

Ms. Reem Bailony Visits the LERC

Reported by: Maritta Sislian

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Ms. Reem Bailony, a Research Affiliate, visited the Lebanese Emigration Research Center (LERC) on May 20, 2013, to request material for her Ph.D. dissertation from the LERC's Lebanese Emigration Archives and Database (LEAD).

Ms. Bailony is an American citizen born to immigrant parents from Aleppo, Syria. She has a BA in History and Political Science and an MA in history. As an undergraduate, she worked on an honor's thesis on women's education in the late Ottoman Empire, with a particular geographic emphasis on *bilad al-sham* (*greater Syria*). Ms. Bailony studied Arabic for a period of six months at the University of Damascus, Arabic Language Program as well as the Institute for Teaching Arabic to Foreigners. In the summer of 2009, Ms. Bailony undertook a short research trip to Damascus in order to write a research paper on the early twentieth-century Damascene women's magazine *Al-Arus*, which Mary Ajami edited and published.



(Ms. Reem Bailony.)

Ms. Bailony is currently pursuing her Ph.D. in History of the Modern Middle East. Her dissertation looks at the relationship of the Syrian-Lebanese Diaspora community to the politics of homeland surrounding the Syrian Revolt of 1925-1927. She is interested in the way Syrian-Lebanese activists participated in homeland politics through their engagement with the press, relief organizations, and political organizations.

Mrs. Lilianne Haddad introduced Ms. Bailony to the Center's mission and work. Ms. Bailony held a meeting later with Dr. Guita Hourani, Director of the LERC, who helped her with her research.; she was later given a tour of the Lebanon Migration Nucleus Museum.