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THE COMMUNIVERSITY

Peter Jenkins asks,"Can Our Major Subud Centres become Campuses in A New Kind of Communiversity?"

It all started in 2001, with the first Yes Quest in Kalimantan. Some 18 young Subud members and three facilitators explored the questions, "What is my path through this world, and how can I follow it?"

Isn't that what we all want to know, and what we all want to do?

Further Quests in Kalimantan, the Australian Desert, French Pyrenees, Austrian Alps, the Sierra Nevadas in California, at Christchurch, Puebla and a few weeks ago in the Black Forest in Germany have seen many other young, and

older, Subud members explore these same questions, and in almost all cases discover answers.

And it's not just the Yes Quest. In the last few years, Subud members have experienced other powerful processes of self-development and self-discovery. Camps organised by "Human Force" (initiated by Alexandra Alkatis and now run by Solen Lees and Rosanne Favre) and "Culture Compass", developed by Sebastian Flynn and now used in Subud and also in government-funded programs for refugees, and the Creative Quest recently trialled in Greece by Rusydah Zeisel and myself.



The YES Quest has been helping young people find "What is my path through this world, and how can I follow it?"

Basara and Project Development

In 2016 a watershed event was organised by SYAI

at Rungan Sari. It was called 'Basara', The program for the 150 Subud youth who attended was designed by the Yes Quest team and not only incorporated all the above processes, but the active participation of the four Wings and the International Helpers.

There were many positive outcomes for the young participants, including the development of some twelve projects (enterprise, social welfare, health and culture). Ten of these projects were awarded fund-

SUBMISSIONS AND DONATIONS

Submissions to Subud Voice on any aspect of Subud life are welcomed. Send to Harris Smart, subudvoice@gmail.com

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ing from US\$10,000 provided by SESI.

Then WSA, who were very active supporters of Basara, asked the Quest team and the Wings to work together to offer a similar process at the Freiburg Congress. This resulted in a co-ordinated program of Project Development. SESI provided a fund of \$100,000 to be distributed to the most deserving projects.

Some of these resulted from a Project Quest, prior to Congress, others from a series of workshops organised by the Yes Quest team, however, the majority came from submissions received before Congress in relation to a request issued by Osanna on behalf of SESI. Fifty projects were presented, and 19 received funding.

One of the projects which received funding, was my own project: a Subud Communiversity. The concept is very ambitious, but also very simple. It puts together two things – the development processes described above, and, our under-utilised real estate around the world; Subud centres at Amanecer in Colombia, Rungan Sari in Kalimantan, Bucelas, Portugal, Atalanta in the US and Orgiva in Spain.

Bring these processes and places together and we could have the basis of a new kind of university, a Comuniversity, where people of different races, religions, cultures and economic levels could live in community and study those things which will be most needed in



The Communiversity can draw on powerful processes of self-discovery developed by Subud members such as Sebastian Flynn's Culture Compass.



The Basara Youth Gathering in Rungan Sari in 2016 brought many positive outcomes for the young participants.

the future. Not what is taught at most tertiary education institutions today, but ... Creativity, Flexibility, Peace Studies, Sustainability, Entrepreneurship....and the work of the Subud Wings, how to lead a Healthy Life, A Wealthy Life, A Generous Live and an Inspired Life (SIHA, SESI, SDIA & SICA).

The Next Step...

Basara was amazing... how could we improve on that? Well that was only for Subud youth. Maybe it's time to peek out from under our shell and gently open the door to the rest of the world. Maybe a Basara-type event where young Subud members invite a non-Subud friend. This would open the way to partnering with oganisations outside of Subud, and importantly, opening the door to new funding sources.

And how do we start to involve all those other places....Orgiva, Rungan Sari etc? Well that process has already begun. Several partners have already joined this project: Oliver Haitzman (our World Congress Coordinator) from Orgiva, Spain - Gaye Thavisin (the new SESI Co-Chair and operator of the very successful WOW Borneo Cruise company) will be the link partner for Rungan Sari, Honora and Dahlan Foah for Atalanta in the US, Rusydah Zeisel (new SICA chair), Sebastian Flynn (originator of

Culture Compass) and Stephen and Sonia Armytage, who are developing the Gymea Eco Camp Retreat in Australia.



The project is very ambitious, but also very simple...



Three things need to happen fairly soon: 1. A three or four day planning meeting with all the partners (it was for this meeting that SESI funding was awarded at World Congress), 2. a Training Program for the facilitators we will need in the next few years, and 3. the next Basara-type event with a proportion of non-Subud participants.

The venue currently being investigated for the Basara-type event, is the Eco Retreat, Gymea, in Northern NSW, Australia. The developer, Stephen Armytage, also received a grant from the \$100,000 fund to feed volunteers who will help develop infrastructure during a number of 'natural building' camps.

Future Potential...

The vision is that over the next few years, this activity will 'ripple out', with the help of our partners, to the other venues, and that interest and participation from other educational and social welfare organisations will be encouraged.

What we have so far, is pretty much a concept. To what extent the potential evolves into reality will depend on the extent to which the project attracts others to participate.

In the not-too-distant future, will a young person be able to sit down with a counsellor and develop a plan

of travel and study: maybe a module in entrepreneurship at Amanecer, Peace Studies at Atalanta, Sustainability at Gymea, Creativity at Rungan Sari?

Would the experience of living in close community with other young people from totally different worlds change attitudes? Would the final night of celebration and performance live on in their memories? Could this project change lives?

