

# China president arrives for three-day state visit

> Xi Jinping and delegation welcomed by Anwar and Cabinet ministers at Bunga Raya Complex in KLIA

**SEPANG:** China President Xi Jinping arrived yesterday in Malaysia for a three-day state visit at the invitation of His Majesty the King of Malaysia Sultan Ibrahim.

The visit marks Xi's second official trip to Malaysia in 12 years, after his last visit in 2013.

The Air China flight carrying the president landed at the Bunga Raya Complex of the KL International Airport at 6.30pm.

In a statement, Xi said he expects the visit to open a new historic chapter of good-neighbourly friendship and mutual benefit between the two countries.

He called on both sides to promote cooperation in modernisation endeavours, jointly enhance exchanges and learning between civilisations, and continuously elevate the building of a China-Malaysia community with a shared future.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, along with Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan, Transport Minister Anthony Loke and Chinese Ambassador to Malaysia Ouyang Yujing, were present to greet Xi and his delegation.

Xi then proceeded to inspect a guard of honour comprising 28 officers and personnel from the First Battalion Royal Ranger Regiment (Ceremonial) under the command of Lt Mohamad Nafis Norshid.

A cultural performance featuring a medley of traditional Malay, Chinese and Indian drum rhythms by the Arjunasukma Academy in Gombak was also presented as part of the welcoming ceremony, in addition to a 32-member marching band from Sekolah Menengah Jenis Kebangsaan Yu Hua in Kajang performing the songs "Lenggang Kangkung" and "Sejahtera Malaysia!"

Wisma Putra said during his visit, Xi will be accorded a state welcoming ceremony, followed by an audience at Istana Negara with Sultan Ibrahim, who will also host a state banquet in honour of Xi and his delegation.

Xi is scheduled to hold a meeting with Anwar to discuss bilateral cooperation, as well as exchange views on regional and international issues of mutual interest.

Anwar will also host an official dinner at the Seri Perdana Complex in Putrajaya in honour of Xi.

The visit is part of Xi's first tour of state visits in 2025, which also includes stops in Vietnam and Cambodia.

During his last visit to Malaysia, both countries elevated diplomatic relations to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership level.

Malaysia and China established diplomatic relations on May 31, 1974, and celebrated



Anwar greeting Xi upon the latter's arrival at KLIA yesterday. - BERNAMAPIC

the 50th anniversary of strong bilateral ties last year.

For 16 years since 2009, China has remained Malaysia's largest trading partner, with total trade between the two countries valued at RM484.12 billion in 2024, representing 16.8% of Malaysia's total global trade of RM2.88 trillion.

As chair of Asean and the country

coordinator for Asean-China Dialogue Relations, Malaysia remains committed to advancing the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership between Asean and China.

The Foreign Ministry said this would be pursued through dialogue, mutual trust and initiatives that deliver tangibly benefits to the peoples of Asean and China. - Agencies