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Dr M: US must hand over Iraq to UN

PUTRAJAYA, Mon. - The United States must at all costs leave Iraq immediately and hand over the country to the United Nations to avoid more violence.

Former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who made this call today, said there was no other way that peace could be restored to the nation currently occupied by the US-led forces .

"If the US forces leave Iraq there will be chaos; if they stay put there will also be chaos. What they should do is relinquish command to the UN," he said.

Dr Mahathir said whoever the UN appointed as the commanding officer to restore order in Iraq must take orders only from the UN command.

"Orders should not come from the US. Now, they (US) want to invade Syria. They can do that; they can invade all these other states they call 'axis of evil' but today you cannot conquer a country and try to rule it.

"The Governments may surrender, they may even sign peace treaties but the people will not accept foreign rule."

He said this after the launch of a coffee-table book by author Bernice Narayanan titled A Salute To a Man: Quotable Quotes of Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the Perdana Leadership Foundation here.

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