

Science and tech ‘can help us or kill us’

The choice lies with humanity to use it for good or bad, says Dr M

FUKUOKA: Science and technology can be leveraged for good or bad and the choice lies with the people, said Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

He said the problem related to science and technology was not about materials but the human beings who handled them.

He likened the scenario to a knife that could be used to carve beautiful things but could also be used wrongly to kill people.

“Science and technology can be

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**Killing people,
whether one or a million,
is a crime.**

Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad

used for the good of the people or destroy the people,” he said when addressing participants of a

summer school, Japan Future Leaders School (JFLS), here yesterday on “How Science and Technology will Contribute to World Peace”.

Dr Mahathir was the main speaker at the summer school and this year marks his 16th appearance at the JFLS annual lecture.

The JFLS is a specialised programme held annually for selected high school students.

Its two-week programme is aimed at developing leadership

skills among students in various fields of interest through meaningful exchanges with prominent figures.

There are more than 2,000 students, including four Malaysians, at this year’s programme.

Others included students from Japan, South Korea and China.

Dr Mahathir said science and technology could contribute to the betterment of humanity like the discovery of medicines and cures.

At the lecture, Dr Mahathir told

the students that war would stop if they embed the thinking that killing people is a crime.

He called on them to reject violence, saying that the mentality that “killing one person is a crime but killing millions is not a crime” must change.

“Killing people, whether one or a million, is a crime. You must grow up... as future leaders of your countries, that killing people, whether one or a million, is a crime,” he said.

— Bernama