

## READING PROMOTION PROGRAMME FOR DEAF CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS-FIAPAS 2025<sup>1</sup>

### TRAVELLING BOOK COMPETITION AUTHOR PROFILE

#### **Miguel de Cervantes** (Madrid 1547- 1616)

He is regarded as the greatest figure in Spanish literature and author of the famous work *El ingenioso Hidalgo Don Quijote de la Mancha* ('The Ingenious Gentleman Don Quixote of La Mancha').

He/ was born in Alcalá de Henares (Madrid). There is no documented information on his professional career, but, from a young age, he showed an interest in literature.

At the age of 22, he moved to Italy and took part in the famous Battle of Lepanto, where his left hand was seriously wounded.

On his return to Spain, he began his career as a writer, publishing his pastoral novel *La Galatea* in 1585, which did not prove very successful.

He married Catalina Salazar and worked as a tax and goods collector.

His famous work *El ingenioso Hidalgo Don Quijote de la Mancha*, the most famous work of Spanish literature, was published in two parts: the first in 1605, and the second in 1615. It is a critique of the chivalric novels of its time through its depiction of a humble character with a great love of literature, who embarks on an adventure with Sancho Panza, his squire, to bring back chivalry.

Although the impact of Miguel de Cervantes' work on Spanish literature is indisputable, his life was a humble one, marked by war and bureaucratic work.

Many stages of his life remain the subject of conjecture, which lends him an aura of mystery and means that his works are also read as an indirect reflection of his biography.

Source: [Cervantes Library](#)

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