Perhaps, part of your path through the world, is to be involved? To be a partner, to be trained as a facilitator, to be a teacher, counsellor, fundraiser or administrator.

You can express your interest on the new website www.co-oplink.net This exciting new portal for sharing projects is the work of Mursalin New, who also received funding from the \$100,000 fund, and/or send me an email at peterjenkins4@gmail.com

The Communiversity can develop the potential of our underutilised real estate around the world in Subud centres such as Amanecer in Colombia.



Human Force camp in Rungan Sari. The Communiversity could help young people from different backgrounds and cultures to learn from each other.







LEGENDEN VOM LICHT

One of our staff reporters writes...

There were many performances, large and small, at World Congress in Freiburg, but the most spectacular of them all was entitled Legenden Vom Licht (Legends of Light). It took place on the second last night of Congress.

It was big not only in its central character, a giant puppet named Oonti, but also in the way it involved so many people in the performance and preparations for it.



Oonti, the giant puppet in Legends of Light. (Curious Legends)

It was performed in the open air on the forecourt in front of the Messe buildings in front of a large audience.

Curious Legends

The driving force behind Legends of Light was the Australian theatre group Curious Legends which has been going since 2005 and is currently based in Newcastle north of Sydney. The artistic

director, CEO, and one of the founders of the company is Mitchell Reese.

The company is involved in many different forms of theatrical activity including children's plays, family enter-

Inspiring kids and their adults to experience wonder through the magic of theatre...

tainment and community development theatre. Masks and puppetry are often used in its productions.

The company's website describes itself as "A theatre company that believes in the inherent won-

The company's website describes itself as, "A theatre company that believes in the inherent wonder of the world around us. We aim to inspire kids and their adults to experience this through the magic of theatre. Our shows and workshops embrace laughter, magic, and the mysterious world of our imaginations!"

For People of all Ages

Preparations for Legenden Vom Licht took place throughout Congress under the direction of Mitchell and some core Curious Legends artists, Connor Fox and Shani Moffat. (Connor was opened at Congress and also gave the giant puppet its name.)

One of the great things about this production was that it involved people of all ages including very young children. Lanterns were designed and made under the direction of Raphaella Sapir well known for her lanterns used in the closing ceremonies of previous Congresses.

Legends of Light culminated in a large-scale outdoor theatre performance. Over 100 participants performed with a core group of professional artists. Illuminated lanterns, live music, a 40+ strong >

choir, flying mask puppets, and the giant puppet Oonti. This all combined to create a spectacle for over 500 people.

The project involved 10 days of creation, making, and devising with participants from all over the world. Each day a steady stream of people moved through the design studios. Project participants created masks, painted props, helped with lighting, covered the giant puppet, devised work, composed music, and in general created the whole event with the professional artists.

What Did It All Mean?

Why did it all happen? What did it all mean? Mitchell explained it to me this way...

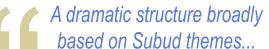
"We decided to work with light because we were experienced in making illuminated puppets and because light was a theme for Congress as a whole.

"A spectacle like Legends of Light can be open to many interpretations. People see many different things in it. But as the creators, I guess we had a kind of dramatic structure in mind broadly based on Subud themes.

"Oonti represented a happy, playful nature spirit, who is attacked by beings, representing lower forces, but then a child representing the lathan comes and restores Oonti's balance and inner feeling. That provided we with a deprestic attracture ground which the



Giant dragon puppet in permaculture street theatre project created in collaboration with Yayasan Permakultur Kalimantan in May & June of 2016. Our aim was to inspire local villagers from Central Kalimantan, Indonesia, to take action towards sustainability through fun and celebratory theatre. (Curious Legends)





vided us with a dramatic structure around which the performance was organised."

Working with Communities

Curious Legends is really developing its expertise in working with a group of people to develop a common theme through a series of workshops which then take concrete form in puppets and other performance elements.

Recently the company worked together with Yayasan Permakultur Kalimantan to create a community theatre production around the themes of environmental degradation in central Kalimantan. Several villages and hundreds of people were involved in the creation of the performances.

Curious Legends is becoming known for this kind of work and will soon be doing another performance as part of the Riverlights festival in Newcastle which will also involve giant puppets. The company is actively developing its work at an international level, and has several more overseas projects in planning.

Mitchell adds, "Thanks again to the many participants who brought the Legends of Light production to life – our board member Hadrian Fraval, who somehow found the money for the project, Angela Fisco, who joined our core team for the performance, Caterina and Arisai from the Subud Congress team.

"Rusydah who made everything happen, Lydia Sillem for her treeswarm, Audrey Lonergan with her amazing choir, and Raphaella Sapir – who as well as creating her stock of lanterns alongside >

us, brought almost ALL our tools from the UK!

"Thanks especially to the wonderful children and participants who performed with us – you made this show incredible! Catch you next project."

To see more photographs and videos of Legends of Light go to http://www.curiouslegends.com.au/legenden-vom-licht

WHAT ABOUT THE REST OF CONGRESS?

Raquel Alcobia Al-Khudayri, one of the designers of the Subud Village at World Congress, takes us on another personal tour...

After the article "A personal tour in Subud Village" came out, people asked me "What about the rest of the Congress space?" So here it is!

I Pause to Look again

As I am to exit Hall 2 to pursue my tour, I pause to look again at Bapak's beautiful photos and the meaning of Zat, Sifat, Asma and Af'al, and I am grateful that Hadrian and Latif, whom since the beginning of Hall 2 conceptual works, had felt that these principles should permeate throughout all the work; (Zat), shared with the team; (Sifat), develop it; (Asma) so we could see the results, (Af'al) throughout all the spaces, and there it was, clearly written in those beautiful posters.

