

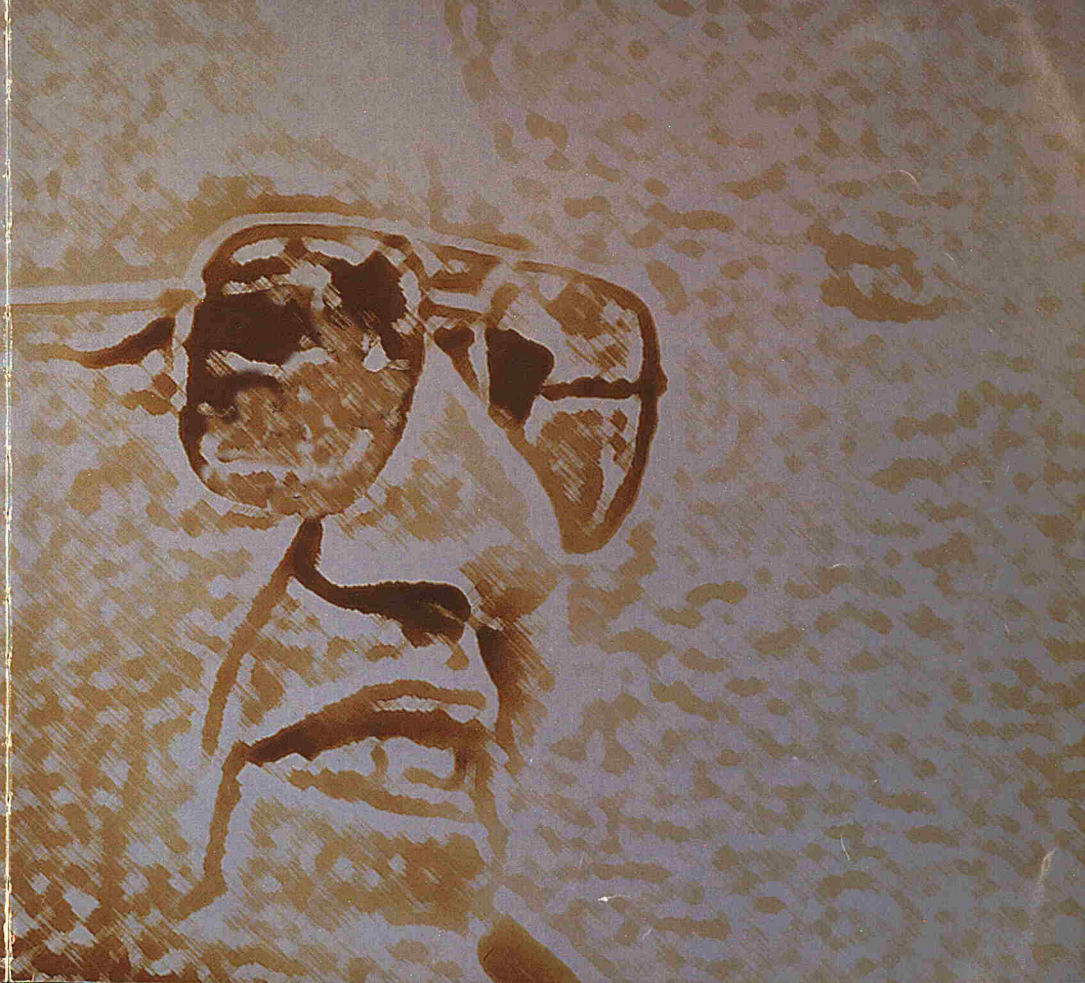


A Salute To A Man

TUN DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD

"Quotable Quotes"

Bernice Narayanan



A Salute To A Man

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Perpustakaan Negara
Malaysia

He's Just A Man

penned by Bernice Narayanan

He's just a man
Quite a man
With a passion that
Burned within

To lead a nation forward
For all to see
That nothing is impossible
When you set your mind to it

It was a challenge indeed
Balancing the races
Honouring customs and cultures
Yet moving ahead

He will go down
In the annals of the country
22 years he strove
For the country he loves

For all the things he promised
He strove to fulfil
Even though it seemed
Impossible to do

His love for his nation
Never had ceased
With all of his might and
Strength he gave

He laughed and he cried
At times he got angry
He was gentle
And he persevered
A man of many emotions
He moved forward, in the lead.

Mahathir said
Malaysians Boleh
He made us to
Believe it!

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He's just a man!

FROM THE AUTHOR

The reason for this book is to pay tribute to a man who became more than a Prime Minister to Malaysians. For 22 years, most of us watched him closely...with admiration...with bated breath.

As a statesman, he stood firm, uncompromising in the policies he and his Cabinet had set forth. His voice was heard loud and clear, filled with emotion at times. He manoeuvred to take the country out of impending crises and ones that had hit us smack in the eye. Sometimes, the man on the street found it difficult to follow his thoughts. Captains of industries differed in his decisions and opinions but nevertheless, took heed. Most, as the days and months progressed, concurred he was right.

The world saw a Prime Minister, who some held in awe and some in distaste. As he was not interested in popularity poll, he led the country in the best way he knew. Great leaders are often revered or despised. He opened up many frontiers and prepared the public and private sectors for globalisation. We were no more a Third World nation but a nation to be reckoned with. Many dreams he had for this country have become a reality...we need to just look around us.

Dr Mahathir's speeches have many a time held his audience spellbound. His speeches have been injected with humour or slanted towards a tongue-in-cheek manner. His dry humour was frequently heard...some caught on real fast, whilst others, a while later.

I "got to know" Dr Mahathir better through his many speeches and photographs during my research for this book. This led me to pen the words 'He's Just A Man'. As I read through his speeches, it evoked different emotions. He dedicated the best part of his life to his country and fellow Malaysians. The tears he shed are but a proof of how close he held the people and the country to his heart. The laughter that rang out and the smiles he gave showed he too, had a sense of humour albeit suppressed many times.

My admiration continued to be fanned, as I saw another aspect of him...that God fearing side. My thoughts have always been that a man who loves God and fears Him is a man with a conscience and therefore, would do his best where he is placed.

'A picture paints a thousand words' rings true in the numerous photographs I viewed of Dr Mahathir. Each portraying the essence of this man who was not afraid to reveal his emotions or setting-by-example. I have tried to use as many of these as possible.

There is so much more to Dr Mahathir. This book is a mere attempt to communicate the tip of the iceberg. I do hope that these quotations, selected from just a fraction of Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's many speeches, will be a source of literary delight.

Enjoy these quotable quotes of Malaysia's 4th Prime Minister.

Syabas Dr M!





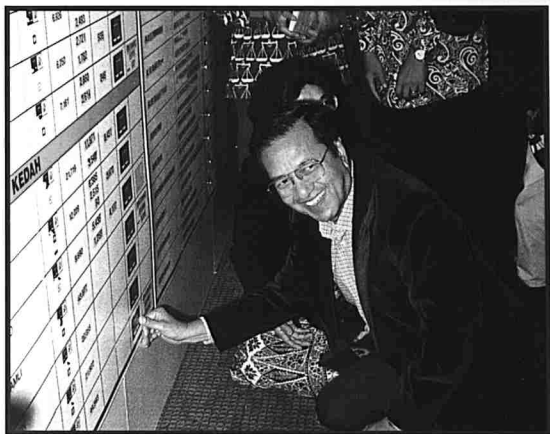


IT IS NOT FOR ME TO SAY
WHETHER I HAVE SUCCEEDED
OR NOT. THE PEOPLE AND
HISTORY WILL JUDGE AND
DETERMINE WHETHER MY
SERVICE WAS GOOD OR BAD.





I DON'T BELIEVE ANYBODY IS
ONE HUNDRED PER CENT BAD.
THERE WILL BE PEOPLE WHO
ARE SANE AND NORMAL AND
WHO UNDERSTAND THESE
THINGS ARE WRONG
AND REJECT THEM.





THE ONLY THING I CAN DO
GIVEN WHAT LITTLE I KNOW, THE
GREAT DEAL I DO NOT KNOW,
AND THE MASSIVE AMOUNT
THAT I CANNOT KNOW, IS TO
INDULGE IN GENERALISATIONS
THAT OFTEN MUST DESCEND TO
THE LEVEL OF CARICATURE.



WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THE
PEOPLE WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH.
IF THEY ARE ROGUES, WE TREAT
THEM AS SUCH BUT IF THEY ARE
GOOD PEOPLE, THEN WE TREAT
THEM LIKEWISE.





SINCE POLITICIANS ARE THE ONLY
DAREDEVILS LEFT ON THIS PLANET,
I SUPPOSE IT IS FITTING THAT
I SHOULD BE INVITED TO STICK MY
NECK OUT...NOT ONLY TO TALK
ABOUT THE FUTURE, BUT ALSO TO
TALK ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE
WHOLE PACIFIC REGION, AND
PREFERABLY IN LESS THAN
HALF AN HOUR!





LET IT BE MY CENTRAL THESIS
THAT IN THE FORESEEABLE
FUTURE THE CONTINUITIES ARE
LIKELY TO BE GREATER THAN THE
CHANGES, THAT THERE IS
JUSTIFICATION FOR HOPE AND
CONFIDENCE; BUT THAT THE HOPE
AND THE CONFIDENCE CAN BE
DAMAGED AND DESTROYED BY
THREATS, A FEW OF WHICH
ALREADY CONSTITUTE A CLEAR
AND PRESENT DANGER.





MALAYSIA, LIKE ALL
OTHER COUNTRIES DOES
NOT ENCOURAGE AND
WILL NOT RECOGNISE
BREAKAWAY STATES
BECAUSE WE ARE A
FEDERATION OF STATES
AND WE WILL NOT ALLOW
FOR ANY SECESSION OF
ANY OF OUR STATES.





