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Dr M: UN failed the Iraqis

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KUALA LUMPUR: Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad yesterday accused the United Nations (UN) of failing to stop the atrocities committed against civilians in modern warfare.

"Those days, soldiers fought soldiers in war.

"But nowadays, thousands of innocent civilians become victims and the whole country becomes a battlefield.

"The international community and the UN have failed to do anything about these atrocities.

"This is where we come in," he said.

Dr Mahathir was speaking about the War Criminal Con-

ference and Exhibition to be held for four days beginning today at the Putra World Trade Centre.

He will be delivering the keynote address.

On Friday, a war-crime commission will be convened and the next day, a tribunal will be held.

Seven people, who have claimed to be victims of tor-

ture following the invasion of Iraq, will be testifying before the commission and tribunal.

The conference is hosted by the Perdana Global Peace Organisation and the Kuala Lumpur Foundation to Criminalise War.

Throughout the event, an exhibition on the carnage of war and torture committed by the forces which invaded Iraq

will also be held.

"We may not be able to arrest them (war criminals) and throw them in jail if they are found guilty but we can campaign for them not to be accepted in any society," said Dr Mahathir, who heads both the organisations.

He said it would take up to two months for the tribunal to decide whether or not people

**INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION**



To Stop The Slaughter of Innocents - To Stop Prisoners Earning More Money
To Stop The World Media Denying War - To Stop The Manufacture of Weapons

accused of war crimes should be charged for the offence.

"We will use only existing laws, which can be used against these criminals but is overlooked by the great powers, to prosecute the perpetrators."

The people responsible would be tried in absentia.