

## Singapore newspapers salute Dr M

• *The Straits Times*: Mahathir has seemed such a permanent fixture, "it will be hard to conceive of a neighbourhood without him. Correction – make that a world stage."

"He is at the peak of his powers and reach, admirers and even some critics would say. Yet today, still an energetic man and irreverent for his 77 years, he ends of at his own free will the stewardship of an emerging nation that has been hugely successful, if controversial in spots.

"This newspaper, which on occasions had incurred the wrath of his government, has little doubt he will not simply fade away in Langkawi to write his memoirs."

• *The Business Times* focuses on his disappointment towards the Malays for not living up to his ambitious vision for them.

"Nonetheless, within the span of one generation, he left Malaysia with a solid middle class (and perhaps more importantly for social stability, a strong Malay middle class)."

• *Today*, an English tabloid with the second largest circulation, gave a front-page coverage of Mahathir headlined: "An era ends today and Dr M is ready to sail alone."