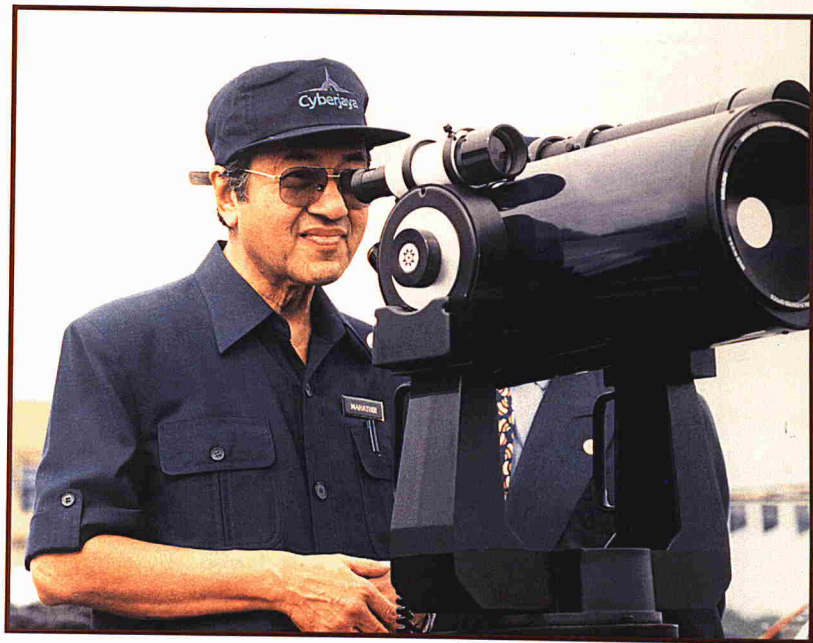
WE ARE FALLING INTO THE OLD TRAP OF BELIEVING THAT SYSTEMS ON THEIR OWN CAN SOLVE HUMAN PROBLEMS. WHEN WE PUT TOO MUCH FAITH IN A SYSTEM, WE WILL FORGET THE REASONS WHY THE SYSTEM WAS INITIALLY FORMULATED. SYSTEMS ARE DEvised BECAUSE THEY ARE BELIEVED TO BE ABLE TO RIGHT CURRENT WRONGS AND BRING BENEFITS TO THE PRACTITIONERS.

UNFORTUNATELY, ONCE A SYSTEM IS
ACCEPTED, IT BECOMES SO SACRED THAT
EVEN IF THE RESULTS DELIVERED ARE
WORSE THAN THE SITUATION IT WAS
SUPPOSED TO REMEDY, IT MUST STILL BE
UPHELD, DEFENDED AND PRACTISED. AT
THAT STAGE, IF ANYONE DARES TO GO
AGAINST THE SYSTEM, HE WILL BE
REGARDED AS A HERETIC AND UNIVERSALLY
CONDEMNED.





FAR-FETCHED IDEAS IF WORKED AT
ASSIDUOUSLY CAN BECOME
REALITIES. MOST OF TODAY'S
SUCCESSFUL BUSINESS
CONGLOMERATES STARTED AS
FAR-FETCHED IDEAS. IT WAS THE
DETERMINATION AND
COMMITMENT OF THE PEOPLE
INVOLVED THAT SAW THE IDEA
TAKE ROOT AND GROW INTO WHAT
THESE CONGLOMERATES ARE
TODAY.





ALL THINGS BEING
EQUAL, A COUNTRY'S
DEVELOPMENT IS
DEPENDENT ON THE
QUALITY OF ITS PEOPLE.
THAT IS WHY SOME
COUNTRIES AND SOME
PEOPLE DO WELL WHILE
OTHERS DESPITE THEIR
RICH RESOURCES FAIL.





MALAYSIA HAS GONE
THROUGH THREE
GREAT CRISES SINCE
THE SECOND WORLD
WAR. WE HAVE
BOUNCED BACK TWICE.
WE WILL BOUNCE
BACK AGAIN,
GOD WILLING.





MASSIVE AND RAPID GROWTH IS A
WONDERFUL BUFFER. LIKE A RIVER IN
FLOOD, IT HIDES THE ROCKS ON THE
RIVERBED. WE MUST NEVER BE
COMPLACENT FOR A UNITED NATION IS THE
FOUNDATION ON WHICH THE MALAYSIAN
HOUSE IS BUILT. IF WE ARE DISUNITED AND
AT ODDS WITH EACH OTHER, ALL THAT WE
HAVE DONE WILL COME TO NOUGHT.



WE DON'T TAKE MUCH NOTICE
OF THESE BIRDS OF THE
PASSAGE. THEY ARE
OBVIOUSLY OPPORTUNISTS
OUT TO GET THE BEST FOR
THEMSELVES, WITH LITTLE
REGARD FOR CONTRIBUTING
TOWARDS NATION BUILDING.





MALAYSIANS DO NOT DENY HISTORY. INDEED WE HAVE TAKEN PAINS TO PRESERVE THE RELICS OF HISTORY. IN THE HEART OF KUALA LUMPUR, FOR EXAMPLE, WE HAVE PRESERVED THAT TYPICALLY ENGLISH SCENE CONSISTING OF A CRICKET GROUND, A CLUB (IN MOCK TUDOR) AND A CHURCH.

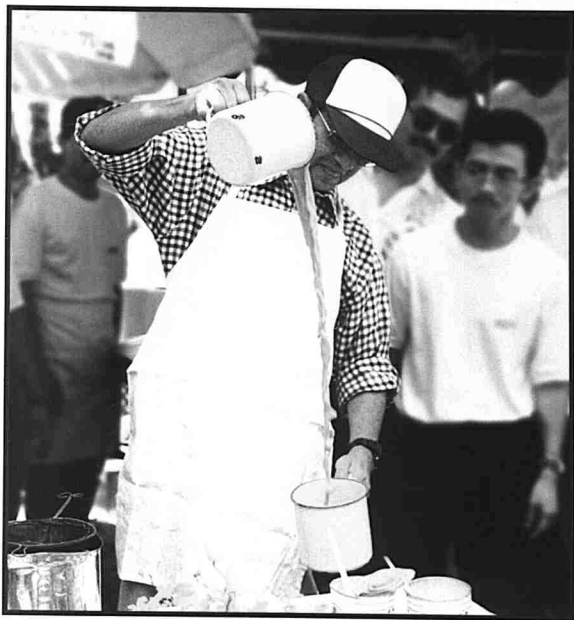
WE PRESERVE ALL THESE NOT BECAUSE OF OUR SENTIMENTALITY. THE WORLD IS NOW NOT VERY MUCH MOVED BY SENTIMENTS.

WE PRESERVE THEM AS REMINDERS OF OUR
PAST, SO THAT MALAYSIANS WILL NOT
FORGET THAT THEY WERE ONCE COLONISED
BY VARIOUS EUROPEAN POWERS. IF THEY
DO NOT WISH TO BE COLONISED AGAIN, IN
WHATEVER FORM, THEY MUST LEARN TO
MANAGE THEIR AFFAIRS BETTER.





PLEASE CONSIDER THE
ENORMOUS BENEFITS
THAT WE HAVE OBTAINED
FROM THIS BLESSED
COUNTRY. AND, THINK
HOW ALL THESE ARE
POSSIBLE. THEY DO NOT
COME EASILY!





MALAYSIA IS INTERESTED IN RESULTS
NOT SYSTEMS. NO MATTER HOW GOOD
A SYSTEM IS, IF IT DELIVERS A BAD
RESULT WE ARE NOT GOING TO STICK
TO IT. CALL US HERETICS IF YOU LIKE.
WE ARE WILLING TO BE CALLED STUPID
IGNORAMUS WHO CANNOT
UNDERSTAND HERD INSTINCTS. BUT
FOR US IF THE RESULT IS BAD THEN WE
MUST ASSUME THE SYSTEM IS BAD AND
WE WILL THROW IT OUT.





FROM THE
VERY
BEGINNING,
FROM THE
TIME WHEN
VISION
2020 WAS
ANNOUNCED
IT SEEMED
TO HAVE

CAUGHT THE IMAGINATION OF MALAYSIANS
IN EVERY WALK OF LIFE. IT IS NOT THAT IT IS
JUST A CATCHY PHRASE, IT SEEMS THAT THE
VISION IS AN OBJECTIVE
THAT IS EASY TO VISUALISE.
WE ALL KNOW WHAT A DEVELOPED

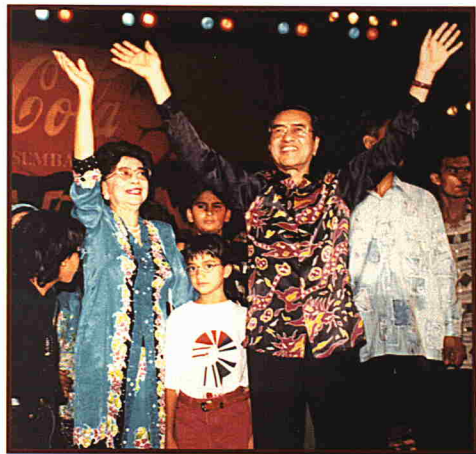
COUNTRY IS LIKE. WHEN WE WERE COLONISED WE HAD DREAMED OF BEING LIKE THEM - INDEPENDENT AND RICH. BUT HAVING ACHIEVED INDEPENDENCE, WE HAD REMAINED POOR AND CONTINUED TO SUFFER CERTAIN INDIGNITIES.

VISION 2020 PROMISED NOT JUST EQUALITY OF WEALTH BUT ALSO DIGNITY AND HONOUR AS A NATION AND AS A PEOPLE. AND SO WE READILY EMBRACED THE VISION AND WE HAVE PUT OUR HEART AND SOUL INTO ITS REALISATION.





WAWASAN 2020 WAS WHAT OUR PEOPLE,
DEEP IN THEIR HEARTS, HAD ALWAYS
WANTED. IT ARTICULATED THE BEST
ASPIRATIONS OF OUR CITIZENS. IT IS IN
HARMONY WITH THE BEST TRADITIONS OF
OUR VERY MALAYSIAN WAY OF LIFE. IT SAID
WHAT NEEDED TO BE SAID. IT LAID TO REST
THE GREMLINS THAT LURKED WITHIN THE
DARKEST CORRIDORS OF OUR HISTORY. IT
SETTLED MANY OF THE UNRESOLVED
ISSUES OF THE PAST. IT TOOK FROM OUR
BACKS SOME VERY HEAVY BAGGAGE OF
HISTORY WHICH HAD GREATLY HINDERED US
IN THE PAST.





LET ME REMIND EVERYONE
ONCE AND FOR ALL THAT
VISION 2020 STATES
UNEQUIVOCALLY: "NOTHING
IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN
THE DEVELOPMENT OF
HUMAN RESOURCES... OUR
PEOPLE IS OUR ULTIMATE
RESOURCE."





VISION 2020 URGED THAT
NO EFFORT BE SPARED IN
THE CREATION OF AN
INFORMATION-RICH
MALAYSIAN SOCIETY.





PRESERVING THE STONE
AGE WILL NO DOUBT MAKE
PARTS OF THIS WORLD
PICTURESQUE AND
INTERESTING, BUT THAT IS A
HEAVY PRICE FOR THESE
PEOPLE TO PAY SIMPLY
BECAUSE WE WANT TO SEE
THE PICTURESQUE AND THE
INTERESTING.





WE AGREE THAT NOTHING IS MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN TO SEE A FULL-MOON SHINING ON AN ATTAP HUT WITH SWAYING COCONUT TREES. BUT FOR THE MAN WHO AT THAT VERY MOMENT IS SWEATING AND SWATting MOSQUITOES AND TRYING TO SLEEP, THE BEAUTY OF THE SCENE IS LOST. HE WOULD RATHER HAVE A BRICK AND MORTAR TERRACE HOUSE, ELECTRICITY, PIPED WATER AND OTHER MODERN CONVENIENCES. AND THESE HE WILL HAVE A CHANCE TO HAVE, IF HE CAN EARN SOMETHING FROM TOURISM OR AT LEAST WHEN THE COUNTRY IS ENRICHED BY TOURISM.

