



MUHAMMAD SUBUH FOUNDATION

Supporting The Aims Of Subud For A Better World



NEWS

april 2012

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Bapak Muhammad Subuh
Sumohadiwidjojo
Photographer: Simón Cherpitel

WELCOME

to our first newsletter of 2012.



MUHAMMAD SUBUH
FOUNDATION

Supporting The Aims Of Subud For A Better World

Message from the Chair of the Muhammad Subuh Foundation



I wanted to take this opportunity to give you a short update on what the Foundation has been doing and our plans for the future. Following the Rungan Sari annual meeting in mid June last year, the board of trustees undertook a twofold objective. First to strengthen the services that MSF provides to Subud organizations and their various activities. Second, to deepen our capacity to pass on our collective physical and intangible assets to the next generation of Subud members.

During this period, MSF continued one of its main programs to support national organizations to invest in Subud houses and help provide latihan facilities to its membership. The support of the DR Congo illustrates well the role of MSF in supporting the development of the latihan around the world together with WSA.

An important collaboration program was also set up during that period with WSA for the preservation of Bapak's audio recordings which will benefit the next generation of Subud members. The process of building up a partnership with WSA has been very constructive and enables us to develop a harmonious common long-term program for the long lasting conservation of Bapak's talks.

Later this year, in June, the MSF board will meet at the Americas Gathering in Vancouver, Canada. MSF plans to launch a new fundraising drive in support of the archives, specifically preserving and restoring and managing the more than 1,300 existing talks that Bapak gave over his lifetime and the talks by Ibu Rahayu. We also plan to premier our new short film about the work of the Muhammad Subuh Foundation.

We continue to seek support from the worldwide Subud community to continue our work to help build a lasting financial capacity and care for assets of the World Subud Association. Our funding continues to support the development of Subud in a variety of ways, such as international helper travel and humanitarian and cultural endeavors through Susila Dharma International Association and Subud International Cultural Association.

We hope you enjoy this edition of the MSF eNews and the new look!

Warmest Regards,

Bachtiar Lorot

MISSION

The Muhammad Subuh Foundation honors the name of the founder of Subud, Bapak Muhammad Subuh Sumohadiwidjojo. It serves to build a lasting financial capacity for the Subud community, with emphasis on the long-term aims of the World Subud Association.

VISION

The Foundation envisages a Subud community that is active and effective in the world, in many fields of human endeavor. It supports this vision by providing financial and other assistance to a wide-range of activities and programs aimed at improving the condition of the communities they serve, including social and humanitarian work, cultural endeavors, child and youth programs.

VALUES

As trustees of the Muhammad Subuh Foundation, we are guided in our work by the following values:

Integrity In making decisions and carrying out our actions, we are committed to working through personal integrity and best practice combined with inner guidance and common sense.

Openness We base our relationship with donors, recipients and the community on transparency, candor and mutual trust.

Diversity We value diversity of the human spirit and recognize the uniqueness of each human being and culture.

Sustainability We believe in effecting sustainable change that has transformational goals and measurable positive outcomes, recognizing that how things are done is as important as what is done.

SUBUD DRC

Finishing what it Started



Garrett Thompson and Jorge Guerin with DRC delegation in Inkisi during a visit of WSA, IHS and SDIA in 2008 **Photographer: unknown**

“ IF YOU HAVE A PLACE FOR LATIHAN [THE SPIRITUAL PRACTICE OF SUBUD] WHICH IS REALLY BIG AND OPEN AND WIDE ENOUGH FOR ALL OF YOU, AND REALLY SUITABLE - THIS WILL ITSELF GIVE YOU ADDITIONAL ENTHUSIASM TO DO THE LATIHAN MORE; AND IT IS THIS ENTHUSIASM WHICH WILL LEAD YOU QUICKLY TO RECEIVE MORE AND DEEPER GUIDANCE WHICH WILL BE OF GREATER USE FOR YOUR LIFE.”

‣ *Extract from a talk by Bapak: Recording 77 BRS.3 Copyright © 2012 the World Subud Association*

Subud DRC (Democratic Republic of Congo) is now on its way to completing its own National Subud Center in Kinshasa thanks to the generous donations from Subud members through the Muhammad Subuh Foundation.

In February, MSF approved a new request from Subud DRC of US\$12,300 to complete renovations of their Subud premises. The new center will benefit some 100 members in the country.

