

***Honorary Consul of Lebanon in Kano, Nigeria, Mr. Mohammed-Ali Fadlallah on Courtesy Call to LERC***

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Reported by Elie Nabhan

H.E. Honorary Consul of Lebanon in Kano, Nigeria, Mr. Mohammed-Ali Fadlallah, paid the Lebanese Emigration Research Center a courtesy call to thank the Center and NDU for honoring him with an Acknowledgement Award in recognition of his outstanding service to the Lebanese Community in Kano.

Mr. Fadlallah was personally unable to attend the award ceremony that was held at Notre Dame University on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2009, in the presence of NDU President Father Walid Moussa, Vice-President for Sponsored Research and Development Dr. Assaad Eid, the Ambassador of Nigeria to Lebanon H. E. Hameed A. Opeloyeru, members of the Nigerian diplomatic mission in Beirut and prominent Lebanese-Nigerian dignitaries.

Since being appointed Honorary Consul in Kano, Nigeria, in 1987, Mr. Fadlallah has spent time and effort to strengthen Lebanese-Nigerian relations.

On his latest trip to LERC, Mr. Fadlallah was warmly welcomed by the LERC's Director Guita Hourani, and other members of LERC staff.

He then visited the office of the Vice-President for Sponsored Research and Development, Dr. Assaad Eid, to relay his thanks to the University. Dr. Eid responded that it was a privilege for NDU to meet and recognize people such as he was, ones who have promoted the image of Lebanon and dedicated their lives to serving their country men abroad.

This was then followed by a trip to the Lebanon and Migration Museum at NDU with Ms. Hourani and Mr. Elie Nabhan. Mr. Fadlallah was shown the new collection of the late Ambassador Mr. Gilbert Aoun. Mr. Fadlallah promised to send some of his own official documents and letters to LERC.



Mr. Fadlallah (left) at the Museum being shown the Gilbert Aoun Collection by Ms. Hourani. (May 2009).

Mr. Fadlallah was then introduced to the latest additions to the LERC electronic archives and database by LERC indexer Mrs. Liliane Haddad, and was delighted with the collections from Nigeria.

Upon leaving he promised to keep in mind Ms. Hourani's request for his memoirs to be recorded and to continue strengthening relations between LERC and the Lebanese Community in Kano.