

Newspaper	The Sun
Date	28/8/2013



REUTERSPIX

Zuma receives the Mahathir Award for Global Peace on behalf of Mandela from Mahathir, as Najib looks on.

# Duty of all nations to ensure **peace**: Najib

*The sun - 28/8/2013*

> It can be achieved by constructive engagement and dialogues

**PUTRAJAYA:** All nations share a common responsibility to create a better future and to secure lasting peace, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Abdul Razak said yesterday.

He said international communities face a great challenge not just to ensure peace at the present moment, but peace for all times.

"It is a challenge that must be met collectively. It is imperative that we achieve a peace premised upon a covenant of the willing, not one enforced by hegemony or secured through coercion.

"Peace can be achieved if we are willing to constructively engage each other, to substitute dialogue in place of conflict," said Najib in his opening address at the Mahathir Award for Global Peace ceremony yesterday at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre (PICC).

He said despite the coming of civilisation, people have yet to forgo on the most primitive pastime - war, and use it as a tool not just to advance ambitions but also to

destroy them.

"Throughout our history, humans have embarked upon war. In the name of plunder, conquest or religion, we have chosen violent ends over peaceful means.

"Motivated by anger, fear and greed, we have killed and maimed at even greater scale.

"Today, conflict burns in each region of Earth. Whether border skirmish or civil war, sectarian violence or military occupation, conflict continues to take a heavy toll on people and nations; often on those who can afford it least.

"The progress we have fought for over centuries and the achievements of our remarkable species count for nothing if we cannot live in peace as people of one world."

The inaugural Mahathir Award for Global Peace was presented to former South African president Nelson Mandela, who is known for his effort to bring about peace.

The award was accepted on behalf of Mandela by the current South African president Jacob G. Zuma.

Former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, in his speech, praised Mandela for being an extremely rational individual who thought of the welfare and wellbeing of his

people despite being incarcerated for 27 years.

"He should have been bitter against his jailers, but he said he was friends with them because they brought him newspapers so he could read the news.

"That's the kind of man he is," he said.

Mahathir said the world would be a better place if leaders pledged to avoid going to war to settle disputes in their campaigns.

"Only then would the world be dedicated towards peace," he said.

Zuma meanwhile said he is honoured to receive the momentous award on behalf of the internationally revered peace icon.

"We are truly proud that our country and its struggle for liberation has produced such an international icon.

"This award comes at an opportune moment. Former president Mandela is still in hospital receiving treatment and remains in a critical but stable condition.

"While wishing him good health, we also have to celebrate his legacy and learn from it, in order to build a better world.

"This award enables us to reflect on the impact that this global icon has made on our country and in the world," said Zuma.