THE CULTURE CAN BE PRESERVED. SO CAN
THE HUT AND THE MOONLIGHT AND THE
SWAYING PALMS IF THE TOURISTS WANT TO
SEE THESE. BUT A WHOLE NATION CANNOT
BE EXPECTED TO EXPOSE THEMSELVES TO
MOSQUITO BITES AND BE DEPRIVED OF A
DECENT LIFE MERELY BECAUSE SOMEONE IS
CONCERNED THAT WE SHOULD NOT SPOIL
THEIR WAY OF LIFE.





IF CULTURE IS
IGNORED, THERE WILL
BE RESISTANCE AND
FAILURE OR
INSIGNIFICANT
SUCCESS AT BEST.



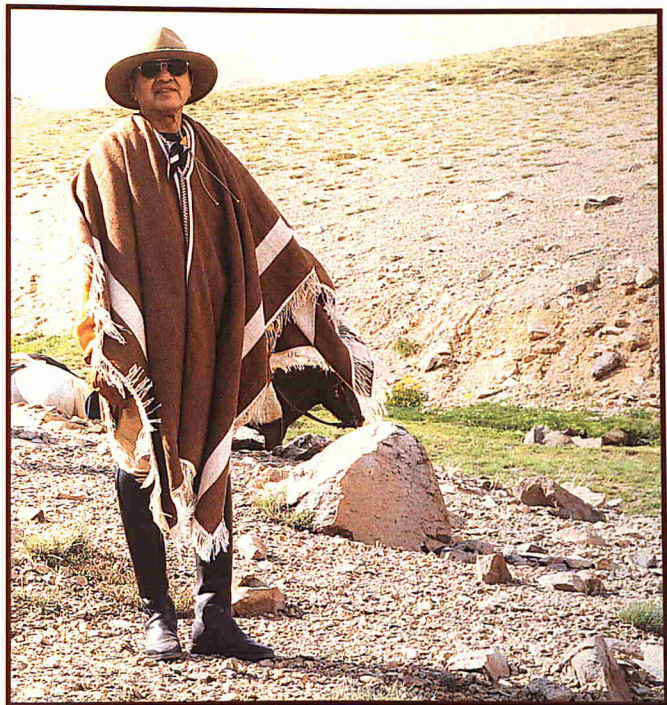


CULTURE IS MADE UP LARGELY OF
THE VALUE SYSTEMS ACCEPTED,
EVEN IF NOT ACTUALLY PRACTISED
BY A PEOPLE OR A RACE.
OBSERVATIONS HAVE SHOWN THAT
THE CULTURE OF A PEOPLE
DETERMINES WHETHER THEY ARE
SUCCESSFUL OR THEY FAIL. ACTUAL
RACE OR ETHNICITY OR THE
COLOUR OF THE SKIN OR THE
DOMICILE, TEMPERATE OR
TROPICAL, ARE NOT FACTORS
WHICH DETERMINE THE
PERFORMANCE OF PEOPLE.





WE SHOULD NOT FORGET
THAT MAN REQUIRES
SPIRITUAL NOURISHMENT IN
ADDITION TO THE MATERIAL
NECESSITIES IN ORDER TO
ENJOY A DECENT
EXISTENCE.





IF I CAN STAND HERE AND TELL YOU
WITHOUT EQUIVOCATION, WITHOUT ANY
DOUBT, WHAT EXACTLY WILL HAPPEN IN THE
PACIFIC REGION PARTICULARLY THE ASIAN
SIDE, IN THE YEARS AHEAD, I WOULD BE A
TRULY GREAT SAGE OR A CHARLATAN. EVEN
THE MAN WHO KNOWS EVERYTHING ABOUT
THE PAST CANNOT PREDICT THE FUTURE ...

BECAUSE HISTORY DOES NOT TRAVEL IN A
STRAIGHT LINE. EVEN COMPLETE
KNOWLEDGE OF THE PRESENT, WERE IT
POSSIBLE, CAN ONLY BE SUGGESTIVE, FOR
TOMORROW IS NOT ANOTHER
NAME FOR TODAY.





THE TERRORISTS HAVE BEEN WITH
US THROUGHOUT HISTORY. OVER
THE LAST HALF OF THE CENTURY
THE TERRORISTS HAVE BECOME
MORE SOPHISTICATED AND ARE
MUCH MORE FOCUSED.

WHETHER WE LIKE IT OR NOT WE
HAVE TO LEARN TO UNDERSTAND
THEIR PSYCHE IF WE WANT TO DEAL
WITH THEM, IF WE WANT TO
COUNTER THEM, IF WE WANT TO
ELIMINATE THEM, IF WE WANT TO
STOP TERRORISM.

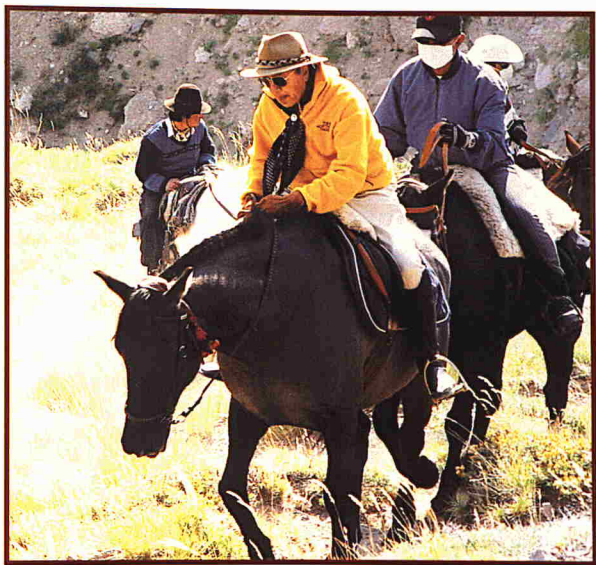


IT OBVIOUSLY DOES NOT
PAY TO BE RICH IN A
BORDERLESS WORLD.



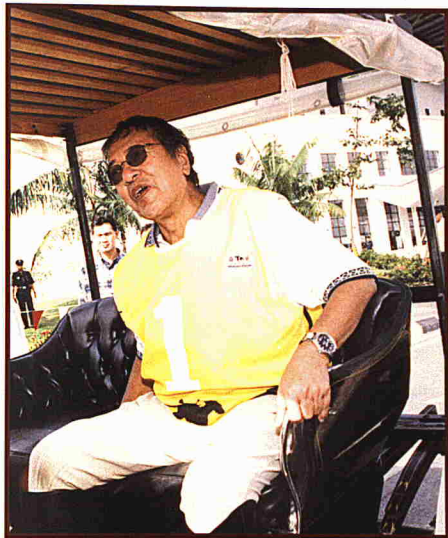


BORDERS MUST BE DONE AWAY WITH. WHY SHOULD THERE BE BORDERS IN A WORLD OF INSTANT COMMUNICATION AND HIGH-SPEED TRAVEL. THERE MUST BE JUST ONE WORLD FOR CAPITAL TO OPERATE IN. CAPITAL MUST BE FREE TO GO ANYWHERE, REGARDLESS OF BORDERS.





NOW ONE CAN BORROW A
MILLION AND FIND, THE
NEXT DAY ALMOST, THAT HE
HAS TO PAY BACK TWO
MILLION. SUCH IS THE
WORLD OF FINANCE TODAY.





WE ARE NOT TAKEN IN BY
THE CLAIM THAT THE
MARKET IS DISCIPLINING
GOVERNMENTS. IF THERE IS
NO MONEY TO BE MADE
THEY WOULDN'T CARE LESS
IF THESE GOVERNMENTS
ARE RUN BY BANDITS.





IT MUST BE RECOGNISED THAT FOR
BUSINESS ETHICS TO MAKE GOOD
ECONOMIC SENSE, IT HAS TO BE
INTEGRATED INTO THE OVERALL VALUES OF
WORKERS AND PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL:
INTEGRITY, COMPETENCE, EFFICIENCY,
SELFLESSNESS AND HARD WORK. IN THE
END, THIS MEANS THAT BUSINESSES WILL
SAY WHAT THEY THINK MAKE GOOD
BUSINESS ETHICS,

DO WHAT THEY SAY, AND BE WHAT THEY DO.
THIS SHOULD ENCOURAGE A WHOLE NEW
LEVEL OF SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND
ACCOUNTABILITY FOR BUSINESSES AND
ENTREPRENEURS AS THEY LOOK FORWARD
TO MEET NEW CHALLENGES IN THE NEW
MILLENNIUM.





PARDON US IF WE SEEM SCEPTICAL. AT FIRST WE DID BELIEVE THAT FREE FLOWS OF CAPITAL WAS GOOD. THE MULTINATIONALS CAME IN TO SET UP MANUFACTORIES AND TO BUY OUR SHARES. WE THOUGHT OUR GROWTH WOULD BE FOREVER. THEN SUDDENLY THEY DECIDED THAT WE ARE CORRUPT AND GIVEN TO HELPING CRONIES AND THEY PULLED OUT THEIR CAPITAL AND SHORT-SOLD OUR MONEY. WITHIN WEEKS THE TIGER ECONOMIES OF ASIA WERE BEGGING FOR HELP, WILLING TO SELL THEIR FAMILY HEIRLOOMS TO SAVE THEMSELVES FROM BANKRUPTCY.





THERE IS TODAY A GREAT DEAL OF
'GLOBALONEY' ABOUT 'GLOBALISATION', A
WORD WE SO OFTEN USE BECAUSE WE
DON'T QUITE KNOW WHAT WE ARE TALKING
ABOUT. I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT IT WILL BE
BROUGHT TO AN ABRUPT END BY THE
MULTITUDES OF THE WORLD IF RAPACIOUS,
UNBRIDLED AND UNCONSCIONABLE
CAPITALISM BEREFT OF ETHICS, MORALITY
AND CARING RIDES ROUGHSHOD OVER THE
WELFARE OF PEOPLE.





MAY I THEN CALL UPON ALL OF US TO SAY
THIS ABOUT GLOBALISATION BEFORE WE
SAY 'YES' TO IT.

WE SHOULD SAY: NO GLOBALISATION
WITHOUT BENEFIT. NO GLOBALISATION
WITHOUT SELF-DETERMINATION.
AND, NO GLOBALISATION WITHOUT
CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY
OR CONSCIENCE.





