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The Lebanese JICA-Alumni Association comprises in its ranks a selective group of intellectuals and technicians who are confident about the importance of their contribution in insuring a sustainable socio-economic development of Lebanon.

Within this concept, the bilateral relations between Japan and Lebanon takes place, especially by enhancing the efficiency of the Official Development Assistance program of the Japanese government.

JICA - training courses are contributing in building human capacities to achieve these goals, and our association, LEBAJICA, is committed to follow up the issue of these courses.

Moreover, the publishing of LEBAJICA – magazine could have a "Reverse Osmosis" effect as an information source for Lebanese, Arab as well as Japanese readers as well.

That's why, we hope that this edition will reflect this effect...

**LEBAJICA** 



## Foreword

## of H.E. the newly accredited Ambassador of Japan in Beirut

I assumed the ambassadorship in Lebanon at the end of November 2006 with a mission of enhancing the bilateral relations between our two countries. In spite of the lack of expertise in this region, not to mention Lebanon, I am sure I can carry it out if the long-standing friends of ours in Lebanon support the Embassy in its job. The people of LEBA-JICA are the friends of the Embassy.

Since the days of my predecessors, the Japanese Embassy, recognizing that human resources development is a key to the reconstruction of a country, has been inviting many Lebanese officials to the JICA training. Those who joined JICA training programme are participating activity in rebuilding the country, making good use of their own experiences obtained through the training.

The Embassy is proud of being a partner of yours in rebuilding the country. I would highly appreciate it if you, the readers of this magazine, would continue to help the Embassy as you did during the last decades.

I wish you all success.

March 2007,

Yoshihisa KURODA Ambassador of Japan to Lebanor

## Memories

## of Ambassador Murakami on Lebanon during three years

At last, day of departure is coming soon. Three years and two months have passed quickly like an arrow, but I have a lot of pleasant and sad memories.

In 2004, the Embassy of Japan in Beirut celebrated the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Lebanon and Japan. On this occasion, many Japanese artists attended to Lebanon, they have been in Byblos, Baalbeck and Beirut where they performed Japanese music, dance, flower arrangement, martial arts and others. The Lebanese immensely enjoyed the Japanese culture through the Embassy's activities along the year 2004 which was very enjoyable for me.

In February 2005, former Prime Minister Rafic Hariri, the friend of Japan was assassinated, and many terrorist incidents followed his murder.

In this year and on the political level, the Syrian troops withdrew from Lebanon and a new National Assembly was elected.

In this year, there was a military conflict between Israel and Hizbullah, as a result, Lebanon suffered from the killing of civilians in addition to the huge damages in homes and infrastructure. It was a tragedy, but I am confident that the Lebanese people will rise up and reconstruct their country with the cooperation of the international community as far as the Lebanese are enough capable and intelligent.

In Lebanon, there are many fantastic places to visit. Every morning I see from my residence in Yarze the city of Beirut and the blue Mediterranean sea over it. I saw in this country beautiful coasts, mountains covered with snow and historical sites.

Lebanon which has 7000 years of history is splendid and the cities of Byblos, Sidon and Tyr are reminding me of the Phoenicians. Besides the famous historical sites, there are some places worthy to be visited, one of them the two rocks of Nebuchadnezzar II where names of his soldiers killed in the battles are engraved on the rocks in Hermel. It is pity that this place is not protected well and exposed to wind and rain.

I had many good friends in Lebanon both Christians and Muslims. I have also met here many good friends of Japan among them the members of LEBAJICA. During my stay in Lebanon, I had the honor to attend several events by LEBAJICA which is working on enhancing the friendly relationship between Lebanon and Japan.

At the end, I wish the prosperity and peace for Lebanon and the Lebanese people and

I would like to express my true emotions by repeating what the Lebanese diva Fairouz sang: "I loved Lebanon in Summer, in Winter". I'll always remember Lebanon in Summer and in Winter.







More than four years of my stay in Syria was just like a word: "Time passes like an arrow". Now I will back to Japan, missing everything in Syria and Lebanon.

During my stay in Syria, I had chances to visit deferent places of the country in Middle East like Lebanon, Jordan and Egypt. Traveling both by air and car, I enjoyed various sceneries such as mountains with snow, green hills like Europe in spring, sunset in the desert, almond and apricot flower like Sakura in Japan, and sheep along the desert road.

I also enjoyed rich culture and historical sites in deferent areas. This diversity of nature and culture was really fascinating me and I miss all of them.

When I came here in Syria, what impressed me most were people themselves. I found many Syrian and Lebanese people who had very smart hospitality at the same time very well disciplined.

I remember the first LEBA-JICA excursion at Faraya in 2003, for skiing and lunch together, was very much impressed me Lebanon and Lebanese friends.

Our relation between LEBA-JICA members and me has been continued more since that time, and I never forget your smile and hospitality anywhere in the world.

I surely believe that JICA Alumni Association in Lebanon, LEBA-JICA, is one of the best alumni associations among JICA alumni associations in the world, because of your active behavior such as workshops, seminars and excursions, and well organized way.

I hope that these manners should be implemented continuously.

I do not want to say good-bye to you while I will leave from Syria. I always want to be your friend.

All the best and hope to see you again either in the Middle East countries or other part of the world.

February 2007

**Kazuhide Nagasawa** Resident Representative JICA Syria Office

N.B.:

LEBAJICA cease this occasion to wish Mr. and Mrs. Nagasawa the best of health, success and happiness and assure them that they will have always true and sincere friends in Lebanon



## Impact of the July 2006 war on the Lebanese public finances.

In 2004, the growth rate increased to reach 6%. This is why there were serious hopes of additional future increases. But as a result of the series of crimes and bombings that hit Lebanon since Prime Minister Rafik Hariri's assassination in February 2005, the growth rate relapsed to 1%.

Furthermore, theoffensive on Lebanon during July 2006 caused a turning of this growth into a 3% deflation in 2006 (IMF September 2006, report).

Despite the fact that this war lasted 33 days, its impact on the Lebanese economy will extend over many years and its negative effect has targeted various sectors especially those related to economy, public finances and infrastructure such as airports, bridges, roads, ports and connection networks.

