

# ANWAR SLAMS SILENCE OVER ATTACKS ON IRAN

NEW STRAITS TIMES 16 JUN 2025

Malaysia must have courage to stand up in solidarity with oppressed nations, says PM

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**P** RIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday condemned the silence of the international community, particularly Muslim-majority nations, over the recent Israeli attacks on Iran.

“A few days ago, Iran was attacked by Israel. They targeted and killed scientists and military officials. What country behaves in such a barbaric, treacherous and insane manner as Israel?”

“There are over a billion Muslims and many Islamic countries are wealthy, yet very few speak up to defend Iran,” he said at the closing of the Madani Rakyat programme here.

Anwar said as a sovereign and independent nation, Malaysia must have the courage to stand up for justice, not only within its borders, but also in solidarity with oppressed nations.

“That is why I told my colleagues



*Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim applying batik wax at a booth after the closing of the Madani Rakyat programme in Lumut yesterday.*

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in the cabinet that Malaysia must build its own capacity.

“We are a sovereign country and we must defend the rights of our friends, including Iran, which has long been oppressed. We support Iran’s right to respond and to defend its national dignity.”

Highlighting Iran’s resilience under prolonged economic sanctions, Anwar praised the country’s commitment to education and technological advancement, particularly in artificial intelligence (AI), despite being shut out by major global tech companies.

“Companies like Google and Microsoft are in our country, but they are not allowed into Iran.

“Yet Iran still manages to educate its youth, develop its AI sector and sustain its economy under immense pressure.”

He pointed out the hypocrisy of

global powers that remained silent on Israeli strikes but reacted after Iran retaliated.

“When Israel attacks, you remain silent. But when Iran responds, suddenly there’s outrage. That’s not our position,” he said.

“The leadership of the Madani government holds firmly to the principle of defending justice and the rights of all nations.”

On Saturday, Iran struck Israel with missiles in response to a massive attack on the Islamic republic’s nuclear and military facilities that killed several top generals.

*Page 1 pix: (Left) Firefighters working at an impact site in central Israel following an Iranian missile attack yesterday. (Right) A huge fire erupts at the Sharan Oil depot following an Israeli strike in Teheran.*