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High Court acquits Datuk convicted of hurting Dr M

KOTA BARU: The High Court has acquitted businessman Datuk Nik Sapeia Nik Yusoff (*pic*) of the charge of voluntarily causing hurt by spraying a dangerous substance at former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad in 2006

Justice Mariana Yahya overturned the decision of a magistrate's court on Jan 14, 2010. The lower court had sentenced Nik Sapeia to six months in jail.

In her judgment, Justice Mariana said the magistrate had erred in facts and law when convicting Nik Sapeia of the charge under Section 324 of the Penal Code.

"The appellant's task was to raise doubts against the case and the appellant had creat-



ed doubts," she added.

Soon after Justice Mariana handed down her judgment, a teary-eyed Nik Sapeia hugged his team of lawyers - which was led by Datuk Seri Dr Muhammad Shafee - family members and supporters at the public gallery.

Nik Sapeia allegedly committed the act at the Sultan Ismail Petra Airport in Pengkalan Chepa about 11am on July 28, 2006.

Nik Sapeia, 58, was also charged with causing hurt to Datuk Ibrahim Ali, 60, Mohd Nasir Muda, 50, and Suberi Sahidan, 52.

Nik Sapeia, who is the People's Progressive Party vice-president, later told reporters that he was grateful that his appeal had been successful. — Bernama