

On-site Education of Practical Languages for Area Studies
Report in 2009

-Arabic, Al-Diwan, Garden city school, Egypt, (29 July. 2009-14 Oct.2009)-

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Graduate school of Asian and African Areas Studies

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On My Research theme and training

I would like to explain my research topic and why Arabic is needed in my research field. Then I would like to tell what I gained during my language training at Egypt.

First of all my research topic is Islamic Finance from legal perspective. To be specific, I will focus on the differences of the legal system in Islamic countries and non-Islamic countries. To find the difference clearly I would compare the financial structure of these countries. The main purpose is to specify the problem that Islamic Finance would face, as it's applied internationally. This is because; the international society is looking for a safer economic and financial system. As economic crises occurred, the international society is looking for an alternative economic system that would have less risk than the one used recently. As a result, Islamic Finance has been one of the issues for this system. There for there is going to be a great need of specialist to deal with this field.

Secondly I would like to explain the importance of training Arabic for my research. Arabic is used widely in Islamic countries as it is used in Islamic writings. For example, Quran and other religious text are written in literary language. On the other hand, in daily life people use spoken language. Although the spoken language has variety in region, literary language is mostly same in any region. Most of the Islamic academic papers are published in Arabic. This is because, Islamic studies are mainly done by Arabic as it is the main language. Therefore, in order for my research it is necessary to have Arabic language skills in literary language.

Language training that I had this summer was useful for me to gain basic knowledge for Arabic. Before, I had a fear to study Arabic as I was not used to it. However, as I had a lot of time to learn and feel the language this time, now I have a sense to feel Arabic more closely than before. The language school was held 5 times a week for 3 hours. The lesson was held one by one and there were a lot of homework prepared every time. Therefore, 3 hours was quite enough time. I started from basic of Arabic and by the end of my training I was able to read and write Arabic academically. In addition, I had a chance to go out with my teacher and look for books that is related to my research. I was able to get some Arabic books about Islamic Finance and Islamic Law.

The language training that I had was useful as it gave me a chance to feel Arabic as an intimated language than before. However, there are some problems that I had realized by the training. I still have some trouble with speaking skill. I would keep on practicing this language skill and I would improve my research field.



Textbooks used at the language school



Inside the text used at the language school



Conference at the American University