Viewing/Reflection Guide
Abd el-Kader: Childhood

How did Abd el-Kader’s family prepare him for adulthood?

1. What skills and knowledge do you expect to receive instruction on by age 14 or so? In bullet form, on the left-hand size of the Venn diagram, list as many as you can. (Use the space underneath the Venn diagram if you run out of room.)
2. “An Unlikely Leader Emerges” (*The Compassionate Warrior*, Ch. 2)

Abd el-Kader had a huge “immediate” family, including at least two older brothers, three wives, and six children. The small group shown here are among the most influential in the emir’s life.

Refer to this map of North Africa as you learn about Abd el-Kader’s life.

**The Algerians**

- What were the two main ethnic backgrounds of the Algerian people? (Do you know Abd el-Kader’s ethnicity?) What was the primary religion of the area?

- What is a marabout?
Reaction to the French Invasion

**mysticism**: a belief that a direct “oneness” with God may be achieved through self-surrender and deep thought

- Use context clues to predict what *anarchy* means (page 12, first sentence).

- What are some reasons that made Muhyi ad-Din a logical choice to lead the first against the French?

Abd el-Kader’s Early Years

- By 1827 (age 19 or 20), Abd el-Kader has had some extraordinary experiences! Name several ways in which his teen/early adult years are quite different from what you expect to experience by the same age.

Abd el-Kader Steps Forward

- When you have finished reading this chapter, complete the Venn diagram on the first page of this guide. Circle the skills/knowledge you think will prepare Abd el-Kader for leadership. Don’t forget to include characteristics you and AEK share.