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Causes of terrorism must be removed first

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IT'S frustrating to hear the war cries these days getting more vocal, especially those trying absurdly to make it sound legitimate. More regretfully, it seems Muslims are doomed to suffer war and oppression.

For example, America's stated intention to attack Iraq, Russia's plans for the Chechens in Georgia, the recent UN decision to list the East Turkestan Islamic Movement (ETIM) in Xinjiang, China, as a terrorist-linked group and, last but not least, the never-ending reprisals by Israel against defenceless Palestinians.

So, what's the solution to this seemingly insoluble problem? Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad recently shed some light on the answer. Simple as it sounds, the causes of terrorism must first be removed and then you try to win the people's hearts and trust.