



SPEECH

**YB DATUK SERI SAIFUDDIN NASUTION BIN ISMAIL
MINISTER OF DOMESTIC TRADE AND COMSUMER AFFAIRS**

FOR

**FAREWELL DINNER – 3RD CONFERENCE OF THE LEAGUE OF
PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR AL-QUDS**

ON

9 FEBRUARY 2020

VENUE

**ONE WORLD HOTEL,
PETALING JAYA, SELANGOR**

SALUTATIONS

[Will be given during the event]

Assalamu'alaikum and good evening.

1. Alhamdulillah, after 2 productive and engaging days full of energetic and vibrant discussions, the 3rd Conference of the League of Parliamentarians for Al-Quds has almost come to an end.
2. It has been a great honor for Malaysia to host, for the first time ever, this conference which is of paramount importance as it is attended by lawmakers from all over the world who have the power to bring real change to the injustice happening in Palestine.
3. First of all, I would like to thank Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, President of the People's Justice Party for hosting this dinner.
4. Datuk Seri Anwar is a staunch and long-time supporter of Palestine. He has a good relationship with the Palestinian leadership and has always been very vocal in Championing Palestinian issues. Insyallah, I am certain that the future Malaysian leadership will continue to be strong and unyielding supporters of Palestine.
5. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank my honorable friend, YB Syed Ibrahim Syed Noh, the Chairman of the Organizing Committee.
6. Further, I wish to express my deepest admiration and respect for His Excellency Sheikh Hamid Abdullah Al-Ahmar, President of The League of Parliamentarians for Al-Quds. Thank you, Your Excellency, for your leadership and courage which acts as a beacon of hope for all those who seek justice and righteousness.

Ladies and gentlemen,

7. Throughout these last two days, many issues have been discussed, valuable experiences shared and exciting ideas explored. I am sure that the seeds planted in this conference will, in the coming days, grow strong trees and bear fruits to help us realize our eventual goal – freedom and justice for Palestine.
8. I want all our Palestinian friends to know, as has been clearly evident in these past few days, Malaysia remains a strong ally to Palestine and is ready to play our part.
9. I believe that the best way Malaysia can help the Palestinian state is by helping to develop its strategic capabilities and strengths. I propose 3 main areas we can look into:
10. **First**, knowledge and skills transfer in areas such as science, technology, and engineering. Malaysia is a country rich in talent. We have a wealth of expertise in areas such as energy, water, communications and many others that I'm certain are crucial to help solve issues and problems faced by Palestinians.
11. **Second**, we also have a conducive, prosperous, and well-regulated business environment. The Malaysian economy has weathered various storms and experienced rapid development. Today, Malaysia is well-known internationally as a global leader in Islamic finance and a pioneer in the Halal industry.

12. I thus encourage the Palestinian business community to treat Malaysia as a safe haven for trade and commerce. We will welcome you with open arms and ensure that your interests and rights are fiercely protected. I'm sure that this will bring many benefits for Palestine and Malaysia.

13. **Third**, networking. Malaysia is a country rich in racial and cultural diversity and steeped in globalization. I welcome Palestinians to use Malaysia as a base and safe space to develop networks with allies not only from Malaysia but also from other countries in the region. It is through these networks that we shore up support, garner international aid and amass the critical mass we need to protect and liberate Palestine.

Ladies and gentlemen,

14. As lawmakers, we hold a heavy responsibility not only to our constituents but as the voices of conscience of our nation. I applaud all of you for your bravery and tenacity for being here today to uphold a noble cause.

15. Before I end my speech, I would like to thank all of you from the bottom of my heart. This historic conference would not have been possible without your presence. I hope that all of you have pleasant memories of your time in Malaysia and would like to wish you safe travels to your next destination. Thank you.