

We Salute **S 31/10/2003 - 6 PRECISE** You, Dr M

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has touched the lives of many Malaysians in his 22-year tenure as Prime Minister. Well-wishers had various messages and praises for him when The Star spoke to Malaysians from all walks of life about his retirement.



I've known Dr Mahathir since our schooldays when we were fighting against the Malayan Union in 1946. Later I met him at Parliament when he took over as Prime Minister in 1981. He still had the same charisma and leadership skills. I'm very sad to see him retire and I will miss him. It's hard to find a leader like him.
Abdul Aziz Malim, 73, veteran journalist and public relations man, Sarawak



I wish him the best and hope that what he did for Malaysia will never be forgotten. I hope he has a fruitful life and do what he has always wanted to but was unable to do so while he was in office.
Sulaiman Hasan, 40, government employee, Kota Baru



Under the leadership of Dr Mahathir, Barisan Nasional has fulfilled many promises it made to the people, unlike the Opposition who always criticises the government but do very little for the people. Time really flies and we are sad to see him go.
Mohd Yusof Omar, 34, Ringo cafe manager, Malacca



Since he has been a Prime Minister for 22 years, and become part of Malaysia's development, Dr Mahathir is Malaysia to a certain extent. We are sorry to see him retire, but we also welcome Pak Lah and look forward to his leadership.
Harry Abdul Jalil, media relations executive, Klang Valley



I think anyone who has ever disagreed with Dr Mahathir's actions eventually realise that what he has done is actually to make the country better. I will miss you as my Prime Minister and I think many Malaysians feel the same.
Gutan Golimbut, 51, paddy farmer, Keningau, Sabah

When Dr Mahathir retires, the nation will be losing a very capable leader who has brought much progress for Malaysia. Thanks to his efforts, the world has recognised the country as a nation which can stand and fend for itself.
Bulldog Kuan Huah Chin, 71, former national motorcycle racing champion, Penang



Dr Mahathir has done a lot for the country and he can do a lot more if he stays. While I don't think much will change with his leaving, we are certainly going to miss him.
Selvam Subramaniam, 49, director, Klang Valley



It's sad to see him leave but it is time to let this great man spend time with his family and with the things he truly wants to do.
Jenny Lau, 40, florist, Tawau

He is a nice, intelligent and well-mannered man. I am very happy for him as he has really put in a lot of effort for the country. He has done a lot for us and we are going to miss him.
Arthur Kam, 12, a Malaysia Book of Records holder as the youngest person who completed a professional drum course category, Klang Valley.



I remember during a Citrawarna festival in Kuala Lumpur some years ago when Dr Mahathir took the trouble to meet all the performers, including the orang asli. He is a truly good Prime Minister who cares for all races, even the orang asli. I'm sad that he's going and I wish him well.
Bah Johan Uda, 42, Semai orang asli, Kampung Bukit Terang, Kampar

We would like to thank Dr Mahathir for bringing development and progress to the people. We are very proud of his far-sightedness, competitiveness and concerns for the people. His retirement will be a big loss to the people.
Noraslida Ismail, 20, Zaiwati Ali, 22, Nornaniza Mustafa, 25, and Noraini Ismail, 25, (left to right) car park attendants, Kuala Terengganu.



Our Prime Minister will be hard to replace. We will miss him dearly. Thank you, Sir for what you've done for us. We salute you.
Andrew Raju, 36, legal executive, Seremban



I definitely feel sad but we are all going to get used to him not being Malaysia's leader. He is a leader with a lot of calibre, and a real one-of-a-kind prime minister. At the same time, we do welcome Pak Lah as our new Prime Minister, and I am sure that Dr Mahathir has left the country in very good hands.
Noor Nizreen Othman, executive, Klang Valley

