

PM: Israel should be held accountable for raid on mosque

KUALA LUMPUR: The international community, in particular the UN Security Council (UNSC), should hold Israel accountable for the raid against Palestinians at the Al-Aqsa Mosque complex on Wednesday, says Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

Calling the attack a heinous crime, the Prime Minister also urged Israel to release all Palestinians arrested in the raid.

Anwar said the international community must demand Israel

immediately stop any provocative acts, in the interest of peace and stability.

“Malaysia continues to stand in strong solidarity with the people of Palestine and reiterates the status of Al-Quds Al-Sharif as the holy site of the Muslim Ummah,” he tweeted yesterday.

Israeli forces on Wednesday stormed the Al-Aqsa Mosque complex in occupied East Jerusalem for the second night in a row.

According to media reports, they raided the Al-Qibli Prayer Hall in Al-Aqsa after terawih prayers, fired stun grenades, beat Palestinian worshippers and detained about 350 of them.

According to the Commission for Palestinian Prisoners Affairs, Israeli police had begun to release the detainees on the condition that they be removed from Al-Aqsa Mosque and Jerusalem’s Old City for a week.

Al-Aqsa represents Islam’s

third-holiest site.

Israel occupied East Jerusalem, where Al-Aqsa is located, during the 1967 Arab-Israeli War.

It annexed the entire city in 1980 in a move never recognised by the international community.

Malaysia’s Foreign Ministry (Wisma Putra) in a statement yesterday said the actions by the Israeli forces were unlawful, contemptuous, and grossly violated the human rights of Palestinians

and the sanctity of the third holiest shrine in Islam.

It noted that at least 12 Palestinians were reportedly injured.

“Malaysia continues to stand in strong solidarity with the people of Palestine,” it added.

Malaysia also stands firm by its long-held position that Palestinians deserve their independent state based on the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital, said Wisma Putra.