#### Ali Shami Ministry of Finance 2002 Jica training course on auditing & public works

### • إيرادات المالية العامة:

وفي تفصيل مؤشرات المالية العامة. بلغ الانخفاض في حجم الإيرادات ما قيمته ٤٧٠ مليار ليرة لبنانية منذ بدء الحرب وحتى نهاية شهر آب. ويتوقع أن يصل حجم هذا الانخفاض إلى ١,٣٨٦ مليار دولار بالمقارنة بما كان متوقعا قبل اندلاع الحرب خاصة بالنسبة للرسوم المتعلقة بالمبادلات التجارية الدولية والضريبة على القيمة المضافة والهاتف.

### • نفقات المالية العامة

يقدر أن ترتفع نفقات الدولة بحوالي ١٢١٨ مليار ليرة بالمقارنة بالفترة نفسها من عام ١٠٠٥ وابرز أسباب هذا الارتفاع تتمثل بالإنفاق العسكري والأمني. تكاليف الإغاثة, حجم التحويلات إلى كهرباء لبنان وتكاليف إعادة الأعمار.

#### The public finances sector

The Ministry of Finance's magazine (Hadith Al Malia) stated in its 26th issue published in December 2006 that the first draft summarized report, (edited by the Ministry of Finance in September 2006, regarding the impact of the July war on the status of the public finances), established that the expected losses within the public finances until the end of 2006, will be around 1.6 billion dollars. The year 2006, is expected to score a 3.85 billion dollars deficiency which is twice the deficiency amount scored in 2005.

The report also states that the debt service is expected to attain 3.09 billion dollars in the year 2006 and that the Lebanese Electricity Company estimated its first losses at around 114 Million dollars.

#### The public finances revenues

When detailing the public finances indicators, it is noticed that from the beginning of the war till the end of August, the revenue volume has decreased of 470 billion Lbp. This decrease is expected to reach 1.386 billion US dollars compared to the expectations prior to the war especially regarding the international trade exchange fees, the Value Added Tax and the telephone fees.

### The public finances expenses

The government's expenses are expected to increase around 1218 billion Lbp compared to the same period during the year 2005. The main reason for this increase is due to the military and security expenditures, the relief costs, the volume of transfers made to the Lebanese Electricity Company and the reconstruction costs.

## أثار حرب تموز ٢٠٠٦ على المالية العامة والصناعة



جاء في مجلة وزارة المالية (حديث المالية) في عددها رقم 11 الصادر في شهر كانون الأول ٢٠٠١ أن التقرير الأولي الموجز عن " إنعكاسات حرب تموز على وضع المالية العامة خلال العام ٢٠٠١" الذي أعدته وزارة المالية في أيلول ٢٠٠١ أن الخسارة المتوقعة في المالية وتوقع أن تسجل سنة ٢٠٠١ هي بحدود ١.١ مليار دولار مليار دولار أي ضعف العجز الإجماليا بقيمة ٣٨٥ مليار دولار أي ضعف العجز الإجمالي المسجل عام ١٠٠٠ وتوقع أن يصل حجم خدمة الدين لسنة ٢٠٠١ إلى أن مؤسسة كهرباء البنان قد قدرت الخسائر الأولية بنحو ١١٤ مليون دولار.

بعد أن ارتفعت نسبة النمو إلى 1٪ خلال العام ١٠٠٤. وكانت الأمال متجهة نحو مزيد من الارتفاع في المستقبل, انتكست نسبة تسارع النمو في العام ١٠٠٥ لتصل إلى ١٪ فقط بسبب سلسلة الجرائم والتفجيرات التي بدأت بجريمة اغتيال الرئيس رفيق الحريري في شباط فبراير ١٠٠٥ ثم خول النمو إلى انكماش نسبته حوالي ٣٪ في العام ١٠٠١ بسبب الجرب الإسرائيلية على لبنان في تموز يوليو عام الحولي الصادر في شهر ألمول 1٠٠١.

ورغم أن هذه الحرب استمرت ثلاثة وثلاثون يوما إلا أن أثارها وتداعياتها على الاقتصاد اللبناني سوف تمتد على سنوات مقبلة غير محددة وإن انعكاسات الحرب السلبية قد ضربت جميع قطاعات البلد ولاسيما الاقتصادية والمالية العامة والبنى التحتية من مطارات وجسور وطرقات ومرافئ وشبكات إتصال.



## Economy



# Significant Figures

## "The Suffering of the Young Lebanon"

The 34 days of war from 12 July to 14 August 2006 killed over 1,500 people, mostly Lebanese civilians, severely damaged Lebanese infrastructure, and displaced about 900,000 Lebanese. Even after the ceasefire, 256,000 Lebanese remained internally displaced, and much of South Lebanon remained uninhabitable due to unexploded cluster bombs.

12,000 flights, 2500 shells coming from the sea and over 100,000 artillery shells destroying large parts of the Lebanese civilian infrastructure. 400 miles of roads, 73 bridges and 31 targets such as Beirut International Airport, ports, water and sewage treatment plants, electrical facilities, 25 fuel stations, 900 commercial structures, up to 350 schools and two hospitals as well as over 15,000 homes were destroyed.

More than 130,000 houses were damaged in Lebanon.

However, one third of the victims were children under 13 years old.

On 11 August 2006 the United Nations Security Council unanimously approved UN Resolution 1701 in an effort to end the hostilities. This resolution called for the disarming of Hezbollah, for Israel to withdraw, and for the deployment of Lebanese soldiers and an enlarged United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) force in southern Lebanon.

In a country of fewer than four million inhabitants, more than 25 per cent of them took to the roads as displaced persons. An estimated 500,000 people sought shelter in Beirut alone, many of them in parks and public spaces, without water or washing facilities.

The long-term impact of the destruction of Lebanon's infrastructure on men, women and children lives is incalculable. Many have lost their homes while having to cope with the deaths of loved ones or struggling to overcome severe injuries. Many have lost their livelihoods. Records show that home and property ownership have been destroyed, adding to the difficulties of rebuilding lives.

Damages incurred amounted to US \$3.5 billion: US and \$2 billion: US for buildings and US \$1.5 billion for infrastructure such as bridges, roads, and power plants. A primary survey compiled by the UN Security Council, based on on-site inspections in central and northern Lebanon and telephone calls to engineers and municipal officials in the south, showed that enormous damages affected to the road network, with more than 73 bridges destroyed.

The rehabilitations of the bridge connecting Mount Lebanon to the Bekaa Valley on the road to Damascus would cost an approximately US \$65 million.

("A beautiful bridge, its columns 70 meters, rare of it's kind in the Middle East. It was the symbol of the reconstruction of Lebanon after the civil war").