In 2010, a property in a very bad state of repair, comprising two long blocks, was bought by Subud DRC to serve as a Subud Hall/National Centre, since the space they were renting at that time was totally inadequate for the size of the group.

“In fact, the ladies’ hall was so tiny that if you were more than three members you could not move at all.”

The money needed for the initial purchase was met by two grants, one of US\$15,000 from WSA and the other of US\$25,000 from MSF. In addition, MSF also provided an interest free loan of US \$15,000. At the time, it was felt by the group that this sum would be sufficient to advance the work to completion.

The group proceeded to fence off the premises from their neighbors and the work of restoring the larger block began. First the roof was replaced; then, the walls were demolished and rebuilt to create larger spaces.

The idea was to construct two studio flats, which could be rented, thus providing for the next stage of the work: the restoration of the second block which would be used for Subud and provide two meeting halls and an office.

The work progressed well despite the tension that was being felt in the country, which was preparing for a presidential election at the end of the year. As the Election Day approached, violence erupted and many members were unable to leave their houses for several days. Meanwhile, as inflation continued to increase, so did the price of materials, which led to this new funding request.



Former Women's Latihan Hall in Kasa Vubu, DRC **Photographer: Heloise Jackson**



New Subud House provides a larger facility but still much work needs to be done
Photo courtesy: Heloise Jackson



Heloise Jackson with DRC women's group in 2007
Photographer: unknown

Almost There

At their last visit by the Susila Dharma team, the work had stopped because the funds had run out. The 'shell' had been completed and new money was sought to finish the building: doors and windows, plumbing and sanitary work, floor tiling, electrical wiring, ceiling, roughcasting and painting.

The Foundation felt that without this new influx of cash, the work already achieved would be lost since the expected rent from the two completed studio flats would never materialize. The group would then be left with a half-finished building and no meeting facilities. As a result, MSF trustees agreed to accept this application in its totality and, furthermore, to transform this new request of US\$12,300, which will be given in three separate phases, from a loan to a grant, to lessen the burden on Subud DRC.

We hope and pray that the new Subud National Centre will soon take shape and that our brothers and sisters from that part of the world will begin to be self-sufficient and be able to provide suitable premises for the worship of God through the latihan [the spiritual practice of Subud]

By Heloise Jackson, MSF Trustee
with contributions from Amalijah
Thompson, Subud Archivist

THE LEGACY PROJECT

Preserving Bapak's Words for Humanity



Bapak and Ibu in Vancouver, 1963,
photographer Lindsay Simon,
photo courtesy WSA Archive Canberra

In 1976, Bapak advised ISC (International Subud Committee) to ensure the preservation of archives to show the historical development of the kejiwaan [spiritual] organization of Subud. Archives globally are in a transition period, emerging from a period of stable and long lasting formats such as paper, analogue sound recordings and film, to a period of instability where fast-moving technological change is the norm and nothing is certain.

Bapak's talks fall somewhere in the middle of this dilemma. To try to preserve them with full integrity and within their historical context through this transition period into a future we can't predict is not easy.

These original recordings were taken care of and stored for around 30 years by Faisal Sillem. During his four decades of dedication to this work, Faisal had catalogued some 1,315 of Bapak talks.

The recordings vary in quality, condition, and therefore their preservation needs. In 2007, the World Subud Association (WSA) realized the talks were at risk, and over the next two years serious research and investigations took place to find the best way to preserve this material for the future.

Seeking a Solution

A thorough feasibility study was conducted around the world and it was decided that Memnon, a Belgian company well-known to archivists, was the quickest, least expensive and best option that gave the highest quality digital files needed.

In July 2009, the set of original recordings was transferred by the WSA from the storeroom in Eindhoven to Memnon in Brussels for a visual inspection and to begin to establish costs and options to move forward. When these were approved, 24 tapes of various types and qualities were selected for digital sampling. This pilot project was completed in October 2011 and, in December, contracts between Memnon and MSF were completed and the work of preservation and restoration began.



WSA supported the pilot project with Memnon and MSF will be heading up the fundraising campaign. The digitalization process is a continuous one and has to be reviewed every 9 years or so.
Photo: Courtesy of Memnon

The Million-Dollar Question

The Muhammad Subuh Foundation is providing some US\$150,000 to cover all the costs with Memnon this year. But much more is needed.

As Memnon processes the tapes, it is likely that they will find that some will need more work than others. In addition, there are thousands upon thousands of original documents, videos and films that need to be preserved, including the video talks of Bapak and Ibu Siti Rahayu.

