

Area One International Helper Report for the 14th Subud World Congress, Puebla Mexico 2014

Our Area Dewan met all together on our first overseas trip in 2010. We attended the Subud All India Gathering in Bangalore in May and visited Sydney, Singapore and Sri Lanka on the way. We were well on the way to getting to know each other and working together as a team.

August 2010 saw us visit Vietnam and Malaysia and Thailand on the way to the WSC/British national congress in Great Malvern. The World Subud Council meeting was our first opportunity to begin working as an International Dewan, supporting the executive team and also developing kejiwaan activity for the members at the meeting.

2011 – to Australia in March to 7 cities. June – to the WSC/Asia Pacific gathering in Rungan Sari and a further 10 city tour in Indonesia. September – to Perth, Darwin, Vietnam and Thailand. October – to Malaysia . November – to Bangladesh and Iran.

2012 began with visiting 4 cities in NZ beginning with Christchurch, site of the 13th World congress. We went to see the destruction in the city centre from the 2011 Earthquakes where many of the congress venues and hotels had been demolished. Visits to Singapore, Sri Lanka and India, Vietnam, Malaysia and the WSC meeting in Vancouver. Japan in October, Rungan Sari for the zone 1&2 meeting in September and Indonesia in December.

2013 to the Australian national congress, then in April an 8 city tour in Australia. Visits to Vietnam, then to Poio in Spain for the WSC meeting in June. August to Malaysia, Thailand for the zone 1&2 meeting, then Japan, Perth and two of us attended the SDI meeting in Cipanas, Indonesia in December.

2014 to India in January, then in April a 10 day five city tour of New Zealand. Then the last travels for our term in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Vietnam and Indonesia.

Everywhere we were gratefully received and beautifully hosted. Although the travel planning was meticulous we went with no prior agenda, trusting in Almighty God that our mission would become clear and that we would receive the guidance we needed for each place and circumstance and thanks to God this really seemed to bear fruit for the members.

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Sometimes the IH's are seen as a trouble shooting team and indeed we met many groups that had problems. It is due to God's grace that, in some places at least, our visits seemed to provide the impetus to make beneficial changes. Each of the Dewan members seemed to bring a strength or gift to the job, and we worked very well and harmoniously together, which made our travels very rich and enjoyable.

In the countries that we were able to visit more than once we saw changes and improvements in the groups. Although some of the visits were very short, sometimes only for an evening, the hosting group always provided delicious refreshment and members came far distances to join the meetings. Often crowded and hot we somehow always had room and time for what really needed to be done and said, and the meetings invariably finished with that close family feeling and a sense of gratitude for the opportunity given to meet and help our brothers and sisters together.

Even though we sometimes met with dangers (lightening storms in Sri Lanka, earthquakes in New Zealand) and difficulties (illness and delays) on our travels we all of us came through safely. It was all extremely worthwhile and a time of special grace that none of us will ever forget, and will always feel grateful to have had the chance to be part of.

"Yes, I read Bapak's talks from the beginning of his journey to the end, one by one, then I go through them again, also Ibu's talks, the second time but haven't got to the end yet. I don't remember them as I read them, but when the need to answer member's questions arises, the understanding comes from the talks that I've read which I can use to answer questions.

Reading Bapak's talks this way gave me the understanding of a complete picture of all the makeup of our inner life and also helped me to become more aware of my thinking, feelings and my behaviour in my everyday life. Which makes my Latihan journey more complete." *From An Dien (IH in Sydney, Australia)*

"By and large, it has been a blessed and joyful experience, except for the normal human foibles which we forgive of each other. Thank you brothers and sisters for sharing this blessed journey.

I feel very happy and fulfilled that I had been able to serve my brothers in many countries in the Area 1 region. I thank Almighty God through Bapak for granting me this priceless honour and the physical ability to travel far and wide.

I thank each and everyone who has touched me so deeply in Subud." *From Amarjit (IH in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)*

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“In the Kejiwaan meeting in Colombo and Bangalore, I tried to socialize the Susila Budhi Dharma book that was received by Bapak in 1952. This was meant to deliver Bapak’s and Ibu’s message that we should read Susila Budhi Dharma. Bapak said that we should read Susila Budhi Dharma even though we do not quite understand the meaning. He said that the understanding will come later in life. So, in this visit and in others I sang the content of the book in front of the audience.”