Privately owned factories and enterprises across the country – economic entities which destruction could not be seen to offer a military advantage outweighing the damage to civilians – have also been subjected to a series of debilitating air strikes, dealing a further crippling blow to the shattered economy. The Lebanese government estimated that unemployment in the country has now reached an approximate figure of 75 %.

The Association of Lebanese Industrialists estimated that US \$200 million direct damage was inflicted on the industrial sector, where dairy, cement, glass and prefab housing factories were hit hardly. Nearly all shops and small businesses close to the borders have reportedly received direct hits from artillery and air strikes.

Even before the latest attack, large-scale factories were a rarity in Lebanon. "Maliban", the second largest glassworks in the Middle East, was an exception, with production reaching some 200 tones a day for sale around the region. It was one of five Bekaa factories destroyed. A journalist who visited the ruined factory floor said: "It's impossible to discern what this space was used for. All that's visible is churned-up soil with twisted metal, powdered glass and wrecked machinery. It is possible to discern the cause

of the disruption, though: four distinct craters have been gouged out of the factory floor.

The "Liban-Lait" dairy farm and plant in the Bekaa valley, the leading producer of milk and dairy products in Lebanon, was completely destroyed in an aerial attack on 17 July. The dairy, which products were distributed all over the country, was employing about 400 of local staff. At least 1,500 Bekaa residents have reportedly lost their source of livelihood.

Within few days after the ceasefire, over 200,000 Lebanese people had returned home, (according to the Lebanese Higher Relief Council on 16 August), approximately 40 per cent of people who had been sheltered in Schools and public places.

#### Kamal MOKDAD

LEBA-JICA Alumni President

IT Dept. Head Central Bank of Lebanon



## Tourism





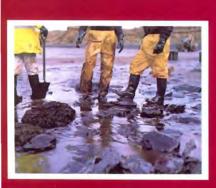
## Sector heavily affected

by War July - August 2006

In Summary Mrs Nada Sardouk,
Director General-Ministry of Tourism
LEBAJICA Member of Honor

A shortcut about the losses in the tourist sector is given in this article:

- Over 1.5 million tourists were been expected during 2006; according to reservations in hotels, apartments and the traffic in R. Hariri Beirut International Airport.
- The direct losses run to approx. 3 billion \$ expected as income of the tourist sector. (hotels, restaurants, leisure premises in mount Lebanon and the cost line).
- The most affected part was the small and medium enterprises along the cost line because
  of the oil spill which dangerously polluted the Mediterranean sea and its cost from
  Jiyeh power station till the sea port of Byblos (mostly small fish boats)
- Moreover, in direct losses could be estimated through the abolition of thousands of jobs in the private sector and int the public sector as well.
- The direct challenge consists in the recovery of this sector as soon as possible and that's
   by rebuilding the image of Lebanon world wide in highlighting on the factor of stability, security and peace









## تقرير موجز حول تداعيات الاعتداءات الاسرائيلية على القطاع السياحي حرب تموز ٢٠٠١

في بداية التقرير لا بد من الاشارة الى التقديرات العديدة التي صدرت عن مؤسسات عامة او خاصة عن الخسائر الاقتصادية الناجمة عن الحرب الاسرائيلية على لبنان ·

وحيث ان التحديد الدقيق والنهائي لحجم الاضرار والتكاليف المالية الناجمة والمرتبطة بالعدوان ليست متوفرة إذ انها ختاج الى شركات متخصصة تعاين وتقدر وتربط المعاينات بالمؤشرات المالية والاستثمارية، فإننا سوف نكتفي بعرض مبسط وواضح لواقع القطاع السياحي بعد العدوان ·

كان مقدراً للقطاع السياحي بكافة انواعه وفئاته وامتداده على جميع المناطق اللبنانية أن يشهد نمواًلافتاً هذا العام ، بدأت بشائره فعلياً تتحقق منذ شهر كانون الثاني والأرقام التي كنا نشير البها عن ترقب وصول ما يزيد عن المليون و ١٥٠٠لف سائح الى لبنان ارقام فعلية ارتبطت بوقائع حجوزات الفنادق والشقق المفروشة وحركة المطار - وبالتالي فإن تقدير الخسائر الاجمالي للقطاع السياحي والتي تبلغ ما يفارب ٣ مليارات دولار اميركي ليست وهما انما مقاربة فعلية للمداخيل المتوقعة للقطاع السياحي من فنادق وشقق مفروشة ومطاعم ووكالات تأجير سيارات فوكالات سياحة وسفر اضافة الى العديد من القطاعات الانتاجية المرتبطة مباشرة بهذا القطاع من نجار الى بلدات اصطياف الى لجان المهرجانات الدولية والخلية وغيرها ٠٠٠

ونحن في مورد حديثنا هنا عن الخسائر ، لم نتطرق الى بند" الاستثمار السياحي " بمعنى المشاريع قيد الانجاز او المشاريع التي لم تتحقق ·

إضافة الى ذلك الخسائر اللاحقة بالاقتصاد الوطني من جراء عدم استيفاء كافة الرسوم المتوقعة نتيجة لنمو حركة السياحة أي رسوم المطار والجمارك والضريبة على القيمة المضافة وغيرها ···

بالعودة الى حجم الخسائر وتوخياً للدقة ولعدم التهويل والمبالغة ، واستنادا الى استمارة وضعت في وزارة السياحة من اجل المسح الاولي للاضرار فيمكن تلخيص ما وردنا حتى الان على الشكل التالي

### ١ - في الخسائر المباشرة

ونعنى هنا الدمار الشامل او الجزئي الذي لحق بالمؤسسات السياحية ، فإن هذه الخسائر تركزت كما هو معلوم في المناطق التي تعرضت للقصف العنيف وللدمار أي مناطق الضاحية الجنوبية . الجنوب والبقاع وقسم من الهرمل وعكار وبعض المناطق الساحلية . اضافة الى منطقة مطار رفيق الحريري الدولي فمعظم المؤسسات التي تضررت هي من حجم المؤسسات الصغيرة والمتوسطة فمثلًا في منطقة الجنوب · فإن الاستمارات تظهر أن ما يصنف حت اسم " الاستراحات " أي المطاعم في الهواء الطلق هي التي تضررت مباشرة ، والمطاعم على ضفاف الانهر ( العاصى) اما في الضاحية الجنوبية فإن مكاتب وكالات السياحة والسفر ومكاتب وكالات تأجير السيارات اصيب البعض منها إذ ان مواقعها في مبان سكنية او جَارِية . اضافة لذلك فإن بعض وكالات تأجير السيارات تضررت بخسارة سياراتها من القصف · الجدير بالذكر في هذا الشان ، ان معظم الاستثمارات ذات الرساميل الكبيرة مثل الجمعات السياحية او الفنادق تتركز اساساً في العاصمة بيروت وفي جبل لبنان ومناطق الساحل والمتن وكسروان وجبيل .

