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Publish more articles on shared aspirations

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IT is indeed an eye-opener to Malaysian newspapers for Mazlan Nordin to quote an inspirational article in The Sun on the theme "the glue that binds" in his column (NST, Feb 2).

Such articles help to provide the needed guidance in the development of the correct kind of Malaysian, mentally and spiritually.

Above all, Mazlan strikes the right note, that the publication of good articles is one of the ways in which a newspaper makes its contribution to the spread of shared values and aspirations, and helps evolve a sense of Malaysia as a nation.

Besides, by changing the mindset in recognising and accepting the achievements of a person by a meaningful yardstick, it encourages Malaysians to strive for excellence in all fields, comparable with the best in the world, or far better.

To enable Malaysians to be critical in their perception, more thought-provoking writing should be published.

There is no doubt the New Straits Times has a pool of highly capable in-house writers such as Rose Ismail who skilfully presented a three-part series on Singapore. Her article "Capable but reluctant politicians" (NST, Feb 1) has given tips to Malaysians on how to exercise their voting rights.

The speech by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at the opening of the International Consultation on Globalisation without doubt is a classic piece of work. It presents a complicated topic in terms that the man in the street can understand easily.

With the change in mentality and principle of many Malaysian newspapers to their true role in nation-building, Malaysia is definitely marching forward towards a united nation.