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Time we showed our true gratitude

W. Thila

DURING the 1970s the major task of the Government was to unite the multiracial community.

Assimilation was never widespread during that period. Though Malaysia consisted of diverse races and cultures, everyone gave preference and importance to their very own race, claiming theirs to be the best.

But now, we can see real Malaysians with mixed marriages. Being one myself (a Chinese-Indian), I am proud to say that I am a Malaysian Chinese-Indian.

I have an elder brother who got married to a Malay and his proud children are the real Malaysians (Malay-Chinese-Indian) - a combination of all the three largest ethnic groups in Malaysia!

This is a very rare scenario in any other country and a plus point for Malaysians. This was made possible due to the continuous contribution and sacrifices made by our leaders.

These were the great Tunku Abdul Rahman (1957-1969), the magnificent Tun Abdul Razak (1970-1976), the remarkable Tun Hussein Onn (1976-1981) and our evergreen, energetic and ingenious Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad (since 1981).

In what situation would we be in if not for these charismatic figures? I think it is time we showed some gratitude for all the hard work and luxury we enjoy now through their efforts to unite Malaysians in a peaceful environment.

We can do this by staying united and supporting the Government. Never throw rubbish in the well you take water from.

Many people are pointing their fingers at the Government and the Prime Minister for alleged wrongdoings. What they don't realise is that they are actually embarking on a false friendship and this kind of relationship is like a parasitic plant - it kills the tree it embraces.

Once this happens, it is going to lead to disunity. The peaceful life and freedom that we have been enjoying for the past 42 years will be ruined altogether. That is why the Government is asking us to look before we leap.

A word that comes from the heart is certain to reach other hearts. Dr Mahathir, yours has certainly reached mine!

The time has come for us Malaysians to sit back, think and realise that people look for the way to heaven simply because they have lost their way on earth.

I am very thankful and grateful to the leaders and the Government. I am proud to be a Malaysian!

As for Dr Mahathir, I take my hat off to him for the high calibre and dedicated leadership he has shown to this nation. Let's be a nation with noble values.