

## "The Peace on The Horizon - 70 Years after The World War 2 in the Middle East"(6)

[\(Japanese Version\)](#)

[\(Arabic Version\)](#)

### Prologue

#### 6. Britain's triple tongue diplomacy during World War I (3)

##### (3) The Balfour Declaration

The most famous promise of UK's triple tongue diplomacy would be the "Balfour Declaration", which was made in the last of the three promises. The Balfour Declaration was mentioned in a letter sent from Arthur Balfour, UK's Foreign Secretary, to Lord Walter Rothschild, a leader of the British Jewish community, in November 1917. The declaration announced support for the establishment of a "national home" for the Jewish people in Palestine.

After the Roman Emperor Hadrian finally suppressed the rebellion of Jews in the year 135 AD, a long history of the Jews' 'diaspora' (discrete) began. Jewish people had been banned from entering Jerusalem. They dreamed of re-establishment of a Jewish homeland. They had been enduring the contempt and persecution of Christian people in Europe. In the 19th century they launched political Zionism campaign which meant the movement to return to the promised hometown of Zion.

Jews became the de facto ruler of global economy in the wave of prevailing capitalism from the 19th century to the 20th century. It was also an era when the financial power of the Jews affected the outcome of the war. Most of Japanese recognizes Japanese victory in the Russo-Japanese War in 1904 because the Jewish bankers in the United States bought Japanese wartime bonds. In the World War I Jewish money was the key to victory of UK. Lord Rothschild was the exponent of Jewish investors. UK, which had been suffered in shortage of money, requested war funds to Lord Rothschild. In return, UK promised to patronize the Zionism movement.



The letter sent from Balfour to Lord Rothschild told as follows:

"His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country.

I should be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation."

This declaration has shown clearly the intention of the British government to support the construction of Jewish colony in the Palestinian homelands. Historically, the Jews had left Palestine in the first

century AD. But Arabs have been living in Palestine continuously for nearly two thousand years since then. It was the reason why the British government mentioned in the letter that "Nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine". This phrase, however, has not been abided. On the contrary, Israel has widened its territory in Palestine through four wars – Israeli Independent War in 1948, Suez War in 1956, Six-days War in 1967 and Yom Kippur War in 1978. Israel is continuing to expand their settlements even now. Arabs are just staring at Jewish outrage without effective countermeasures.

Three promises could be read as such: The Balfour Declaration meant that if you (Jews) gave us the war expenses, we (UK government) would give you the Jewish country. McMahon-Hussein Correspondence was "If you (Arabs) disturbed the Ottoman Empire behind the front line, you would be supplied necessary money and weapons, and when the war was over, the Arabic caliphate Islamic state would be established. The third and last promise – Sykes-Picot Agreement which marked the border on the map by Britain and France meant that once the war was over, let's divide the Middle East by two countries".

These three promises obviously conflicted each other and made the trouble in the future. But the UK, which aimed to defeat the enemy on imminent war, thought that "Let the conflict of the interest as it is." UK chose not the double standards diplomacy but triple standards diplomacy.

The order of the three promises of the UK and France was that the Sykes-Picot Agreement was the first agenda. The Balfour Declaration was the second, and McMahon-Hussein Correspondence was the last agenda. The fact and truth after the World War I indicated clearly the order of three agendas. The hopes of the Arab and Islamic people who should be the main players in the Middle East was thoroughly ignored. Arab and Islamic people were exploited by Western powers. It was the roots of the trouble in the Middle East after World War II.

(To be continued ----)

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