyman Martínez, who is an entrepreneur, a business coach, and is currently serving as Director of the project.

Sister Anna Alberich, who is acting as teacher and curriculum coordinator.

Additionally, we have secured the involvement of several brothers and sisters to help with the different aspects that will inevitably be needed: web site, social media, funding, administrative work, establishing the curriculum, etc.

We also need to start implementing a more “professional” internal structure to allow for all these activities to take a front seat and move forward quickly.

Currently Shaykh ‘Umar Margarit is the Honorary President of the Association.

NEXT STEPS

- Continue the Certification process with CISNA – MSA (American Certification Bodies).
- Secure funding (this will need to be on-going) that will make the project viable. This is currently our most pressing need. We have some very generous brothers and sisters that have helped, but we need to step up this aspect of the project if we want to meet our goal.
- Formalize and communicate our curriculum with parents.
- Secure premises for the official school year to begin in Sept. '25
- Carry out the necessary refurbishment work on these premises to adapt them to official safety and accessibility requirements.
- ~~• Continue to receive applications for this Pilot Project~~
- ~~• Identify ideal teachers for this initial Pilot Project~~
- Become CISNA – MSA certified by June 2025
- Start our first “official” course in September 2025.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE
PART OF THIS PROJECT?



Ihya Al Andalus
إحياء | Al Andalus

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Now, **we need help** in getting this project known and in **finding patrons** and people who would like to give *sadaqah jariah* to help get this project underway and keep it running.

We have ahead of us many months of hard work: mostly administrative, certification, and fund-raising activities, as well as maintaining on-going communication with our community and potential candidates for our school. This is the foundation for a long-lasting project that can serve as a reference in our community.

This school aims to be a community project in the sense that it will both be nourished by and nourish our community.

Addenda

THE CURRICULUM FOR THE SCHOOL

We have opted to follow the curriculum of liberal arts developed by [Revival Ihya School](#).

It focuses on a classical Liberal Arts Education that trains the human being in language and numbers, and the capacity to reason, speak, listen, write and read with discernment and accuracy. It includes three types of Knowledge.

Knowledge of God

At the center of all knowledge. This includes studying Qur'an, Arabic language, and foundational Islamic knowledge (creed, jurisprudence, spirituality, and Prophetic teachings)

Knowledge of Man

History, Literature, Language Arts, Poetry, Art

knowledge of the Universe

Science, Nature Studies, Geography and Mathematics

Classes will be taught in English - except compulsory Spanish Language and Literature which must be taught in Spanish.

However, everything will revolve around finding excellent teachers.

The classes will be conducted fully in English, except Arabic (fully in Arabic) and Spanish Literature (in Spanish)

The full Curriculum includes

- Islamic Character and Virtue program
- Sciences
- Arabic (as a Second Language)
- Nature Sciences
- Mathematics
- Language
- History
- Geography
- Fine Arts / Handicraft

OUTLINE OF THE PROJECT PHASES

There are 2 distinct phases to the project.

Phase 1 - Between now and June 2025.

This is the phase in which we will endeavor to get a pilot teaching project underway with a few students (right now about 6 children – ages between 7 and 9).

During this phase we will

- Consolidate the Curriculum,
- Develop additional material related to our particular environment (Al Andalus and its incredible heritage) and,
- Continue the certification process with the North American School Certification bodies CISNA and MSA.
- Identify a building or location for official premises for the school – very important for Administration approval and,
- Begin to carry out any refurbishment needed on the premises.
- We will also need to recruit and train personnel: teachers, maintenance staff, administrative staff, executive director, marketing and IT.
- Promote the school and begin looking for students for the initial full-program academic year

Phase 2 - Getting the official full-program school started

This implies obtaining full approval of the Spanish Administration, with the premises ready, and having enough students to have it eventually become self-sustaining.

- This second Phase is about consolidation and growth.
- We would also like to slowly include additional courses, retreats, camps, etc. (beyond the school curriculum) to help families benefit from this initiative even if they can't move to Órgiva permanently.
- We would like to, insha'Allah, explore the possibility of developing a “school for parents”, to help parents help their children acquire the adab and muslim way of behaving so the home is an extension of what they learn at school.

