



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim meeting the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, at the Amiri Diwan in Doha yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

50TH anniversary of ties

PM ACCORDED OFFICIAL WELCOME BY QATAR GOVT

Anwar's agenda includes attending Doha Economic Forum, meeting counterpart

DOHA

DATUK Seri Anwar Ibrahim was accorded an official welcome by the Qatar government upon his arrival for a three-day visit here yesterday.

He was given an official reception by the Amiri Diwan, which is the name of the sovereign body of the country as well as the building which houses the administration.

The Amiri Diwan includes Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, who welcomed Anwar in a ceremony at 10.30am (3.30pm Malaysian time) yesterday.

Anwar arrived in Qatar on Sunday night at the invitation of the emir of Qatar. The visit marks 50



**ADHA
GHAZALI**

years of bilateral relations between Malaysia and Qatar.

This is Anwar's first visit to Qatar since becoming Malaysia's 10th prime minister in November 2022, and his agenda includes attending the Doha Economic Forum 2024.

Accompanying him on the visit were Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan; Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz and Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir.

During the visit to the Amiri Diwan, Anwar had the opportunity to conduct a one-on-one meeting with the emir of Qatar.

He also held a meeting with his counterpart, Sheikh Mohammed

bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, who is also Qatar foreign minister.

The second meeting between Anwar and Sheikh Mohammed, after both met in Riyadh late last month, is significant in the context of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Malaysia is among the countries that have strongly voiced issues related to Palestine, while Qatar plays a significant role as a diplomatic bridge in addressing the same issues, including being a key mediator in the ongoing Gaza conflict between Israel and Palestine.

The prime minister will have a busy schedule in Qatar, which boasts the world's highest per capita income, with one of the main missions being to attract investments to Malaysia.

The bilateral trade between Malaysia and Qatar in 2023 amounted to RM4.2 billion, consistently the highest since recording the figure of US\$1 billion in 2022.

Page 1 pic: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim meeting the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, at the Amiri Diwan in Doha yesterday.