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Value our harmony, stability

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad in his New Year's message to the nation has urged the people not to make unreasonable demands, instead to hold fast to the Malaysian formula that has brought peace and stability - the determinant factors of success.

He paid tribute to the founding fathers - Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, Tun Tan Siew Sin and Tun V.T. Sambanthan - for initiating the formula enabling the various races to live in peace and harmony.

Similar sentiments were expressed in praise of our past leaders by V.G. Nair in his book India and Malaya published in Calcutta in 1960: "Malaya is a fascinating land. She is the meeting place of different world cultures, religions and nationalities.

"Unity and peace, purity and strength formed the basic tenets of the philosophy expounded by H.E. Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra, Prime Minister of Malaya, and his worthy colleagues who are moulding today the destinies of Malaya.

"New Malaya is destined to play an important role in the development of world peace... enabling mankind to enjoy the blessings of lasting peace and prosperity."