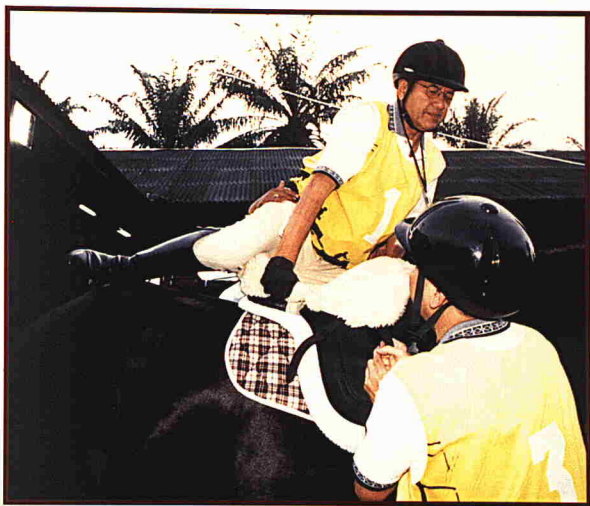
TOO MANY BELIEVE THAT UTTER
SELFISHNESS IS A VIRTUE, THAT
GREED IS GREAT, THAT
ENLIGHTENED CARING AND
COMPASSION IS A WEAKNESS,
THAT SELFLESSNESS AND
SACRIFICE FOR THE COMMON
GOOD IS A MENTAL ILLNESS.





IF YOU DON'T KNOW HOW TO RIDE A
HORSE, YOU WILL FALL OFF. I HAVE
FALLEN OFF A HORSE THREE TIMES.
BUT TO GET THE BALANCE AND TO BE
IN RHYTHM WITH THE ANIMAL IS
SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN ACHIEVE
ONLY IF YOU LEARN.

I HAD TO LEARN ABOUT FINANCE.





THOSE WHO HAVE HAD TOO
ACTIVE AN INTEREST IN
FORETELLING THE FUTURE
WITHOUT HEDGING THEIR
PROGNOSTICATIONS TO THE
POINT OF RENDERING THEM NIGH
USELESS ARE A RARE BREED
INDEED. IN FACT, THE CURRENT
PROLONGED WORLD RECESSION
HAS ABOUT KILLED
THE WHOLE LOT.





PLEASE DO NOT GET ME WRONG. I DO NOT
ADVOCATE ABANDONMENT OF THE MARKET
SYSTEM. I DO NOT ADVOCATE THE
REJECTION OF CAPITALISM. I DO NOT
ADVOCATE OPPOSITION TO GLOBALISATION.
I MUST CONFESS TO BEING A BELIEVER IN
THE MARKET SYSTEM.

I AM A BELIEVER IN THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM.
I AM ALSO A BELIEVER IN GLOBALISATION.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WATCH MY LIPS. YOU
DON'T HAVE TO EXAMINE THE WORDS I USE.
YOU MERELY HAVE TO LOOK AROUND YOU
AT THE MALAYSIA THAT EXISTS TODAY.





IN AN ERA OF
INTERDEPENDENCY, NO SINGLE
ECONOMY CAN STAND IN
ISOLATION. THE FRUITS OF OUR
LABOUR, OUR INGENUITY AND
OUR RESOURCES MUST BE
EXPORTED IF WE OURSELVES
ARE TO BE ABLE TO IMPORT THE
THINGS WE NEED OR DESIRE.





AMONGST THE SENSIBLE AND RESPONSIBLE
THINKERS WHO HAVE A BROAD AS OPPOSED
TO A NARROW PERSPECTIVE, THERE IS NOW
A NEW GLOBAL CONSENSUS THAT IF
GLOBALISATION IS TO BE SUSTAINABLE,
THERE MUST BE MANY MORE WINNERS AND
MANY FEWER LOSERS, AND THEY SHOULD
BOTH BE A MIXTURE OF
THE RICH AND THE POOR.

THERE IS A NEW EMERGING GLOBAL
CONSENSUS THAT THE WINNERS MUST NOT
WIN TO AN OBSCENE EXTENT AND THE
LOSERS MUST NOT LOSE TOO, IN AN
EQUALLY OBSCENE EXTENT.





I CANNOT THINK OF A PROFESSION MORE
PRONE TO BEING WRONG THAN THE
PROFESSION OF ECONOMISTS EXCEPT, OF
COURSE, FOR THE PROFESSION OF
POLITICIANS. THIS, I SUSPECT, IS WHY THEY
TRY SO HARD TO MAKE ECONOMICS APPEAR
SO COMPLICATED AND MYSTERIOUS, AN
INNER SANCTUM TO WHICH ORDINARY
HUMANS (CERTAINLY PEOPLE LIKE ME WHO
WANT TO RUN COUNTRIES) MUST NOT GO.

IN REALITY, WHEN YOU TAKE ALL THE
CONCOCTED MYSTERIES OUT OF IT, IT IS
CLEAR THAT THE ECONOMISTS HAVE BEEN
HAWKING THE MOST RUDIMENTARY IDEAS EVER
SINCE OUR DEAR FRIEND ADAM SMITH
STARTED THE WHOLE ECONOMICS BUSINESS
IN 1776.





THE STRUGGLE THAT WE
ARE ENGAGED IN TODAY IS
A STRUGGLE FOR THE
MINDS AND HEARTS OF
EVERY INDIVIDUAL IN
EVERY COUNTRY, IN EVERY
PART OF THE GLOBE.





A MISSTEP CARRIES WITH IT A COST NOT
LESS THAN CATASTROPHIC FOR NATIONS
AND PEOPLE. A BLIND ACCEPTANCE OF AN
IDEOLOGY THAT TO DATE STANDS AS JUST
THAT - AN IDEOLOGY - IS UNACCEPTABLE,
NAIVE AND DOWNRIGHT DANGEROUS.



IF OUR FRIENDS ELSEWHERE ARE
NOT WILLING TO HELP, THEY
SHOULD NOT SEEK TO HINDER. IF
THEY CANNOT BE PART OF THE
SOLUTION, THEY SHOULD GET OUT
OF THE WAY AND NOT BE PART OF
THE PROBLEM.





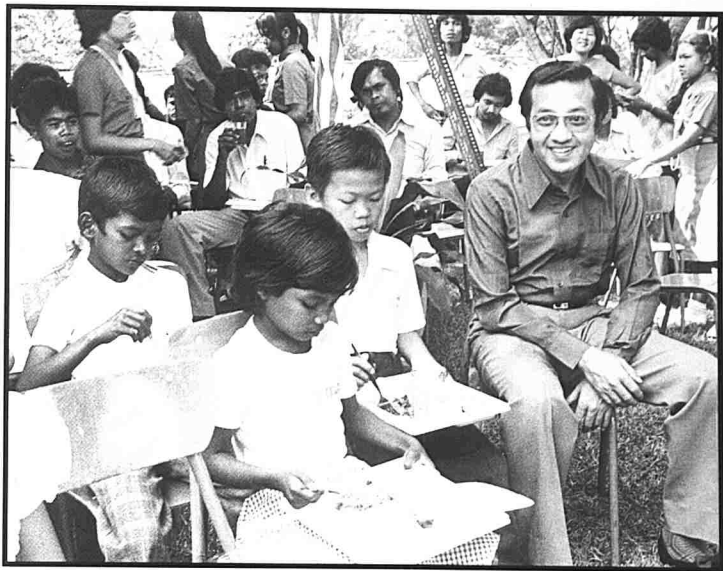
IN A HUNDRED YEARS' TIME, THE
WORLD WILL BE MORE MULTIRACIAL.
PEOPLE WILL BE MORE MOBILE AND
BORDERS CANNOT STOP THEM.

NO COUNTRY IN THE WORLD WILL
BE SINGLE-ETHNIC, THE MIXTURE OF
RACES IN EVERY COUNTRY WILL
REDUCE THE POSSIBILITY OF ANY
ONE RACE DOMINATING THE WORLD.





WE HAVE TO CORRECT THE
FALLACY THAT DRUG ADDICTION
HAPPENS ONLY TO SOMEONE
ELSE'S CHILD BUT NEVER OURS,
THAT THE SOURCE OF THE
PROBLEM LIES IN FAR AWAY LANDS
BUT NEVER AT HOME. THE
BATTLEFRONT IS IN EACH
INDIVIDUAL HOUSEHOLD, EACH
COMMUNITY, AND EACH COUNTRY.





THE GENIUS OF MAN BY THE
GRACE OF GOD SEEMS
BOUNDLESS. LET US THEN
NOT DESTROY THIS PROMISE
OF A BETTER FUTURE BY
SUCCUMBING TO THE
RAVAGES OF DRUG ABUSE.



THOSE WHO RISE
THROUGH STREET
DEMONSTRATIONS
WILL FALL THROUGH
STREET
DEMONSTRATIONS.





I BELIEVE MANY OF US ARE STILL
SUSPICIOUS OF NEW TERMS LIKE
THE "THE K-ECONOMY". IT
SOUNDS "AIRY FAIRY", SO
IMPOSSIBLY VAGUE. PERHAPS,
EVEN NOW, THERE ARE THOSE
WHO REGARD IT IN THE SAME WAY
AS THEY REGARD GHOSTS. THEY
HOPE IT WILL GO AWAY AND
BOTHR SOMEONE ELSE.



I BELIEVE MANY OF US ARE STILL
SUSPICIOUS OF NEW TERMS LIKE
THE "THE K-ECONOMY". IT
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IMPOSSIBLY VAGUE. PERHAPS,
EVEN NOW, THERE ARE THOSE
WHO REGARD IT IN THE SAME WAY
AS THEY REGARD GHOSTS. THEY
HOPE IT WILL GO AWAY AND
BOTHER SOMEONE ELSE.



NO INFORMATION
RICH COUNTRY IS
POOR, AND NO
INFORMATION POOR
COUNTRY IS RICH.



THE KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY IS
ABOUT INFORMATION AND
KNOWLEDGE LEADING TO
BETTER PRODUCTS AND
SERVICES. EVEN GROWING
“SAWI” CAN BE A K-ECONOMY
ACTIVITY IF THE “SAWI” GROWER
USES THE NET TO GET
INFORMATION ON HOW BEST TO
GROW “SAWI” OR ON HOW BEST
TO LINK SUPPLY AND DEMAND
MORE EFFICIENTLY.





KNOWLEDGE HAS ALWAYS BEEN
IMPORTANT, OF COURSE. THE ANCIENT
EGYPTIANS DID NOT RAISE THE STONES FOR
THE PYRAMIDS RELYING ON THE
INCANTATIONS TO THEIR GODS. THE
WATERS IN THE IRRIGATION CANALS OF THE
GREAT INDUS CIVILIZATION DID NOT FLOW
ACCORDING TO THE LAWS OF IGNORANCE.

KNOWLEDGE HAS ALWAYS BEEN
POWER AND WEALTH.





I BELIEVE I AM ON THE SIDE OF THE ANGELS
WHEN MY HEART GOES OUT MORE TO THE
LOSERS IN POOR COUNTRIES THEN TO THE
LOSERS IN RICH COUNTRIES. ESPECIALLY,
SINCE THE VERY POOR BENEFIT SO VERY
LITTLE FROM SOME ASPECTS OF
GLOBALISATION AND ARE AMONGST THE
FIRST AND THE MOST DEVASTATED WHEN
THINGS GO WRONG.



