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Dr M's remarks bold, truthful, from the heart

Gordon Patterson

NOT every Australian agrees with our Prime Minister John Howard's retort that Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's remarks at the recent OIC summit were offensive and unhelpful. I, for one, do not find it repugnant to tell the truth where others dare not.

Wars are not a solution. Too many people do not see the realities of this situation and choose to follow what others tell them like sheep following a herdsman. Jerusalem has seen little else but conflict, and yet nothing has been resolved through the decades of bloodshed. I speak as a veteran of the Second World War, and agree with Dr Mahathir when he said that there is a need to rethink about using violence as a means.

My father used to say if you put a Jew together with two other nationals, the Jew would get them to fight against one another. They are actually the greatest terrorists.

I have travelled to many countries, without problems, because I respect their customs and ways. Sensitivity is what is needed in a world where the most uncommon thing is, in fact, common sense.

To Dr Mahathir I wish happy retirement. Of all the politicians I have heard, he is the first who spoke from the heart and not the pocket.

GORDON PATTERSON  
Australia