

Subud Indonesia has a new chairman

Last January 30th - February 1st 2009, Subud Indonesia National Committee held its bi-annual congress at Sol Marbella Hotel, Anyer, Banten. At the end of that national meeting, Indonesia's National Helper Council coordinated by Bapak Djauhari Widjajakusumah, tested several candidates for Subud Indonesia Chairman. Then Bapak A.A. Luthfie was chosen as Subud Indonesia chairman for the year 2009-2011.

"This is an honor for me, to serve our beloved organization," Bapak Luthfie said at his inauguration speech, shortly after the Helper Council announced the result of their testing. He also said that he would try to reinvigorate the enterprise spirit among Subud Indonesia members and prepare the foundation for a permanent trust fund to support all Subud Indonesia's activities in the future.



Ibu Rahayu opened the Congress

Ibu Rahayu Wirjohudojo gave her blessing to the new chairman. Ibu spoke shortly after the chairman's election and asked all Subud members in Indonesia to work together under the new chairmanship.

The three days National Meeting was officially opened by Ibu Rahayu, at Friday evening, January 30th 2009. In the opening ceremony, Subud Indonesia chairman for 2007-2009, Bapak Iwan Syamsudin said that he expect all members to enjoy the congress with the spirit of Subud brotherhood. "This is the largest national Congress that Subud Indonesia has ever holds so far. Nearly 700 Subud members from all around Indonesia attended this meeting," he said. Almost a quarter of all rooms in that five-star hotel were booked by Subud members.



AA Luthfie (new chairman) and Iwan Syamsudin (former chairman)

Bapak Iwan explained that the special venue for this Congress, a famous resort beach just two hours trip by bus from Jakarta, was chosen to give a family gathering atmosphere to the congress. "We want every Subud members to come and renew the bond between us, with all of our family," Pak Iwan said. No wonder, almost every Subud members who participate, bring along their spouse and children.

Ibu Ariana Susanti, the chair of Congress' Organizing Committee, in her opening speech, told that there would be a classical music performance by Ibu Ary Sutedja and her fellow artists and musician, a children theatrical play, a fashion show for Batik designed clothes by Pancawati Audran and a Bapak Muhammad Subuh's photo exhibition. For children, the committee prepared a nursery and playgroup session during the congress. "This is all possible with the generous helps of our team and volunteers," Ibu Ariana said.

For the "Kejiwaan" side, there was Ibu Rahayu's talk, which was attended by more than 500 members at the first night, followed by a testing session by Ibu at the following night. All congress' participants attended with enthusiasm.

The Congress itself succeeds in reaching unanimous decision for several key points. Subud Indonesia's statutes and rules of association were revised after more than ten years in deliberation. The new one gave more authority to Subud's group in various places around Indonesia. The decision making process decentralized to accommodate various voices from Subud members at the grass-roots level. The congress also agreed to strengthen bond with Susila Dharma Indonesia and Yayasan Usaha Mulia as SD Indonesia's member.

At the closing session of this Congress, Subud Indonesia National Helper Council also tested several candidates for Indonesian Subud Youth Chair. Aryanadi Cahyono was chosen as Subud Indonesia National Youth Chairman for 2009-2011. The next Congress will be held at Rungan Sari, Central Kalimantan, in February 2011. (*)