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### **About the author**

Andris Karlis Tebecis was born in Riga, Latvia, in 1943. After the Second World War, in 1948, he and his parents, two brothers and one sister migrated as refugees to Australia, where the family lived on a small farm in the southeast of South Australia.

As a young man he went to study in Adelaide, where he obtained a Bachelor of Science (Hons) degree at Adelaide University (1965). He then moved to Melbourne, where he obtained a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Monash University for studies at the Physiology Department of transmitter identification in the amphibian and mammalian central nervous systems, using neurophysiological and neuropharmacological techniques.

In 1968 he moved to the Department of Neurophysiology of the Neurological Clinic at Basel University in Switzerland, conducting postgraduate brain research.

In 1971, he returned to Australia, this time to the Australian National University in Canberra. In the John Curtin School of Medical Research (Physiology Department) he carried out microelectrode research on the cat brain, and in the Psychology Department he undertook electrophysiological studies of altered states of consciousness in humans.

In 1975, he went to Japan for one-and-a-half years as a Visiting Professor in the Department of Psychosomatic Medicine at Kyushu University Medical School in Fukuoka City, where he extended his research to include mental phenomena such as the state during autogenic training.

At an international conference in Tokyo, he came across Sukyo Mahikari and has been involved with it ever since. He attended his primary,

intermediate and advanced level courses in Japan, and the Japanese woman who interpreted for him, later became his wife. They now live in Canberra with their five sons.

Since 1977, he has held various positions in the Sukyo Mahikari organisation in Australasia and Asia. At present he is Adviser to Sukyo Mahikari Australia-Oceania Regional HQ in Canberra and Deputy Director of the Yoko Civilization Research Institute in Tokyo. He has spent more than 30 years with Mahikari, most of these as Regional Director of Australia-Oceania and Asia Regions.

Before his involvement with Mahikari, Dr Tebecis published more than 70 scientific papers on brain research. He has published three books:

*Transmitters and Identified Neurons in the Mammalian Central Nervous System* (1974), Scientehnica: Bristol

*Mahikari. Thank God for the Answers at Last* (1982), L H Yoko Shuppan: Tokyo [Japanese translation: *Sukyo Mahikari*. *Sagashimotometa Kotae Wa Kokoni* (1988), Sunrise Press: Canberra]

*Is the Future in Our Hands? My Experiences with Sukyo Mahikari* (2004), Sunrise Press: Canberra