As I Leave Hall 2

As I leave Hall 2 to the left of the loooong 200 meters foyer, my feet take me to the lively bazaar, smoothly coordinated by Katjia, where more than 45 vendors from 18 countries, sell their diverse merchandise, and which ended it up giving to the Congress budget a revenue over 5.000 euros.

After buying some souvenirs to take home, I bump into the long queue of people in front of the tourism counter, where the tireless Eugenia and her dedicated team are booking the trips for all the people interested in visiting some interesting places not only inside Germany but even further up like France and Italy (?) Next to it at the same long counter, Reingard's team is already helping people trying to find the items they lost in that big space...

Across the Foyer

Across the foyer the Congress merchandise is being publicized and sold by Miguel Botelho and friends, and next to it the SPI is having a good book sale.

A Bit Further up

A bit further up and quietly waiting their turn,

Zat, Sifat, Asma, Af'al

"Brothers and sisters, Bapak always tells you there are four steps or stages: Zat, Sifat, Asma, Af'al.

Zat means the intention or Will of God. When sent down to you, it becomes your idea, your wish, your will.

Sifat means condition or situation. You may have a wish, but it will not materialize if there is no objective, if the conditions do not exist or are unfavorable. Sifat is not enough. You need something more, namely Asma.

Asma means deeds, work, action. So although you may have an idea, a desire, as well as a target and favorable conditions, you will certainly be unable to produce results without taking action.

Then comes Af'al, meaning the evidence that results from the combination of your desire and the conditions for its fulfillment and your deeds. Af'al is the product or result. You can see and feel by the Af'al, by the evidence in the result of your action, whether your wish really has produced something good.

That is a sort of compass. So you need not ponder and wonder 'What is my situation, have I already reached a high level?' You can know for yourselves from your own daily conduct, for your actions show the state of your content." [7] TJD 15]



Loooong foyer...

The heart also thinks, organises, plans...



there is a never-ending queue of people patiently expecting to be treated by our sweet and efficient Congress doctor, Anne Maimer, who deserves a medal for all her work and assistance to the Congress events.

Work which I personally witnessed because of my overtired (by then), cognitive heart (did you know that the heart also thinks, organizes and plans?), which she put be back in shape in no time with some acupuncture.

Also Tireless

Also tireless were Rita and Howerd Oakford's team which were responsible for the registration mega task before and during congress, which after the initial three days surge, kept trickling throughout the rest of the congress time and which offered a wide range of options for people to participate, including different types of registration.

At the End of the Foyer

At the end of the foyer, SYFA (Subud Youth Family Association) smoothly coordinated by Elaine, set up the small children in a big space, accommodating the area for toddlers separated from the area of the babies. This was a much-needed space for parents who wanted to do latihan while leaving their children in a safe environment. Lots of donated playful materials and even an outside fenced area were a wonderful entertainment for the little ones and for those not so little...

In the Mezzanine

In the mezzanine above the small children's space, we can enjoy the art exhibition "Unity in Diversity" carefully organized by Oriana Lince, which, besides all the different artists' paintings



She buys a souvenir...



Tireless Howerd Oakford...

and poems displayed, also shows a very touching video "Malka" which recounts a story of a refugee child, made with art images. Hopefully it could be downloaded in the Congress history drive, for everyone to see.

Also in the Upstairs Level

Also, in the upstairs level, but above the central foyer, we can find the delegates' room with a stage were some performances took place including south American rhythms which put everyone dancing, while in the next room, we'll discover a quiet and pleasant room where more of Bapak's pictures and history is displayed, once again by Rachel Otto, and where one can peacefully listen to Bapak's talks.

No doubt that in this Congress Bapak's spirit and presence was very well manifested all throughout the Congress grounds, and hopefully it will be present in all of us as we get back in our routine,



She dares to step outside for a honey pancake on the terrace...

becomes a disco, because there is no problem with the sound traveling since, after all, we are in the middle of nowhere...

Performing tonight in the fringe tent Roberta Petzoldt, singer, actor, artist and

storyteller, from Holland, who won the SICA Award for an Outstanding Young Artist. Here she performs with Jack the fiddler from Scotland in their project called Return of the Swallow.

Next to it, the SYFA tent coordinated by Renee and Mariamah Mount, is always full of activities with the kids making art, playing football or jumping up and down in the trampolines, like the heat doesn't even exist for them. Daily they also go with their SYFA monitors, to the SICA neighboring tent, where they can paint and make crafts or even help in the lantern or puppet making. That smooth interaction was possible because all the tent's allocation had been previously studied in detailed and a lot of thought put into it.

SICA Tent

But from all the 4 tents, no doubt that the SICA tent coordinated by Rusydah was the most active one, with its painting and craft rooms, and a magical space for the Myths and Legends where a good reader would be telling a story to an attentive public of big and small.

Also, a good space for the making of puppets and lanterns coordinated by Mitchell Reese who, in one of those evenings, led a an amazing performance of a big bad giant (made of rice paper and colored lights) that turned good, after finding Subud...(of course) I did a small video of it, which I'll try to put in the official history of the Congress drive, too.

The Last Tent

The last tent which belonged to SIHA and Wellbeing space, was a bit of a setback due to the con-

waiting for the next world congress which will be in Bapak's home territory.

When the Heat Became Less

When finally the daily heat became less, I dare to step outside for a honey pancake from one of the food trailers, and slowly start walking to the Fringe tent, where some rehearsals take place for the night performance.

