

# Thousands protest Israeli attacks on Gaza, Lebanon

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** Several thousand demonstrators yesterday denounced Israel as a terrorist state and condemned its aggression in Lebanon and Gaza.

Members of Barisan National Youth and non-governmental organisations also presented protest memorandums to officials at the United States, British and French embassies.

The protesters massed at the KL-CC mosque after Friday prayers where BN Youth deputy chief Khairy Jamaluddin addressed the crowd.

"We demand the UN Security Council pass a resolution to stop Israeli atrocities.

"This is nothing short of murder and genocide.

"Israel is a terrorist state and it must be brought to justice. We also urge the international community to cut all ties with Israel because they are murderers. We will not stop if they do not stop..." he said.

The group then marched towards the US embassy on Jalan Tun Razak, waving posters that read: "Say No to War", "Zionists are Real Terrorists" and pictures of US President George W. Bush that said "Killer wanted: super terrorist".

They burnt Israeli and US flags and photographs of Bush and British

Prime Minister Tony Blair outside the embassy.

Anti-riot police and a water cannon truck were stationed outside the embassy.

Police said some 1,500 protesters took part while organisers put the number as more than 4,000.

Khairy later submitted a memorandum to an US official. In it, the BN Youth and other groups condemned the actions by Israeli forces, and:

- Called on the UN Security Council to impose an immediate ceasefire to be enforced by an international force.

- Urged the passing of a resolution to allow humanitarian assistance to the people of Gaza and Lebanon.

In Kota Baru, 5,000 Pas supporters held a peaceful demonstration yesterday to protest against Israel's military offensive in Lebanon and Gaza.

They rallied for an hour in front of the Pas office and burned flags of Israel, the United States and Britain and effigies of their leaders.

Pas spiritual leader Datuk Nik Abdul Aziz Nik Mat urged Muslim countries to unite in demanding a halt to the attacks and the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and Gaza.

"The longer we stay silent, the more innocent people will become victims of Israel's cruelty," he said.

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