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Dr M: United Muslim boycott is the way to 'punish' Holland

KUALA LUMPUR: Muslims can only effectively take action against the Dutch for releasing a film that puts Islam in a bad light if they unite and boycott Dutch products, said former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Dr Mahathir, who is Perkim president, said Muslims were "very annoyed" with the film as it depicted Islam as being violent, adding that "we are very weak and cannot take any action against them".

The film *Fitna*, released by Dutch

lawmaker Geert Wilders, is critical of Islam and uses Quranic verses with a backdrop of images from terrorist attacks, which has angered Muslims.

On possible reaction by the Muslim community, he said if the 1.3 billion Muslims in the world united

and boycotted products from Holland, the country's economy would collapse.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Dr Rais Yatim said Malaysia strongly condemns the irresponsible act of airing online the "Fitna" film.

He said the film, that portrays Islam as a religion advocating extremism and violence, is not only misleading and erroneous but also a blatant disregard and utter disrespect for Islam and the sensitiveness of the Muslim world.