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Dr M says it again - 9/11 was a staged attack

KUALA LUMPUR: Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad is sticking to his guns that the Sept 11, 2001 attack on the New York World Trade Center was staged and denied that his statement was a publicity stunt.

"What do I gain from a publicity stunt? I am merely going by a public statement. I am not going to be a Prime Minister any more unless you (turning to a journalist) want me to *lah...*" he told reporters yesterday after launching a two-volume book

by Syed Salem Albukhary entitled *Civilizations, Nomadic Migrations, Empires and the Trail of Islam*.

The former prime minister, who had watched a three-hour video which showed the attack and collapse of the towers, had suggested in his blog that the twins towers and a third building collapsed "demolition style."

Dr Mahathir who suggested that local television stations show the three-hour video, went on to state

that Arabs were "not clever enough" to stage such a coordinated attack involving four planes.

On being insensitive to the victims, Dr Mahathir replied: "I am being more sensitive to the victims as I am saying this is done deliberately."

On the daily transportation of sand from Johor to Singapore, Dr Mahathir said he spoke out as there was little reaction to the Works Minister's statement that 500 lor-

ries were making daily trips to the republic.

"My friend said there was 700. Other people read about the Minister's statement but do not comment.

"They say it is fine... sell a little bit of Malaysia at a time. If cannot give one territory of Malaysia, you *korek* (dig) Malaysia and give to people," he said, in lauding the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission crack-down on illegal sand mining.