



PERDANA  
LEADERSHIP  
FOUNDATION  
YAYASAN  
KEPIMPINAN  
PERDANA

PERDANA LIBRARY  
PERDANA LEADERSHIP FOUNDATION  
NEWSPAPER CLIPPING

Newspaper	New Straits Times
Date	5/3/2013

PAGE 28 | NEW STRAITS TIMES

NATION

# 'Prosper thy neighbour'

**STABILITY VITAL:** It is Muslim nations' responsibility to help one another, says Dr M

**AKIL YUNUS  
AND NURUL 'IZZAH MOHD KHALIL**  
KUALA LUMPUR  
news@nst.com.my

**M**USLIM nations must help one another develop, besides seeking better ways to manage their coffers, in order to ensure long-term economic growth, said former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said it was the responsibility of Muslim countries to "prosper thy neighbour" and help them achieve economic stability.

"If, as Muslim nations, we aid the success of our neighbours, we have a share in the prosperity they achieve.

"Do not resort to 'beggar thy neighbour' for your own gains.

"Muslims have an obligation to defend the *ummah*."

He said this when launching the Global Muslim Conference 2013 organised by the Malay Chamber of Commerce Malaysia (MCCM) here, yesterday.

It was no use quoting Quranic verses if they did not practice what they preached, he told about 400 delegates.

The conference, themed 'Empowering Muslim Economy and Fostering Unity', focused on knowledge-gathering and solutions to improve the state of Muslim nations.

Dr Mahathir said the key to



**Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad** says Muslims must defend their 'ummah'

achievement was acquiring the right knowledge and right form of governance, not dividing people into factions.

"Stability in all aspects is important for Muslim countries, as foreign investors will not want to invest in nations wrought with political or economic strife."

He also urged Muslim countries to invest in developing infrastructure, education and healthcare, among others, in their respective nations and not leave their coffers unused.

"If you do not follow the Islamic finance concept, you will manage your nation's finances poorly."

At the conference, Dr Mahathir launched MCCM's *Ummah* fund, which is aimed at eradicating poverty and helping oppressed Muslims and refugees. **Additional reporting by Fauziah Ahmad Faiz**