An additional Phase 3

An additional Phase, still in the future, would be to make the school as self-sufficient as possible, while at the same time maintaining the possibility of offering scholarships to families that really need it.

OUTLINE OF THE BUDGET

Phase 1 – Between now and June 2025

The estimated amount for this first phase is around **150,000€** - excluding the purchase of the premises.

Purchasing premises would cost, additionally, 500,000€ (including refurbishment – which could be paid out over the following months). The properties we have seen are in different conditions and bringing any of them to the necessary standards has an estimated cost of 500,000€ (between buying and fixing).

Total Phase I: 650,000€

Phase 2 – January 2025 – to August 2026

This phase is focused on paying Salaries, Operating expenses, and outreach efforts (marketing, fundraising, etc.), to consolidate the school and spread the idea.

Total estimated Phase II: **450,000€**

More detailed information on the Budget and Project Milestones is available if you need them.

2 RAKATS AS YOU COME IN TO THE SCHOOL



PROJECT TRACKS

The project is divided into several tracks that move concurrently (we will skip all the steps that are already behind us).

Main track:

- 1- **Approval by Spanish Administration to function as a Private Foreign School** (we have found that this is the most beneficial structure for us, since it allows us to use a curriculum of our choice and not be forced to teach what they teach in the public schools).

This track implies:

- **Attaining certification** by a Spanish Administration approved certification body (in this case CISNA – MSA)
- **Functioning as a school for at least a year** – even if part- time. (they will visit us and see that we follow the procedures) – We started our part-time program pilot project in October 2024.
- Developing, training and following a **Curriculum** – We are working with Revival Ihya School to adapt their curriculum to our situation.

2- Identifying and preparing the official premises

They could be rented or purchased

- Look for funders that can help specifically with this aspect
- Identify possible premises
- Decide Purchase/rent
- Get a plan for refurbishing and adapting to the requirements for a school (safety, health, etc.)

3 – Ongoing tracks

- Promotion
- Training of teachers
- Looking for candidates for other positions (administrative assistant, director, Head of Studies)

PREMISES

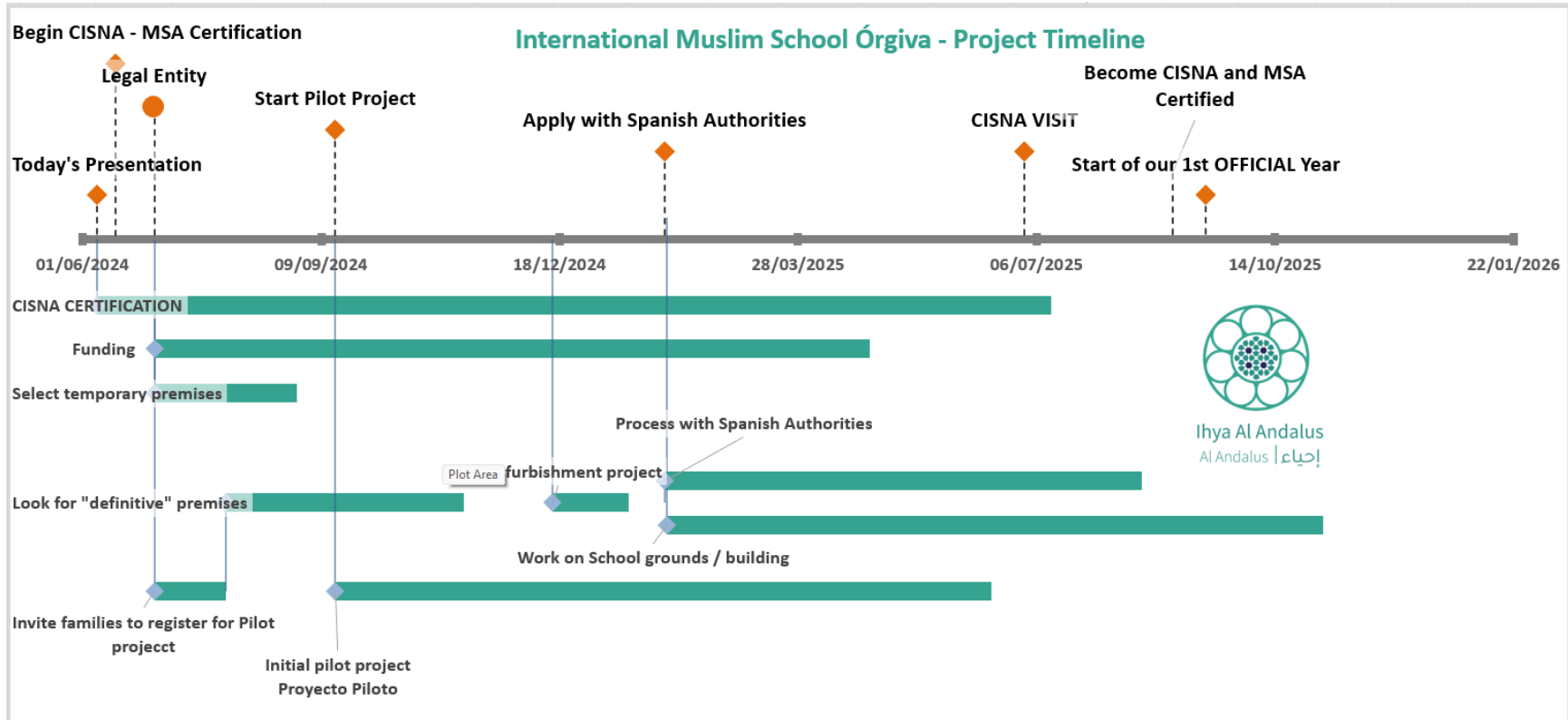
We have identified several candidates as possible premises for our school.



