

**How resources-poor Japan did deal with the Middle-East and Islamic World, the major energy providers in Modern Age? —Who were the major actors? What kind of young people is needed for playing useful roles in this field?**

**我が国はエネルギー資源確保のため中東イスラーム世界とどうつきあってきたか  
～歴史上どんなプレイヤーが活躍したか? 将来どのような人材が必要とされるか? ～**

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**Memorial Hall, Tegata Campus, Akita University**

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**聴講自由!**

**秋田大学手形キャンパス60周年記念ホール**

**Summary**

1. Upon entering into “Energy Liquefaction Age”, Japan, so poorly endowed with natural resources at home, has had to maintain good relations with the Middle East and Islamic nations for stable supply of oil and natural gas, as a driving force for economic development and higher standard of living.

2. In 1939, just before the Pacific War, the Yokoyama Mission attempted the first oil concession agreement with Saudi Arabia in vain. Later in the post-War years 1957-58, exactly for one of the three concession areas offered by the Saudi side to the Yokoyama Mission, Taro Yamashita concluded a successful negotiation with the Saudi-Kuwaiti counterparts to set up Arabian Oil Company KK. Facing with the Arab Oil-Cutback Strategy at the aftermath of the Fourth Middle East War, the Miki Mission made its utmost endeavor to restore the normal flow of Arab oil to Japan in 1973.

3. Since the recent Tsunami disaster incident, the secure and stable supply of energy from the Middle East has become all the more important for Japan, and its dependence upon that area for oil and natural gas is getting heavier, despite some serious sign of political risk-factors developing in the region.

For future young players in this field, we expect tough body for hardship climate and resilience for adapting to different culture and religion, equipped with language skill (Arabic or Persian, let alone English) to break the barrier of communication and to lead better negotiation.

**要旨**

1. エネルギー資源の乏しい日本は、エネルギー流体化時代に入り、国力増進、生活向上のため、石油・天然ガスなどの安定供給を求めて中東・イスラーム圏の国々・人々とつきあってきた。

2. 第2次大戦直前、サウジアラビア王国と初めて石油開発利権交渉を行った横山ミッション(1939)、戦後日本で初めてサウジ・クウェイトと自主開発協定を結んだアラビア石油 KK 山下太郎(1957-58)、第4次中東戦争直後、日本など西側消費国に対して石油供給カットを行ったアラブ産油国との交渉に当たった三木ミッション(1973)などの活躍に着目する。

3. 原発事故以来、従前以上に中東・イスラーム諸国からのエネルギー資源の安定供給は重要になっている。そのために必要な人材は? これら地域の厳しい自然環境に耐えうる体力と、異文化環境に適應できるタフな精神力、そして英語、アラビア語などコミュニケーション能力・交渉力を培っていくこと。