It's when the sun goes down together with its heat blanket, and the night becomes darker, that this tent



stant sauna state inside of it, where people couldn't rest properly (many would crash down in any available sofa in the Subud Village).

Also, the treatments went beyond the desired effects due to the high temperatures there. Fair to say that nobody was counting on these extremely high temperatures in Germany which had happened only before in 2003.

So, when a flustered Albatina (SIHA coordinator) showed up in one of the WCOT meetings asking for another space for treatments, we were still able to fit some massage beds in the



outskirt corridor of the Subud Village, for the never-ending waiting list of "clients".

A Format for the Future

No doubt that this new format of "all-in-one (space)" created in this recent World Congress

A flame that will not die...

"

made us feel that the 6,000 sq.m. of Hall 2 open space, where all the Subud activities were shown at the same time and smoothly interlinked, should be the format of our future World Congresses.

Hopefully a similar model may be creatively accomplished in Kalimantan, and for that reason we hold on to the Subud Village banner, (which we brought with us) and it will eventually reach Rungan Sari when the time comes, like a Olympic torch being carried from country to country, a flame that will not die.

SDIA HAS A NEW CHAIR!

And other news from our AGM and networking meeting in Freiburg, Germany...

SDIA held our Annual General Meeting and networking event at the Subud World Congress in Freiburg from 28th July to 8th August. We also celebrated our 50th birthday with an Awards evening where we recognized the work of many of our projects around the world, as well as individuals who have contributed significantly to SDIA's work.

One highlight was the election of our new Board Chair, Evan Padilla. He has been a member of the SDIA Board for the past five years and Chair of SD USA for four years – and here is what he says:

"I look forward to working with all of our SD National organizations over the next four years.

"I would like to thank two outgoing directors of SDIA, Kohar Parra and Olvia Reksodipoetro. Kohar served as our Chair for the last four years and Olvia served as a member of our board. All of us are grateful for their service.

"The Subud World Congress in Freiburg was truly an amazing event. There were many SD Nationals and projects represented at the Congress.



Evan Padilla, new chair of Susila Dharma.

The Subud World Congress was truly an amazing event...



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We had members from Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Cuba, USA, Canada, Germany, France, Netherlands, Sweden, Spain, Portugal, India, Japan, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Australia and New Zealand. Our discussions were harmonious and fruitful. Many of our projects presented their work to the congress. These project presentations were very warmly received.

"One of the Congress highlights were the Subud Enterprise Service International (SESI) awards. SESI awarded a total of \$100,000 US for inspirational, original and sustainable projects. 48 projects made presentations applying for support from the fund and many of our members took home significant money awards for the work that they have done. Bravo to them!"

SUSILA DHARMA AT WORLD CONGRESS

Hamida Thomas writes...

Celebrating 50 Years of Subud's Social and Humanitarian Work in Freiburg – Happy Birthday SD!

This year Susila Dharma (SD) – the Social and Humanitarian wing of Subud - is celebrating 50 years of Subud members putting their latihan into practice, bringing their talents to making the world a place with greater equity, opportunity and access to basic services for those who need it most.

At World Congress in Freiburg, SD showed the impact that Subud is having in the world by improving healthcare, education, livelihoods and protecting the environment.

The SD programme at Congress focused on sharing our project experience with Subud members who want to learn more and see how they might be able to get involved; working with the



together as a global network to advance the 10 Aims of Subud!

Projects Galore!

There were many presentations by project leaders who want to share what they are doing in many countries where governments still don't address the basic needs of their populations. From Colombia, Cuba, Mexico, Peru, Paraguay, Venezuela, India, Indonesia, and Portugal to South Africa, Senegal, Sierra Leone and the Democratic Republic of Congo – Subud members are doing amazing things in the name of SD and Subud as a whole.

We can all be proud of this tremendous work that

shows the inner content and the skills and commitment of Subud to the wider community.

Working together as the Wings!

Sharing our IDEAS

Three key events showed how the wings work together and complement each other. The first >





was the series of "IDEA" Ted-style Talks that illustrated the concepts of Zat, Sifat, Asma and Afal as they apply to our everyday work and initiatives. In the IDEA series, each wing took it in turn to illustrate how we can understand these concepts that Bapak

Subud members are doing amazing things for Susila Dharma and for Subud as a whole...



and Ibu have talked about: Intention by SIHA; Direction by SDIA; Effort by SICA and Achievement by SESI.

Together, the wings illustrated how Subud members have experienced each of these stages in their work, be it in the health, social, cultural or entrepreneurial fields. We all experience each of these aspects in the realization of any successful project, regardless of the field of endeavor, and this was a chance to share individual experiences of being guided to and helped by the latihan towards the realization of truly outstanding results.

Enterprise funding Subud's social entrepreneurs

A second and new opportunity to collaborate along the lines of what Bapak has talked about were the SESI Seed-funding grants to enterprises ideas in all fields. SESI outgoing chairman Hadrian Fraval generously made available \$100,000 USD in funding to worthy Subud initiatives of all kinds. In some cases these funds were topped up by other donors.

Some recipients were profit-making efforts, but the jury awarded a high number of grants to Subud's "social enterprises" – SD projects or efforts that don't have profit as an objective, but are designed to generate a "social good".

This support for social entrepreneurship is so important as we are increasingly recognizing that Subud's social projects should not always be dependent only on donations, but should incorporate an "enterprise" aspect to allow them to stand on their own feet and cover some core operating costs.

