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PRIME NEWS

Al-Quds praises PM's Gaza visit

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BOLD ACTION: 'Palestinian hopes renewed'

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A CIVIL society organisation based in Beirut has praised Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak for his continuous support of the Palestinian cause.

In a letter (see full transcription below) dated Feb 15, the Al-Quds International Institution (QII) chairman of the Board of Trustees, Yusuf al-Qaradawi commended Najib for his visit to the Gaza Strip in January, saying it was a bold step towards ending the siege in the beleaguered state.

"Your visit is clearly an unmistakable sign to the international community and leaders of Islamic nations on the urgent need for bold action towards ending the inhumane siege, not only in the Gaza Strip but also in the West Bank and occupied Jerusalem," Yusuf wrote.

He said Najib's visit had renewed hopes among Palestinians wishing for freedom after decades of conflict and paid tribute to Malaysia's role in supporting the Palestinian fight.

"Malaysia, for (Palestinians), has long been regarded as a leading Islamic nation."

Yusuf al-Qaradawi



Datuk Seri Najib Razak, accompanied by Palestinian National Authority Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh, visiting the bombed-out homes of Palestinian victims in Gaza during Najib's visit there early this year. Bernama file pic

"Malaysia, for (Palestinians), has long been regarded as a leading Islamic nation, especially in supporting the Palestinian people and the Palestinian cause.

"This specific visit has further

asserted this support and fuelled again this regard and notability.

"Malaysia, its government and people, are a vital factor in supporting the Jerusalemite just cause, with Jerusalem being at the heart of the Muslim causes."

Founded in 2001, QII is an independent civil institution which includes Arab and international figures. The organisation's main centre is in Beirut while its permanent headquarters is in Jerusalem.