IF THE COMMONWEALTH IS TO BE
PERPETUATED, THE COMMONWEALTH
MUST ACHIEVE TANGIBLE AND MEANINGFUL
RESULTS FOR ITS MEMBERS. IT MUST GIVE
SOME SUBSTANCE TO THE TERM “COMMON
WEALTH”, PARTICULARLY FOR
THE POORER MEMBERS.





I BELIEVE THAT IT WILL REQUIRE A MIRACLE,
INDEED, A SERIES OF SUCH MIRACLES TO
PULL OFF THE FEAT OF TRANSCENDING THE
PRESENT GLOBAL DIVIDE BETWEEN THE
RICHEST DEVELOPED AND THE POOREST
DEVELOPING, BETWEEN THOSE AT THE
CUTTING EDGE OF ADVANCEMENT AND
THOSE BEING CRUSHED BY THE WEIGHT OF
POVERTY, BETWEEN THOSE WHO HAVE SO
MUCH AND THOSE WHO HAVE
PRACTICALLY NOTHING AT ALL.

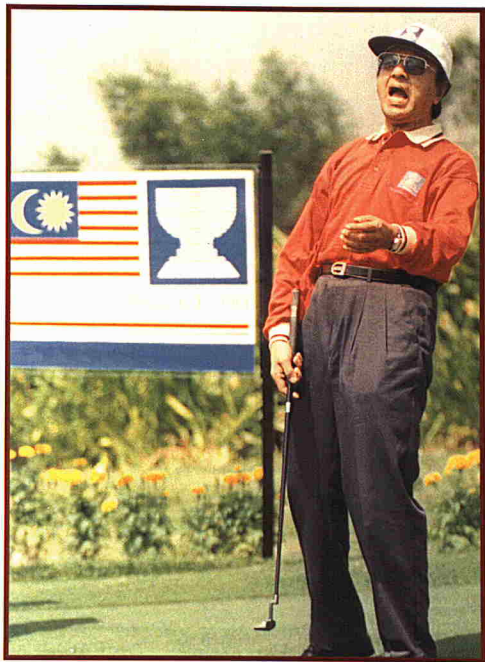


THE WORLD OF TODAY
GIVES THE FEELING OF
“DEJA VU”, OF HAVING SEEN
ALL THESE THINGS BEFORE.
NOTHING NEW IS REALLY
HAPPENING BECAUSE WE
CONTINUE TO COMMIT THE
SAME MISTAKES, THE SAME
CRIMES AND THE SAME SINS.





PEOPLE WHO PLAY GOLF KNOW THAT
THERE WILL NEVER COME A TIME WHEN
HANDICAPS WILL BE ABOLISHED. IN
BUSINESS TOO, FAIR COMPETITION CAN
ONLY BE BETWEEN ENTITIES OF FAIRLY
EQUAL STRENGTH BECAUSE LEVEL PLAYING
FIELDS ARE NOT ENOUGH. THE
CONTESTANTS MUST BE EVENLY MATCHED.
IF WE CANNOT MATCH THEM, THEN GIVE
THEM HANDICAPS.





MAY I DRAW ATTENTION TO ONE OF THE
HAZARDS OF MODERN INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS. WE LIVE IN A WORLD OF
INSTANT COMMUNICATION THAT HAS
SPAWNED INSTANT EVENTS, INSTANT
INTERVIEWS AND INSTANT COMMENTS.
THERE IS NOT MUCH TIME TO THINK BEFORE
COMMENTING ON EVENTS OF GRAVE
INTERNATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE DURING A
LONG DISTANCE INSTANT
INTERVIEW TELECAST.

CONSEQUENTLY, COMMENTS ARE MADE
UNTHINKINGLY ALMOST LITERALLY FROM
THE GUT. THE RESULT IS DISASTER FOR THE
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN NATIONS. WE
HOPE THAT THE GOOD RELATIONS WE ARE
TRYING TO BUILD UP BETWEEN TWO
COUNTRIES WILL NOT HAVE THIS LATEST
SPANNER THROWN INTO THE WORKS.





LET ME NOT BE MISUNDERSTOOD.
I AM NO APOLOGIST FOR
UNNECESSARY REPRESSION, FOR
THE IRON FIST, FOR
AUTHORITARIANISM AND FOR THE
ABUSE OF GOVERNMENTAL POWER.
I AM A FIRM BELIEVER IN THE
GREATEST FREEDOM CONSONANT
WITH THE VITAL INTERESTS OF
SOCIETY. BUT THERE IS NO MORAL
VIRTUE IN THE COMFORTABLE
AFFLICTING THE AFFLICTED, IN
TAKING A HOLIER THAN THOU
ATTITUDE.





THE ONLY WAY THAT THE WEAK CAN
FACE ANY CHALLENGE IS TO
PRESENT A UNITED FRONT, BETTER
STILL, TO FORM A SMART
PARTNERSHIP.

THE SPIRIT OF SMART
PARTNERSHIP, FAR FROM BEING AN
ABSTRACTION, IS A WORKABLE
ENTITY THAT PROMISES REAL,
TANGIBLE RESULTS.





WE LIVE IN A WORLD WHERE
THE POWER OF PERSUASION
HAS TOO SMALL A PUNCH
AND WHERE THE
PERSUASION OF POWER
PACKS TOO BIG A WALLOP.





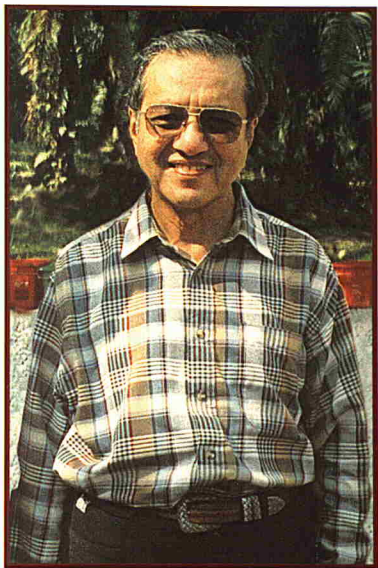
WE CAN REACH THE MOON AND THE STARS.
SO FAR WE HAVE FOUND THEM
UNINHABITED, BUT SHOULD THERE BE ANY
CREATURE OUT THERE WITH THE AUDACITY
TO CHALLENGE US, WE WILL BLAST THEM
INTO NOTHINGNESS WITH OUR RAY GUNS.
WHAT A GLORIOUS FUTURE FOR THE ARMS
MAKERS. WE WILL ALL HAVE TO BUY LASER
GUNS TO BLAST THE MARTIANS AND THE
VENUSIANS INTO EMPTY SPACE.

WE WILL FIGHT TERRESTRIAL WARS TOO,
FOR WE CANNOT GIVE UP OUR ADDICTION
TO IT. WE ARE BUSY INVENTING AND
PRODUCING EVER-NEWER WEAPONS, WHICH
WE MUST TRY OUT IN REAL LIFE. HOW ELSE
CAN WE KNOW WHETHER
THEY WORK OR NOT?





WE HAVE A SAYING IN OUR PART OF THE WORLD THAT WHEN TWO ELEPHANTS FIGHT, IT IS THE GRASS THAT GETS TRAMPLED. WE HAVE A VITAL INTEREST IN ENSURING THAT WE DO NOT GET TRAMPLED AND THAT THE TWO ELEPHANTS THAT ARE BOTH GOOD FRIENDS OF OURS, DO NOT FIGHT. THERE IS A FURTHER TWIST TO THE ELEPHANT ANALOGY, HOWEVER. NOT ONLY DOES THE GRASS GET TRAMPLED WHEN ELEPHANTS FIGHT, IT GETS SQUASHED WHEN THE ELEPHANTS SIT DOWN TO MAKE LOVE.





LET ME APOLOGISE FOR NOT BEING
HYPOCRITICAL AND FOR NOT SAYING SOME
OF THE THINGS THAT SOME MAY WISH ME TO
SAY. I AM TEMPTED TO TRY BUT AS A
MEDICAL DOCTOR, I AM A LITTLE WORRIED
ABOUT THE EFFECTS OF A PHYSIOLOGICAL
PROCESS CALLED "CHOKING". I AM SURE
YOU WOULD NOT WANT ME TO CHOKE ON
MY WORDS AND TO COLLAPSE RIGHT
BEFORE YOUR VERY EYES.





WHAT DO I MEAN BY JUSTICE? IT IS NOT THE HALLOWED AND CIVILISED PRINCIPLE OF “SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL”, FOR A TEMPORARY PRIVILEGE TO BE AFFORDED TO THE ESPECIALLY WEAK AND VULNERABLE AS THAT WAS THE HALLMARK OF THE GLOBAL SYSTEM FOR SO LONG.

TODAY, MOST OF US DO NOT EVEN DARE TO MENTION “SPECIAL AND DIFFERENT”. TODAY, ALL THAT WE ASK FOR, IS PLAIN OLD SIMPLE FAIR PLAY.



UNFORTUNATELY, IN OUR WORLD OF
REALITY, GENEROSITY IS SOMETHING THAT
NO SOCIETY HAD A RIGHT TO EXPECT IN THE
PAST. IT IS NOT SOMETHING THAT ANY
SOCIETY CAN EXPECT IN THE PRESENT. NO
GENEROSITY CAN BE EXPECTED IN THE
FUTURE.





CREATIVE DESTRUCTION IS
NOT THE WAY. WE CAN BUILD
ON WHAT WE HAVE INSTEAD
OF DESTROYING AND
EXPECTING THE PHOENIX TO
RISE FROM ITS ASHES. IT MAY
NOT RISE AT ALL OR IT MAY
TAKE TOO LONG A TIME.





I AM AFRAID I CANNOT ACCEPT THE
UNCONSCIONABLE. IF THIS UPSETS
ANYONE, I AM SORRY. I MAKE NO
APOLOGIES. AS A HUMAN BEING, I
BELIEVE NO HUMAN BEING CAN
ACCEPT THE DOCTRINE THAT BUSINESS
CAN DO WHATEVER THEY LIKE,
GOVERNMENTS SHOULD ALLOW
BUSINESS TO DO WHATEVER THEY LIKE,
AND IF BONES ARE CRUSHED AND
LIVES ARE RUINED, IT'S OK.



THE PEOPLE OF MALAYSIA HAD
ALWAYS GIVEN A BIG MAJORITY
TO THE PARTY WHICH FORMED
THE GOVERNMENT. AND SO,
UNPOPULAR DECISIONS COULD
BE MADE AND MALAYSIA IS ABLE
TO GO AHEAD WITH SEEMINGLY
WASTEFUL PROJECTS WHICH IN
THE END, PROVE TO BE WISE
UNDERTAKINGS.





