

# NEW STRAITS TIMES

ESTABLISHED 1845

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

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## Veteran soldiers to march for peace

By FRANCIS DASS

WAR and Peace. One of the world's most famous literary works, by Russian writer Leo Tolstoy, is named thus. And it may be that those who have gone through the horrors of war are the ones best placed to push for peace.

International Day of Peace falls on Sept 21, and the Malaysian Armed Forces Veterans Council is organising the Veterans Walk for Peace 2008.

"The people who crave

for peace are the soldiers," said Major General Datuk Khairuddin Abu Bakar (RTD), the organising chairman of Walk for Peace.

The 58-year-old retired major said the United Nations Resolution of Sept 2001 calls for the observation of International Day of Peace as a day for global ceasefire and non-violence.

"We feel that the walk is the best thing for bringing together all organisations — from the government and NGOs to the corporate sector,

celebrities and individuals, to advocate for peace," Khairuddin eloquently put it.

The event, will be at Dewan Merdeka, Level 4, Putra World Trade Centre, Kuala Lumpur. Activities will start at 10.30am and will go on till 12.30pm.

The walk will be a symbolic walk by the armed forces veterans and others gathered for a distance of 200m. A one-minute mark of silence will also be observed.

A message from the United Nations representative in Malaysia will be read and

there will also be a keynote address from Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak, patron of the event.

A photo exhibition themed Peace will be among the highlights of the event.

Visit the Malaysian Armed Forces Veterans Council website [www.mvatm.org](http://www.mvatm.org) for more information.

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Khairuddin says those who have seen battle know its horrors and strongly call for peace in the world.