Networking Meetings – Setting the direction for the coming 4 years

As at all Subud congresses and events, a lot of the most important work goes on behind the scenes. In our SD area of the Subud Village, behind the glossy panels, was a poorly lit area we called the Honky-Tonk, where those working on social projects from different countries would meet to share a coffee, get the inside story on how things are going,



share lessons learned and consider how to address the many challenges that we face as an SD Network.

In addition to seeing many much loved and older faces, it was great to see new, younger people with great enthusiasm to be involved and new projects to propose, show the vitality in Subud's social and humanitarian work.

If Susila Dharma (and Subud) is to grow and develop over the next 50 years, it was recognized that we need to find more ways to get more younger people interested and involved, to take over all the roles that have been played by the older generations.

Among other points discussed on the backroom was the need for SD and other Subud functions to start to get serious about transition planning, welcoming in every conversation and committee newer, younger members, asking them about what they want to see for SD

in the future!

So this is a call to all young people interested in social justice, development, nutrition, education, healthcare, protecting the environment and many other fields: please join us to shape the next 50 years of Susila Dharma – Subud's social and humanitarian wing!

The 10 Aims of the World Subud Association:
Did you know that the WSA has 10 Aims?
Each Wing was created to help achieve the bigger picture of Subud and how it is meant to be in the world

- 1. To facilitate the worship of Almighty God through the Latihan Kejiwaan of Subud and to
 - provide for the other needs of the Subud membership.
 - 2. To preserve the practice of the Latihan Kejiwaan so that it will remain available to people everywhere in the form in which it was originally practiced under the guidance of Muhammad Subuh Sumohadiwidjojo.
 - 3. To protect the good reputation of Subud.
 - 4. To encourage peace, harmony, and understanding between peoples regardless of their ethnic origin or religion.
 - 5. To provide educational and other facilities for the development of the full potential of human beings.
 - 6. To relieve poverty and deprivation.
 - 7. To encourage the development of a healthy and harmonious inner and outer environment for the well-being of mankind.
 - 8. To encourage cultural activities and the values which enliven and enrich the human spirit.
 - 9. To encourage the entrepreneurial spirit which enables people to express their true talents and develop the capacity to improve the quality of their lives.
 - 10. To make available information concerning the Latihan Kejiwaan of Subud.

We want your feedback on Freiburg 2018

Dear Participants,

We would like to invite you to take part in the post-congress survey which follows the congress's motto of 'unity in diversity', namely by expressing our various opinions we can unite and grow stronger as an organisation and have even better next World Congress by knowing what was done well and



what needs improvement. As it is unfortunately too complicated to translate the full questionnaire into other languages, we hope that you can understand the questions in English, though you are welcome answer in your own language.

You can take part in the survey by clicking on this link: https://goo.gl/forms/GvihjfRJ9YHThzml3 Love, WCOT



Kohar, outgoing chair of Susila Dharma, leads a discussion at World Congress, about the 10 Aims of Subud.

WHO ARE THE NEW WSC OFICERS

Osanna Vaughn writes...

For those interested in finding out who is occupying which position following World Congress, the information has largely been uploaded into the WSC OFFICERS segment of:

www.subudworldnews.com

Hannah Baerveldt, the new WSA Treasurer. She lives in Indonesia.



MUHAMMAD SUBUH FOUNDATION LOOKING FOR A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Muhammad Subuh Foundation (MSF) is announcing an opening for the position of Executive Director.

MUHAMMAD SUBUH FOUNDATION

After four years, the current Executive Director, Dr. Lucian Parshall, has recently been appointed as a Foundation Trustee. This is a home office op-

eration as an independent contractor. The contractor must have a unique set of knowledge, skills and abilities that include prior experience as an Executive Director - or equivalent management skills - with a demonstrated personal commitment to the mission and values of the MSF.

The position would come into effect on January 1, 2019. Individuals interested in this position should send a cover letter that illustrates prior experience, a resumé indicating knowledge, skills and abilities as well as the names and email addresses of three references no later than October 1, 2018 to: Lucian Parshall, Coordinator of search committee lucian.parshall@gmail.com

MUHAMMAD SUBUD FOUNDATION CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Lillian Shulman, MSF Administrator, writes... Following a decision made at the recent World Congress in Freiburg, the Muhammad Subuh Foundation (MSF) is announcing a second call grant/loan requests for 2018. This explains the relatively short deadline of October 15, 2018.

Subud groups may submit proposals for grants and/or loans for the purchase/construction/capital improvement of Subud houses. Grant guidelines and an application form may be found on our website: www.msubuhfoundation.org/grants/applyfor-a-grant OR from Lillian Shulman, MSF Administrator, or if you have any questions: lillianshulman@netscape.net

The submission deadline for applications is October 15, 2018.



Members of the Sao Paulo group in front of the Subud house that was renovated with the help of MSF.

SOFYAN BRUGGER TRANSLATIONS

The WSA asked Sofyan Brugger to share his approach to translating Bapak's talks and suggested he select some of his translations for a special edition that would encourage more people to read the talks and be especially appealing to the youth. In choosing which talks to include, Sofyan asked input from his own children and grandchildren. The book includes a thoughtful sampling of Bapak's Talks on different topics, at different times, and in different places.

At the beginning of the book, 'In a Word' is beautiful and important. At the back Sofyan offers his approach to translating Bapak's words and an in-depth look at some of the religious terms Bapak frequently uses.

