

# Zahid 21 staying away from Anwar, says aide

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KUALA LUMPUR: Umno Youth chief Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi has stayed away from the house of sacked Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.

His close aides said Zahid had also refrained from attending Anwar's speeches in order to observe the decision by the Umno Youth exco special meeting last Thursday.

The movement's exco member Ruslan Kassim said Zahid had stopped going to Anwar's house and speeches because that was the issue that led to calls for his resignation.

He expressed disappointment over inaccurate reports that Zahid had attended the Friday gathering at Bangi.

"Zahid was away at Bagan Datoh for another function," he added.

On Saturday, Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said Zahid should resign instead of waiting to be expelled.

The movement's press liaison officer Hanafiah Man said Zahid was sticking to his decision not to resign and would leave his fate to the supreme council.

Earlier in Seremban, Ruslan said he did not have a reason to call for a state Youth meeting to discuss his stand.

"The other Youth division chiefs had made up their minds and passed judgment on me," he said.