

Lebanese Descendant from Brazil Visits LERC

Mirella Bou Khalil, Akiki Grant Recipient

Jan 8, 2016

The Lebanese Emigration Research Center (LERC) at the Faculty of Law and Political Science (FLPS), Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU), hosted on January 8, 2016 Mr. Alexandre Enne (El Hani) de Paula, a Brazilian and a Lebanese descendant, and Mr. Roberto Khatlab, LERC Liaison Officer for Latin America. Mr. Enne wanted to learn more about his heritage and contact his relatives from the Hani and Abi-Chabki families to complete his genealogy tree.

in order to inquire about

Mr. Enne has lived and studied in Brazil, Europe, and the USA, and is currently married and has two boys. His love for his family history and their origins triggered his interest to learn the Arabic language at the Saifi Institute for Arabic Language. This is not Mr. Enne's first visit to Lebanon. He tries to visit as often as possible.



Ms. Haddad, Mr. Enne, and Mr. Khatlab at LERC NDU (Jan. 2016)

Mr. Enne had begun the research on his own and with the help of Ms. Liliane Haddad, Senior Indexer and Archivist at LERC; he was able to acquire the necessary material to further build upon his research.

In 1892, four brothers Joao (Hannah), the great-grandfather of Mr. Enne, Mr. Ibrahim el- Hani and his wife, Thereze Abi-Chabke, left Lebanon with their children Jorge, Rachid, and Amin Ibrahim Hani from Zouk Mikael and went straight to Brazil. Their primary place of residence was Santa Maria Madalena in Rio de Janeiro. They later moved to different regions across the country as they married.

Mr. Enne's will to find out more about his family roots is a lifelong journey, he said.