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Present Western leadership has created 'new world disorder'

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IT may be a coincidence, but it certainly is reflective of today's international politics that the piece in the "Other Thots" column on July 5, titled "Casting new order in the Western mould", should appear on the same day on the centre pages with another revealing piece by columnist Russell Baker which described current American leadership as bankrupt of ideas.

These two pieces tell the same story: the new world disorder, brought ahead by a generation of Western leadership. However, it is not because of its lack of ideas, but rather of its pursuing wrong ideas.

Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher, George Bush, Newt Gingrich, Bill Clinton - all of them pushed the ideas of "free (read: flee) market" to the ends of a globalised, liberalised and de-regularised world.

It is globalised in the sense that it touches and links together all nations. It is liberalised and de-regularised because it is forced to bare itself for exploitation by the new international financier oligarchy, or, as put in Other Thots, the Wall-Street-Treasury-IMF Complex, replacing the older oligarchy of the Industrial-Military Complex of the 1960s and 70s.

Whatever the terminology, it is the same minority combination of elite power groups from banking, industry and government.

Baker mentions the founding fathers of the American Republic: Alexander Hamilton, James Madison, Benjamin Franklin, George Washington, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson as leaders with ideas, as opposed to the present generation.

Those founding fathers had different ideas. Their ideas had roots in the best traditions of the human race: freedom, justice, truth, human brotherhood and human welfare, just the opposite of the reactionary and oppressive ideas of the financier oligarchy whose aim is its continuing domination of mankind.

The fight has gone on throughout history: between evil and good, with each alternating the other in the control of human affairs, owing to human relapse in the fight against evil. Still the optimist will say - truly, to my mind - that in the long run history proves the superiority of human ingenuity to improve itself.

I shall even say that it is inherent in the very essence of creation that good prevails over evil, although, by logical definition, evil is necessary to bring about good.

In the present era of Bush's Anglo-American "New World Order" with the collapse of the Soviet Union, the Anglo-American-led UN war against Iraq and the European connivance of Greater-Serbian genocide in Bosnia, evil has been enthroned in the highest seat of international authority, the UN Security Council.

But just as we reach this point, we reach a state of globalised disorder that inevitably calls for total revolutionary change, if humankind is to survive.

There is no doubt that humankind will survive. It has survived for a million years now, having surmounted many crises worse than the present systemic financial-economic crisis.

The call for this total revolutionary change was made in 1974 by no less than the General Assembly of the United Nations in the form of a new world economic order when the moral weight of the Non-Aligned Movement was at its greatest.

But, of course, this historic resolution was put aside, as many UN resolutions were, simply because it did not coincide with the interests of this international oligarchy centred in London and Washington.

But this time it is different. This very oligarchy has been exposed and cornered. Such exposure has been made by various morally-committed groups during the last few decades, and now our Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has added his considerable voice to it. It has even entered the usually sedate Other Thots.

Politically and militarily, it is being hit at many points. But its most vulnerable side is the financial-economic one. The insatiable genie that free trade propagandist Adam Smith and Co let loose some two hundred years ago is coming home to claim its own mother.

So, at the end of the second millennium, and entering the third, the Anglo-American oligarchy is in control, but poorly (as seen by its failure to eliminate its arch-enemy Saddam Hussein, the Clinton administration's inability to pressure Israel to accept an American-sponsored Oslo accord, the new problem posed to them by Yugoslav dictator Slobodan Milosevic and the nuclear challenge posed by India and Pakistan), with several other power centres restraining and restricting its own freedom of action.

Without doubt, the financial-economic crisis that has erased the economies of most of Asia will bring down this Titanic sooner than US Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan can say "Abandon ship!"

At this point, Man the vicegerent of God, especially Man the believer in God, must be summoned to chart the future history of mankind. We can indeed degenerate into a new Dark Age.

Just look at Africa and many parts of the Third World. The conditions there are not far removed. A third world war will certainly send this planet into a new Dark Age.

Only the combined efforts and determined struggles of believers throughout the world will save this civilisation and build a better world of justice and freedom.

Doomsday is only for the current neo-liberal system, because it is no longer morally fit to survive.

Humanity will continue for many more million years. Did not God tell us in the Quran that Paradise is eternal?