

PAS still upset over Najib-Netanyahu handshake
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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's explanation that his handshake with Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was an unplanned incident, does little to quell PAS' disappointment.

PAS information chief Nasruddin Hassan said this is because Najib smilingly shook the Netanyahu's hand in the midst of the latest Israeli-Palestinian conflict over al-Aqsa Mosque.

"Najib betrayed the efforts of the Muslim world in pressuring and boycotting Israel, when he shook the Israeli PM's hand as if they were friends and nothing happened.

"His (United Nations General Assembly) speech accusing Israel of systematic ethnic cleansing is no more than a political gimmick, now shadowed by the handshaking incident.

"It shows that Malaysia actually views the plight of the Palestinians lightly, and weakens our official stance against Israel," he said in a statement.

Malaysia does not have diplomatic ties with Israel and condemned Israel's attack on al-Aqsa mosque.

Najib explained that he had bumped into Netanyahu at a doorway at the UN headquarters, and that the handshake was impromptu.

He was forced to explain and decry "slander" after a picture of the smiling prime ministers was circulated online.

The picture was circulated with speculation that Najib had a meeting with Netanyahu during his extended New York visit.