

# 'MALAYSIA NEEDS GOOD TIES WITH ALL'

Country will not be under any great power's thumb, says Anwar



**MOHD  
NASARUDDIN  
PARZI**

**BEIJING**

**M**ALAYSIA will not allow any big power to dictate how it makes decisions, Prime

Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said.

He said Malaysia never saw China as a competitor or a threat, despite the rivalry between China and the United States.

"I have been asked if I am seen as pro-China," said Anwar.

"In reality, as a trading nation, Malaysia needs to build good relations with all countries, includ-



*The Malaysian delegation, led by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, at a meeting with Chinese officials led by President Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing yesterday. PIC BY SADIQ ASYRAF/PRIME MINISTER OFFICE*

ing China and the US."

He was answering a question from a participant in his public lecture at Tsinghua University here yesterday.

Anwar said Malaysia, as a free and independent state, would defend its sovereignty and decide what was best for it.

"We should also maintain this position in Asean, as Asean was set up as a free and neutral zone."

He added that Malaysia was happy with the good relationship with China and it must be strengthened.

He also said China and the US must understand that the dy-

namics of international diplomacy today have changed and the Russia-Ukraine conflict was affecting the whole world.

"The age of colonisation and new imperialism has ended. No country can dictate (to anybody).

"People want to assert their in-

dependence and decide what is best for themselves and their country."

*Page 1 pic: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim meeting China President Xi Jinping at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing yesterday.*