

# **-Malaysian -**

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## **of the Year**

**IN THE YEAR** that has just ended, one man more than any other put his stamp on Malaysian life. In our view, that man is Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad the Prime Minister. P

The five months since he took office have seen upheavals in Governments, civil service, and domestic and foreign policy. Many of his decisions have been controversial — but the Prime Minister is no stranger to controversy.

Dr Mahathir has tried to inject a new sense of purpose and a renewed sense of urgency to Malaysian affairs. The basic principles that he has held before the nation — of clean and efficient government, of self-reliance and pride in the nation and her abilities, of the need to work for success and in new directions — are ones that most Malaysians would subscribe to.

The difference lies in his choosing to lead with actions, not mere sloganeering. And already the effects are beginning to be felt.

The speed with which changes have been made, the firmness with which decisions have been taken — these have been in contrast to the style to which Malaysians have become accustomed.

It is for these reasons that we name Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir as the Malaysian of the Year.