

Area 3 IH Report for the WSC, June, 2012

Dear all,

Our international helper dewan has been very busy over the past year. In the Fall of 2011, Hamilton, Grace and Elaina, accompanied by our wonderful Area 2 brother Lawrence, made a three-week trip up and down the East Coast of the United States (thank you to the Area 2 dewan for agreeing to help us with this important trip!). In addition, three of our team (Reynaldo, Grace and Daniela) visited Cuba in February, 2012. In March, 2012, Hamilton, Grace and Elaina went to a Subud California Helpers of the Region meeting in Sacramento, and in late May, Hamilton, Grace, Elaina, Daniela and Reynaldo visited major groups in the Pacific Northwest (Seattle, Skagit Valley and Portland) and then went to the California Regional Congress in Los Angeles, which was attended by 150 Subud members!

You have already received a report on the Cuba trip, so we'd like to focus in this report on two other visits: Reynaldo's trip to Amanacer in April for the Zone 8 gathering, and the trip by three of us plus Lawrence, last Fall, to the East Coast of the United States. We hope this will give you the flavor of our work, and the many wonderful Subud brothers and sisters we've been blessed to visit. (Note: Please forgive my imperfect internet translation of Reynaldo's report.)

From Reynaldo, on his visit to Zone 8 gathering at Amanacer, April, 2012:

The meeting of Zone 8 took place on April 5, 6, 7 and 8, 2012, at Amanacer, Colombia. The meeting was presided over by Rodrigo Mudarra, and the national helpers for the kejiwaan side.

The meeting was attended by approximately 120 people, including WSA Vice Chair Elias Dumit Coragen, national, regional and local helpers, group chairmen, and wing representatives and members from Subud Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador.

The kejiwaan program included:

- General latihan and testing in the morning and evening, during all the days of the event.
 - Personal testing.
 - Reports from the countries about their situation and the development of Subud.
 - Kejiwaan work among Reynaldo and the national helpers, and between the national and regional helpers and local helpers and members.
- Work Assistant kedjiwaan International (Reynaldo) with
4 National Assistants
- There were 6 openings during the meeting of the Area 8.

The meeting took place in an environment that was, overall, very nice. There was an internal connection between the participants, and healthy recreation.

HOWEVER, it should be noted that the Great Hall could only be used the first day of the event because it had been rented for another parallel event, apparently oblivious to Subud. Therefore, the organizers responsible for the Zone 8 gathering faced difficulties in having to change schedules for the Latihan Kejiwaan and program activities. Respectfully and fraternally, we should suggest avoiding situations like this so that in future Subud events the Great Hall is available to fulfill its main objective: to serve as a place for the kejiwaan. This suggested provision, if accepted, should not be exclude other circumstances and times in which the Hall can be used for activities that are consistent with the purposes and objectives of Subud.

From Elaina, on behalf of Hamilton, Grace and Lawrence, on travels through the East Coast of the United States, September-October, 2011:

In the Fall of 2011, three Area 3 international helpers (Hamilton, Grace and Elaina), plus Area 2 IH Lawrence Leetz, made an extended trip to visit centers and members along the East Coast of the United States. This was the first long trip our team had made in the U.S. Until then, our focus had been South America and Mexico.

Our journey began in Boston and took us down the coast to New York, Philadelphia, Washington DC, Raleigh, NC, and Pittsburgh, PA. We were graciously received everywhere we went, and were deeply grateful to do Latihan and testing with so many members. We experienced every type of weather possible, outwardly and inwardly!

While it's hard to capture it all in a short report, we can say that, overall, the Latihan is alive and quite well in the United States. We found a great willingness among members to suspend perceived wants and needs in order to understand the inner realities that revealed themselves.

We did quite a bit of work with helpers groups, some of which are in turmoil. We hear, anecdotally, that some measure of good feeling and openness has continued, although of course we also know that in reality these things take time.

The theme of "suspending wants and needs" continued in March, when Hamilton, Grace and I attended the Subud California helpers of the region gathering in Sacramento. The meeting began with everyone expressing different opinions, thoughts, ideas, suggestions. However, once we got into actual Latihan and testing, unexpected inner realities emerged, and the earlier thoughts and opinions were no longer front and center. In late May, we will travel to the Pacific Northwest and then to Los Angeles for the California regional congress.

One personal observation: we know that Subud is filled with the "walking wounded" – people who bear scars from hurts in their lives or in their ancestral lines. We still see that when the needs of wounded people collide in Subud, sparks can fly in a hurtful way. There's no one person to blame – no "right" or "wrong" side of an issue – just a lot of wound that has not yet been cleansed by God's power. But we see helpers groups trying to arbitrate these disputes in an outer way—trying to resolve them using conventional

outer means. Of course, there are times when centers must take outer action to correct egregious behavior. But for the most part, when we do our work in the kejiwaan, only the surrendered inner, filled with the Latihan, can bring harmony and love to a situation.

Our sense is that helpers groups need to be strengthened to deal with difficult situations in the way that Bapak taught us. There is an appropriate time and place for outer action, but in the kejiwaan there is only surrender, making the space inside, and being completely empty vessels or channels. Perhaps helpers need to be given “permission” not to be arbiters, not to talk and test ad infinitum (and often uselessly), but to let go of everything, even the wish to help. Talking and testing questions from the heart seems to be an ingrained habit that will take courage to break.

To wrap up: It feels like there is a collective inner maturation taking place in Subud, but we are not doing enough as helpers for it to bear fruit.