نضيف هنا اشارة ضمن الخسائر المباشرة ما اصببت به المؤسسات والمجمعات البحرية من بقع النفط وتلوث الشاطىء التي امتدت من الجيّة الى بيروت وصولا حتى شواطىء جبيل اذ اضطرت بعض هذه المجمعات الى الاقفال النهائي وصرف العمّال نتيجة التلوث ليس فقط المياه انما الشواطىء والتجهيزات على الشاطىء.

هذا دون ان نغفل الاشارة الى الموانىء البحرية الصغيرة والقوارب المعدة للنزهة والممتدة من الناقورة حتى مدينة طرابلس والتي اصيبت مباشرة اما من القصف او من التلوث النفطى ·

#### اً- في الخسائر غير المباشرة :

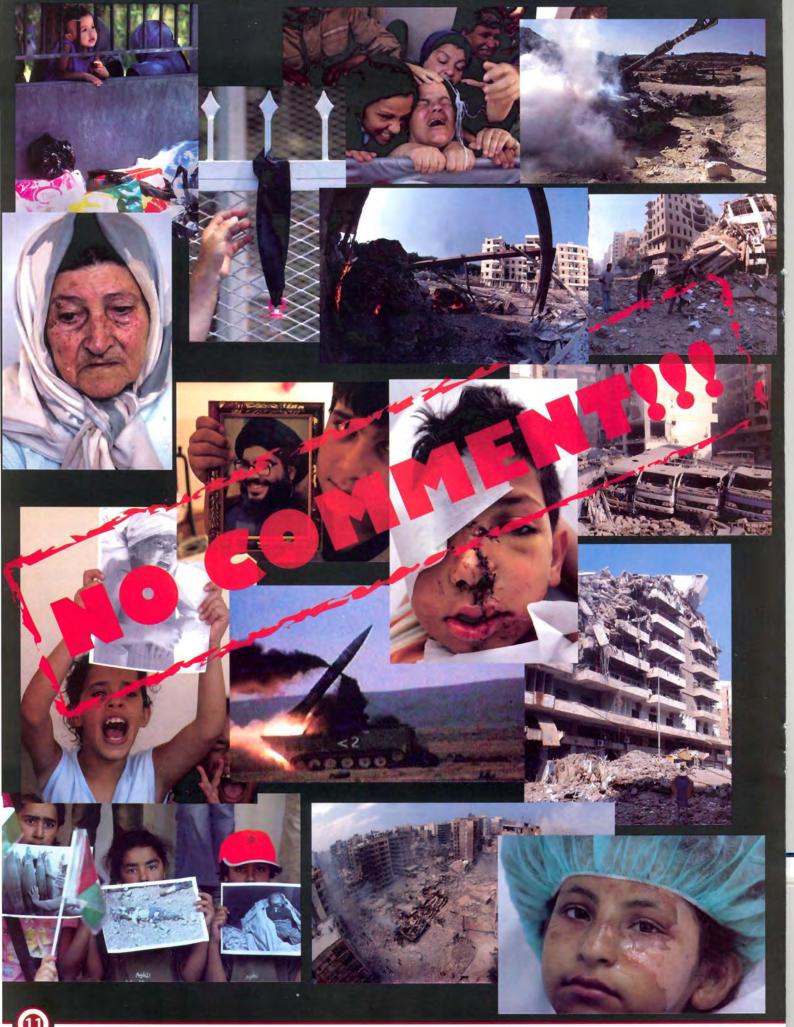
ونعني بالخسائر غير المباشرة التوقف عن العمل و الاستحقاقات المالية من فواتير واعتمادات مفتوحة لدى المصارف ورواتب موظفين الى رسوم البلدية والكهرباء والمياه الخ ٠٠٠٠ اضافة لذلك جميع التحسينات والتطويرات والتي استحدثت على المنشات استعدادا لفصل الصيف الواعد . وهنا اشارة الى جميع المطاعم والشقق المفروشة والفنادف حتى قرى وبلدات الاصطياف والتي تعمل ما يناهز ٩٠ يوما فقط وتعول على مداخيل فصل الصيف لاستمرارية عملها ووجودها ٠

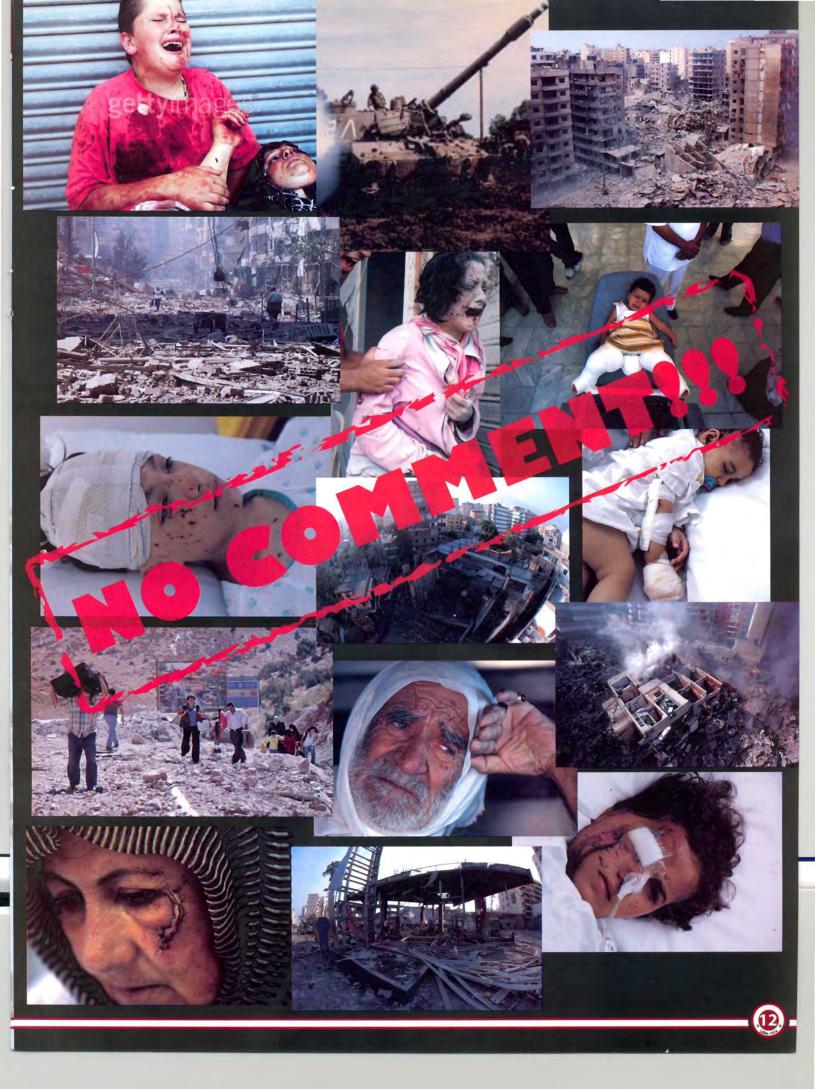
اضافة لذلك فان معظم مكاتب تأجير السيارات الحديثة استثمرت في شراء اعدادا كبيرة من السيارات الحديثة تلبية للطلب وان معظم هذه المكاتب اصبحت تعاني من استحقاقات مالية صعبة لا سيما لجهة رسوم الميكانيك وتخزين السيارات دون تشغيلها .

