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Information drive on deviant groups begins

KUALA LUMPUR, Mon. - Umno's information campaign on deviant movements began today with a series of closed-door ceramah for the party's 2.7 million members.

Conducted by a team of 300 speakers at selected party divisions in all States, the campaign is organised by the party's religion and information bureaus.

It is aimed at providing party members with correct information on the Grik arms heist incident by the Al-Ma'unah silat group, and explaining the dangers of movements which manipulate religion.

An official with Umno headquarters said the 300 speakers were selected by the respective State Umno and are knowledgeable about Islam.

They consist of party members, representatives from the party's Youth and Wanita wings and also several non-party members.

The speakers yesterday attended a briefing session conducted by party headquarters at the Putra World Trade Centre.

The campaign was announced by Umno president Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad last Monday after he chaired a special meeting of the party's supreme council to discuss the matter.

Dr Mahathir, who is also Prime Minister, was quoted as saying that the Government was worried that people would sympathise with the robbers if it did not explain their real motive, which was to overthrow the Government.

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