The WSA published this book in time for the World Congress in Germany. If you missed buying Bapak Subuh Yang Mulia, Selected Talks, translated by Sofyan Brugger, and

would like to, please contact kailaniward@yahoo.com "It is a jewel of a book. A true 'must read' for all. Sofyan



Sofyan Brugger.

chooses very valuable Talks from Bapak that we all need to be aware of, and his book exudes deep respect and gratefulness to Bapak. We call it love for Bapak, God's servant". Muchtar Salzmann

CUBAN ARCHIVES

Daniela Moneta, WSA Archives, writes...

The Subud Archives has a digital copy of all the very interesting and beautiful newsletters from Subud Cuba starting in May 2007. Congratulations on your 60th anniversary and for keeping us so well informed. I am working to get these publications and other documents and photos about Subud Cuba and other groups on the Subud Archives website which became available in January of this year. You can all visit the website at this address: www.subudarchives.org

It is a secure website and requires a username and password but since the World Congress, you can use your Subud Library login. Go to the link above and a form will pop up - enter your Subud Library username and password and you can also see the Subud Archives website. Subud Archives has different content as it includes documents, reports, photographs, films and videos about Subud history and activities of Subud members. Please tell people in your groups about Subud Archives.

Let me know if you have any problems accessing the website. I will try and help you get in.

Much love to all, Daniela Moneta, WSA Archives Area III, Zones Seven, Eight, and Nine daniela wsaarchives@subud.org

NEW EP FROM IZELLAH

Matilda star Izellah Connelly follows Unbeatable single success with debut EP Be Yourself...From Suzanne Simonot, Gold Coast Bulletin...

PINT-SIZED pop star in the making Izellah Connelly's first single has already become her Gold Coast school's 'unofficial anthem'.

The acclaimed 11-year-old entertainment all-rounder, who starred as one of the Matildas in the Royal Shakespeare Company's Australian stage musical production of Road Dahl's beloved children's story Matilda, travelled to the US earlier this year to record her independent EP, Be Yourself, due out on August 24.

Its first two singles, Unbeatable and Island Holiday, have received airplay here and in the US — where she's been billed as Australia's answer to JoJo Siwa — and seen Izellah interviewed on children's TV shows including Channel 10's Toasted TV, ABC ME and Warner Kids.

Izellah's singles and upcoming EP are available on major streaming platforms around the world, with Island Holiday released in the US in time for their summer holidays.

An upbeat, 'tongue in cheek' tropical-flavoured pop gem, Island Holi-

day was co-written in Los Angeles by Izellah and her EP's producers, US music greats Michael Jay and Alan Demoss, who have worked with everyone from Eminem to Kylie Minogue and Celine Dione.

The film clip for Unbeatable, shot at Izellah's school, St Hilda's in Southport, was based on an original concept by Izellah and co-stars some of her Year 6 classmates.

The video tells the story of three athletes in their respective sports, aspiring to do and achieve their best. See it at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IYsx89jbbJM

The girl power anthem opens with the lyrics:

"Every day I'm a girl on a mission,

Bring it on, put me to the test,

I'm not afraid of competition,

I guess I haven't found my limits yet."

Hear "Island Holiday" https://celebmix.com/exclusive-premiere-of-izellahs-new-single-island-holdiday



THE LATIHAN AND DAILY LIFE

Report on a workshop at World Congress that touches the essence of how we can use the latihan in daily life.

Edwin Gussenhoven writes...

At the World Congress in Freiburg I had the workshop about the latihan and the practice of it in daily life. Only about 7 members attended, but nevertheless, the reactions about the testing questions we tested, were very enthusiastic.

I also gave the questions to the women helpers, who tested at the same time in their own hall. One of the German woman helpers was very enthusiastic as well, she told me that every single question was adequate.

One of the Russian helpers from Moscow, to whom I also gave the questions, said the same, that every question, was a true, essential experience. I hope the questions will be of benefit to anyone who would like to use them. These are the testing questions:

The attitude during testing and the attitude during receiving our latihan

Before we test a question, we should be as empty as possible and far from the desires and thinking of our mind, in order to receive as clearly as possible.

These two questions could be supportive, to be as empty as possible:

- 1. How is it to be non-expecting
- 2. How is it to be non-existing? (not being there with our desires and thinking, our ego).

The practice of the latihan

1. How is my attitude to the Power of God, just before the latihan?

- 2. How should be my attitude to the Power of God, just before I start my latihan?
- 3. How should be my attitude in the morning, after getting up, when I wish to feel the latihan in my work and activities?
 - 4. How does it feel, how do I recognize, when the latihan streams through my work or activities?
 - 5. How does it feel when I mostly work with my passions and will power?
- 6. How does it feel when I follow my latihan in my inner-feeling and worship God in my work or activities?
 - 7. What has the latihan done for the life of my soul, since I was opened?
 - 8. What has been the influence of the latihan on my worldly activities, in the course of years? The attitude as a helper
 - 1. How is my attitude usually as a helper?
 - 2. How is it feel to be a helper, according to Bapak's intentions?

UPPING THE WATTAGE

By Halimah Polk on behalf of Subud USA National Helpers 2014-18...

Upping the Wattage became one of the themes for our tenure as a National Helper Dewan. At the beginning of our term at our first National Congress at the Sofitel in Redwood City, we received a message from Ibu Rahayu, as is customary. In that message she urged us to view these gatherings as an opportunity to "up the wattage" of the latihan.

"One of the requirements for a congress – a Subud (kejiwaan) congress attended by members from different religions and cultures – is that Subud must provide a high 'wattage' so that the human soul can receive the contact from God's power well and smoothly."

