

30 OCT 2003

Jazirah-Mahathir

DR MAHATHIR HAS TRANSFORMED MALAYSIA INTO A PROGRESSIVE NATION

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 30 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is a Muslim leader and renowned statesman who has succeeded in transforming Malaysia into an almost developed nation.

Editor of the Al-Jazirah newspaper in Riyadh, Arab Saudi, Jaser Abdul Aziz Al-Jaser said Dr Mahathir had succeeded in making Malaysia as the leader of the developing nations and dubbed as the Leader of the Asian Lion.

In the newspaper's editorial, Jaser said Dr Mahathir was not only a leader loved by Malaysians but was also admired by South-east Asian countries and other Muslim nations.

"Dr Mahathir who has a clean record in terms of politics and his thoughts, has spread tolerance and mutual understanding in his country. This has been taken as a model by South-east Asian countries," he said.

In fact, under Dr Mahathir's leadership, there was peace in Malaysia without any racism despite the plural society.

Dr Mahathir had turned Malaysia into a model democracy, said Jaser.

He said Malaysia had succeeded in leading other countries including Europe and the United States in the global competition and was in fact the only country that celebrated various festivals for all races.

Dr Mahathir, who is retiring voluntarily tomorrow, will become the yardstick in the criteria for Muslim leaders in an era where there is a lack of Muslim leaders.

"We are hoping that his ideas and efforts will be continued to rescue the Muslim world from the current crises, and pray that he will be among the Muslim leaders who are always striving to find solutions to protect the Muslim world from danger," he added.

-- BERNAMA

MUN AHH AO