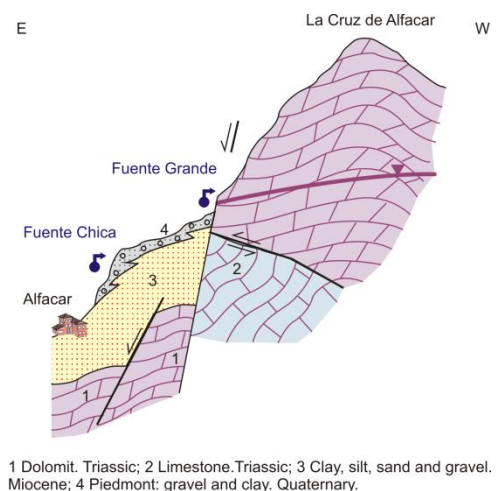


## FIELD TRIP: The supply to Granada in the Al-Andalus time



View of Albaicín, Granada neighborhood with a medieval origin. In Al-Andalus period it was supplied with water from Fuente Grande of Alfacar spring. (Photo: Antonio Navarro).

Fuente Grande of Alfacar arises at the feet of the karstic reliefs of Sierra de Huétor, in the eastern boundary of Granada Depression. Its birth has a teardrop-shaped because of its Arabic name: *ayn ad-dama'a*, that mean 'tears spring'. This is also the name of the main canal with origin in the spring Aydnadamar canal or *Acequia de Aydnadamar*.



Left: Fuente Grande of Alfacar feeds the Aydnadamar canal, where the drinking water from Albaicín neighborhood departed. (Photo: Antonio Navarro). Right: cross section with hydrogeological sketch of the spring.

Aydnadamar canal went across a route of more than 14 km from 1100 m of altitude until reaching the upper part of the Albaicín neighborhood at about 800 m of altitude, where the canal was branched into a supply network destined to feed the 26 cisterns located, in general, near to the mosques. The main cistern is the Aljibe del Rey (Cistern of King), with 300 m<sup>3</sup> of capacity, actually in the dependency of Agua Granada Foundation. Today only around 11 km of the canal are conserved.

The field trip proposes a visit to Fuente Grande of Alfacar and Aydnadamar canal, where hydrogeologic processes in relation to this spring will be explained as well as others of similar characteristics used to supply the Alhambra and the Generalife.

Following, we will visit the Albaicín neighborhood and its medieval cisterns, where the views of Granada, Sierra Nevada and the Alhambra are privileged.



Views of the Alhambra at sunset from the Albaicín neighborhood (Photo: Antonio Navarro)