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## **The Peace on The Horizon - 75 Years after The World War 2 in the Middle East (36)**

**Chapter 1. Wave of nationalism and socialism (1945-1956) (20)**

**036. Both East and West blocks were at the mercy of Nasser (1/3)**



Everyone know the name of Saladin (Salah Ad - Din) who was the hero in the Arab world. He was born in Tikrit of Iraq in the 12th century. He conquered Egypt and founded the Ayyubid Dynasty. He was a warrior who fought against the Third Crusade led by British King Richard I. Saladin did not kill the war prisoners, while the crusaders killed all of the war prisoners. Therefore, he was loved by both his ally and enemy. He left his name in the history as a hero.

In the 20th century, 800 years after Saladin, Gamal Abdul Nasser born in Egypt was also praised as hero of the Arab world. Saladin was a hero who fought against the Christian Crusaders of medieval Europe. But Nasser was a hero who overthrew the Egyptian monarchy which was a British puppet by the coup d'etat in 1952. He then fought against UK and French and has nationalized the Suez Canal in 1956.

Born in 1918 in Alexandria, a city on the Mediterranean coast, Nasser was transferred to Sudan after graduating from the military academy and served as a major during the Arab Israeli War triggered by the Declaration of Israeli Independence in 1948. When Arab suffered a fatal defeat in the war, of which Arabs called as Nakba(catastrophe), he formed the organization of the anti-British patriotism "Association of Free Officers" and exiled King Faruq I in 1952. Egypt shifted from the tyrannical system to the republican state.

(To be continued ----)

Areha Kazuya

(From an ordinary citizen in the cloud)