



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim speaking at a press conference with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz at the Federal Chancellery in Berlin on Monday, BERNAMAPIC

60 YEARS OF ATROCITIES

# PM'S FIRM GAZA STAND WINS WIDE PRAISE

**Support pours in on social media for Anwar's criticism of the West for lack of action against Israel**

**BERLIN**

**P**RIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's criticism of the West's lack of action against Israel's atrocities in Gaza has drawn support from prominent figures worldwide.

Former professional rugby star Sonny Bill Williams, who was in New Zealand's All Blacks team, said in a post on X that history could not be forgotten when discussing issues about Gaza.

"But I, of course, cannot accept the fact that when you discuss issues, we're only confined to one particular incident, forgetting the thousands and thousands of victims from the Nakba (cata-

strophe) of 1947-1948.

"Mashallah @anwaribrahim speaking facts," said Williams, who has been critical of the situation in Gaza.

Anwar drew international spotlight when he criticised Western countries during a joint press conference with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz in Berlin earlier this week over their lack of action against Israel's atrocities in Gaza.

Anwar, who is on a six-day official visit to Germany, questioned the humanity of the West and condemned their "selective" and "ambivalent" attitude towards the conflict.

Acclaimed British-American journalist Mehdi Hasan said Anwar was now standing for the majority of the world's people in defending the rights of the Palestinian people.

"We have reached a point where the prime minister of Malaysia @anwaribrahim now speaks for the majority of the world's people and not a European or Western leader," he wrote on X.

French journalist Arnaud Bertrand shared on X a clip of Anwar making his stance, describing it as "an immensely satisfying must-watch".

Bertrand also shared Anwar's quote about how a solution could not be achieved by being one-sided and looking only at one issue, erasing 60 years of atrocities.

Renowned Swedish-Lebanese singer-songwriter Maher Zain thanked Anwar for his contribution to the discourse.

Portuguese politician and author Bruno Macaes wrote on X: "A stunning exchange in Berlin between Scholz and Anwar Ibrahim. We live in a new world. Germany just didn't get the memo. The contrast in public speaking ability also striking."

Anwar had said Israel's decades-long policies against Palestinians and its atrocities were the root cause of the ongoing conflict.

More than 31,000 people have been killed since the beginning of Israel's war on Gaza nearly five months ago. **Bernama**