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## Swear on Quran to back claim, Dr M challenged

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**BALING:** Parti Pribumi Bersatu Malaysia chairman Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad has been challenged to swear on the Quran to back his allegation that Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi had plotted to topple Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak two years ago.

The dare from Umno Supreme Council member Datuk Seri Abdul Azeez Abdul Rahim was to prove that the former premier was speaking the truth.

"I dare Dr Mahathir to swear on the Quran to prove that he's telling the truth over his allegation that Zahid had plotted to oust the prime minister from office during their meeting in 2015," he said.

Azeez, who is also Baling Umno chief, threw the challenge in his welcoming speech at the opening of the division's delegates meeting by Zahid yesterday.

In **Jertun**, on Friday, Zahid rubbished allegations that he had

plotted a move to oust Najib two years ago.

He countered it by saying that he had an audio recording proving the claim was baseless, and added that it was illogical for him to initiate such an act as he had just been appointed deputy prime minister in the July 2015 cabinet reshuffle.

Dr Mahathir recently claimed that Zahid had met him soon after he was appointed to the position, seeking his blessings to

topple Najib.

In **Kuala Lumpur**, police said they would call in all relevant parties, including Dr Mahathir, to assist in their probe into allegations that he and Zahid had conspired to topple the government.

Deputy Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Noor Rashid Ibrahim said both camps had lodged reports against each other on the claims and two investigation papers had been opened.

He gave an assurance that the police would carry out a detailed investigation on the matter.

"We will call everyone who is involved," he said during a press conference at the launch of Sambutan Hari Hijau PDRM 2017 yesterday.

When asked if Dr Mahathir was among those to be called, he said: "yes." Noor Rashid said both investigation papers would be handled under Section 500 of the Penal Code for defamation.