Siti Rahayu Wiryohudoyo, Pamulang, 25th August 2015

Here is how Ibu Rahayu framed it in a similar message to the Subud Norway National Congress:

"A kejiwaan gathering is an opportunity for Subud members to be together and to feel the progress of their latihan. When we gather and do latihan together at gatherings it is as if the 'wattage' of the latihan is at a higher level. Then we realise that we are witnessing the reality of God's power.

Siti Rahayu Wiryohudoyo, Pamulang 16th October 2016

As our term unfolded over the next four years, we have been exploring this notion. These are some of our efforts to "to provide higher wattage"



Ibu Rahayu has advised us to 'up the wattage'...



Monitoring our own state and the state of the Dewan

Kejiwaan gatherings: From local to regional to national we encouraged, supported, often participated in the planning of gatherings from large to small. If we were invited to a gathering, no matter where or what size, we did our best to have two or more of us attend. That meant that at almost every gathering you would have the presence of the local helpers, the regional helpers, and the national helpers. At these gatherings, the men made a habit of doing cleansing latihans in the halls where the latihan was being held. We offered two, sometimes three, latihans and testing sessions a day so that members could feel what it was like to be immersed in the grace of the latihan and note how it felt when they drew closer to their soul.

Strength in numbers: Early on, our dewan had received that the more of us who were able to attend an event should attend that event, whether it was "our designated region" or not. So, for example at a small kejiwaan event in South Florida we had four national helpers in at-

tendance in addition to regional and local helpers. Members were thrilled, remarking that their latihan had changed, begging for a similar gathering the following year. During other kejiwaan days in Chicago and New York, we tested and 6 of us (out of 8) were moved to attend. Groups reported sizeable impact.

Testing: At the gathering that we attended, we offered testing for the members. Many members now are regional members or members of smaller groups and testing is often missing from their Subud life. We tried to feel in the moment what questions to ask. We offered general questions about the state of their latihan and their surrender in general and particularly during these current chaotic times. We offered "awakening testing" so that members could feel that latihan in the different parts of their bodies; and we created space for personal testing for members who had often travelled quite a long way to sort out important issues in their lives.

Building community: We brought national and international news to our kejiwaan events. We encouraged members to attend upcoming keji-



In a few latihans I heard the voice of my soul guiding me...



waan events, regional gatherings, and national and international meetings. We felt it was important, particularly for our newer members and our isolated members, to have the experience of larger latihans so that they might have the opportunity to experience a higher wattage latihan. We encouraged all our members to take advantage of the call-in latihans. When possible, we encouraged sharing circles so that members would have the chance to share their Subud stories and draw closer to each other and the action of the latihan.

Keeping our own wattage "high"

Perhaps, though, the key ingredient, the secret sauce, if we can claim any, always came back to our own state and transparency as channels for a "higher wattage latihan". Many of us received that our preparation for these gatherings and our state at the gatherings involved keeping our own state clean and clear. Often that meant doing latihan each day and feeling close to our worship in our daily lives in preparation. When we were actually present at the gathering, that meant being as surrendered and free from personal self-interest, even genuine helper concerns, as possible—in a condition that was open to grace. As one National Helper put it, I just went blank. For myself, I felt several things happening. My latihan would become stronger; the vibration more palpable, my movements more full and vigorous, a deepening of my feelings, but also the "higher wattage" latihan brought heretofore infrequent contact with a higher realm so all of a sudden, my head would feel light and clear and illuminated. Visitations from Subud elders who had died would come to assist. In a few latihans I heard the voice of my soul guiding me.

JESUS & MUHAMMAD: COMMONALITIES OF TWO GREAT RELIGIONS

Lawrence Brazier reviews 'Jesus & Muhammad: Commonalities of Two Great Religions' by Daniel Hummel, Tughra Books...

A pleasing coincidence of mutual thought has occurred because some years ago your correspondent was asked why he had not embraced Islam. My reply was that had Jesus and Muhammad ever met they would have got along splendidly. Here is the book to tell us why.

This timely work, which is published during (yet another) period of religious upheaval and widespread misunderstanding, addresses some of the factors that could lead to mutual awareness of a shared religious and ultimately spiritual source. Daniel Hummel, a professor of public administration at Bowie State University in Maryland, has rightly seen the need and provided the insights that could be of great use for an appraisal of Islam and a pertinently related Christianity. One thing is for sure, the author has his heart in the right place and one can only applaud.

The title of this book tells us that under consideration are the numerously similar teachings of Jesus and Muhammad. Quite naturally one would assume that of the essence would be the commonalities of the two men themselves. Both were extremely pious during their formative years. Their inspiration, their receiving, were logically from the same divine source but it should be mentioned that another factor,

Jesus & Muhammad Commonalities of two great religions

Danied Hermel

which was addressed by that divine source, was shared by all of the most prominent monotheist prophets.

The four pillars of monotheism, Abraham, Moses, Jesus, and Muhammad, all shared a common concern and, of consequence, a common cause. They were appalled at the falling of their peoples into idolatry and heathen superstition by turning to an outer world and ignoring the kingdom within; for one does not speak to God, one listens. The fallen peoples no longer listened, which meant that they had lost faith – lost trust – in the Word within, in the whisper from the soul, in the still small voice, in the One Almighty God.

The repeated fall through generation after generation among the world's peoples engendered God's mission to send, at given historical intervals, a man of His choosing to rectify and bring salvation to an erring humanity. Unfortunately, there seems to be no real success as far as global peace is concerned but Daniel Hummel offers his own plea, which amounts to a consideration of

The tead

and felt.

