

# PM CONDEMNS KILLING OF MAPIM AID WORKERS

Govt has lodged a strong protest against the ongoing violence in Gaza, says Anwar

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**M**ALAYSIA strongly condemns the killing of eight humanitarian workers from the Malaysian Consultative Council for Islamic Organisations (Mapim) in a brutal airstrike in Gaza.

"We strongly condemn the murder and oppression of Mapim volunteers who were working for humanitarian purposes, helping patients and others," said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

"The government has officially lodged a strong protest against the ongoing violence."

Anwar spoke to reporters after chairing a special state development meeting at the Penang Development Corporation.

Yesterday, Mapim chief executive officer Datuk Dr Sani Araby Abdul Alim confirmed that eight

Palestinian workers were martyred in an attack at 1.30pm in Beit Lahiya, northern Gaza, on Saturday. The airstrike occurred while they were setting up tents to shelter families displaced by continuous assaults from the Zionist regime.

The victims were identified as Mahmoud Yahya Al-Sarraj, Bilal Hossam Oqeila, Mahmoud Samir Oselim, Mahmoud Khaled Oselim, Mohammed Al-Ghafeer, Hazem Ghareeb, Bilal Abu Matar and Ahmad Hamad.

In **Kuala Lumpur**, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi expressed his condolences over the deaths.

He said he was saddened by the tragic incident, describing their loss as a significant blow not only to Mapim, but also to all those fighting for justice and humanity.

"They were humanitarian heroes who tirelessly dedicated themselves to helping our oppressed brothers and sisters.

"I strongly condemn this inhumane attack and urge the international community not to remain silent in the face of the ongoing atrocities in Gaza," he said in a Facebook post.

Zahid called on Muslims and Malaysians to offer prayers, solidarity and support to the Palestinian cause in any way possible.

"May the souls of these martyrs

be blessed and placed among the righteous. *Al-Fatihah*."

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Religious Affairs) Datuk Dr Mohd Na'im Mokhtar called the Israeli attack a blatant violation of international law.

He said attacking people who deliver humanitarian aid was an unacceptable crime and must be condemned by the global community.

"I strongly condemn this cruel and inhumane act, which clearly violates fundamental humanitarian principles.

"Israel's attack is a blatant violation of international law and the Geneva Conventions, which explicitly protect humanitarian workers in war zones."

He said agencies under him would continue to support Palestine.

Na'im called for the world not to remain silent in the face of the ongoing atrocities, which only add to the suffering of the long-oppressed Palestinian people.

"I urge Malaysians to continue praying and reciting the *Qunut Nazilah* for Palestine's victory and to keep supporting their struggle.

"We must unite in providing donations and humanitarian aid to ease the hardships faced by our brothers and sisters in Gaza, who are increasingly oppressed by ongoing injustices."