

'Zaid not leaving PKR'
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Former PKR Federal Territories chief Zaid Ibrahim has not quit the party, contrary to a prominent report in English-language daily Star today.

The maverick politician was likely misquoted about having thrown in the towel, said a source close to Zaid.

Contacted this morning, the source said Zaid will issue a clarification on his blog later today.

Zaid is currently abroad and could not be reached for comment.

azlan"Essentially, what he has been saying in all the interviews is that he thinks he'll be sacked by the party soon. So I think Star jumped the gun on this one," said the source.

"His stand has been very consistent in the interviews he has given to other dailies and (news) portals. So no, it's not like the Star got the scoop here. But he'll issue a brief statement soon. He's not very happy about this (news report)."

The source said it is likely that Zaid was referring to withdrawing from the deputy presidential race, rather than to quitting the party.

According to the report, Zaid said he has decided to quit the party, having "had enough of recent turn of events" in it.

"I knew my days in the party were numbered because the leaders were relentlessly making personal attacks against me," he is quoted as saying.

"I am quitting because I want to dissociate myself from liars and cheats. I do not want to be part of a group that propagates lies and does not have any qualms about cheating for as long as the end justifies the means."

Zaid joined PKR in June last year after being sacked from Umno.

azmin aliNONEFollowing his withdrawal from the polls and quitting his party posts, he raised eyebrows by calling for de facto leader Anwar Ibrahim (right) and vice-president Azmin Ali (left) to step down as well.

Many political observers and Zaid's blogger allies have speculated that he will leave PKR to form a Third Force, either as a check-and-balance NGO, or as a political party.

Zaid himself has said that he will form 'Keadilan Baru', if he is sacked by PKR.