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Church council praises Dr M as able leader

KUALA LUMPUR, Fri. - The Council of Churches of Malaysia today thanked Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for the personal attention in dealing with matters affecting Christians in the country.

CCM chairman Bishop Julius D. Paul said the Prime Minister had dealt firmly in such matters to the benefit of the community.

In a message thanking Dr Mahathir for leading the nation for 22 years, he said the Prime Minister was an able leader and statesman who had looked after the interests of all Malaysians.

"With the dawn of the millennium, Malaysians of this generation can look with anticipation of the many significant strides the nation has taken towards Vision 2020, an inspiration of Dr Mahathir," he said.

In the pursuit of progress, Dr Mahathir had helped to balance technological development with environmental protection; national integration with respect for cultural and religious diversity; and economic prosperity with concern for the poor and less fortunate.

"Posterity will hold Dr Mahathir's tenure as Prime Minister for 22 years in high esteem and he will be fondly remembered as the father of modern Malaysia," he said.