

AREA 1 INTERNATIONAL HELPERS VISIT TO AUSTRALIA NATIONAL CONGRESS

Sydney, 30th December 2011 – 6 January 2012

Isti Da Silva, An Dien Madden, Luqman Harris, Pak Widarbo

Luke Pensenev, Luqman Harris, Pak Widarbo, Isti Da Silva and I attended the congress. Luke, Isti and I stayed on site. There were approximately 150 members attended. These included some from Israel, Germany, England and America.

We had the opening night on 30th December and a concert the following evening with champagne to celebrate New Year's Eve.

Every day we had latihan followed by kejiwaan workshops with lots of testing which was led by the National helpers. We occasionally added in a few questions and sometimes explanation with reference to Bapak's and Ibu Rahayu's talks (mainly for the young Subud members) when the need arose.

The National helpers all worked very hard from morning till evening leading Kejiwaan workshops and attending various council and wings meetings. Isti and I made ourselves available for personal testing with members and talking to applicants, together with the local helpers from morning till the evening. Isti had to leave for home a day earlier for family commitment.

Beside kejiwaan workshops, there were also many activities to engage members young and old including a 'Marakesh style' night market. In the evening there were concerts and Bapak's talks followed by the Latihan. There was a Memorial jazz concert for Ike Isaacs, a deceased Subud member and a Music Café on the last evening which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Overall, the congress was a success. The congress team worked harmoniously and tirelessly for almost a year to put together a very fulfilling congress for everyone. Here's what members said:

"The best congress I have ever attended"

"Wonderful selection of programs to immerse oneself in"

"The most well organised congress I've ever been to...really!"

"A very smooth and harmonious congress"

"A wonderful congress...it feels almost like an international one"

"I came here with an injured heart, and now I am leaving healed"

and from a youth

"This is the best congress EVER...when's the next one!"

(Thank you youth coordinators)

An Dien Madden January 2012

