

30 NOV 1999

Zahid-Fate

ZAHID LEAVES HIS FATE TO MAHATHIR

IPOH, Nov 30 (Bernama) -- Datuk Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, who won the Bagan Datoh parliamentary seat in yesterday's general election, said he will leave his political fate in the hands of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Speaking in an interview with Bernama over the telephone on his future plans, the former Umno Youth chief said his priority now was to complete his masters degree course at Universti Putra Malaysia.

"I am already in my final semester and I would be completing the course by March next year," he said.

Zahid successfully defended his seat for the second term, polling 12,938 votes against his challenger, Parti Keadilan Nasional's Mohamad Dahalan Arshad who secured 4,617 votes.

He said his win reflected the people's gratitude to Dr Mahathir for maintaining him as a candidate under the Barisan Nasional banner despite his earlier fall from grace.

Zahid resigned as UMNO Youth head after initially supporting former Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim following the latter's dismissal in September last year.

Zahid did not join Keadilan like many other former UMNO Youth members and neither did he resign from Umno.

He later came back to the fold, praising Dr Mahathir as a truly democratic leader for including him in the BN candidates' list despite his past.

-- BERNAMA

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