

Kuala Lumpur to host World Peace Conference

8-7 AUG 2003

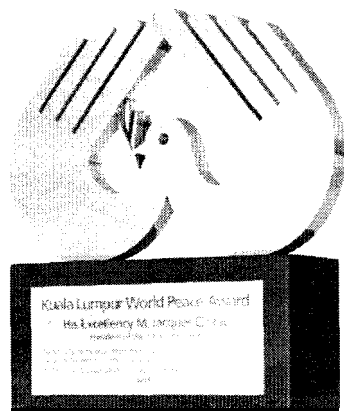
Throughout the world, armed conflicts have been fought for years with no peace in sight, bringing violent death and appalling suffering to countless people from the Philippines to Palestine, from Chechnya to Colombia.

Peace-loving people must act to return the world to sanity.

The 20th Century was the bloodiest and most brutal in the history of the world, with more than 140 million people killed either as casualties on the battlefield or indirectly as victims of starvation and disease caused by war.

Since the end of World War Two, more than 250 wars have been fought, in which close to 30 million people have died, 10 million of them children.

Beyond even this toll, wars have wrecked countless lives. At the start of 2002, there were nearly 20 million refugees or displaced persons in more than 120 countries being cared for by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.



It is against this backdrop of intensifying fear and insecurity that the Malaysian World Peace Foundation is organising the Kuala Lumpur World Peace Conference that assembles peace makers of the world on an urgent Mission for Peace.

Gathering in the bustling modern capital of Malaysia, a nation predicated on the peaceful cooperation of diverse cultures, ethnicities, languages and religions, they will discuss how to dismantle the major hindrances to peace.

The Conference, the first of its kind to be convened by a Muslim-majority country, is organised by the Malaysian World Peace Foundation, headed by Tan Sri Lim Kok Wing as Chairman.

It will be opened with a keynote address from Prime Minister Dato Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, and closed by his deputy, Dato' Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

On July 22, the Malaysian World Peace Foundation awarded the Kuala Lumpur World Peace Award to his

Excellency Monsieur Jacques Chirac, President of the French Republic.

The Award is made in recognition of his outstanding dedication to the peaceful resolution of international conflict, courage in defence of principle, and commitment to cooperation amongst the nations of the world.

Chirac was selected by the unanimous decision of the Award Committee, comprising eminent Malaysians and chaired by Tan Sri Razali Ismail, the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy for Myanmar.

Date: August 9 & 10, 2003

Venue: Mandarin Oriental Kuala Lumpur City Centre.

Attendance by invitation only.

For conference details, contact:

ASLI at tel: 2093 5393 / 2093 5760

Fax: 2093 3078 /

E-mail: kenangasimon@po.jaring.my