



## Cordoba Academy Newsletter - January 2021

### The Need For Cordoba Academy

Educational disparity is prevalent in Edmonds and Everett School Districts.

Adnan Khalid, a founding member of Cordoba Academy, has spent years, and countless hours listening to the voices of immigrant minority populations in North Seattle—from Northgate to Everett. It has become very apparent, through their resounding and unified voice, that they see a need for an innovative school that is designed to support their cultural competencies and accommodate their Islamic values. They want a safe place where their children can receive a quality STEM education and develop socially and emotionally in a healthy manner.

The North Seattle area has been inherently low and medium income for immigrants and is home to some of the oldest Muslim populations in the state. With the recent gentrification happening, many families have been impacted and have begun to look within their community to find common solutions to common problems. Thus, within this context, the mission and vision of Cordoba Academy was articulated.

**Presidential elect Joe Biden, the first candidate to ever address a Muslim majority audience, mentioned on July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020, “One of the things that I think is important: I wish, I wish we taught more in our schools about the Islamic faith.”**

Muslim populations have been some of the most marginalized, misunderstood and targeted minority groups in America. Their educational needs have never been met in the existence of this country. This is especially true of Muslim minority populations who have had to deal with an increase in hate speech, anti-immigration rhetoric and bullying at schools in the aftermath of the 2016 presidential elections (Muslim ban in America). Parents grow concerned that their children are victims of harassment and especially females who are easily identifiable because of their hijab (headscarf).

As children grow older, the price of such trauma affects them even more so. Today Muslims students in colleges and universities are reporting an increase in mental health concerns (11.5%) as compared to non-Muslims (5.3%). Because of their frustration, many of the parents we have engaged do not send their children to public schools but rather homeschool their children, which results in the district numbers improperly reflecting the diversity in the area.

**Cordoba Academy has been established to address these challenges by providing a homeschooling option that will provide families with access to resources and instruction that will increase opportunity for at-risk students and uplift the community as a whole.** CA will achieve this by providing education within an indigenous framework that is responsive and conducive to the cultures we intend to serve. We intend to partner with the best organizations possible to close the educational gap and provide all the resources at-risk and diverse learners need to be successful in their academic life. Please look out for exciting updates in 2021.

## Virtual Friday Halaqa with Mufti Saeed

Theme: Ottoman Era Islam

Jan. 15

- No Halaqa -

Jan. 22

Inception

8:15 PM

Jan. 29

Expansion

8:15 PM

[Click here to tune in on our Facebook page!](#)

OR

[Join via Zoom!](#)



### Spiritual New Year Resolution Ideas

*Although you don't have to wait until a new year begins to start making changes to your lifestyle, practicing good habits, or achieving your goals, we came up with a list of ideas to help strengthen our Iman and improve our spiritual lives.*

1. Be consistent with Salat and attain khushoo.
2. Recite Quran daily.
3. Give more Sadaqah.
4. Conduct a halaqa with family once a week.
5. Learn a new du'a/surah every month.
6. Fast on Mondays and Thursdays.
7. Be patient.
8. Waste less time.
9. Offer Tahajjud prayers.
10. Control your anger.

### Upcoming Events

- Jan. 22 - 29: Virtual Friday Halaqa

### Dates to Remember:

- Jan. 13: Jumada Al-Thani Begins\*
- Jan. 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day (No School)

\*Based on local moon sighting

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# Cordoba Academy

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