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The Peace on The Horizon - 75 Years after The World War 2 in the Middle East (29)

Chapter 1. Wave of nationalism and socialism (1945-1956) (13)

029. Israel independence(3): Palestinians extruded by invading Jewish immigrants (2/3)



The land of Palestine was not so wide. It was wide barren desert and narrow farmland. The fertile land has already been cultivated by Arabs who were indigenous people. Sheep and camels were grazing on land, which was unsuitable for cultivation.

The newly migrated Jewish immigrant needed the farmland at first. Most of them had been poor in the Jewish community in Europe. Poor Jews looked for new horizon. In contrast, rich Jews did not migrate to underdeveloped Palestine. Wealthy Jews stayed in Europe or migrated to rich New World; the United States.

How did Jewish in Palestine get the farmland? Did the Jews kick out the indigenous Arab farmers by force? No. If Israel had own independent state, they could clear off Arabs by force. But the Jews of those days have no such power. They took a measure to buy the land from the landlord. Arabs were peasant farmers and the land was monopolized by absentee landlords in the Ottoman Empire.

(To be continued ----)

Areha Kazuya

(From an ordinary citizen in the cloud)