

# The Perdana Global Peace Foundation



The Perdana Global Peace Foundation has a singular goal – putting an end to war. Founded by Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the former Prime Minister of Malaysia, the Foundation envisages "a serious, active and sustained struggle against war and for peace".

Sharing and supporting this agenda are world renowned professionals, intellectuals, authors and statesmen, who are all passionate advocates of international peace. Together they support the Kuala Lumpur Initiative to Criminalise War.

The Chairman of its Board of Trustees, Tan Sri Norian Mai pointed out that the Tribunal, the International Conference on "The Arab Uprising" and the Exhibition on War are all part of the on-going initiative to get the people to understand the horrors of war.

"We have even come up with the idea of inviting members of the public to take part in an essay-writing contest that lays emphasis on war as a crime. It will be in English and Bahasa Melayu. We hope that students will take part."

On the Foundation itself, Tan Sri Norian disclosed: "It was formed on 4 May 2006 and then called Perdana Global Peace Organisation. However, to better fulfil its mission, the organisation was incorporated as the Perdana Global Peace Foundation on 8 October 2010."

"Our mission is simple enough. War is a crime, and the people must be made aware

of it. We have already made contact with several NGOs (non government organizations) and personalities around the world. All of them share the same belief that war is a crime. The movement is gaining momentum, especially in places where the people have experienced warfare and suffering. These are places in the Middle East, Iraq and Lebanon for instance, where even till today, some conflict is taking place."

Conceding that this is a mammoth task – that of criminalising war – Tan Sri Norian remained optimistic that progress will be made.

"It is our hope that we can muster the full support from the public, not only in our declared aims, but also by donating time and money to the greater cause. We must



*Chairman Board of Trustees PGPF,  
Tan Sri Norian Mai*

succeed in instilling in people the realization that conflicts can be solved by discussion, by negotiations, by peaceful means. We must create the awareness among our people. Fighting solves nothing, it only increases misery and sufferings. We are an educated people, and we must accept that peace and peaceful means bring about greater benefits to the people."

## The Exhibition

The man behind the Exhibition on War, Tan Sri Dr Samsuddin Hitam, gave his take on what the aims and concept were:

"The theme of this exhibition is war, that we

have to show to the visitors the horrors of war, especially what has been happening in Iraq. We have arranged it in a chronological order, starting with World War I, then World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and some of the other conflicts that have happened, like Gaza, Lebanon and Dafur.

"We have tried to show the terrible things that take place in war. We want to show to all visitors the kind of killings that have taken place, where men, women and children have been blown to bits – the real horrors of war. It might be disturbing to some visitors, but it was our aim to show the truth of war and killing.

"We plan to have a road-show, taking to various parts of the country, so that more people can see for themselves what war does, the human suffering, where lives and limbs are lost and even young children are not spared the horrors.

**Q: Would people who come and see something as gruesome as this, then become peace lovers?**

A: "We hope so, we certainly hope that they will reject war. That is after all the objective of the Perdana Global Peace Foundation, of criminalizing war.



*Tan Sri Dr Samsuddin Hitam*