The numerously similar teachings of Jesus and Muhammad...

the facts that have perhaps been overlooked or ignored. Put into common parlance one could ask, "Come now, are we really so different?"

The answer is obvious because we are all, irrespective

of faith, of a less than perfect genus and Daniel Hummel investigates and compares the pertinent parts of the Bible and the Qur'an to show where salvation from our present plight could possibly be found. Moreover, found together. To most minds it would seem a banality to mention that true Muslims have about as much in common with terrorists as true Christians have in common with the Crusades or the Inquisition, and much more. I feel that this is something that should be understood

At the beginning of Mr Hummel's book we find a useful list of terminology and this reviewer was pleased to read "Mu'ahid, a peaceful non-Muslim. One who shows no aggression to Muslims or seeks to hinder the spread of Islam. It is forbidden in Islam to harm this person." This is obviously a relief. I nevertheless beg forgiveness in advance because I am aware that to criticize is ill-advised among humans, but I miss in the list the word Islam (which translates from the Arabic as "submission").

Submission must surely be another, probably the most relevant, commonality shared by Jesus and Muhammad. Moreover, because as a Mu'ahid I am inviolate I may risk suggesting that if submission is the true way of following God's will, then Jesus was a Muslim long before Muhammad appeared to carry on the work. Sorry, no offence meant to the followers of either religion!

What is possibly true is that more Muslims are aware of the contents of the Bible than Christians >

are aware of the contents of the Qur'an. This is where Mr Hummel plays a part in offering comparison and I am sure that he is aware of the



This is a worthwhile book, perhaps even a vital book...



task ahead. I have personally been present when one speaker maintained that our current crisis is all about a war between God and Allah.

I attempted to remedy the error by speaking of a merely semantic difference, but with little real success. Shamelessly copied from the Internet, I offer the words meaning God in Aramaic, the language of Jesus. There are two words for God in Aramaic, El and alaha (Syriac) or Elahi (Biblical Aramaic). The word is almost identical to the Arabic "Allah." The derivative possibilities are more than plausible to any linguist.

Appraisal and comparison is very well arranged in this book. The salient theological facts are addressed, chapter by chapter, and summarized in conclusion. The necessity for prayer, purifying the soul and fearing God, charity, integrity, repentance, belief and behaviours, and just about everything prerequisite for a serious seeker of spiritual truth is given space and review.

On page 176 we read that Muhammad was unlettered, therefore the Qur'an was received as a revelation and not conceived. Jesus, according to the little we know of His life, was also not a man of scholarship. In fact by the age of twelve he was already working as a carpenter with His father. His learning was probably restricted to His time in a temple questioning wise men of faith.

Muhammad and Jesus were not ignorant of their theological antecedents, but we are faced with an obvious fact – greatly emphasized, perhaps inadvertently, by Mr Hummel in his book – that spiritual revelation, whether for a Muslim or a Christian is a thing of grace bestowed. When Jesus speaks of "...the peace that passeth all understanding" we become aware of a distinct lessening of the chatter and the clatter of intellectual endeavour from a rampant mind.

Although addressed seven times in this book, the matter of Jesus being the Son of God, or a prophet and no more, remains with us. I had hesitated to address the nagging, won't-go-away big question. But in the last paragraph of the book Mr Hummel offers a plea for more debate between Christians and Muslims. Therefore, resting on my status as a Mu'ahid, I would offer an alternative take on the matter and even feel a slight hope that both Christians and Muslims will find common ground, which, like Mr Hummel, would also be my wish.

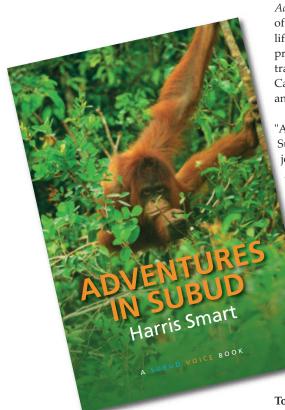
Thus! In my copy of the Qur'an each chapter is prefaced by In the name of Allah, the Compassionate, the Merciful, which is appropriate and shows profound reverence. The reverence shown is a reiterative theme throughout the Qur'an. It is made clear that the supremacy of God transcends all that we can comprehend. In fact, on page 214 we are instructed: In Islam, anything a man or woman does is by the love of God, including what most people take for granted, such as breathing. I agree.

The Christian belief in a Holy Trinity would, at first hand, seem to contradict Qur'anic belief. Or vice versa. I would ask believers of both religions to aspire to a broader view. Since God is the supreme Creator we know that He sponsors all of Creation. My simple-minded (nay, desperate) plea would be to understand His sponsoring in a literary sense, and perhaps even see God as a father figure –the One who plants the seed, and the One who fertilizes it. It would also be a perfect analogy in praise of the Creator and Giver of Life when humans undertake what should be divine worship when they make children.

Inconclusive? I agree! However, like Mr Hummel I would like to see better understanding among Muslims and Christians. My weak proposal is all I can manage. On the other hand, Daniel Hummel has managed a great deal. This is a worthwhile book, perhaps even a vital book.

Thank you Daniel Hummel, may you be blessed for what you have achieved.

A D V E R T I S E M E N T S



Adventures in Subud is a new book by Harris Smart. It presents an overview of the development of Subud covering practically every aspect of Subud life including spiritual experiences, enterprises, welfare projects, cultural projects, health and healing and youth. It is 360 pages long with 120 illustrations including photographs and cartoons by Marcus Bolt and Dirk Campbell. It shows Subud as a dynamic movement combining spirituality and action in the world.

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