

# PM: Work together for a better future

KUALA LUMPUR, Sat. — Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said if Malaysians were to achieve their plans for a greater future, they must work together as they have done for decades.

"We cannot afford disruptions in our plans by those who do not care for anything except political ambitions.

"Reject the destructive forces of political and religious extremism. Don't take chances with the unity and prosperity we have nurtured so carefully over the years," he said.

In an open letter to Malaysians, Dr Mahathir, who is chairman of the Barisan Nasional, said every Malaysian has a precious stake in the future of the country and the world.

"The stability we enjoy today has been nurtured over many years by a Government that cares about the people. Unlike elsewhere, we have found strength in our multi-religious, multi-racial diversity."

He added that Malaysians enjoyed continuous peace and harmony in a world full of civil strife and sorrow.

The Prime Minister added that it was with great pride that for the last seven years, Malaysians continuously enjoyed eight per cent economic growth, among the highest in the world.

He said Malaysia had almost completely eradicated poverty and enjoy almost full employment and that integrated development has affected flourishing progress not only for those who lived in urban areas, but rural folk as well.

Dr Mahathir said the nation's prosperity was being shared by all Malaysians and was evident from an increase of more than RM8,000 in the per capita income of Malaysians over 20 years.

He said together with improved education and healthcare, Malaysians enjoy a quality of life that is among the best in the world.