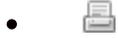


Palestinian Ambassador: Peace Only When Jerusalem Is The Capital City

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Photo: Mushamir Mustafa

KUALA LUMPUR: Palestinian Ambassador, His Excellency Dr. Anwar Hamdto Q. Al-Agha highlighted that there will 'only be peace in Palestine once Jerusalem is the Capital City' in a panel discussion "Palestine: United for Peace and Statehood" held yesterday in conjunction with the 'International Day of Solidarity With The Palestinian People'.

His Excellency Dr Anwar has urged Malaysia to use its seat on the United Nations Security Council next year to push for a UN resolution towards ending Israel's illegal occupation of Palestine.

The Ambassador also expressed his gratitude to Malaysia for the continued aid, political will and solidarity that the Malaysian government and its people have shown to the Palestinian cause. Dr Anwar also congratulated Spain, France and Sweden for having recognized the state of Palestine, and mentioned that Belgium will be announcing a parliamentary session on Palestine next week.



Photo: Durian Asean

Malaysian Digest spoke to some of the Palestinian students at the event, who expressed that they will never give up on Palestine. One mentioned “We have been negotiating with the Israelis for 67 years and still we have gone nowhere. If it is up to us young people, we'd rather just fight them till the last drop of blood... the leaders have to say that negotiations are the way to go when in front of the TV, but down here, we know that negotiations will go nowhere”. They also lauded Malaysia for observing the Israeli product boycotts which they believed are having an effect.

Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Malaysia YB Dato' Hamzah Zainudin, who delivered the keynote address at the event cited the Israeli-Palestinian conflict as ‘the mother of all Middle East conflicts’ and agrees that a united and sovereign Palestine with Jerusalem as the capital is the only way for peace, through peaceful negotiations.

The event, which was organized by the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations also featured other invited panelists including Mr. Jufitri Joha, Vice President of the Muslim Youth Movement of Malaysia, Dr. Maszlee Malik of the International Islamic University Malaysia and was moderated by YBhg. Tan Sri Dato' Seri Mohamed Jawhar Hasan, Chairman of the Institute of Strategic and International Studies.

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