“The current archive collections comprise a range of sound recordings, film and video, paper-based documents, photographs, publications, media clippings, artworks, maps and plans, ephemera, electronic records and digital versions of original items. The items in the collections are in various formats, held in various locations, managed in different ways to different standards, and are in various levels of safe preservation.” Amalijah Thompson, Subud Archivist

Permanent archives facilities are needed to store all these materials to professional standards.

MSF estimates that one million US dollars will be needed to preserve, manage and maintain the overall archives collection in the years to come.

Proof and Evidence of Subud

The preservation of the Subud archives is an ongoing and permanent process. Apart from the personal impact these talks have on many Subud members, the archives also provide the proof and evidence of their context as well as the overall development of Subud as an organization working through the Grace of God to improve the condition of humankind.

In this day and age, it is essential that our archives be managed professionally to ensure their authenticity over time. An intensive fundraising campaign dubbed ‘The Legacy Project’ to help with this is being prepared and will be launched this year. Although the amount we need may seem out of reach, we believe that together we can, over

time, raise the funds needed to continue with this very important project. The longer we delay, the more costs rise, and our window of opportunity is lost.

The original recordings of Bapak’s talks represent an extraordinary asset for Subud members today and especially for future generations of people who never met Bapak and wish to worship Almighty God through the Latihan Kejiwaan [spiritual practice] of Subud. And so, the preservation of Bapak’s voice to the best quality technology can provide, has come to this generation of Subud members to safeguard, and together we can make this project a reality.

“How very fortunate some of us are to have heard and experienced Bapak first-hand. I was one of these lucky ones, and when I hear the recordings again, I am transported back to those wonderful and very special times. Now, these recordings are all that remain of what it was like to be in Bapak’s presence and to hear his voice. Every second we delay this preservation work, the more data on the recordings is lost. Your donations can save Bapak’s recordings before it is too late; before the recordings are lost forever.” Hannah Baerveldt, MSF Trustee



Bapak in the Djamichunatra, Coombe Springs, England c 1957 – 1959, photographer unknown, photo courtesy WSA Archive Canberra.

MSF and SDIA

A Match Made in Heaven



MSF supports the development of the Subud organizations such as SDIA, which provided technical support for a YUM project that sponsors 50 children in West Java and Kalimantan.

Photo: courtesy YUM

“ BAPAK CANNOT GET AWAY FROM THE FACT THAT SOCIAL ACTIVITIES OR CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES ARE FOR US SUBUD MEMBERS, TRULY THE WILL OF ALMIGHTY GOD”

► *Extract from a talk by Bapak: Recording 81.NYC.5 Copyright © 2012 the World Subud Association*

The Muhammad Subud Foundation vision is based on providing financial and other assistance to a wide-range of activities and programs with emphasis on the long-term aims of the World Subud Association.

Our funds come from Subud members and are used to support Subud members, and the activities of Subud groups and Subud organizations. MSF is a strong supporter of the humanitarian work of Susila Dharma International Association (SDIA).

“The Muhammad Subud Foundation strives to provide Susila Dharma International and its many social projects with as much funding and support as it possibly can. We recognize the importance of Subud providing essential support to people in need throughout the world.” Rayner Sutherland, MSF Executive Director

More recently, MSF approved a grant of US\$50,000 to provide Susila Dharma with an envelope of funding.

Over the years the foundation has worked with SDIA in its goal to relieve human suffering and promote just and sustainable development. Since 1996, MSF has provided just over US\$245,000 to SDIA.

A Stronger Partnership

In 2010, the two organizations forged a stronger partnership that empowers and strengthens SDIA and improves our overall cooperation while helping to streamline funding mechanisms.

A recently-signed MSF-SDIA Memorandum of Understanding calls for all social project funding from MSF, whether for a local Susila Dharma project or otherwise, to be channeled through SDIA, and provides for SDIA to receive a management and administration fee.

This same MOU also calls for MSF to annually consider providing SDIA with an additional grant for SDIA's annual capacity building services, as was done in 2010. This capacity building services grant can be used to pay for SDIA's own personnel costs, to hire an external consultant to support a Susila Dharma project, etc.

“It is hoped that this new relationship will grow harmoniously and truly benefit the people that Susila Dharma serves around the world as Bapak had so often advised us all to do”, said Rayner Sutherland, MSF Executive Director

WHERE ARE THEY *now* ?

