

Anwar conferred Turkiye's highest state honour

ANKARA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim was conferred the Order of the Republic, Turkiye's highest state honour, in recognition of his role in strengthening bilateral ties between Malaysia and the republic.

The award was presented by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan during a ceremony held at the Presidential Complex here, in conjunction with Anwar's three-day official visit to the republic, which began on Tuesday.

Also present at the conferment ceremony were Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Hasan, Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir, and Investment, Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani.

Malaysian Ambassador to Turkiye Sazali Mustafa Kamal said the award was the republic's highest form of recognition bestowed on a foreign leader who had played a significant role in strengthening bilateral relations with Turkiye, Bernama reported.

Anwar is undertaking an official visit to Turkiye at the invitation of Erdogan as part of Malaysia's efforts to further enhance the long-standing bilateral relations between the



Tribute to the Prime Minister:

Erdogan conferring the Order of the Republic on Anwar in recognition of his efforts to strengthen bilateral relations between Malaysia and Turkiye at the Presidential Complex in Ankara.

- Bernama

two countries.

Malaysia's total trade with Turkiye from January to November 2025 amounted to RM21.2bil, with the republic continuing to be an important economic partner for Malaysia.

In 2024, Turkiye was Malaysia's third-largest trading partner, largest export destination and fourth-largest source of imports among West Asia countries, with

total trade valued at RM24.15bil.

In a statement, Anwar said that he accepted the conferment with deep gratitude and humility, not in a personal capacity, but on behalf of all Malaysians.

"This conferment also symbolises the close friendship that has long been forged between the two countries, founded on trust, mutual respect and shared aspirations for global peace and prosper-

ity," Anwar said.

He also expressed hope that the recognition would continue to serve as a catalyst to strengthen Malaysia-Turkiye cooperation across various strategic fields, for the benefit of the people of both countries.

Anwar also prayed that Erdogan, Turkish First Lady Emine Erdogan and their family would continue to be blessed with

good health, strength and wisdom in leading the republic towards lasting peace, prosperity and justice, for the well-being of the people and the wider Muslim world.

Anwar and his wife, Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, together with the Malaysian delegation, were also hosted by Erdogan and Emine at an official dinner at the Presidential Complex here.