

## What do you mean by Suiz-crisis? How is it solved?

The political crisis that erupted when Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser nationalized the Suez Canal in 1958 is known as the Suez Crisis

**(a) Hostility of Britain and France:** Britain and France had large shares in the Suez Canal Company. So they vehemently opposed the Egyptian move to nationalize the Suez Canal and prepared for military action.

**(b) Conference of countries using the Suez Canal:** In order to control the Suez Canal strategically without using force, the United States brought together twenty two countries using the Suez Canal in London and proposed international control. Sixteen countries voted in favour of the proposal and four countries opposed it. Australia's Prime Minister Robert Menzies has been sent to Egypt to discuss the proposal. But Nasser rejected the offer of international control over the Suez Canal.

**(c) Suez issue in the Security Council:** France had earlier proposed international control over the Suez issue in the Security Council and Egypt's proposal to discuss the Suez Canal crisis in the Security Council on 5 October 1956. France's offer was rejected as a result of the Soviet veto.

**(d) Confidential trilateral agreement:** Failing to reach a favourable decision through the United Nations, the prime ministers of France, Britain and Israel took a tripartite decision to invade Egypt.

**(e) Ishmael's troops invade Egypt:** On October 26, 1957, Ishmael's troops entered the Sinai and advanced on Suez. France and Britain issued an ultimatum to both sides to stop fighting and move their own forces ten miles to the canal, but Nasser refused.

**(f) The invasion of Egypt by France and Britain:** On November 5, 1956, France and Britain invaded Egypt.

**Solution:** UN emergency forces ordered France and Britain to end the war. Under pressure from world opinion, Britain and France accepted the offer to end the war. The Soviet Union, meanwhile, backed Egypt, warning Britain and

France that it would rocket attacks on London and Paris if it did not stop. With no active US support, Britain and France accepted the ceasefire offer.

Prepared by  
**Sk Mainuddin**  
Head, Department of Arabic  
Gour Mahavidyalaya, Malda