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"The Peace on The Horizon - 70 Years after The World War 2 in the Middle East"(22)

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Chapter 2 Global wave – The end of colonial era and the emerging two super powers

2-8(22) Guerilla combatant or refugee? Wandering Palestine

For the time being since its inception in 1964, PLO was carrying out the restoration of national self-determination rights of Palestinian and a return movement of discrete Palestinian refugees with a moderate political struggle. However, the expected support of the politicians of the neighboring Arab countries was lip service only. Six Day War in 1967 broke the self-confidence of the Arab politicians perfectly. The dream of PLO's territory recapture became more distant. In addition, more than a million of new Palestinian refugees have flowed into Jordan. The Palestinians were disappointed in their Arab brothers, and the PLO transformed into a radical guerrilla combatant.



Fatah became the leader of PLO. Fatah formed an anti-Israeli guerrilla organization and got good results as repelling the Israeli army at the border of Israel and Jordan. In February 1969, Yasser Arafat of Fatah was appointed to the chairman of PLO. President Nasser of Egypt gave him a title of the leader of the Palestinians, which made the PLO a substantial Palestinian government in exile.

In PLO there were radical group such as People Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) which was not satisfied with Fatah's moderate policy. PFLP with Marx-Leninism as the basis attacked Israel from Jordan. The aim was to attract the world's attention to Palestine policy. Initially the Jordanian government sent an attacking unit too, but each time they met a painful counterattack by Israel. King Hussein, who realized that there was no winning battle against Israel, asked the US to mediate and tried to change the policy to realistic diplomacy. PLO thought Jordanian government as a betray, and attempted to overthrow Hashemite monarchy and to build a republican state in Jordan. PLO promoted the terrorist activities both inside and outside. They aimed at overthrowing the monarchy inside Jordan and overturning Israel outside

Jordan.

Radical terrorism activities by PLO and its affiliated PFLP were rejected not only by Jordanian citizens but also Palestinians. When PFLP hijacked five civilian airliners at one time in September 1970, Jordanian King Hussein came out of patience and finally embarked on elimination of PLO. It was called "Black September" and resulted in civil war in Jordan. PLO who lost support of the public was defeated and had to move its headquarters to Beirut, Lebanon.

Although the PLO did not quit guerrilla attack against Israel after relocating to Beirut, Palestinian refugees overflowed because of exceeding counterattacks by Israel. Huge Palestinian refugee camps were born in southern Lebanon. The impatient Palestinian extremists invited foreign militant organizations that were in tune with their movements. They themselves developed terrorist activities against Jews abroad and asked foreign organizations to attack Jews inside Israel.

As a result, two major incidents occurred in 1972. At the Tel Aviv airport in May 1972, the Japanese Red Army opened fire of automatic rifles and killed 26 people. The fact that terrorists indiscriminately attacked ordinary citizens and that one of the perpetrators was self-destructed with grenades was unthinkable with Muslim terrorism until then. Monotheism such as Islam, Christianity or Judaism does not admit suicide. Human life is left to the hand of God (or Allah), and it is not allowed to die on his own. However, the Japanese who came from the Orient thought that it was the high-faith ideal to die for his belief. In the head of the detonated culprit, there might have been about Yukio Mishima's self-assault incident two years ago. It was a shocking incident that could be said to be the forerunner of suicide bombings that occurred frequently in decades later.

In addition, nine Israeli athletes were killed in Munich during the Olympic Games in August 1972. The attack group was a Palestinian extremist group called "Black September". But with this, the PLO was chased by Israel. In addition, domestic situation under civil war in Lebanon was complicated. PLO escaped from Beirut and moved to Tunisia in 1982.

It is not just PLO that has escaped. The same was true for individuals of Palestinians who evacuated to Jordan. Jordan was poor country and not a place to rest. Some Palestinians aimed for further trip in search for good living condition. At that time the oil development boom was about to begin in Persian Gulf area. There were two options for the Palestinians. One option was to become PLO's guerrilla combatant, and the other option was to migrate to the more safety country with their family. Many of them rushed to oil producing countries as migrants.

Both teacher's family of Shatila and doctor's family of Al-Yassin who had escaped together from Tulkarm on the West Bank of Jordan River to Jordan at the Israeli Independence War, they again moved together to Kuwait where aimed for nation building with a abundant oil income focusing on education and medical care. Kuwait invited numerous Arab expatriates with high salary.

Palestinians became the people of Diaspora (discrete) like the Jewish people of two thousand years ago.

(To be continued ----)