

SUBUD JAPAN CELEBRATES 50 YEARS & MORE

We, Subud Japan, had a gathering from 2nd to 5th May for our 50th year anniversary. The gathering consisted of a celebration, a kejiwaan gathering, and a National Congress in leafy surroundings. Renata Peek, Representative of Zone 1/2, and Judy Gibbs and Sugandi Prawira, international helpers, attended this gathering. They were like a bonus for us to celebrate the anniversary. While I didn't see the congratulatory message from the WSA Executive team, as I had no internet access during the gathering, Renata conveyed it in her warm and informative speech to us.



Just prior to the gathering, we were informed that Kojiro Togashi, a local helper and a member of the committee dedicated to preparations for incorporating Subud Japan, received a prize from the Emperor of Japan for his diligence and contribution in his professional work as a judicial scrivener, as it is a model to be followed by the people. This news was announced in the celebration. He mentioned that he had thought to decline the prize at first, as such a secular honor doesn't have value to the person who does the latihan, but promptly, he remembered that we have to present a proof of the latihan in this world, and felt that it is the wish of Almighty God.

In the National Congress, we had several subjects to discuss:

- Choosing a New National Chair.
- Confirming the incorporation of Subud Japan as a new legal body; considering the structure and the name of it.
- Changing the bylaws of the existing unincorporated body of Subud Japan.
- Confirming the change of the form of Purnama(*) from "fund" to "project" - as it is going to be active with its current focus.
- Establishing Susila Dharma National in Japan in some form.

Masayuki Nagamine, a former National Helper, was chosen as the new National Chair, and he appointed Hiroshi Iwama as Committee Councilor.

Although the preparations for incorporating Subud Japan have taken several years with much discussion, we are coming to finalization at the end of this June to be followed by the beginning of the legal registration process.

Although it is still under preparation to take action, it is agreed that formalizing the relation of Subud Japan and Susila Dharma International is important. Purnama members joined in this agreement with a member's suggestion that how we can work well with people/organizations outside Subud is the key for our future. The above formalization helps us, especially Purnama, to widen opportunities to establish relationships with those outside Subud (Purnama members introduced their idea of providing a medical facility/institution, though it is not mentioned much). After the above discussion, it was agreed to establish Susila Dharma National in Japan in some form. Ichiro Nakamura (outgoing committee councilor), Halimah Hachisu (Kejiwaan Councillor), and Marihito Masuya were chosen for this.

Being fulfilled with the peaceful atmosphere brought by Renata, Judy, and Sugandi, I think we got the best outcome for now and towards our next steps.

Ichiro Nakamura, outgoing Committee Councilor of Subud Japan

(*)Purnama is originally a national project given to Subud Japan by Bapak. Rozak and other members have been managing it for so many years.