اخيرا ان احتساب الخسائر غير المباشرة يلقى صعوبة لتداخل النشاطات

الاقتصادية ببعضها ولاحتمال احتساب هذه الخسائر الكثر من مرّة وفي مطلق الاحوال فان الخسائر غير المباشرة في القطاع السياحي تفوق الخسائر المباشرة وان تداعيات الحرب على لبنان قد اضرّت كثيرا بهذا القطاع لان عملية اعادة بناء صورة لبنان في العالم تتطلب الكثير من العلاقات الايجابية على الصعيدين السياسي والأمني ، وان السياحة مرتبطة مباشرة بعامل الاستقرار والطمأنينة والسلم .

ندى سردوك مدير عام السياحة





## Oil Spill causes severe damages Lebanese coast line

On 13 and 15 July 2006 Jieh power utility, located 30 Km South of Beirut directly on the coastline, was hit by Israeli bombs. The two storage tanks that were hit lead to a major leak and fire onsite that eventually caused the largest storage tank to burn and a spill into the Mediterranean sea of around 12 - 15,000 tonnes of heavy fuel oil.



As soon as was possible and while air raids were still taking place and bridges were being bombed, a team of officers of the Ministry of Environment in August, went onsite to survey the damage and magnitude of the spill and to trace its origin and its path. One of the first sites to be visited by the Ministry was the point of source, Jiyeh storage tanks, the source of the fuel. It was there that a Herculean effort was done to control the raging fire that was still threatening the safety of the power plant itself. It took the combined efforts of the National Civil Defense Team, the Lebanese Army, the experts of the Ministry of Environment and of course the experts and managers of the Jiyeh power plant to control the external fire and power plant. However, the largest storage tank, that was around 25 meters in diameter had passed the ignition point and as a result the fuel in the tank caught fire at that point, it was openly burning but thankfully contained.

Unfortunately, since it was summer and thereby water temperatures were high, and due to winds blowing South West to North East and water current movements heading in a northerly direction the oil slick was carried northwards and dispersed along the coast of Lebanon. It polluted the stretch of the coast from the point of source in Jiyeh all the way to the North of the country, roughly 150km our of 225 km are damaged at varying degrees. The coastline of Lebanon is made up of public and private rocky and sandy beaches and includes public and private marinas/ports for boats/ships of fishermen and tourist resorts.



Once the initial assessment was completed and the scope of the oil spill identified, the Ministry of Environment contacted the all the embassies of the governments that are based in Lebanon and explained the situation and requested assistance. The private sector in Lebanon, though with modest capacity was also contacted. Minimal amounts of dispersants, booms, adsorbents, and skimmers were made available but were insufficient in dealing with a crisis of this magnitude as the pilot tests the ministry implemented showed. REMPEC/MAP UNEP at the United Nations Environment rrogramme was also contacted immediately and they also worked to mobilize resources of the Mediterranean countries.

The complete oil spill cleanup operation will cost in the range of 150 million dollars and will span a long period of time.



## Some Impacts on the Environment include

A large percentage of the spill emulsified and solidified along the Lebanese shore, clinging to sand, rock and stone and some of the biological impacts after an oil spill can include:

- Physical and chemical alteration of natural habitats such as when oil is incorporated into sediments
- o Physical smothering effect on the marine
- Lethal or sub-lethal toxic effects on the marine life
- o Changes in the marine ecosystem resulting from oil effects on key organisms e.g. increased abundance of intertidal algae following the death of limpets which normally eat the algae.

### Impacts on Human Health

Some possible short term adverse effects might include nausea, headaches and skin (dermatological) problems in residents living close to the effected areas or in beach goers getting in touch with the oil. Some research decuments indicate that the poly cyclic aromatic hydrocarbons in the fuel are carcinogenic and need to be avoided.

The fuel itself was toxic and all care to avoid letting it get in contact with the skin was advised and taken for the volunteers and workers onsite.

The Ministry also issued a memo nation wide advising against fishing off the quays and wharfs found along the coast from Jieh to the North until the complete scope of pollution is assessed.



#### **Impacts on Tourism**

The tourism industry suffered badly. The acute impact of the war on this industry was immediately felt by the nation with all the tourists fleeing for their lives. The chronic impact of the oil spill is disastrous on the tourism industry due to the length of time it is going to take for the clean up of the sand, the rocks, the shallow reef and the marine ecosystem as a whole. Not to mention the different touristic and culturally and environmentally sensitive sites that were polluted, such as Byblos which is a cultural touristic site listed on the World Heritage Sites and Palm Islands Nature Reserve that were heavily polluted.

Many public and private beaches were heavily affected including boats/ships of fishermen and yachts and boats of tourists from all over the Arab world and the Mediterranean countries as well as boats of Lebanese nationals.

Beach-based tourism was a major economic activity in Lebanon and constituted a major part of the Lebanon's gross domestic product (GDP).

## Impacts on Biodiversity & the Fishing Industry

It is not possible at this moment to evaluate the impact on biodiversity because of the need of more detailed technical assessments to be carried out when resources are available.

However, the siege on Lebanon by the Israeli army had prevented the Lebanese fishermen from going about their daily work. This oil spill also added to their crisis by destroying the immediate marine habitat of the fish species off the coast and polluting their ports/wharfs and boats.

