

## **Discussion with Yemeni-Hadrami Religious Teachers**

Date & Time: November 7, 2007, 15:00-16:20

Venue: Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

Guests: Four Teachers of Dar al-Mustafa (House of the Prophet), an Islamic Educational Institution in the town of Tarim, Hadramawt governorate, Yemen.

(<http://www.daralmustafa.org/>)

Language: English (the guests speak Arabic, but there will be an English interpreter).

### **Objective:**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan have invited four religious teachers from Yemen in early November under the scheme of “21st Century Partnership Program.” The guests are teaching at Dar al-Mustafa, a religious institution that attracts students not only from Yemen but also Southeast Asia (Indonesia, Malaysia), India, East Africa, Europe and North America. The purpose of their visit is to have firsthand experience of Japan. They are excited about communicating with the people in Japan.

Along with the session they will have with the undergraduate students here at TUFS, another session with the graduate students who are studying Peace and Conflict studies will be fruitful for both them and the students here. It would be a good idea that international students discuss current situation surrounding Islam and the role of religious teachers etc. with the guests. Also, I would like the guests to learn that students from various countries come to Japan in order to complete “Peace and Conflict Studies” program.

Please be reminded that the guests are the teachers of a religious institution and not researchers: a heated discussion (such as that in a class) may not be fruitful. But, at the same time, they are ready to be asked any question.