From Pak Joyowidarbo (IH in Jakarta, Indonesia)

“We were always well received by all the groups we visited and one could certainly sense a lot of respect for whatever it was that we brought. We feel our visits to the various groups in the countries were really useful most of the time and this was expressed by a number of members in many different ways.

My personal experience in all groups was a tremendous feeling of Love which ‘descended’ on all of us whenever we sat together, facing each other. On my way home, I felt a great feeling of gratitude for having been there and also for the love and generosity and hospitality of all the members who looked after us in such a nice and caring manner.”

From Luqman (IH in Sydney, Australia)

“Another meeting that I attend is SICA in March 2014 at Adi Puri, Jakarta. For me it is an experience by itself, to educate myself about the understanding as a whole and work with the Board closely. I was very grateful that Latifah invite me to sit at all the meetings and be there for whatever they need.

This past four and half year I dedicated myself to IH work in the best possible way, confidence is a must in this work, confidence in yourself and your latihan, but the best part is travelling and meeting with the members and sharing the Latihan, sharing experiences is really rewarding which gives the full meaning of the work. I’m glad to be part of IH area 1 and also the whole IH Dewan.

From Isti (IH in Jakarta and Rungan Sari, Indonesia)

Some comments from members in our Area:

“When the IH’s visited us and left after 5 days of latihan, discussion and testing, peace and harmony had arrived and we even had a volunteer for Chairman. Just after three days the change was noticed by one and all and those who were not regular turned up twice a day!

What had brought the change?

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Most of us attribute to the testing that was carried out by the IH that touched our inner and this was the change that had happened. There was a dramatic moment for two older members who had come for a long time for latihan and now felt movement. Then there was this member who did not understand a word of English and was overlooked, when testing was carried out it was observed he too received and had experience like the other men members.” *(Sri Lanka)*

“Coming back to my testing experience with brother IH the other day, as usual none of the questions put forward by brother IH had any effect on me except for one which hit me like a thunderbolt. The first question was, "How was my love for God ten years ago?" and my response to the question was as usual the same as before – nothing. Then came the million dollar question. "How is my love for God at this present moment?" and wow the feeling was tremendous. It hit me so hard that I became emotional and started weeping like a small child with tears running down my cheeks.

They say proof of the pudding is in the eating, and that was proof enough for me to realise that God Almighty was with me. I only pray that I will be able to continue my Latihans diligently for the remaining days of my life, and am able to share God's grace with my brothers and sisters in Subud and all those whom I come in contact with in my daily life.” *(Sri Lanka)*

“International Helpers came to Subud.... with loves, closers, and warms as brothers and sisters in one family who were far away from home, and now meeting again together. They worked seriously, dedicatedly, patiently, cleared up our helpers' problems, and have left very good feelings and respects from us.

We did latihan together twice a day, it was a great time for us. We gathered most of the members for doing latihan who had not done with the groups for a long time. You help us understanding each other, solving our inner matters, and finding the way to develop Subud together.” *(Vietnam)*

“We feel it wonderful to share with you in Latihan, testing and blessing from the One Almighty God during the time we're together to such a degree that we will never forget it during our life time.

We could really feel it through our body and our inner feeling what Subud means, how different our present inner state or Jiwa of receiving latihan regularly for some time is from that of before opening. We also could understand that body testing brings about a life to every cells and organs of our body and we are able to know

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everything about humankind through body testing because our Jiwa is united to the one humankind. All these are really delightful surprises.

Through sharing three days with both of you, we could feel it without a piece of cloud of doubt that Subud is one of ways of living true human life. Without doubts, our experiences will be driving forces of Subud...going forward. What enabled for us to experience all these is entirely due to your constant patience, obedience, submission, acceptance, sincerity, forgiveness, attitude toward God and your expression of love to us all." (*Japan*)

"I could see that the visit had an energising and uplifting effect on those who attended. As well as lots of latihan, I heard lots of laughter and lots of excited chatter. There was a cheerful and harmonious feeling in our halls. We shared good food. I saw people in deep and profound conversations. I saw little "interest groups" of five or six people talking and sharing together.

They bring a grace, a blessing...they help weave together the disparate elements of the Subud World." (*Australia*)

This report comes with thanks and love to all our brothers and sisters around the world who have in some way supported our efforts with donations to WSA or in hosting us so gracefully on our trips, and to the work of our companions on the organisational side of the WSC all of which has made materially possible the wonderful experience of being on the IH Dewan.

Prepared with love and gratitude, by Renata Peek for the Area One International helpers. We ask all to forgive our mistakes and omissions, may almighty God bless and protect us.

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