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# Dr M's defence of Sirul quizzed

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**MOTIVE:** Semenyih rep wonders why ex-PM bringing up old case

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**U**MNO's Semenyih assemblyman Datuk Johan Abdul Aziz has lashed out at former prime minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad for raising questions on the murder of Mongolian model Altantuya Shaariibuu.

He questioned Dr Mahathir's motive in defending Sirul Azhar Umar, who was charged with killing Altantuya in 2006 and sentenced to death by the High

Court in 2009.

"I find it odd that Dr Mahathir is suddenly talking about Sirul and showing concern for Sirul's mother eight years after the incident.

"Why didn't Dr Mahathir care about Sirul and his mother before?" he said.

Johan said he and other Umno division chairmen would not remain silent after Dr Mahathir, on Thursday, had criticised Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak for allegedly failing to provide answers to accusations hurled at him.

These include the murder of Altantuya involving Najib's former aide, Abdul Razak Baginda, the Malaysia Development Bhd controversy and the purchase of a private jet.

"We will not stand by and watch Dr Mahathir insult Najib, just as he did last time with former prime minister Tun Abdullah Ahmad Badawi," Johan said.