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MUHAMMAD SUBUH FOUNDATION

January 2008 eNEWS

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National Liaisons:

Australia: Freeman Wyllie

Canada: Lester Sutherland

Colombia: Lucas Roldan

France: Faustine Le Roy

Germany: Viktor Boehm

Indonesia: Pak Kuswanda

Japan: Saodah Kimiko Hiyashi

Malaysia: Sarinder Kaur

New Zealand: Rosario Muir

Portugal: Hamid da Silva

U K: Stephen Gonsalves

U S A: East coast: Rohana Alkaitis

West coast: Renata Robb

Welcome to the first edition of the Muhammad Subuh Foundation's monthly eNEWS. This edition marks the beginning of a fresh new start for communications from the Foundation. Graphics and content will continue to evolve over the next few months, thanks to an offer of assistance from Susila Dharma International and Cassidy Sterling, in particular. Julia Hurd, of the International Subud Committee, has agreed to assist in distributing the eNEWS to all via the World Subud Association's mailing list. If you know of anyone who would like to receive this, please contact Julia at: isc@subud.org

What is the Muhammad Subuh Foundation?

Many of you may have heard of the Muhammad Subuh Foundation - or MSF for short, but may not be aware of what the Foundation strives for:

The Muhammad Subuh Foundation honors the name of Subud's founder, Bapak Muhammad Subuh Sumohadiwidjojo. It provides financial support to further the aims of the World Subud Association and thereby carries forward Bapak's mission of making the latihan available to all of mankind. Subud houses, archive preservation, the History of Subud project, almoners, scholarships, organizational capacity-building, and many other types of financial support are provided to Subud groups and individuals worldwide to strengthen our Subud brotherhood.

From a legal perspective, MSF is a non-profit tax-exempt body. It is registered in the United States because that is probably the most user-friendly place in the world from which to operate an international foundation.

The Foundation can be viewed as the financial arm of the World Subud Association (WSA) and therefore forms part of the Association. WSA oversees the selection of Trustees; it approves the Foundation's annual budget, and exerts voting rights over any shares owned by the Foundation.

National Liaisons

Some countries have volunteers who serve as liaisons or representatives for the Muhammad Subuh Foundation ("MSF"), assisting with communications, legal matters, and the like. This month, we feature an article from Lester Sutherland, the MSF Liaison in Canada:

I would like to begin this short article on a personal note. I agreed a number of years ago to be Muhammad Subuh Foundation's Canadian representative because of my first-hand knowledge of the good work they do for Subud, and in my small way I wanted to help them in their work.

My first-hand knowledge of MSF's good work for Subud began shortly after my appointment in 1993 as media coordinator for ISC, a job that ended at the Bali Congress in 2001. Not too long after the 1993 Congress at Amanecer, the World Subud Association (WSA) suffered a grievous financial blow when S. Widjojo drastically cut back its very generous annual financial contribution to the work of WSA. An almost immediate result was that the work being done by the Tape Preservation Unit, Harlinah Longcroft's writing of the History of Subud, and the International Archives were put in jeopardy because of lack of funding directly from WSA. Had it not been for the Muhammad Subuh Foundation's agreement to take over the funding of these projects on behalf of WSA, it is not certain that these projects would have been able to continue – or, if they had been able to continue, it would have been at a snail's pace.

Today, the work of the Tape Preservation Unit has almost been completed, the work being done by the International Archives is on a sound footing, and Harlinah Longcroft, Subud's official historian, is very close to completing Book 3 of the History of Subud. None of these projects would have been anywhere close to where they are today had it not been for MSF's steady and reliable funding of them over the years. All of these programs are WSA programs and this work is able to be funded in part by MSF.

In addition to the three projects mentioned above, MSF has contributed in part to the funding for the translation of Bapak's talks into English, Spanish, French and Russian and helps groups acquire their own latihan premises.

It is very satisfying to work for an international foundation that promotes the vision and mission of Subud by providing financial support to the programs and work of WSA.

Lester Sutherland, MSF National Liaison for Canada

Board of Trustees update:

In 2007, two trustees retired, chair Rohana Mitchell and Wayne Lerrigo, after many years of faithful and dedicated service. The World Subud Council confirmed the new appointments of Muchtar Martins and Hannah Baerveldt to replace the retiring trustees, and Ibu Ismana Haryono will continue for another four-year term. Olvia Reksodipoetro is functioning as Interim Chair. The Foundation's administrator, Sofie Clark, resigned in December, and this position has been now filled by Lillian Shulman.

Calendar:

Trustees board meeting: March 2008, Indonesia

For further information, please see the Foundation's website:
<http://www.msubuhfoundation.org>