Rilida Yuliwulani: *When Childhood Dreams Come True*

“As long as I can remember, I always wanted to help people. When I was a child my mother was quite ill and I wanted to be able to help her in some way and that inspired me to become a nurse,” Rilidia Yuliwulani, MSF recipient.



Rilida's dream comes true at her graduation in 2011.
Photo: courtesy YUM

The Muhammad Subud Foundation has been a strong supporter of scholarships as a way for young people to develop their talents and fulfill their dreams. The impact education can have on a young person, especially those from less wealthy countries, can be enormous - helping not only themselves, but their families and communities to break the cycle of poverty.

In Indonesia, for example, less than 20 percent of young teenagers can go on to higher education and just five percent of High School students go on to university, college or vocational schools.

Rilida Yuliwulani, a young woman from Kalimantan has been able to beat those odds with support from MSF and YUM (Yayasan Usaha Mulia). As a child, Rilida always had one goal in life: to be a nurse.

“As long as I can remember, I always wanted to help people. When I was a child my mother was quite ill and I wanted to be

able to help her in some way and that inspired me to become a nurse,” said Rilida.

Rilida worked hard in school and was accepted into nursing school in Banjarmasin, South Kalimantan. She graduated in 2011 and is now doing her internship at a local hospital.

Paying it Forward

After completing her one-year internship, Rilida will work with YUM for two years. In this way, Rilida will be able to give back and support YUM in its various health programmes. Her experience will be well appreciated in Central Kalimantan where there is just one doctor for every 13,000 people.

So far, YUM has been able to provide three university scholarships to young adults under the age of 26 through the Francois and Lucienne Farkas Endowment Fund, which is managed by MSF.

MSF *donor* RECOGNITION

Kalimantan Gold Corporation(KGC) shares donations to the MSF General Fund

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Olvia Reksodipoetro
Husein Patel
Aminah Bejarano
Irwan Mathis

MSF General Fund

Leonard Sivley
Anonymous

Welcome to our New MSF Liaisons

MSF is pleased to announce three new liaisons, Hermina Ruetz for Germany, Maria Wallington for USA and Dorothea Hamidah Rogers for Britain. We will feature a short bio of each of our new additions to the MSF family starting with Dorothea.

Born in Sierra Leone, Dorothea has lived in Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and the UK. She holds a BSc Honors degree. She is married to Rashid Rogers and has four grown children.

Opened in 1977, Dorothea has served as Regional Chairperson and Trustee of Subud Britain as well as serving as National Helper.

“My main reason for working with Muhammad Subuh Foundation is that the aims of Subud are central to my life. I perceive MSF as the backbone of the Subud organization. Hence I am working for my own self-interest and development!” said Dorothea.



Dorothea Hamidah Rogers New MSF Liaison -
Subud Britain
Photo : Courtesy Dorothea

DONATIONS *and* BEQUESTS

Bapak confirmed that the role of the Muhammad Subuh Foundation is to serve as the receptacle to receive the bequests of Subud members for the long-range stability and development of Subud.

MSF continues to provide many grants and loans to Subud groups for meeting facilities, to the World Subud Association for international helper travel, to Susila Dharma International Association, Subud International Cultural Association and others. Yet, in the past two years, perhaps as a result of the global economic situation, MSF has received very few new donations, bequests and enterprise contributions. Worthy funding requests are increasing in number and size from around the world. We encourage you to support this development of Subud through your generous donations to the Muhammad Subuh Foundation.

MSF donors are assured that their financial support is used in the best possible way, and in accordance with their wishes. With over twenty years' experience in investments and grant making, the Muhammad Subuh Foundation has detailed procedures and guidelines in place to offer a secure giving environment, with regular monitoring and assessment of grant disbursements.

To establish your fund or to receive more information on how you can support Subud throughout the world, contact the Foundation administrator, Lillian Shulman, at: lillianshulman@netscape.net

The Muhammad Subuh Foundation is for all of Subud. It is from Subud Members for Subud Members, Subud Groups and Subud organizations.

If you have suggestions or if you would like to share your story about a grant you or your group received please contact: Suzanna at sdayne@gmail.com

MSF is now accepting applications for grants and/or loans to help fund the purchase/construction/renovation of Subud houses and the projects of Subud organizations. The submission deadline is May 31. Please contact Lillian Shulman for more information or an application form: lillianshulman@netscape.net

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Account number: 00 75503190

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GB09 NWBK 6073 0175 5031 90

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www.msubuhfoundation.org

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