

# PM: GOVT COMMITTED TO REFORM AGENDA

**Strong consensus among parties will allow more reforms to be implemented, says Anwar**

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**P**RIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim is confident he can continue the reform agenda he has been advocating for since before the Madani government took over Putrajaya in November 2022.

Anwar said he was sure of this even though the unity government he leads is made up of a coalition of different political parties.

Strong consensus among parties in the government allowed the administration to implement more reform agendas, he said, including in combating corruption, good governance and education.

"Praise should be given to the parties that I lead and also the coalition parties, including those from Sabah and Sarawak.

"I want to say that for the year and a half (that I've been leading the government), not a single one of them came to me and said, 'Anwar, go slow on fighting corruption or we don't support this reform'. None.

"That's why I can do it with full enthusiasm and confidence. And I believe Malaysia can continue with these reforms."

He said this during a question-and-answer session after he delivered a public lecture at Hamad Bin Khalifa University's Qatar National Library here.

In his nearly 25-minute lecture attended by some 300 people, he touched on issues related to the "Future of the Muslim World".

Present 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 Abd Kadir.

Anwar said the Madani government's strength was based on its clear and coherent policies.

"We have clear policies. What we mean by digital transformation and energy transition. We also have a new master plan for industries, as well as food safety."

He touched on atrocities and injustices suffered by Muslims,



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim delivering a public lecture at Hamad Bin Khalifa University's Qatar National Library in Doha on Monday. BERNAMA PIC



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such as Palestinians in Gaza.

In a post on X, Anwar called on academia and students to remain steadfast in upholding the values of humanity and sincerity to plan for a brighter future for the Islamic world.

Bernama reported that Anwar also touched on challenges and tribulations in the post-normal era, which require leaders of the Islamic world to unite their efforts to face Islamophobia, discrimination and the hypocrisy of global superpowers.

"Muslims must remain rational and return to the roots of strength based on the culture of knowledge, morality, human dignity and piety, which underpin the teachings of Islam and eastern culture that I have discussed in my book, *The Asian Renaissance*."

During the lecture, Anwar addressed the future of Islam and expressed his sadness and disappointment with the failure of the world, especially Western countries, to show concern about the Gaza Strip. He admitted it was sad to see many non-Muslim countries exhibiting so much hatred and injustice towards Muslim minorities in their countries.

"Why do you talk about humanity, democracy and human rights,

yet allow actions that violate these values and commit genocide against certain segments of the population, whether in Rwanda or Gaza?"

"How come, after decades, we are still seeing all this happening? It causes a lot of anger. People, including in Malaysia, are angry because the entire system has failed.

"The international community failed, the superpowers failed. And mainstream media has either failed or (doing) minimal. Ultimately, the inhumanity continues."

Anwar said what was happening in Gaza had been completely ignored.

"I'm not saying this to imply despair. Rather, I am optimistic and I believe that, ultimately, rationality will return. And that's why we have universities to nurture the next generation with the necessary values."

Anwar is on a three-day visit to Qatar, the second stop in the Arab Gulf after Saudi Arabia.

At another event yesterday, Anwar said he was firmly against the idea of opening a second casino in the country.

At the Qatar Economic Forum 2024, he said Malaysia was focusing on digital transformation, energy transition and artificial intelligence as these sectors could spur future growth.

He said under his administration, there was "no need for a second casino (licence)".

"Affirmative, no! Malaysia does not have to venture into the casino business," he told moderator Haslinda Amin during a plenary session.