

MAHATHIR-PALESTINE

85 (Y)
KUALA LUMPUR, NOV 29 (BERNAMA) -- MALAYSIA FULLY SUPPORTS THE PROPOSAL FOR THE CONVENING OF AN INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFERENCE ON WEST ASIA TO WHICH ALL PARTIES CONCERNED, INCLUDING THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANISATION (PLO), SHOULD BE INVITED.

IN A MESSAGE TODAY TO MARK THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE, PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID THE GOVERNMENT AND THE PEOPLE OF MALAYSIA REITERATED THEIR PLEDGE TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE AND FOR THEIR RIGHT TO THEIR HOMELAND.

HE SAID THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE HAD BEEN DENIED THEIR INALIENABLE RIGHTS AND SUBJECTED TO POLITICAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL OPPRESSION.

THE TRAGEDY AND PLIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE MUST CONTINUE TO BE A MATTER OF FUNDAMENTAL CONCERN TO ALL FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE EVERYWHERE, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID ALTHOUGH THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY HAD OVERWHELMINGLY PRONOUNCED ITSELF TO BE SOLIDLY BEHIND THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE IN THEIR STRUGGLE, ISRAEL HAD CONSISTENTLY IGNORED THIS, REFUSING TO ABANDON THE PATH OF AGGRESSION AND EXPANSIONISM. -- MORE (END OF RPTN)

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DESPITE THE SEEMING INABILITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO DISSUADE ISRAEL FROM CONTINUING ITS PRESENT COURSE, IT WAS IMPERATIVE TO REMAIN RESOLUTE IN THE SUPPORT FOR A COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION TO THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM, HE SAID.

HE SAID SUCH A COMPREHENSIVE AND JUST SOLUTION MUST NECESSARILY INCLUDE THE INALIENABLE RIGHT OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO THEIR OWN INDEPENDENT HOMELAND.

IT REMAINED THE SACRED DUTY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO SEEK JUSTICE FOR THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE WHO HAD BEEN DRIVEN FROM THEIR HOMELAND AND FORCED TO LIVE AS REFUGEES, HE ADDED. -- BERNAMA
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