

PM, Fadzil to talk on Palestine's struggles

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KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. Prime Minister' Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and Pas president Datuk Fadzil Mohd Noor will share a platform to talk on the Palestinian issue on Wednesday.

They will express their views at a forum, **Majlis Syarahan Perdana**, jointly organised by Dewan Bahasa dan Pustaka and the Malaysian Muslim Youth Movement (Abim). The talk will focus on one topic- Palestine and Humanity.

The forum is being initiated in response to the call from Palestinian Prime Minister Faruq Khaddumi for Dr Mahathir to lead the world community in imposing pressure on Israel to end its terrorism against the Palestinians.

DBP and Abim have invited other leaders and the public to attend the event which is expected to reflect Malaysian solidarity on the issue.

A two-week exhibition on Palestine and the struggles of the Palestinians against the repressive Israeli regime will be held at DBP's Balai Keris Mas from Wednesday.

The exhibition is a contribution from the *New Straits Times*.

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Palestinians confident Malaysia can help free them

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At a Press conference today, DPB board chairman Datuk Abd Rahim Abu Bakar said the high hopes expressed by Khaddumi that Dr Mahathir and Malaysia could play a vital role in freeing the Palestinians from Israeli oppression reflected Palestinian confidence in Malaysia's strength.

He said Dr Mahathir's commitment to, and bravery in handling, these issues had received the support of leaders of parties of differing political beliefs and stand.

This was because, to Malaysians,

the issue of Palestine and Israel's terrorism went beyond religious, political and social considerations.

And this was why leaders here are getting public support from all levels of the community in the fight for Palestinian rights.

Abd Rahim said the commitment of the country's leaders and its people to fight for human rights and values at international forums reflected the strong unity that existed in the country.

"This undivided support (for the issues) must be expressed so that the world knows, and has, the confidence that this country will al-

ways hold to the principles of humanity and sovereign rights of a country."

He said the failure of the United Nations to act effectively against Israel despite the numerous decisions made by its Security Council showed the world body needed to renew its fighting spirit.

Those interested in attending the function can contact DBP's Corporate Communication Unit on 03-21418971 or 03-21481011 at ext 611/617; or the Religion, Philosophy and Islamic Civilisation Division on 03-21482330 or 03-21481011 at ext 347/335.