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Tribute to nation's leadership for stability, harmony

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I PAY my warm tribute to Malaysia, a fascinating, peaceful, harmonious and blessed country with rich cultural heritage and vast development.

On Aug 31, Malaysians will celebrate the 40th anniversary of independence.

Having responded to the shouts of "Merdeka, Merdeka, Merdeka" - the proclamation of independence - along with the multitude of fellow citizens, I salute our national flag on this day with pride, honour and dignity as it symbolises the unconditional love of the multi-racial, caring and loving society.

The nation and its people have been blessed by having the right Prime Minister at the right time. Malaysians enter the era of Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the longest-serving Prime Minister.

He set out to change the mindset of Malaysians to think, to pledge loyalty to the nation and act positively that we are as good as anybody else in the world, if not better. We can do all the things that other people do and Malaysia Boleh! Malaysia Boleh! Malaysia Boleh!

Dr Mahathir has made Malaysia known to the world and is the acknowledged spokesman of the Third World.

Malaysia can be proud of its achievements thanks to our Prime Ministers - past and present - and the response of the people of Malaysia with unity, responsibility and solidarity.

We can move forward with confidence to achieve greater heights and success. The future of the nation lies in the hands of a capable and responsible young generation.

I praise and thank Almighty God for His blessings upon the nation, its people and the leaders who are entrusted to lead Malaysia towards peace, harmony, justice, progress and prosperity.