



Ein - Bustan

מעיין בבוסתן [ט"ר]
580444263 .נ.ד.

عين البستان

Ein Bustan (Maayan Babustan) Sowing the seeds for hope and peace



Ein Bustan is a Jewish-Arab non-profit organization for social change that works in the field of bilingual and multicultural education, based on the principles of Waldorf education. The association's goal is to bring people together and to serve as a bridge between the Arab and Jewish neighboring populations, in order to build together a society based on shared life and peace. The organization was established in 2005 by Jewish and Arab parents from neighboring communities in the Lower Galilee, and it provides an opportunity for the children of both peoples to get to know, respect and interact with one another from an early age.

“We share our languages and cultures, and regard our differences as a resource and an opportunity for enrichment and learning, and not as a source of conflict.”

The members of Ein Bustan's association share a social vision in which Jews and Arabs live together in equality, peace, and mutual understanding. Creating such a reality is achieved by sharing each other's languages and cultures, and regarding the differences between us as a resource and an opportunity for enrichment and learning rather than as a source of conflict.



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<https://www.facebook.com/EinBustan>

Main activities:

Today, the organization operates educational facilities for children aged 1-6: Which includes a nursery and a multi-aged kindergarten, located in the Bedouin village of H'ilf, under Basmat Tabun's local municipality, adjacent to Kiryat Tivon. The children attending Ein Bustan's facilities come from neighboring towns: Kiryat Tivon, Basmat Tabun, Haifa and other nearby villages and towns. The children come from Jewish, Muslim, Christian and Druze families.

Ein Bustan also organizes and encourages other activities which bring together and promote dialogue and understanding between the Jewish and Arab communities, such as study groups, classes, listening circles, lectures, cultural events and joint family activities (such as hikes, picnics, story telling and more).

The Ein Bustan kindergarten and nursery employ the Waldorf education approach, utilizing nature, music and the arts to establish common ground, with a bi-lingual curriculum in Hebrew and Arabic. We put an emphasis on compassionate and non-judgmental listening skills and see the instruction "love thy neighbor as thyself" and "seek peace and pursue it" not just as biblical injunctions but as everyday guidelines to live by. We also believe that our doors should be open to any child whose parents wish to join us, even when the families finances cannot cover his/her full tuition. To enable that, we seek sponsors and donations every year for a scholarship fund for such children.

The educational programs of the Ein Buastan Non-Profit Association are held since 2005 and its' kindergarten has already received an outstanding award as an educational initiative of tolerance and peace, and the official recognition of the Ministry of Education.

Since last year, the association has encouraged and supported a number of parents from Kibbutz Evron in their efforts to establish a joint nursery for the children of their kibbutz with the children of Mazra'a, a nearby village, in the spirit of Ein Bustan, and to our delight, their nursery had opened this September with an equal number of Hebrew and Arabic speakers.



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We are currently reexamining and working towards establishing a bilingual and multicultural school within the framework of an existing school in the hope of growing with it for years to come. This will enable all our children from all religions to continue together in a joint framework even after the kindergarten.

Government funding covers only part of the needs of Ein Bustan (The kindergarten alone receives subsidized tuition from the Ministry of Education as a 'recognized, non-formal' institution. The Nursery does not receive any government support). Therefore the association needs all the encouragement and support it can receive from all who believe in the necessity and advancement of such education, in order to help us maintain and expand the association's activities.

A donation to Ein Bustan is a contribution to the future of real friendship, equality and trust between the Jewish and Arab communities in Israel, and will be much appreciated and cherished.

Donations:

Within Israel: **Ein Bustan, account 374731 in Bank Hapoalim, Branch 719**

Abroad: **MAAYAN BABUSTAN , IBAN : IL020127190000000374731**

