

US waging war for oil, says don

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'Buddhists would be targets if they had resource'

KUALA LUMPUR: The United States would have demonised Buddhists if the land they inhabited had oil, a professor of economics said.

Ottawa University's Prof. Michael Chossudovsky said the war on Iraq was actually a war of conquest to confiscate and control oil reserves.

He added that three-quarters of the oil reserves were in Muslim lands and only 4% was in Western countries, with the United States having 2%.

"If oil had been found in the lands inhabited by Buddhists, the United States would have demonised them to get control of the resource. The war on terror is a fabrication," he said yesterday at the *Expose War Crimes - Criminalise War* conference organised by Perdana Global Peace Organisation.

He said plans to extend the war to Iran would cause the whole region to flare up, and that the objective to redraw the map of the Middle East was for the conquest of oil reserves.

Prof Chossudovsky said there had been more than 10 million casualties in US-spon-

»The war on terror is a fabrication«

PROF MICHAEL CHOSSUDOVSKY

sored wars all over the world.

He said some were covert, such as in Africa, where they financed both sides to fight each other in civil wars in order to take over the resources of the country later.

Another speaker, Cynthia McKinney, a former representative to the US House of Representatives, said impeaching US President George W. Bush, Vice-President Dick Cheney and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice was America's roadmap back to dignity.

She noted that although the Democrats had taken over Congress, they had made it clear that they did not have plans to impeach the Republican president and have taken that out of the table.