#### **Other Shoreline Impacts**

The Lebanese coastline is made up of mainly rocky shores. The initial estimates show that the mortality of limpets and other herbivores is high.



The Ministry of Environment continues getting in touch with its partners and seeking legal, technical, & financial assistance from available Funds designated for such oil spills in the Mediterranean Sea. It also continues to monitor the situation and is reviewing operational responses and clean up programmes in addition to preparing contingency plans for impact assessment.

As this article is prepared, cleanup operations are taking place in the North of the country, in Beirut, and in the South around the Jiyeh area. These operations would not have been possible if the ministry's call for assistance was not responded to. Countries like Denmark, Kuwait and Norway immediately responded and sent respectively, experts and equipment. Other countries sent funding, teams of experts or equipment and they are Japan, France, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Germany, USA, Canada not to mention the support that was received from the United Nations Development Programme and the Oil Petroleum Exporting Companies through OCHA. A team of officers from the Ministry regularly head out to the different polluted sites and monitor progress of works of cleanup and assess the current situation per site. All cleanup operations are coordinated with the ministry.

For further information, please visit the Ministry of Environment of Lebanon website on www.moe.glv.lb, or contact Ms Ghada Salim Mitri, Oil Spill Communications Officer on g.mitri@moe.gov.lb



## Assistance is required for quick recovery

The conflict affected the agriculture sector directly, with crops, livestock, fisheries and equipment damaged by the bombing and more important indirectly in terms of lost markets and labor opportunities.

Damage and losses to agriculture, fisheries and foretry in Lebanon as a result of the hostilities were estimated at around \$280 million, according to an FAO damage assessment report issued on November 2006.

The major damage was caused through the impossible access to the fields during the 33 days of bombing, as farmers fled their villages and left their crops and animals unattended. The interruption in the care of crops and animals was responsible for a large portion of the income and production losses. Most of the agriculture workforce, including foreign laborers, fled the Lebanese territories especially South Lebanon and Bekaa, Those who remained were unable to work, as mobility was restricted. The war took place at the peak time for the harvest of crops (mainly stone, fruits and potatoes) destined for export, but much of the harvest perished on the ground, as bombing forced farmers to abandon their lands, and transport to market became impossible. It was reported that trucks attempting to transport agriculture products to market were hit several times by air raids.



Furthermore, many agriculture fields and pastures in South Lebanon were rendered useless because of being inaccessible until unexplosed bombs littering the land could be removed or explosed.

The conflict has also weakened the productive capacity of animals through death of stock and decrease in production - due to the forced rural exodus and related abandonment of animals and lack of feed and healthcare during and after the hostilities. The outbreak of the war and its aftermath has slowed down livestock rearing and processing activities, resulting in the immobility of the workers and loss of employment opportunities.

With the loss of income from harvests and lost animals produce, many farmers have become heavily indebted as they usually repay their debts during the harvest period (May-October) to secure credit for the following planting/producing season. Their ability to repay these debts has been reduced to the minimum, making it impossible to start the new cropping cycle due to the lack of working capital. There is much concern that this will lead to a downward spiral of debt and poverty fot the Lebanese farmers as stated in the FAO report.

While overall the agriculture sector is expected to bounce back quickly, the same is not necessarily true for the livelihoods of war-affectedvulnerable rural households. As stated by the FAO, many households will remain burdened by asset, harvest and income losses over the medium term and may also suffer from the loss of other sources of income. Therefore, assistance is necessary starting by early recovery projects followed by rehabilition of damaged farms and infrastructure then by longer-term projects to reinforce the agriculture sector.



**LEBAJICA Member - G.F.** 

## Special Sport



Sport in general is one of the main bases that allow persons with special needs to receive support and rehabilitation to increase self confidence and to achieve ambition for any person especially the disabled ones.

In Lebanon, the Handi Sport Lebanese Federation plays a big role in developing and promoting special sport and to increase the number of games accredited nationally and to appraise the performance of the athletes to a level to permit the participation more in all national and international activities.

Apart from the mediocre assets whether materialistic or in-kind that we face, our federation has worked, since its establishment in 1998, to participate and organize various sport and social activities.

Before going into details, I would like to start with my

- · Name: Mohammad Mouin Bakkar.
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- The course I achieved in Japan: "Leadership for Physically Disabled Persons", organized by the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JAICA), with the cooperation of Japanese society for the Rehabilitation of the disabled (JSRD)

This training course was very fruitful, which gave me a chance to gain more experience in this field, in addition, I had the chance to participate in a private training concentrating on "Disabled Sport" and that was apart from the schedule of the course and upon my request. That also gave me another chance to increase my experience and to build relations with specialized organizations in Japan, extent after I returned to Lebanon, nearly five years (1999). This also facilitated my involvement in the field of disabled sport and to play a role in developing and promoting special sport and to upgrade its level from internal level to an external level. The first step was to establish was to establish the Handi Sport Lebanese Federation to be the main base for any other related issue, and to work under accredited goals, in addition to sport games we stand with, knowing that in this sport federation we host sport for the four disabled categories known; physically, visually, hearing and mentally, taking in consideration that there is a main goal we have to work for by raising the level of our athletes from being amateurs to be professional, in a way to cover and to participate in all or most of the 18 summer sport and the 6 winter sport internationally accredited. Nowadays, our federation is organizing and participating in different sports listed as follows:

 Physically disabled: wheelchair basketball, table tennis, athletics and archery, shooting and swimming.





#### Mohammad Mouin Bakkar

- Visually disabled: goalball, torr ball, athletics and chess.
- · Hearing disabled; basketball and football for deaf.
- Mentally disabled: basketball, football, table tennis, badminton, athletics, swimming, cycling, floor hokey and boccia.

But the needs are so big, and not easily found, for example there are technical necessities needed to assist and support our technical committee to be better organized and effective to help increasing the number of games and athletes in Lebanon. Also, there is an essential need for accessible disabled sport venues, in addition to provide different sport equipments and accessible transportations. So the is big but our ambitions and expectations are bigger. Therefore, we applied for membership in different regional and international sport federations or committees to work with them to develop our federation in order to achieve our goals. In addition to this, we are still looking to find and to build relations with other specialized agencies that may help us to fulfill and accomplish our goals, because if we pay a look on the conditions we are passing in our country this encourages us to work harder to provide all needed issues.

