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Heroes who inspire Malaysian teenagers

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMED

* HE is a caring Prime Minister. Not only does he express his concern about poverty and the backwardness of rural people, but he tries his best to help them overcome their problems by bringing development into these areas.

He is also a diligent man and is always on the move. Recently, he was declared the Best Salesman in Malaysia due to his effort of promoting Malaysia to investors.

I also admire him for his vision of developing Malaysia as an industrialised country. With his foresight, the Proton car project of 1985 (contrary to negative public opinion) has now successfully monopolised the local market. His goal now is to convert Malaysia into a centre of information technology through the Multimedia Super Corridor, which is a move towards a technological era.

His forthrightness is one of his strongest points, evident in international forums. He has, as a result, garnered the respect of world leaders.

He is also a champion of Third World countries. Through the formation of the G15, Malaysia has offered technical assistance to many under-developed countries. - By Liew Shih Nee

* HE is a man with respect and dignity, a man with superb leadership qualities. A man with great knowledge and intelligence.

This man has ensured that Malaysians live in harmony. He does not show favouritism and deals equally with everyone. Malaysia was once an "invisible" country but now stands proudly with its cars which are cruising roads across the world.

This one man has taken Malaysia to richness, economically and agriculturally. His plans and advice are priceless.

We have food in abundance, smooth roads to travel on, comfortable, safe and cheap public transport, electricity and water supply.

People are astonished at how Malaysians live in peace and harmony. He is the backbone and inspiration of Malaysia. - By Sathiavathy Gunaratnam, Klang

* A MAN of great vision; a never-say-die challenger and fighter, a dynamic salesman, a leader of wisdom, courage and determination, a guardian of love and peace, the greatest modern statesman, the Father of Development.

He is not a saint, only a human. But he has risen from a humble kampung doctor to a powerful world leader today.

I enjoy watching my idol appearing on television each time my parents switch on the news.

Fifteen years of great pain, toil and personal sacrifices have deemed him worthy of being honoured as Malaysia's Bapa Pembangunan. - By Low Mun Khean