The most likely candidate is in the old part of town and has ample space, three floors, and a large outdoor area. However, it needs quite a bit of refurbishment (we have 2 different estimates both of around 300,000€, so they total cost will be just over 500,000€), but it can probably be converted into the ideal location for Al-Andalus Revival

school to be able to not only teach regular curriculum classes, but also spring and summer camps, special focused courses, etc. and therefore bring this project closer to being self-sustaining while maintaining a high level of excellence.





HOW YOU CAN HELP

Now, **we need help** in getting this project known and in **finding patrons** and people who would like to give *sadaqah jariah* to help get this project underway and keep it running.

We have ahead of us many months of hard work: mostly administrative, certification, and fund-raising activities, as well as maintaining on-going communication with our community and potential candidates for our school. This is the foundation for a long-lasting project that can serve as a reference in our community.

This school aims to be a community project in the sense that it will both be nourished by and nourish our community.

It may create work opportunities for brothers and sisters, bring people together so they can learn from each other and strengthen community bonds, and most importantly, generate young people who are imbued in traditional values, understand themselves in the light of prophetic teachings, know they are part of an overarching world-wide community and are prepared to bring their best to society.

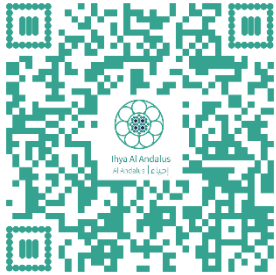
In short, to bring hope to those families that are looking for a way to raise their children in an environment that will strengthen their faith and make them pillars of our future Ummah.

DONATION INFORMATION

We now need your du'as, of course, and your donations.

This is the best sort of sadaqah. Sadaqah Jariyah, that endures forever.

To donate and help make this project come true, you can use any of the links below or the QR code:

Stripe:	https://donate.stripe.com/9AQ8y07HZ4Keere144	
Paypal:	paypal.me/MuslimSchoolOrgiva	
Bank transfer:	Bank Name: CaixaBank Account Holder: Asociación Musulmana Azahara IBAN: ES7021002505030210064384 Reference: International Muslim School SWIFT: CAIXESBBXXX	



AQIDA CLASS

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you need any additional information or would like to donate or contribute, please contact us:

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Suleyman.martinez@revival-al-andalus.com

Or by phone / WhatsApp:

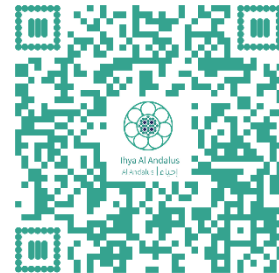
+34 678 51 36 63 – Brother Suleyman Martínez



Please donate generously



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Help make this project come true – Traditional Muslim Education for Muslim Families in an international setting in the mountains of Al-Andalus.

A new opportunity for our youth
