

Dr. Kodama Ohba of Sophia University in Japan visits LERC

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By Jasmin Lilian Diab, LERC

Dr. Kodama Ohba of the Graduate School of Global Studies at Sophia University in Japan sought LERC in her quest for information and references pertaining to her work on the Lebanese and Syrian emigrants to Argentina.

Dr. Ohba's research is concerned with the adaptation process of the Lebanese and the Syrian emigrants to Buenos Aires between 1880 and 1920. She is researching their arrival, integration and development within the context of nation and identity building in Argentina in comparison with the Italian and Spaniard emigrants.

Dr. Ohba's interest in Argentina stems from the continued claim of Argentinians that they are more Europeans than Latin Americans, while her interest in the Lebanese and Syrian communities is triggered by the special position that members of these two communities played in the political, business and cultural life of the country.

After being given a tour of the Center's Library and Archive Room, Dr. Ohba was assisted by Ms. Liliane Haddad, Chief Indexer and Archivist, in search of references and books from LERC's personal database. She was also briefed by Ms. Haddad about LERC's collections from around the world.



Ms. Liliane Haddad and Dr. Ohba, November 2013

In conclusion of her visit, Dr. Ohba was given a tour of LERC's Museum, where she enjoyed collections of interest to her in her own personal research, as well as other various collections and artwork that would further enlightened her about the work and efforts of the center.



Dr. Ohba at the LERC Museum, November 2013

Dr. Ohba said she felt a sense of the “Lebanese culture” in the museum, and mostly enjoyed the various paintings as an art lover herself.