MOST COUNTRIES GLORIFY
THEIR STRUGGLES IN ORDER
TO IMBUE A SENSE OF
PATRIOTISM AMONG THEIR
PEOPLES. BUT IN MALAYSIA
WE FEEL RATHER SHY ABOUT
GLORIFYING OUR PAST, EVEN
RECOGNISING THE REAL
SACRIFICES AND THE
CONTRIBUTION OF OUR
FOUNDERS.



WHAT IF THE CHALLENGE IS
LARGELY INVISIBLE, AND ITS
EFFECTS NOT YET FELT? DO WE
WAIT UNTIL WE CAN SEE AN ENEMY
BEFORE WE REACT OR DO WE
HAVE THE FORESIGHT TO SEE FAR
INTO THE FUTURE IN ORDER TO
RECOGNISE AN ENEMY BEFORE IT
MAKES ITSELF VISIBLE?





THE PUBLIC GOOD IS SACRED. IN MY
VIEW, AND I STATE IT WITHOUT ANY
RESERVATION OR APOLOGY, THE
PUBLIC GOOD IS ALWAYS SACRED.





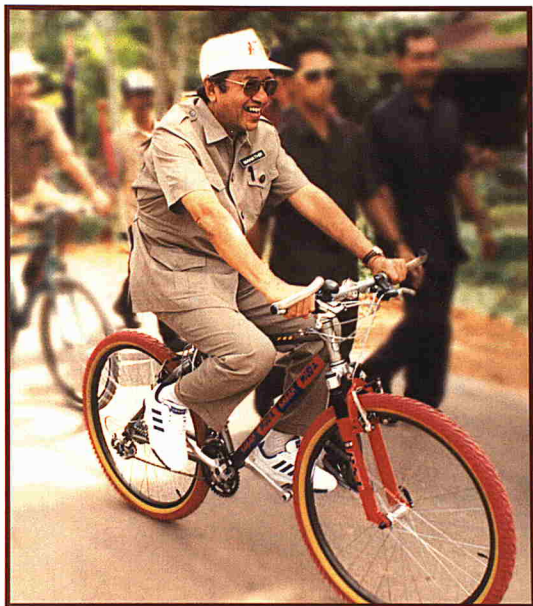
DEMOCRACY IS THE
CREATION OF MERE MAN TO
OVERCOME PROBLEMS IN
SOCIETY. BUT IT IS NOT FREE
FROM DEFECTS. THEREFORE
THE RESULTS OF PRACTISING
DEMOCRACY ARE NOT ALWAYS
POSITIVE. DO NOT BE
OBSESSED WITH DEMOCRACY
TO THE EXTENT THAT
EVERYTHING IS PRACTISED
BECAUSE IT IS LEGITIMIZED BY
DEMOCRACY.

EXTREME DEMOCRACY HAS
RESULTED IN MANY NEGATIVE
THINGS. MANY COUNTRIES
COULD NOT BE GOVERNED AND
DEVELOPED BECAUSE OF THE
ATTEMPT TO PRACTICE
EVERYTHING DEEMED
DEMOCRATIC. SO BEWARE.
DEMOCRACY IS FOR OUR OWN
GOOD, BUT WE SHOULD NOT BE
SACRIFICED FOR THE SAKE OF
DEMOCRACY.





INDEED, I AM RATHER
ENVOIOUS OF ALL THE
PARTICIPANTS WHO
WILL HAVE A SPLENDID
OPPORTUNITY TO
LEARN AND EXCHANGE
IDEAS CONCERNING
THIS RICH MIXTURE OF
VITAL TOPICS.





NO ONE CAN BE CERTAIN OF
WHAT THE FUTURE WILL BRING.
WE CAN HAZARD A GUESS. WE
CAN MAKE DEDUCTIONS BASED
ON AN ANALYSIS OF WHAT HAD
HAPPENED IN THE PAST, ON
THE CHARACTER AND PSYCHE
OF THE PEOPLE, ON THE
TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS
IN THE WORLD OUTSIDE. BUT
WE CAN NEVER BE
ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN.



IF THE SAME PEOPLE
LEAD FOR LONGER
PERIODS, PERHAPS
MISTAKES WILL NOT BE
REPEATED.





I HAVE OFTEN ENOUGH
STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE
OF GOOD VALUES TO BE
BELIEVED IN AND PRACTISED
BY INDIVIDUALS AND BY THE
COMMUNITY IN ORDER TO
ACHIEVE A PEACEFUL,
PROGRESSIVE AND
SUCCESSFUL SOCIETY. AND
INTEGRITY IS CERTAINLY ONE
OF THESE HONOURABLE
VALUES.





MALAYSIANS ARE GREAT
SAVERS. WE ARE
DISCIPLINED. WE WORK
HARD. WE THINK THAT OUR
WELL-BEING, OUR COUNTRY
IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY. WE
HAVE TO CONTINUE WITH
THESE HABITS AND
CULTURAL TRAITS.

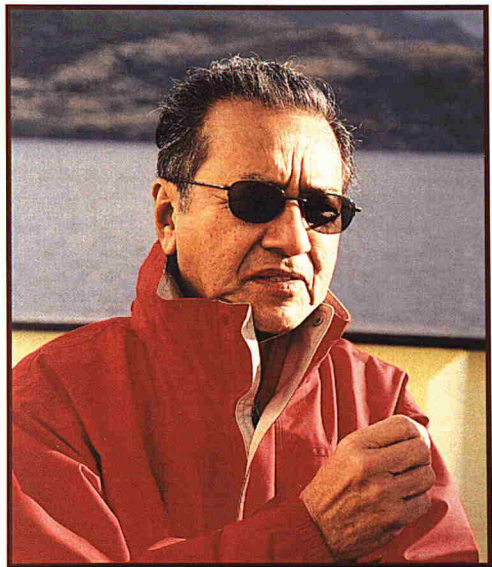


CARPENTRY HAS FROM MY
EARLY DAYS GIVEN ME
COUNTLESS HOURS OF
SATISFACTION. AND TODAY,
IT IS A MEANS OF
RELAXATION FOR ME. THERE
IS NOTHING I ENJOY MORE
THAN TO RETREAT FROM
THE CARES OF
GOVERNMENT INTO MY OWN
WORKSHOP.





WE KNOW THAT THERE
IS NO PERFECTION IN
ANY SYSTEM DEvised
BY MAN. MEN WILL
ALWAYS FIND WAYS TO
ABUSE ANYTHING
DESIGNED FOR THEIR
GOOD. THEY WILL
ALWAYS FIND
LOOPHOLES.





WE NEED NOT BE GRATEFUL
TO THOSE WHO HELP US, WHO
GIVE THINGS TO US, BECAUSE
WHAT WE GET IS ACTUALLY
OURS. WE HAVE A RIGHT TO
BITE THE HAND THAT FEEDS
US BECAUSE THERE IS A 'TOK
GURU' WHO TEACHES US TO
BE UNGRATEFUL.



PERHAPS BECAUSE I AM
TRAINED AS A DOCTOR
OF MEDICINE I LOOK AT
CRUTCHES DIFFERENTLY.

THERE WAS A TIME
WHEN DOCTORS
EXPECTED CRUTCHES
TO BE USED FOR LIFE.
BUT TODAY, DOCTORS
GET THEIR PATIENTS ON
THEIR FEET AS SOON AS
POSSIBLE.





GIVEN A POSITIVE ATTITUDE
AND STRONG
DETERMINATION, ALL
HANDICAP PERSONS CAN
ACHIEVE A DEGREE OF
IMPROVEMENT AND
BECOME AS NEARLY
NORMAL AS POSSIBLE.





PEOPLE IMAGINE THAT
IF YOU ARE A PRIME
MINISTER, YOU DEAL
ONLY IN GRAND
DESIGNS AND
GESTURES. IF ONLY
THIS WERE TRUE!

IN MY EXPERIENCE,
STATECRAFT IS
INDEED A CRAFT.





WE OUGHT ALWAYS TO BE
REMINDED THAT IN
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
THERE ARE NO BRAVE AND
BENIGN NEW WORLDS AND
NO MIRACLES.



WE WOULD BE FOOLISH
TO PRESUME THAT
BEYOND THE AGE OF
CONFRONTATION WHICH
WE HAVE ALL ENDURED
FOR SO LONG LIES
NECESSARILY A NEW ERA
OF COOPERATION.





THERE HAS OF COURSE
NEVER BEEN A TIME
WHEN IDEOLOGY HAS
COUNTED FOR NOTHING.
THERE WILL NEVER
COME A TIME WHEN IT
COUNTS FOR NOTHING.



ALTHOUGH THE WRITING
HAS BEEN ON THE WALL
FOR DECADES, IT IS TODAY
WRIT IN SUCH LARGE AND
BOLD LETTERS THAT EVEN
THE NEAR ILLITERATE AND
THE MYOPIC CAN NOW
READ THE MESSAGE.





AS THE PRIME MINISTER OF A
SMALL COUNTRY, I FEEL IT
NECESSARY TO STRESS THAT ONE
OF THE MISCONCEPTIONS THAT
MUST BE JETTISONED AT THE
START IS TO BELIEVE THAT THE
SMALLER STATES HAVE NO ROLE
OR NO SIGNIFICANT ROLE TO PLAY.
TO BE SURE, IN THE GREAT AFFAIRS
OF MEN, FEW CAN MAKE A
DIFFERENCE BUT ALL MUST TRY.





EACH NATION CAN
CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE IF IT
PUTS ITS OWN HOUSE IN
ORDER, IF IT DEVELOPS ITS
NATIONAL RESILIENCE AND
IF IT SEEKS THE DIGNITY
AND CHOOSES THE HIGH
GROUND OF
INDEPENDENCE.





WE MUST NOT BE AT
SIXES AND THREES.
THE MOUNTAINS OF
DISTRUST AND
MISUNDERSTANDING
MUST BE REMOVED.



LET US NOT FORGET THOUGH
THAT IT TAKES TWO FOR
CORRUPTION TO BE
CONSUMMATED, THE GIVER
AND THE RECEIVER.

UNLESS WE FIGHT
CORRUPTION NOW, WE RUN
THE RISK OF CORRUPTION
BECOMING ENDEMIC.





THE FACT IS THAT IN ORDER
TO FORECAST THE FUTURE WE
HAVE TO LOOK INTO THE PAST.

NOT ONLY WILL THE PAST
INFLUENCE THE FUTURE BUT
ALSO WHAT HAPPENS IN THE
PAST WILL HELP INDICATE THE
POSSIBLE TREND OF EVENTS
IN THE FUTURE.



RELIGION IS NOT A
MATTER OF COMMON
SENSE. IT IS A MATTER
OF BELIEF, OF FAITH.
TRYING TO ARGUE ON
THE BASIS OF COMMON
SENSE OR LOGIC IS NOT
GOING TO GET ONE
ANYWHERE.





