



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim greeting Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Sisi at the Al-Ittihadiya Palace in Cairo yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

## OFFICIAL VISIT

# ANWAR, SISI DISCUSS PALESTINE SITUATION

### PM lauds Egypt's efforts to end oppression by Zionist regime

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**M**ALAYSIA and Egypt have agreed to play a firmer role in ensuring that violence is ended, lives are saved and justice is upheld. This stand was established following Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's meeting with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Sisi at the Al-Ittihadiya Palace here yesterday. Anwar paid an official visit to Sisi at 11am (5pm Malaysian time). Anwar said he and Sisi discussed the situation in Palestine, in which Malaysia praised Egypt's joint efforts with Qatar and the United States, which are serving as mediators to end the oppression by Israel's Zionist regime. He said apart from touching on issues such as the situation in Lebanon, which could spark a wider conflict in the Middle East,

they also discussed strengthening relations between Malaysia and Egypt.

"My meeting with President Sisi touched on various issues, including elevating ties involving cooperation in trade and investment, palm oil, the halal industry, education, tourism, health, natural resources and renewable energy.

"We also touched on BRICS, with Malaysia appreciating Egypt's efforts to support our participation as a partner country," he said after the almost two-hour visit.

Anwar said he and Sisi hoped that Malaysia and Egypt's ties would continue to be strengthened for the benefit of both countries and their 65 years of diplomatic relations to further prosper.

Anwar arrived here on Saturday for a four-day official visit to Egypt at the invitation of the Egyptian president.

The flight carrying the prime minister and his delegation landed at the Cairo International Airport at 6.30pm (local time).

They were received by Egyptian Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Madbouly, Malaysian ambassador Datuk Mohd Tarid Sufian and other officials.

At the Presidential Arrival Hall, Anwar inspected the Static Guard of Honour manned by 16 person-

nel.

Accompanying Anwar are Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan, Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz, Deputy Energy Transition and Water Transformation Minister Akmal Nasrullah Mohd Nasir, Deputy Natural Resources and Environment Sustainability Minister Datuk Seri Huang Tiong Sii and other officials.

Anwar and Sisi are scheduled to witness the signing of memorandums of understanding (MoUs), including one between Malaysia and Al-Azhar Al-Sharif (religious institution) for collaboration with the Faculty of Islamic Studies, and an MoU on cooperation in religious affairs between Malaysia and Egypt.

Anwar will deliver a public lecture at Al-Azhar University, followed by a roundtable meeting with industry leaders.

Egypt was Malaysia's fifth largest trading partner among African nations last year, with bilateral trade worth RM3.35 billion.

Between January and September this year, bilateral trade reached RM3 billion, marking a 21.4 per cent increase compared with the same period in 2023.

This year's trade value is expected to surpass last year's figures.