

We cannot rest on our laurels, says Dr Mahathir

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He urged the people, particularly Muslims, to grab every opportunity made available by the Government to not only bring progress to their race and nation but also to restore the Islamic glory.

"We cannot just fold our arms and stare while others march along in progress. We cannot be satisfied with our achievements and success so far.

"We cannot allow others to always be ahead of us. Others should try to keep up with us and not we keep up with others," Dr Mahathir said.

He said if Muslims

wished to restore the glorious era of Islam, they should, among other things, be smart enough to apportion their time for religious studies and studies in other fields.

He said with globalisation and the elimination of borders to facilitate capital movements, Muslims and their countries would be exposed to dangers.

"If Muslims continue to have conflicts among themselves, reject modern technology and knowledge and remain disorganised, they will not be able to overcome such dangers," he said.

Dr Mahathir criticised certain Islamic nations for

colluding with the enemies of Islam and eroding their wealth by acquiring foreign-made weapons to defeat other Islamic countries.

"This is the reason why we Muslims cannot blame only the enemies of Islam. Muslims are no less at fault because they do not follow Islamic teachings such as the need to acquire knowledge and to be united," he said.

He said even if there was only a single Muslim country which was recognised as a world power, no other power in the world would oppress Muslims and other Islamic countries according to its whims and fancies.