



公益財団法人 **中東調査会**
Middle East Institute of Japan
المعهد الياباني لبحوث الشرق الأوسط

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MEIJ is a public interest incorporated association sponsored by Funding Member's membership fees.

MEIJ Monthly Report (July 2018)

1. MEIJ's Events

(1) Top Meetings

Politics and Foreign Policy Under Trump Administration

- Date: Wednesday, July 4
- Venue: Hotel Okura Tokyo
- Speaker: Mr. Ken-ichiro Sasaki, Former Ambassador to the United States and Former Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs
- Summary: Mr. Sasaki comparatively analyzed the Trump administration and the Obama administration. He also explained Mr. Trump's support base, policy features, and attitude toward foreign policy. The meeting was held off-the-record.



(2) Seminars

Recent Middle East Situation

- Date: Tuesday, July 4
- Venue: Tokyo Satellite Campus, Doshisha Univ.
- Speaker: Mr. Yutaka Kashiwabara, Director of the First Middle East Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Summary: Mr. Kashiwabara gave a lecture on the latest political situation in the Middle East and various challenges for regional stability from the standpoint of the Japanese government. The lecture was held off-the-record.



Cyber Terrorism: How real is the Threat?

Date: Tuesday, July 10

- Venue: Otemachi Kurabu, Gaimu Seirei Kai
- Speaker: Mr. Daniel Cohen, Senior Research Fellow at Blavatnik Interdisciplinary Cyber Research Center
- Summary: Mr. Cohen gave a general explanation of cyber



space and the ways in which terrorist groups utilize cyber space, for instance, for propaganda, recruitment, and intra-group communication. The lecture was held off-the-record.

2. MEIJ's Activities

(1) *Middle East Topics* (Members only)

July 2018 Issue (Published on August 1)

1. Yemen & Saudi Arabia: Houthis Attack a Tanker on the Red Sea
2. Iran: The Situation of the Closure of Strait of Hormuz
3. Kuwait: Rampancy of Fake Degrees
4. Turkey: Friction with the US over Detainment of an American Pastor
5. Palestine: Aggravating Electricity Shortage in Gaza

*Refer to our website for details.

https://www.meij.or.jp/trend_analysis/topics/

(2) *Radical Islamists Monitor*

(Members only)

No. 7 "Syria: Overview of "Tahrir al-Sham"

(July 6)

No. 8 "Syria: A Video Clip of Japanese Journalist Junpei Yasuda and "Tahrir al-Sham" (July 18)

No. 9 "Attack on American and European Tourists in Tajikistan" (July 31)

*Refer to our website for details.

https://www.meij.or.jp/trend_analysis/monitor/

(3) *CHUTO KAWARABAN*

No. 36 "Iraq: Reviving Dates Production"

(July 3, Chief Research Fellow Yutaka Takaoka)

No. 37 "Iran: Achievements and Challenges at the Ministerial Meetings on

Maintaining the JCPOA" (July 9, Research Fellow Momoyo Kondo)

No. 38 "Turkey: The First List of Ministers After Shifting to a Presidential System"

(July 11, Research Fellow Mayu Kaneko)

No. 39 "Syria: What Happened to the White Helmets?" (July 17, Takaoka)

No. 40 "Israel: The Knesset Passes the Nation-State Bill" (July 19, Research Fellow Kohei Nishidate)

No. 41 "Egypt: President al-Sisi Visits Sudan" (July 26, Nishidate)

No. 42 "Yemen: Transportation Ban at the Bab al-Mandeb Strait and Its Impacts" (July 27, Takaoka)

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