Therefore, we are looking forward to cooperate and to build relations with Japanese associations that may help us to enrich our experience and to help in different fields, where we learned a lot from the Japanese experience and benefited from it personally, and the first priority we learned from Japanese is to respect work and consider it as a sacred issue that should be kept.

Finally, I would like to express my deepest thank and gratitude for Nippon for the remarkable progress I personally achieved in my career life.



We introduce the Industrial Research Institute (I.R.I) by Ms. Nadia Khoury: Applied Research & Testing Director Ms. Khoury participated at a JICA seminar on "ISO-9000 v/s Quality Control System: the Japanese way", during sept. 1990 in Tokyo



### **Activities**

is a Lebanese institution for studies, industrial research and scientific testing and analysis. The IRI is a non-profit institution, declared of public utility by D/L n° 10059 dated 17 August 1955, linked to the Ministry of Industry by Law The activities and services of the Institute n° 642/1997, with administrative are organized to achieve the following aims: and financial autonomy.

- Conduct studies and research for the establishment of new industries
- Investigate and disseminate information about available raw materials with a view to defining their use and establishing the best means for their exploitation
- Provide, on an international scientific level, reliable services in testina analyzing and granting certificates of quality or conformity to standards and purchase specifications
- Provide specialized technological, management and economical consulting services to existing industries and industrial development schemes
- Maintain close co-operation with official institutions, industrial organizations, and economical development boards on matters relating to the industrial development of the country

Carrying out its functions, the Institute adheres to all ethical and professional standards whereby it is obliged to secure the clients best interests. Information, processes, patents or techniques developed during work by IRI, are considered as private properties and are safeguarded in complete secrecy.

#### Essential resources

The essential resources that enable the Industrial Research Institute to realize the above aims are:

- I. A permanent reliable body of experts, specialists, and engineers in many fields II. State of the art laboratories and latest scientific and technical equipments used in many fields such as:
- Wet Chemistry and Physical Chemistry Laboratories (International accreditation)
- Central Laboratory for Bread and Wheat
- Microbiology Laboratory (International accreditation)
- Water Laboratory (International accreditation)
- Petroleum and Petroleum Products Laboratory
- Paint Laboratory

info@iri.org.lb - www.iri.org.lb







- Textile, Leather and Rubber Laboratory
- Soil Mechanics and Civil Engineering Laboratory
- Mechanical Engineering Laboratory
- Metrology and Calibration Laboratory
- Electrical Laboratory
- III. An updated library with scientific and technical publications including International Standards.
- IV. A lecture room, an exhibition hall and a conference room (60-300 seats).
- V. Equipped Workshops.
- VI. A Pilot Plant for applied research.
- VII. The Lebanese Welding Center (CLS) which provides training and refreshing courses for skilled workers. VIII. A Sub-Contracting and Partnership Exchange (SPX) which provides information and advisory services to Small and Medium Industries in Lebanon and promotes subcontracting and partnership between Lebanese subcontractors and international SME's.
- IX. An Inspection and Control unit.
- X. A certification unit: the Industrial Research Institute delivers certification activities that cover systems, products and persons.
- XI. The Lebanese Cleaner Production Center (LCPC) in cooperation with the UNIDO, the MOEnv, and the EU which aims to achieve sustainable industrial and environmental development.
- The Industrial Research Institute has the means and ability to issue technical standards as could be requested by interested clients. The Industrial Research Institute participates on the national level in all the technical committees of the Lebanese Standard Institution (LIBNOR) for studying and issuing the Lebanese Technical Standards.

### **Future Prospective**

It is imperative to mention that for a scientific institution upgrading is a continuous process. It does not stop because not advancing is simply dropping behind. In that context, **our future prospective** would include expanding our activities in various fields as well as in both directions within each field;

- horizontal in order to cover new fields of activity as might be demanded.
- Vertical in order to go in depth within each type of product.

Being a small country does not exempt Lebanon from all the scientific and technical requirements needed in various fields:

Those pertinent to provide answers as to the **safety and conformity assessment of products** used within the country whether imported or locally manufactured as well as exported.

Another field of application involves **environmental assessment** laboratory facilities which deal with **ambient air** analysis in factories, public utility places, open and closed areas for safety exposure limits assessment. As well as assessment of air, liquid and solid **effluents of industries** etc.

## AJICA

## ctivities in Pictures







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October 2005: LEBAJICA - Workshop on agriculture in Lebanon (USJ Taanayel - Bekaa)





March 2007; Meeting of JICA-Alumni Associations in Jordan Syria & Lebanon at Grand Hotel Kadri Zahle



March 2007:
Meeting of the JICA-Alumni Associations in Syria
LEBAJICA members presented to Mr. Nagasawa
a souvenir from Lebanon

# Japan Activities in Lebanon



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March 2007: Annual gathering of JAAS Jica Alumni Association Syria



June 2006 : Launching of AJLBC



February 2007: Exhibition at LU - Faculty of Arts



March 2007: Members of LEBAJICA presenting a souvenir to his excellency the ambassador



March 2007: YWCA - Auditorium Inauguration



# Entry into the "Golden Age"



Robert Khoury, Civil Engineer Served in Civil Aviation (at Beirut International Airport) since 1968 for 37 years.

His trip to Japan was during August, September, October 1996 and the subject: Airport Construction In April 2006, LEBAJICA – Founding Member, Eng. Robert Khoury, retired from his civil service at the General Directorate of Civil Aviation (Beirut R.H. International Airport).

He began this function in 1968, 37 years ago, and participated in a JICA – training course which was organized from August to October 1996 in Japan under the subject: "Airport Construction".

LEBAJICA ceases this occasion to wish our colleague good health and all the best!

# General Assembly Newly Elected Executive Board

### **LEBAJICA General Assembly to elect a new executive Board:**



- On April 28th 2006, LEBAJICA General Assembly elected a new executive Board. During its first meeting, the new executive board has assigned following functions for its members:
- -MR. Kamal Mokdad: President (BDL Bank of Lebanon)
- -MR. Antoine Ghorayeb: Vice President (Ministry of Environment)
- -MR. Mohamed Youssef: Secretary (Vocational Building)
- -Ms. Manal Sleiman: Treasurer (Civil Service Council)
- -MRs. Hayat Nader: Ex. B-member (Ministry of Finance)
- -MR. A-K Sharamant: Ex. B-member (private sector)
- -MR. Assem Majed: Ex. B-member (National Fund for Housing)

## nching

## he Association of the Lebanese and Japanese Cultural and Business Leaders"



On June 20th 2006 at the Press Club in Downtown Beirut. The ALJCBL was launched in the presence of H.E. Mr. Murakami, Ambassador of Japan in Beirut.

