

LERC friend and Director of Japan Center for Middle Eastern Studies in Beirut seeks out for help in research

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Reported by Shereen Mahshi, Intern, Winner of Akiki Grant

Dr. Hidemitsu Kuroki, Professor at Tokyo University and Director of the Japan Center for Middle Eastern Studies (JaCMES) in Beirut visited LERC to obtain information on Lebanese in Australia as part of his research for his paper on the topic.

Dr. Kuroki is a friend of LERC who previously visited LERC along with other Japanese professors back in 2009 to be introduced to LERC's work and to build a foundation for future joint activity. Since then, Dr. Kuroki and LERC Director Ms. Guita Hourani have attended many conferences, most recently the lecture on Diaspora Politics at Tokyo University in Japan, where Ms. Hourani presented her preliminary findings on *Diaspora Lobbies in the US and the Road to the Arab Spring: The Case of the Lebanese Christian Lobby 2003-2011*.



Dr. Hidemitsu Kuroki at LERC offices.

Dr. Kuroki met with LERC's Chief Indexer and Archivist, Mrs. Liliane Haddad where he signed up to become an associate of LERC, thus gaining access to its electronic archives and database. Mrs. Haddad also gave Dr. Kuroki several items of material related to her research topic.