OIL AND GAS WILL
ALWAYS REMAIN A
POLITICAL INSTRUMENT
AND THE POWERFUL
COUNTRIES AND THEIR
MEGA OIL COMPANIES
WILL ALWAYS AVAIL
THEMSELVES OF THESE
POTENT WEAPONS.



NO, FORTUNATELY FOR ME,
NO MATTER WHAT THE
TROUBLE IS I CAN SLEEP.





THE WORLD HAS CHANGED.
IT IS INCREASINGLY
INTERDEPENDENT. THE WORLD IS
DRIVEN BY MULTIFACETED
INTERESTS... BY A VARIETY OF
ACTORS WHO FORGED NEW
ALLIANCE AROUND SHIFTING GOAL
POSTS. COUNTRIES ARE
REDEFINING THEMSELVES.

FRIENDS AND FOES ARE BEING
REINVENTED AND REALIGNED, AND
EVERYTHING IS OPEN TO NEW
INTERPRETATIONS AND MEANING
AND NEW INSTRUMENTS ARE BEING
FORGED TO REALISE NEW VISIONS.





NO ONE HAS A MONOPOLY OF
TOLERANCE AND MODERATION.
IN ANY SOCIETY, IN ANY
RELIGION, THERE WILL BE
ABERRATIONS. WE ARE TEMPTED
TO LABEL EVERYONE IN A
SOCIETY WITH AN ABERRANT
MINORITY WITH THE SAME LABEL.
AND HAVING LABELLED, WE
THEN PROCEED TO ACT IN A
MANNER THAT REFLECTS OUR
PREJUDICES TOWARDS THE
WHOLE OF THAT SOCIETY.



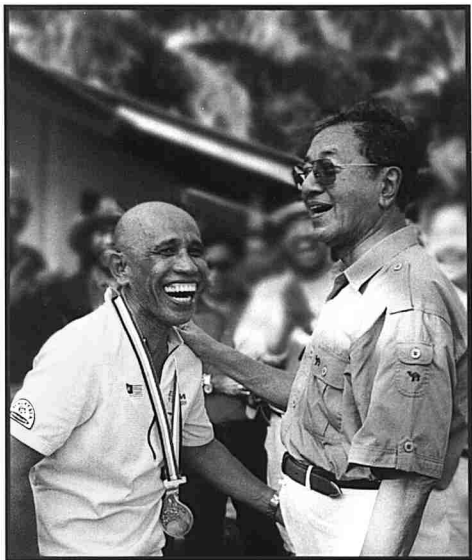


THE COMMONWEALTH IS NOT WHAT IT WAS
WHEN IT STARTED. IT IS NO LONGER A
CLUB FOR NATIONS FOUNDED BY
MIGRANTS FROM EUROPE. IT IS NOW A
COLLECTION OF FORMER COLONIES WHO
HAVE BEEN PERSUADED TO JOIN THE
COMMONWEALTH THROUGH OBLIQUE
HINTS THAT THEY WILL BENEFIT FROM IT.



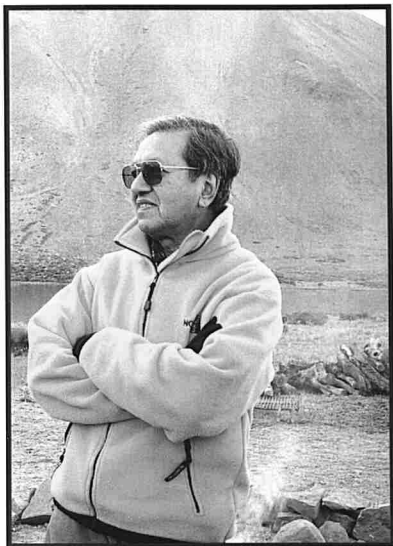


THE TRUE NATIONALISTS
ARE THOSE WHO HELP
THEIR RACE TO
SUCCEED THROUGH THE
MASTERING OF
KNOWLEDGE AND
ATTRACTING MANY TO
LEARN THE LANGUAGE
OF THIS SUCCESSFUL
RACE.





I HAVE OFTEN ENOUGH
STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE
OF GOOD VALUES TO BE
BELIEVED IN AND PRACTISED
BY INDIVIDUALS AND BY THE
COMMUNITY IN ORDER TO
ACHIEVE A PEACEFUL,
PROGRESSIVE AND
SUCCESSFUL SOCIETY. AND
INTEGRITY IS CERTAINLY ONE
OF THESE HONOURABLE
VALUES.





WE KNOW THAT ALLAH IS
MERCIFUL AND COMPASSIONATE.
HE DOES NOT FRUSTRATE US
BECAUSE HE IS SPITEFUL.
THEREFORE WE CAN PLAN AND
REGULATE, WITH FAITH IN ALLAH
AND HIS BOUNTY.

AND WHAT HE DETERMINES
SHOULD BE OUR ACHIEVEMENT MAY
BE EVEN GREATER THAN WE HAVE A
RIGHT TO EXPECT. INDEED IF WE
LOOK BACK, OUR GOOD FORTUNE IS
TOTALLY UNDESERVED. BUT WE DO
NOT LOOK BACK, NOR ARE WE
GIVEN TO GRATEFULNESS TO OUR
CREATOR.





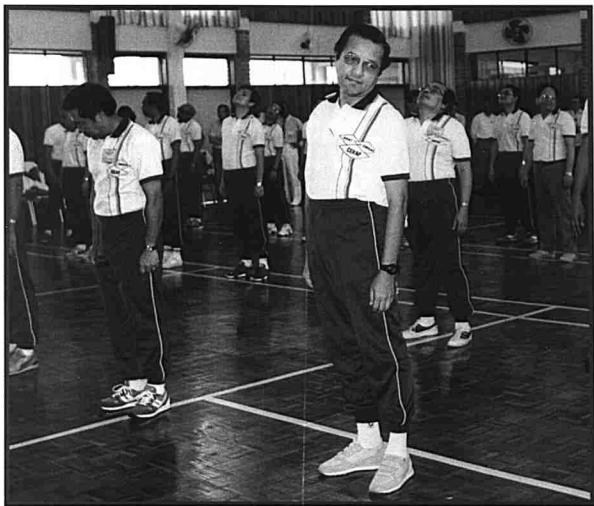
IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS IT IS THE
PUBLIC WHICH DETERMINES
WHETHER CORRUPTION BECOMES
A CULTURE OR NOT. MANY
BELIEVE THAT THE BIG FISH MUST
BE GOT AT BUT THE MINNOWS ARE
NOT IMPORTANT. BUT THE
CULTURE OF CORRUPTION BEGINS
WITH THE MINNOWS. THEY DON'T
STAY MINNOWS FOREVER.
SOME WILL GET TO HIGH PLACES,
SINCE THEIR EARLY SMALL-TIME
INDISCRETIONS RECEIVE NO
ATTENTION.

BESIDES, WHEN CORRUPTION IS
TOLERATED AMONG THE
MINNOWS, THE BIG FISH GETS
ENCOURAGED AND SOCIETY AS A
WHOLE WOULD ACCEPT THE
PRACTICE. IT BECOMES A CULTURE
AND THE CULTURE OF A PEOPLE IS
THE MOST DIFFICULT
THING TO CHANGE.





WHEN WE REFUSE THE BRIBE WE GET
TODAY, FOR FEAR OF ITS IMPACT ON THE
FATE OF OUR FUTURE GENERATION, THIS
SHOWS THAT WE HAVE SELF-DISCIPLINE.
ONLY PEOPLE WHO ARE DISCIPLINED ARE
ABLE TO REJECT BRIBERY FOR THE SAKE OF
RACE, RELIGION AND NATION.





MAKE YOUR OWN
CORRECT
EVALUATION ON
WHATEVER
ALLEGATIONS.





HISTORY IS NOT JUST FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN TO LEARN IN ORDER FOR THEIR MEMORY OF DATES AND EVENTS TO BE TESTED. HISTORY IS FOR ADULTS, PARTICULARLY THOSE ADULTS WHO ARE ENTRUSTED WITH DETERMINING THE POLICIES OF NATIONS. IF ONLY THEY COULD CONTINUOUSLY STUDY HISTORY AND SEEK THE LESSONS THAT HISTORY PROVIDES.

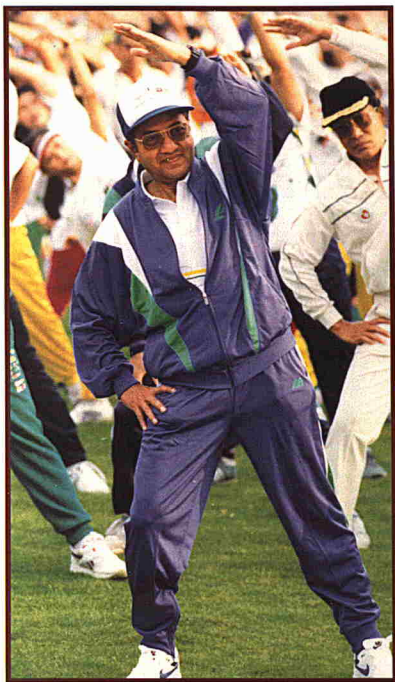
THEN THEY WOULD BE LESS PRONE TO
REPEAT THE MISTAKES OF THE PAST. THEN
THE WORLD AND THE COMMUNITY OF
NATIONS WOULD BE BETTER GOVERNED
AND WE WOULD BE BLESSED
WITH A BETTER WORLD.





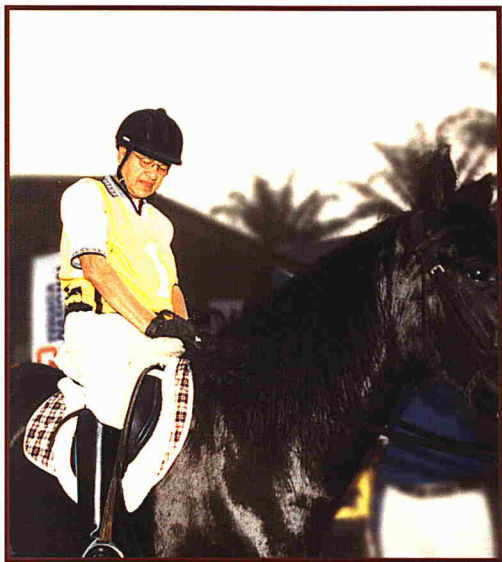
JUST AS ALLAH HAS GIVEN US LIGHT
SO WE MAY SEE OUR WAY, SO HAS HE
GIVEN US THE FACULTY TO THINK IN
ORDER THAT WE MAY UNDERSTAND
HIS LAWS AND USE THEM TO
PREVENT OUR BLUNDERING AROUND
IN THE WORLD HE CREATED.