The association president Dr. F. Boustany & the constitutional Committee members Ms. Eugine Hosri, Dr. Massoud Daher, Mr. Antoine Ghorayeb and Mr. Elie Abou Khalil covered the different aspects of ALJCBL- objectives in promoting cultural and business relations between Lebanon and Japan.

## ا الاعلان عن "اطلاق التجمع اللبناني الياباني للثقافة ورجال الأعمال"

لتعريف المجتمع الياباني على طبيعة لبنان



لاكتشاف مجالات جديدة ولتنمية المصالح المشتركة. لدى التجمع مشاريع الجميلة والتقاليد اللبنانية العريقة. واعدة مهمة، ونرحب بأعضاء جدد يشاركوننا أهدافنا"

> وقد توالى على الكلام كل أ من السيدة اوجيني حصري. الدكتور مسعود ضاهر. الدكتور أنطوان غريب. والسيد ايلى أبو خليل الذين وضحوا كل اختصاصه عن اهداف الجمعية في الجالات الختلفة من ثقافية. جارية واقتصادية بين لبنان واليابان.

> اما سعادة سفير اليابان السيد توكوميتسو موراكامي فقد ختم المؤتمر بالترحيب بهذه الخطوة البناءة التى ترمى الى تمتين العلاقات الثقافية بين لبنان و اليابان و وعد الموجودين بتكثيف الجهود

لقد تم يوم ١٠ حزيران ٢٠٠١ الاطلاق الرسمى للتجمع اللبناني الياباني للثقافة و رجال الأعمال من خلال مؤتمر صحافي عقد في نادي الصحافة وقد قامت اللجنة المؤسسة بعرض أهداف الجمعية للصحافة الكرمة, ولجمع من المنتسبين الجدد ولحشد من الرسميين من بينهم سعادة سفير اليابان في لبنان السيد توكوميتسو موراكامي. وقد صرح الدكتور فريد ج. بستاني " أن جُمعنا يضم مجموعة ميزة من اللبنانيين الذين يسعون الى تعزيز العلاقات بين لبنان و اليابان. نحن نؤمن بأن لبنان و اليابان يقدمان نموذجا فريدا لتطوير وتمتين الروابط بينهما في مجالى الثقافة و الاعمال. ورغم أننا ننتمى الى بلدين مختلفين و متباعدين جغرافياً



## **Kite Festival**

On July 4th 2006, the Japan Foundation participated in the 7th Kite Festival under the title: "Kites from the the country of the rising sun"

The exhibition was opened under the patronage of H.E. Mr. Tarek Mitri, minister of culture and H.E. Murakami san, Ambassador of japan in Lebanon.





## An Exhibition Entitled: "Scenes of Childhood"

Sixty years of Postwar Japan, was opened by H.E. Yoshihisa Kuroda, Ambassador of Japan on February 16, 2007 at the institute of Fine Arts of the Lebanese University.

The event was organised by the Embassy of Japan and the Japan Foundation in collaboration with the Lebanese University and the Lebanese-Japanese Association of Culture and Business Leaders





## Reception at the Ambassador Residence







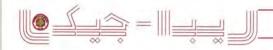


## Inauguration

Under the patronage of H.E. Yoshihisa Kuroda, Ambassador of Japan in Beirut, The Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) invited to LEBAJICA the Inauguration of its refurbished auditorium on Wednesday, February 21, 2007.

The next two days, on March 22 and 23, were entitled as "The Japan Cultural Days" within the premisses of the YWCA, where Japanese movies were shown, a Japanese cultural exhibition and Origami, Kurumie workshops were organised.





## ملتزمون بالمبتدأ والخبر

انطلاقاً من كوننا جمعية تعاونية ثقافية تضم في صفوفها مجموعة مختارة من المثقفين والاختصاصيين المدركين لأهمية مساهمتهم في التنمية الاقتصادية. الاجتماعية المستدامة للبنان فاننا نتطلع الى ان تأخذ العلاقات الثنائية بين اليابان ولبنان مكانها الملائم. خاصة فى مجال تفعيل برنامج التنمية للحكومة اليابانية عندنا ولا بد من الاشارة هنا الى الدورات التدريبية التي تنظمها الوكالة اليابانية للتعاون الدولى (جايكا) والتي تساهم في بناء القدرات البشرية الحققة لهذه الاهداف, ومن هنا التزام جمعيتنا في متابعة ما تؤول اليه هذه الدورات

اضافة الى ذلك, فاننا نأمل في ان يفعل اصدار نشرات "ليباجايكا" فعل "النضوح المعاكس" كمصدر إنباء لقراء جايكا هنا وفي كل مكان ... وما نرجوه هو ان خمقق هذه النشرة الفعل الاعلامى هذا

## ليباجايكا

### سفير جديد لليابان

- ♦ انطباعات السفير السابق ،صديق للبنان إ
- رسالة من مثل جايكا المقيم في سوريا
  - مالية عامة
- ♦ اقتصاد واجتماع
- 🔺 االسياحة في لبنان
- موضوع الغلاف: صور بدون تعليق
- البيئة: تمدّد البقعة النفطية في البحر وعلى الشواطيء اللبنانية ٢٣
- ♦ الزراعة
- **4** رياضة من نوع خاص
- ♦ نشاطات لیباجایکا فی صور
- **♦** زميل في العمر الذهبي
- ◄ إطلاق التجمع اللبناني الياباني
- ◄ اخبار یابانیة من بیروت

نشرة تصدرها الجمعية الثقافية لخريجي الوكالة اليابانية للتعاون الدولي

طبع و إعداد: ف. أ. الحصري - ٤٦٠ شارع باستور بناية الحصري - جميزة - بيروت - لبنان هاتف: ٩٦١١١ ١ ٩٦١ فاكس: ٩٨٣٨٢٤

## ليباجايكا

www.lebajica.org www.lebajica.com info@lebajica.com

### جابكا

ماتف: ۱۳۵۱ - ۱۳۵۱ ، ۳ ۵۳۵۱ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳۵ . ۳ ۵۳ . ۳ ۵۳ . ۳ ۵۳ . ۳ ۵۳ . ۳ ۵۳ . ۳ ۵۳ . ۳ ۵۳ . ۳ ۵۳ . ۳ ۵۳ . ۳ ۵۳ . ۳ ۲ . ۳

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