



*Palestinian ambassador to Malaysia Datuk Dr Anwar Al Agha (right) speaking at a forum held in conjunction with the Solidarity Rally For Jerusalem in Putrajaya yesterday. BERNAMA PIC*

# Palestinian envoy: Thank you for your support

**PUTRAJAYA:** Palestinian ambassador to Malaysia Datuk Dr Anwar Al Agha expressed gratitude for the dedication shown by Malaysians and the government towards the Palestinian cause.

He said Malaysia had consistently demonstrated support for Palestine to ensure that Jerusalem remains a part of Palestine.

He recorded his appreciation to organisations, including non-governmental setups, that had dedicated time and effort to uphold the rights of oppressed Palestinians.

"This shows that everyone is united in objecting to the occupation by Israel, as well as the uncouth attitude shown by the United States regarding the rights of Palestinians.

"I'm proud to see the spirit of unity shown by everyone towards aiding Palestine's cause.

"The people of the world have also risen to reject the United States' recognition of Jerusalem as Israel's capital. *Insyah-Allah* (God willing), the people of Palestine will be free of Israel occupation, which has been going on for more than seven decades."

Anwar was speaking at a forum held in conjunction with the Solidarity Rally For Jerusalem held at the Putra Mosque here.

The Palestinian community in Malaysia is awed by the level of support shown by Malaysians towards its cause.

Those met at the rally yesterday said they were touched at the initiative shown by the country's leadership.

For student Yousef Al Juneidi, watching thousands of locals rally for his home country brought tears to his eyes.

The PhD student from Universiti Putra Malaysia, who hails from Hebron in the West Bank, said he was forever grateful to Malaysians and the government for their support.

"We are proud that Malaysians are standing by the Palestinians. They even asked us Palestinians to join in. We know we are not alone. We will continue to defend the Al-Aqsa mosque, God willing," Yousef told the *New Straits Times*.

Calling Malaysia his "second home", Yousef and his wife, Razan fled their war-torn country 10 years ago. Their 4-year-old daughter was born in Kuala Lumpur.

Ahmad Al-Najjar, 49, said if other countries, notably the Arab world, showed the same level of solidarity as Malaysia did, Palestine would likely be free from oppression.