

Arab American National Museum Archives
13624 Michigan Ave., Dearborn, MI 48126



Title: Emile Abou Samra Papers
Creator: Samra, Emile Abou
Inclusive dates: 1933–2006
Bulk dates: 1940–2000
Extent: 1 linear foot; 2 document boxes
Accession number: 2010.48.00

Abstract:

Samra was a Lebanese American who studied in Egypt, worked as a security inspector in Lebanon, wrote for a variety of mostly Arabic-language news publications and operated a textile business after immigrating to the United States. This collection contains many news articles in Arabic, a collection of his diplomas and certificates, and materials relating to his activism.

Language: Material are in English and Arabic
Acquisition: Donation from Emile's wife Ruth Samra, and children Dr. Risë and Michael Samra on February 2, 2010
Accruals: Additions to the collection not expected.
Access: Any English articles can be quoted, but not reproduced. Also, the family reserves the right to publish a collection of the Arabic articles in a book at which time they will notify the Museum.
Photographs: Box 1; Folder 1
A-V Material: None
Digital Materials: Available through AANM PastPerfect Online collection
Copyright: Copyright has been transferred to the Arab American National Museum.
Processed: February 2011 by Elizabeth Skene and Matthew Jaber Stiffler
Arrangement: Materials are arranged into series, with Arabic and English language materials separate. Box 1 is mainly newspaper clippings and Box 2 contains personal ephemera.
Preferred citation: [item], Folder [#], Box [#], Emile Abou Samra Collection, Arab American National Museum

Biography

Emile Abou Samra was born in Marjayoun, Lebanon in 1918. He studied at a French university in Lebanon and the Egyptian College of Journalism. He later served as a Director of Public Security for the Lebanese government, as the Executive Secretary of the Port of the City of Beirut and as a security inspector for Lebanon in the 1940s. He married Ruth Farha in 1950 and immigrated to the United States where he owned and operated a textiles business until his retirement in 1988. Throughout his life, Samra contributed articles to Arabic language newspapers. Samra passed away in 2006 in Saginaw, Michigan.

Scope and Content Note

This collection gives a brief overview of Samra's life, including schooling, employment, and achievements. It includes newspaper articles written by Samra, about Samra, certificates, and other ephemera, including his passport and a service medal he received from the Lebanese government.

Subjects

- Lebanese Americans
- Journalism
- Immigration
- Employment

Genre terms

- Clippings files
- Photographs
- Printed ephemera

Contents

Box 1

Folder 1: Biographical Information, 2006

Photograph of Samra

Obituary from website, 2006

Obituary from The Saginaw News, March 31, 2006; newspaper clipping

Obituary from The Saginaw News; computer print out

Eulogy for Emile Samra, by daughter Risë J. Samra; April 3, 2006

Folder 2: English Language Speeches, n.d.

Folder 3: Newspaper Clippings, 1950–1975

Folder 4: Lebanon Petition, 1975

Folder 5: Arabic Language Writings

Three Arabic language documents handwritten by Samra

Folder 6: Arabic Language Writings

Folder titled "Publications to be Submitted" - includes articles about Samra leaving Lebanon, in Arabic

Folder titled "Publications to be Copied" - includes Arabic language articles; 1965–1972

Folder 7: Arabic Language Writings

Copies of an article about Samra's departure from Lebanon from various newspapers, in Arabic.

Folder 8: Arabic Language Writings, 1960–1992

Manila folder "I"

Newspaper articles from:

Al Hoda

Beirut Times

Folder 9: Arabic Language Writings, 1958–1981

Manila envelope

Newspaper articles from:

Al Hoda

Al Bayan

Al Kalam

Folder 10: Arabic Language Writings, 1959–1971

Manila envelope "III"

Newspaper articles from:

Al Hoda

Al Bayan

Folder 11: Arabic Language Writings, 1975–76

Manila folder "IV"
Newspaper articles from various papers

Folder 12: Arabic Language Writings, 1962–1998

Manila envelope "V"
Newspaper articles from:
Al Hoda
Al Kalam
Beirut Times

Folder 13: Arabic Language Writings, 1959–1976

Manila envelope "VI"
Newspaper articles from:
Al Hoda
Al Bayan

Folder 14: Arabic Language Writings

Manila envelope titled:
"1. The President Frangieh of Lebanon before the United Nations. 2. Editorial, comment by Mr. Daniel in journal Al Hoda."

Folder 15: Arabic Language Writings

Two Maps
Wall Map of the Middle East; 1964
Wall map of Middle East, 1973

Box 2

Folder 1: Certificates and Diplomas, 1933–1948

Access Restricted - Use digital copies

1. Elementary Studies Certificate, in French and Arabic, 1933
2. High School Diploma, Orthodox School in Syria, in French and Arabic, 1935
3. Certificate from Ecole Francaise De Droit, in French, 1939
4. Grades from journalism school, University of Egypt, in Arabic, 1947–48
5. College of Journalism certificate, in Arabic, 1948

- Folder 2: Lebanese Inspector Materials, 1945–1949
Lebanese Inspector ID, with insert
2 business cards, in French and Arabic, 1945
Certificate of service to Lebanon, 1949
- Folder 3: Letters, Lebanon Prime Minister, 1947
Letters from the Prime Minister of Lebanon to Emile Samra, 1947, handwritten, in Arabic
- Folder 4: Letters, Ahmed Assad, 1948
Letters to the Lebanese government regarding the Israeli landmines in Lebanon, in Arabic, 1948, 9 letters
- Folder 5: Medal of Palestine, 1949
Medal of Palestine - medal and certificate, in Arabic, May 23, 1949
- Folder 6: Medal of Palestine, related materials, 1956, 1997
Newspaper articles regarding Samra's return of the Medal of Palestine, in Arabic, 1956 & 1997
- Folder 7: Citizenship, 1940s–50s
United States Citizenship certificate, 1954
Passport, in Arabic, 1940s, 50s
- Folder 8: Man of the Year, 2001
Certificate from the Lebanese College of Education, Man of the Year Award, in Arabic
Newspaper article from Al Akhbar documenting award, in Arabic