IT IS IN THIS LIGHT THAT WE SHOULD
SEE THE PROVISION OF BASIC
HEALTH CARE AS A PRIORITY IN THIS
COUNTRY. IT IS IN FACT AN
IMPORTANT ASPECT OF OUR TOTAL
EFFORT TO IMPROVE AND UPLIFT THE
QUALITY OF LIFE OF OUR PEOPLE.





HISTORY IS A GREAT TEACHER,
WHICH CAN HELP US CREATE A
BETTER WORLD. BUT
UNFORTUNATELY THE LESSONS
OF HISTORY ARE OFTEN
IGNORED, SOMETIMES
DELIBERATELY. AND BECAUSE WE
IGNORE THE LESSONS OF
HISTORY WE KEEP ON REPEATING
THE MISTAKES OF THE PAST AND
WE SUFFER ACCORDINGLY.





HUMAN HISTORY IS FULL OF SO-CALLED
SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS OF HUMAN
SOCIETY. EACH TIME A SOLUTION WAS
FOUND, THE EFFICACY AND INFALLIBILITY
OF THE SOLUTION WAS ACCEPTED AS
BEING BEYOND DOUBT.

THOSE WHO ESPOUSE THE SOLUTION WILL
PERMIT NO CRITICISM OR OPPOSITION.
THEY BECOME SO FANATICAL THAT THEY
WOULD FIGURATIVELY AND SOMETIMES
LITERALLY BURN THE HERETICS
AT THE STAKES.





THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO SUGGEST
THAT MALAYS BE A LITTLE RUDE. THIS
SUGGESTION HAS BEEN WELL
RECEIVED. BUT WHY BE A LITTLE
RUDE? JUST BE DOWNRIGHT RUDE.
AND SO THE VIEWS THAT IT IS
UNNECESSARY TO FEEL OBLIGED TO
THE BENEFACTORS GAINED
ACCEPTANCE. THERE SHOULD NOT BE
ANY FEELING OF GRATITUDE, THESE
SAME PEOPLE SUGGEST.

THERE SHOULD BE NO SENSE OF
INDEBTEDNESS TO THOSE WHO HAVE
HELPED US. TO CONDEMN AND
RIDICULE THEM IS NOT WRONG.
WE NEED ONLY BE GRATEFUL TO
GOD. OUR BLESSINGS AND FORTUNE
DO NOT COME FROM PEOPLE. IF IT
DOES NOT COME FROM ONE PERSON,
IT MAY COME FROM SOMEONE ELSE.





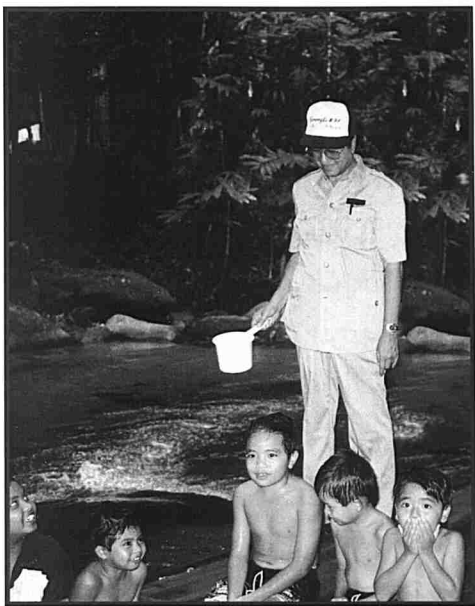
SINCE THE FUTURE CANNOT BE THE PAST,
THE TWO TERMS BEING IN CONTRADICTION,
CAN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES COME TO THE
AID OF THE POOR SOULS WHO HAVE TO
DIVINE THE FUTURE? FROM THE FIELD OF
POLITICS WE GET THE 'IRON LAW' WHICH
STATES THAT IN THE AFFAIRS OF MEN THE
ONLY TRUE CONSTANT IS CHANGE.

FROM THE STUDY OF HISTORY HAS
EMERGED THE EQUALLY WISE SAYING THAT
THE MORE THINGS CHANGE, THE MORE THEY
REMAIN THE SAME. FROM THE SCIENCE OF
ECONOMICS, IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE
THAT THERE NEVER HAS BEEN ONE-HANDED
ECONOMISTS.





WHILE WE DEVELOP THE COUNTRY
ECONOMICALLY WE ARE ALSO
GIVING EMPHASIS TO DEVELOPING
AND SUSTAINING OUR NATIONAL
CULTURE AND VALUES. THIS WILL BE
REFLECTED IN THE ENVIRONMENT
PARTICULARLY IN THE
ARCHITECTURE, IN THE ARTS, AND IN
THE WAY OF LIFE OF OUR PEOPLE.
WHILE THESE ARE MEANT TO FULFIL
THE AESTHETIC NEEDS OF OUR OWN
PEOPLE, THEY WOULD ALSO BE AN
ATTRACTION FOR TOURISTS
TO THIS COUNTRY.





THE MEDIA, LIKE THE INDIVIDUAL
OR GROUPS OF INDIVIDUALS, IS AN
ACTOR WITHIN A HUMAN
COMMUNITY. IN THE MODERN
WORLD, HOWEVER, SUCH IS THE
POWER OF THE MEDIA THAT IT HAS
OFTEN BEEN CALLED THE FOURTH
ESTATE.

IN MANY COUNTRIES, THE MEDIA
HAS BECOME A POWERFUL FORCE
IN SOCIETY, SO POWERFUL IN
FACT THAT KINGS AND
PRESIDENTS BOW AND SCRAPE
BEFORE IT.





MY MOTHER TAUGHT ME TO STOP
EATING WHEN I AM ENJOYING MY
MEAL, WHICH IS DIFFICULT.





NO, I DID NOT SHED TEARS.
I WORKED VERY HARD NOT TO DO
IT AND I SUCCEEDED.



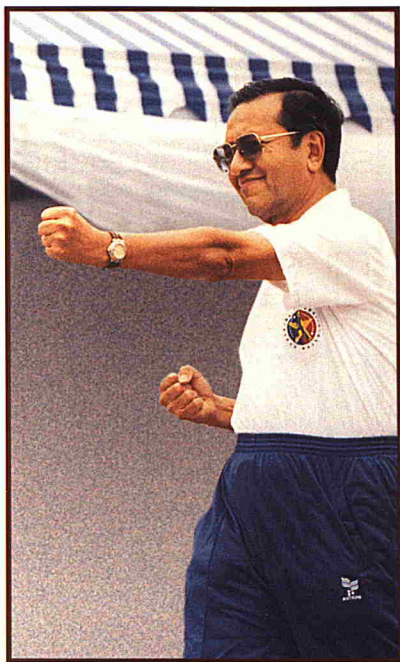


IF YOU WANT ME TO TALK,
I CAN TALK AND TALK UNTIL
I AM BLUE IN THE FACE.



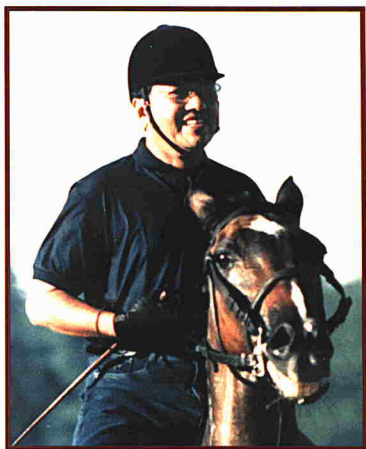


AT THE RISK OF
BORING YOU WITH
REPETITION, LET ME
REPEAT THE NEED
NOW FOR ACTION,
REAL, PALPABLE
RESULT-ORIENTED
ACTION.





I BELIEVE THAT TODAY, AS EVER IN
THE PAST, AS IT MUST BE IN THE
DAYS TO COME, IT IS ESSENTIAL
FOR US TO THINK INDEPENDENTLY
AND TO ACT, DRIVEN BY THE
DICTATES OF RATIONALITY, THE
IMPERATIVE OF FREEDOM AND
INDEPENDENCE, AND THE
DEMANDS OF ETHICS, MORALITY
AND RESPONSIBILITY.





UNFORTUNATELY,
POLITICIANS AND
JOURNALISTS CANNOT LEAVE
THINGS WELL ENOUGH
ALONE. POLITICIANS SEE IN
RACIAL CHAUVINISM AN ISSUE
DEMANDING TO BE
EXPLOITED. JOURNALISTS
SEE TOO GOOD A STORY TO
BE BY-PASSED MERELY FOR
THE SAKE OF NATIONAL
UNITY.



A FREE PRESS IS AS PRONE TO
CORRUPTION AS ARE THE OTHER
INSTITUTIONS OF DEMOCRACY. IS
THIS THEN TO BE THE ONLY
INSTITUTION OF DEMOCRACY TO
BE COMPLETELY UNFETTERED?





CREATIVITY IS ABOUT SEEING
THINGS FROM A DIFFERENT ANGLE
AND BREAKING AWAY FROM OLD
RULES AND NORMS THAT BIND US
TO THE TRADITIONAL WAY OF
DOING THINGS. IT ALLOWS US TO
BE DIFFERENT AND HELPS US FIND
NEW ANSWERS AND SOLUTIONS
TO PROBLEMS, BOTH OLD AND
NEW. FROM CREATIVITY COMES
INNOVATION.





TOUCHING ON YOUR PROFESSION, I
RATHER ENVY THE IDEAS WHICH
LAWYERS HAVE AS TO HOW THE
COUNTRY SHOULD BE RUN AND THE
FACILITY AND GAY ABANDON WITH
WHICH THEY EXPRESS THEMSELVES
WHENEVER THE GOVERNMENT DID
SOMETHING THEY DISAGREED WITH.

AS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW QUICK
THEY ARE ON THE UPTAKE, I WOULD
LIKE TO RELATE A STORY ABOUT A
DOCTOR WHO HAD A LAWYER AS A
PATIENT. THE DOCTOR AFTER
EXAMINING THE LAWYER SAID,



“ I AM AFRAID
THERE IS NOTHING
I CAN DO FOR YOU.
YOUR DISEASE IS
HEREDITARY.”
“WELL, IN THAT
CASE,” SAID THE
LAWYER, “SEND
THE BILL TO MY
FATHER.”



FOR MORE THAN 400 YEARS
AFTER 1511, WE WERE NOT
MASTERS OF OUR OWN FATE,
BELIEVERS IN OUR CAPACITY TO
EXCEL. WE HAVE IN RECENT YEARS
SHOWN TO OTHERS, AND MORE
IMPORTANTLY, TO OURSELVES
THAT 'MALAYSIA BOLEH'. WE
MUST ALWAYS BE HUMBLE.
HUMILITY AND REALITY TELLS US
OUR JOURNEY IS FAR FROM
COMPLETE.



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NEW STRAITS TIMES SDN BHD

DATO' AWANG KAMARUDDIN

DATO' DR ZAINAL HAMID

AND SPECIAL THANKS

TUN DR MAHATHIR MOHAMED



He's just a man!