



Of Vision, Courage And Will Never Has One Nation So Much

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Twenty-two years ago, Malaysia's Prime Minister Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Bin Mohamad dreamed of transforming his country into an industrialised nation. Today, as Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir retires, Malaysia boasts a diversified and modern economy that has weathered the Asian financial crisis of 1997-98 better than many of its peers.

Indeed, it has taken one man to have the vision, courage and will to initiate and put into realisation the National Car Project to accelerate industrialisation. The wildly successful saga of Proton is how Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir's vision of a national car has benefited countless Malaysians who now realize "Malaysia Boleh" has become a clarion call to achievement and national pride. The fact that this is now an inherent part of our culture is testimony to the Prime Minister's leadership. By paving the path and blazing open new, uncharted horizons, Dr. Mahathir has imbued us with a strong sense of purpose.

Today, Proton cars dominate Malaysian roads with the lion's share of the local car market. Proton cars are now so entrenched as an intrinsic part of Malaysian life many find it hard to believe it is only a mere 18 years when the first Proton was unveiled to an astonished and admiring public.