

# MALAYSIA SHOWCASES STRATEGIC POSTURE

**Anwar calls for peace, reform and Asian-led future during China visit**



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## BEIJING

**P**RIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim's four-day visit to Beijing and Tianjin served as a platform to showcase Malaysia's strategic posture and diplomatic relevance on the world stage.

Malaysia's maiden participation in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit 2025 underscored the country's commitment to regional peace, neutrality and inclusivity.

Anwar's appearance at the summit was marked by engagements with world leaders.

As Asean chair, the prime min-

ister, on the sidelines in Tianjin, engaged with Myanmar's top leadership on ways to end the country's conflict following the 2021 coup by the military junta.

He also spoke with Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly on the latest developments in Gaza.

Addressing more than 20 heads of state and government, as well as United Nations secretary-general Antonio Guterres, Anwar did not mince his words, saying that the failure of the global multilateral system and institutions like the UN had led to a trust deficit.

These inactions, he said, had allowed Israel's Zionist regime to act unchecked.

Anwar had also called for a shift in global thinking, arguing that economic upheavals in the West meant that the future should also be "written in Asian ink".

Citing economic watershed moments such as the establishment of a new international monetary system post-World War 2, the end of the gold standard in 1971 and the United States' "Liberation Day" reciprocal tariff measures, he proposed the idea of "sovereign interdependence".

The weaponisation of trade, he

said, had left many countries, particularly emerging economies, vulnerable.

He said countries should be allowed to remain themselves while still being open to the flows of trade and investment.

"We must design interdependence that fortifies sovereignty rather than undermines it. Interdependence should not make nations fearful that their autonomy will be diluted."

In Beijing, Anwar had back-to-back meetings with China's

President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Qiang, with the latter hosting a dinner for Anwar on Xi's behalf.

Xi had pledged to expedite Malaysia's entry into BRICS, a move which Anwar described as a great honour for Malaysia.

On the economic front, Anwar's engagements with China's key businesses and captains of industry in Tianjin and Beijing secured potential investments worth RM905 million.

China has been Malaysia's largest trading partner for 16 consecutive years, with bilateral trade in 2024 reaching a value of RM484.12 billion, representing 16.8 per cent of Malaysia's total global trade.



*Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim*