



EVEN THE FISH ARE GETTING DEPRESSED

From the editor...

I was having dinner with some Subud friends on one of the Nights of Power during this Ramadan when someone mentioned that they had seen an item on TV about how even the fish were getting depressed in the age of the coronavirus.

Well, it was specifically the fish in a particular aquarium in Queensland rather than a phenomenon which has spread to the whole fish world, but the fish in this aquarium are getting extremely depressed.

They don't eat, they mope about, they look depressed, they retreat into their shells or holes in coral and huddle up observing social distance. Some fish are lying dead from depression on the bottom of their tanks.

And why? Why is this happening? It is because they are not getting enough contact with humans. Humans used to come in here all the time and now nobody comes in at all. There was one grouper (pictured) that used to hang there with its nose pressed up against the glass of its tank. Children would tap on its nose and the fish loved it. But now? Nothing! No human contact!

We humans have also discovered the importance of human contact in the lockdown. Thank God, we have been able to stay in touch with emails, and phone calls, and Skype and Zoom.

Not only personal initiatives but parts of the Subud organization have filled the gap in human contact. SICA has been very active and also it has been great to have all these Bapak and Ibu talks emanating from Indonesia, particularly in the closing days of fasting.

But now in Australia, and in many other countries as well, we are trying to get back to "business as usual" since we have succeeded in "flattening the curve". In Australia and New Zealand, we have been fortunate in being amongst the countries in the world that have had the most success in keeping the infection and death rates very low.

Our sympathy goes out to those countries which have suffered most grievously and even within our own countries we know that many have suffered greatly losing loved ones, others losing employment.

And now that we have "flattened the curve" we are going to reduce some restrictions on lockdown, because now it is time to try and get the economy moving again. That is becoming a priority.

So, "softly softly", we are going to "take our foot off the brake". We are going to "monitor the sit- >



Biologists say some fish in aquariums are getting depressed due to lack of contact with humans after two months of lockdown...

SUBMISSIONS AND DONATIONS

Submissions to Subud Voice on any aspect of Subud life are welcomed. Send to Harris Smart, subudvoice@gmail.com We rely on donations to keep Subud Voice going. You can donate by going to the PAYMENTS button which is located in the toolbar at the top of the page. www.subudvoice.net

uation” constantly. And if there is a sudden “spike” in infections we will slam our foot back on the brake.

“ Softly, softly we are taking our foot off... ”

But for the moment, human contact is once again possible face to face. So, on Sunday, May 17, our Subud group met for the first time for about six weeks. Because now 10 people are allowed to gather together, and that is about the size of our Subud group latihan, about ten men and ten women,

So, life is returning to normal. And during the Nights of Power we have been able to meet in each other's houses, and share meals, watch and listen to Bapak and Ibu Talks.

I will not write you a screed about the coronavirus because I am sure you already receive more than enough news about it on your TV and in your newspapers. All I want to say is that for many of us there seemed to be a positive connection between the lockdown and doing Ramadan. In Ramadan, we retire from the world to some extent so to be in lockdown was not so strange. They went hand in glove.

I would like to thank very much our readers who have responded to the appeal that was published in our last issue for funds to help us keep going. Up to today Monday May 18, loyal and generous readers have contributed AU\$2,377.75. We will need more to keep us going for the year but that is a good start.

I think this issue brings you a selection of news and articles about many different aspects of our Subud life to interest and inform you in the month of June. The impacts of the virus have of course badly affected many of our Susila Dharma projects in Asian and African countries particularly, and there are a number of funding appeals included in this issue.

Best wishes to you all, from Harris, Kitka and Marcus.

MINI LOCKDOWN BIRTHDAY PARTY

Sebastian Paemen writes from the UK...

This afternoon I'd parked my car on the corner of Cowley Rd and Manzil Way here in Oxford and was about to get some groceries from my favourite Turkish supermarket when I noticed two women sitting on the grass under a tree.

One was in her mid-forties, the other one about ten years older. Both were wearing yellow party hats.

Music played loudly from a mobile phone. The oldest woman kept moving her shoulders rhythmically to the sound of the music while singing along at intervals. They were sharing some food and holding a can of drink.

The sun was shining brightly around them, filtered by the leaves of the tree. The women seemed to be in a festive mood, they were smiling and chatting happily, not being very aware of the traffic or the passers-by. "I wonder what is going on here?" I pondered.



Suddenly, the older woman started to sing, "Happy birthday, dear Sharon," which immediately explained what was happening. They were having a mini lockdown birthday party on the grass, under a tree, in the middle of Cowley. Perhaps they were best friends, or relatives. Just the two of them enjoying themselves and having a good time.

"What a happy little scene," I thought. It put a smile on my face as I got out of the car and walked towards the Turkish supermarket. I kept thinking about it the rest of the day.

<https://sebastianvthoff.weebly.com/blog>

20/20 VISION

Stefen Solat writes...

We could have thought about reaching this year, 2020, since childhood, whether we were born in 1928 or 2010. And it's the last 4 digits of my wonderful ophthalmologist's office phone. Why? Because it means **good vision**

What, then, is Almighty telling us? As the Creator has infinite knowledge of past, present and future, there exists Consciousness that knew where humankind would be in 2020 and that, by this year, the planet we live on – including all its inhabitants – will need humans to improve their vision.

While the obvious need is to save ourselves from global, manmade annihilation, the even more important one is to restore Consciousness into our individual and collective beings. ●

AN APPEAL FOR HELP

SDIA informs...

Susila Dharma project leaders, staff and volunteers around the world are working tirelessly to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and its fallout. Some are health-care practitioners caring for those infected with the virus and saving lives. Others continue supporting vulnerable families in circumstances more challenging than ever. As some countries are gradually beginning to 'open up', others, especially in the developing world, continue to be hard hit by the lack of social safety nets and weak public health systems.



Like us, SD projects have had to step up, adapt their ways of working and in some cases introduce new emergency services based on emerging needs in their communities.

This is why we are launching this Emergency appeal, asking you – our donors – to help us provide the services, materials and equipment for some of our projects as they step up to this challenging new reality. Can you help? Go to: <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/emegivcam/> ●

COVID-19 SUPPORT FOR POOR INDONESIAN FAMILIES

https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/covid-19-support-for-4000-poor-indonesian-families/updates/?subid=147546&rf=progrept46275_147546&utm_content=Project+Report%3A+How+your+donation+has+helped+so+far&utm_campaign=Progress+Report&utm_source=email2.globalgiving.org&utm_medium=email
Yolanda Nilasari, Project Leader, writes...

It has only been two weeks since we posted this project, and we cannot believe the amazing positive responses that we have received, including from you! We are truly thankful for the support you are providing the many families in need.

Here are a few highlights of our work in Central Kalimantan and in West Java: In Kalimantan, our team focuses on spreading information about the dangers of Covid-19 and how to prevent from contracting the virus. We use videos sent to various social media platforms as well as printing banners, posters and flyers in the 7 villages we are present. So far we have also distributed 8,000 masks and our sewing team is working hard to produce more masks to distribute around. Thanks to our close collaboration with the local government (the Head of District, Police Force and Medical team), we were also able to provide guidance and handwashing workshops in the local market where many people are still gathering.



An elderly person receiving masks, soaps and a flyer.



In West Java, it is a different situation altogether. This area is located a mere 3 hours drive from Jakarta, the hardest hit city in all of Indonesia, so Cipanas has been economically affected since the beginning. Many workers cannot continue their work in the capital city, merchants find it hard to sell their goods and the distribution has slowly reduced because of the limited access coming in and out of the city. It has become harder for the breadwinners in the area to feed their family. Here again, YUM is working with the local village heads and community leaders in order to target which families are most in need. We have almost completed the distribution of masks, soaps and food packages for more than 2,000 families. However, this was a first response. Over time, we expect more families to fall into poverty and the immediate need will be to provide food.

Our work is far from done. There are still so many people who have not received any help yet. The government of Indonesia indicates that there are 24 million poor people living in Indonesia, however there are 115 million who are living at the edge of this category. If they lose their means of income, they are most likely to fall into the first category.

If you find our work valuable and worthwhile, please kindly consider telling your friends and family about this project. Please share the link on your social networks, email people, or just bring us up in conversation. The more help we can get, the more we can give.

Once again, thank you for your trust in Yayasan Usaha Mulia. ●

PROVIDING FOOD TO LANDLESS FAMILIES

Anisha, a Susila Dharma rural food security project in South India, has requested support to provide food for landless families in three panchayats of Kollegal Taluk, Chamarajnar District and Karnataka State. There is a food shortage exacerbated by the restrictions and situations of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Valli, the Project's Founder and Director writes...

Dear Sisters & Brothers,

This is an appeal from Anisha to support the landless families, small and marginal farmers where Anisha is working. Anisha works with the landless, small and marginal farmers in three panchayats of Kollegal Taluk, Chamarajnar District, Karnataka State, India.

Anisha's aim is to improve the living conditions of landless, small and marginal farmers through sustainable organic farming and strengthening their access to better quality food. To further enhance farmers' nutritional food security, Anisha introduced Organic Kitchen Garden project in 2016. With Anisha's intervention, 252 farmers are continuing to practice organic farming, 326 landless women are continuing organic kitchen gardens.

As you might be aware, due to the spread of Corona virus, all India is under lockdown from March 26th. By God's grace, so far, there are no Covid-19 infections in our district. We pray to Almighty for good health and safety of one and all.

The current population of Martalli Grama panchayat is estimated to be more than 15000 people living in the hamlets and villages. A majority of them are small and marginal farmers and landless families. Apart from agriculture, other employment opportunities in the region are limited.

So, the men migrate to other districts of Karnataka and neighbouring states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, and Madhya Pradesh to work in mine, quarries, weaving mills, JCB operators, helpers and construction workers. They return to their villages with some income every quarter. In the absence of men, the women manage their households with their daily wages from agricultural coolie work.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown, these men had to suddenly return to their villages. >



As such, they have no money to even get their basic food. They could manage the month of April with whatever they had in stock at home.

Since everyone is staying home, the consumption of food is doubling with no work and income. The government is providing rice and wheat flour and this is insufficient to feed a family of 10-17 members. These families are facing the worst and are in need of food for survival. If the lockdown is extended for a prolonged period, these families will suffer the worst.

Currently, the Indian Government has announced lockdown till May 3rd, and there are chances that this might extend till June/July as the number of Covid-19 cases are on the rise. Even if the lockdown is lifted after May, these families will suffer with acute shortage of food till they return to their work in other districts and states. Resuming work outside their villages is unpredictable, it is very painful to think of their situation without food.

In order to mobilize food for these families, Anisha, in partnership with the local community leaders, schools, and youth is persuading Gram Panchayats to take up Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme under which government guarantees 100 days of employment for every household member.

As Chamarajnagar district is free from Covid-19 disease, this population can get work under this scheme. If some kind of employment is created at the village level, they can manage their survival. We will continue to persuade the Gram Panchayats for such work in this region.

However, Anisha with its limited resources, was able to support 27 families with food items for one month. We are unable to extend our support to more needy families. So, we are requesting your support for providing a food kit for a month for 1000 landless families in these 3 panchayats. The following table lists the food items that each family will need for a month and this would cost \$25 for a family of 5-7 members. Please support these landless families with your generous donations.

Basic requirements for a month for one family			
	Items	Quantity	Amount (\$)
1	Rice	10 kgs	7.00
2	Ragi	10 kgs	4.00
3	Jaggery	2 kgs	1.50
4	Tea powder	200 gm	1.00
5	Cooking oil	2 liters	3.00
6	Turdal	2 kgs	3.00
7	Onion	2 kgs	1.00
8	Garlic	250 grams	1.00
9	Chilli powder	250 grams	1.50
10	Sanitizer/Soap	2 pieces	2.00
Total			\$25.00

For more information about Anisha and its work, or to make donations please visit www.anisha.org.in Thank you very much for your kind support during these difficult times. ●

WORKING FOR THE MEMBERS

Republished from www.subudworldnews.com

Despite the current limitations, the WSC and WSA Executive continue their work for the members as best as they can. This includes on-going online conference calls. The most recent one was on April 18, 2020

1. Here are some of the points presented by the Executive team:

- Draft 2019 financial report: the actual income was higher than pledged and the actual expenditures were lower than budgeted, resulting in a surplus of 185.410 \$.

• Translation services for WSA news/reports: Russian translators are needed. There is also a need for extra translators in other languages. Please contact the WSA secretary, Pudji, if you can help. pudji.purbo@subud.org

• Archives project in Canberra: the Archives Subcommittee together with the WSA Executive team are in process of selecting an architect for the Archive building. The project will be presented to WSA.

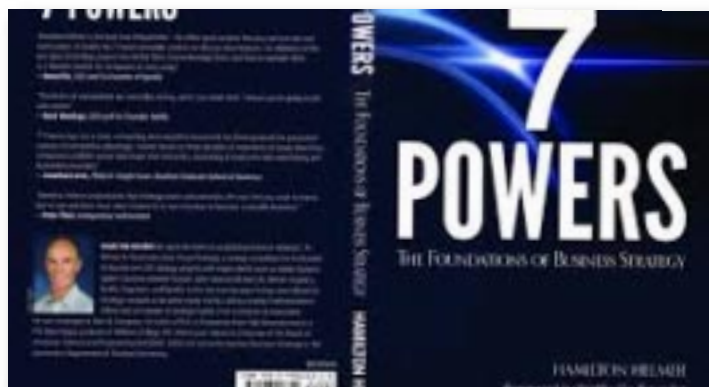
2. MSF Trustee selection process: According to the timeline the nomination phase for MSF Trustees ended on April 10th: 13 applications were submitted. The joint MSF-WSA selection committee will evaluate the applications and present a list to International Helpers, who should test with the candidates. Furthermore, the MSF Chair, Muricio Castillo writes: I would like to inform you all that the Board of Trustees of the Muhammad Subuh Foundation (MSF) has recently reviewed the next steps regarding the Gran Salon and it has voted to reduce the selling price of the Gran Salon from COP 1,300,000,000. (listed since July 29, 2019) to COP 1,000,000,000, (colombian pesos), which is currently equivalent to approximately USD 250,000.- MSF, on this way, has decided to continue keeping the Gran Salon on the market but at a lower price.

3. Due to Corona travel restrictions and social distancing rules, the Assisi Gathering has been postponed to next year. Hotel Domus Pacis offers us the same conditions (full use of the house) from July 25th- August 3rd 2021.

4. Due to Covid-19 measures all International Helper travels have been cancelled. While it is impossible to foresee when travelling may be possible again a possibility and practicality of virtual IH visits to countries is being considered.

7 POWERS: STRATEGY FOR BUSINESS

Hanafi Fraval, SES coordinator USA, writes...



Here's how Patrick O'Shaughnessy of the Investors Field Guide introduced Subud member Hamilton Helmer in a recent podcast interview...

My guest today is the Co-Founder and Chief Investment Officer of Strategy Capital and the author of one of the best business books in history called 7 Powers, which is the topic of much of our conversation.

He has spent his career as a practicing business strategist: advising companies, investing based on strategy insights and teaching strategy. In the last three decades he has also utilized his strategy concepts as a public equity investor.

In this conversation we cover all seven business powers, from counter-positioning to scale economies, and how companies earn and keep those powers. Any investor or businessperson should understand these concepts, and 7 Powers is the best work I've seen that explains them in depth.

Click here for the interview from the Investors Field Guide <http://investorfieldguide.com/helmer/>
Hamilton's 7 Powers has pretty much become the strategy book in the Silicon Valley. It has received many accolades and is widely regarded as an "historically best" business book.

Hamilton is a professor at Stanford University as well as a founder of Strategy Capital.

For those who are serious about their enterprise, this is a "must read" book.

For the next three months we plan to publish an interview each month. Each is a rich resource of strategy and examples in business.

SICA WEBSITE HUB IN SPANISH



The SICA Website Hub is translated into Spanish. Please find the link here:

<https://es.sica-subud.org>

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Poems for Peace: <http://www.poems-for-peace.org>

MSF TO POSTPONE 2020 GRANT APPLICATIONS

Renato Sotelo, Executive Director, Muhammad Subuh Foundation writes...

Due to the COVID-19 global health crisis, the Muhammad Subuh Foundation has decided to postpone its 2020 call for grant applications until further notice, believing that the process should wait until things normalize for Subud groups and the world.

The application process requires a lot of effort by Subud members to find a suitable property, assess their group's ability to support a house, and determine their financial needs. In addition, the MSF approval process takes time and a lot of reviews. With so much uncertainty right now, the trustees feel it is best to wait until the path forward for all of us is clear.

If you have concerns, please do not hesitate to write to MSF at amanda.rivera@msubuhfoundation.org

Although the state of our world is uncertain right now, we remain hopeful that the time will come when we can return to normal in all aspects of life. On behalf of the MSF trustees and staff, I wish you and your loved ones peace and good health and thank you for your understanding.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Ismail Fido writes from Brisbane, Australia...

Hi Harris,

I am a regular subscriber to Subud Voice i.e. I pay my A\$60.00 as suggested. I've never been one for freebies.

The last (May 2020) issue was interesting. It included articles by yourself and Ramzi Addison on COVID-19. All and good. I think the real test of the pudding is how Subud survives the crisis and how it emerges after it. I am unsure anyone could write a comprehensive article on this because Subud is so diverse. Subud Voice is basically the Anglophone Subud vehicle. So much happens on the ground in Subud Indonesia we really know little of.

Good things are happening in Subud Indonesia such as the excellent work YUM is doing. The link to the Global Giving site showed several YUM projects, all well targeted to help the really disadvantaged and with what we in the West would see as very minimal funding requirements. They are also locally run, which means they don't pay exorbitant expatriate aid worker or consultant salaries. The way to go. I intend to contribute, and I hope others do.

The other very good thing was the three attachments regarding Ibu Rahayu and her response to Coronavirus. I was there when the Rajah was made up. Some people didn't have a clue what it was or what it meant. Not surprising as so many in Subud come from New Age backgrounds.

My contention is that Subud is definitely not New Age: its provenance is from Almighty God and you have to take some things on demonstrated evidence. The evidence is really there in front of your very eyes.

We in the West always seem to want Subud "authenticated" by some fairly dubious source, such as a former Gurdjieff leader. That sort of "authentication" flowed under the bridge years ago. You only need to read the late Ronimund von Bissing, a formerly high up and well-connected Gurdjieff person. Once he came into Subud and experienced the latihan he left all his former Gurdjieff stuff behind.

These days there seems to be a lot of doubt and questioning of what Bapak and Ibu Rahayu said. A lot of this doubt and questioning seems to be like what we did over fairly strong alcoholic infusions when I was at the University of Melbourne. We solved all the world's problems over beer or whisky and forgot them next morning.

I think, whatever emerges in Subud after this current COVID-19 crisis is over, the world and Subud will be changed forever. All we can do is pray we are better people. ●

WSA International Archives Update

Hannah De Roo, Zone 3 Representative writes...

The International Subud Archive is one of the top priorities on the WSA to-do list.

The topic of archives is complex for many reasons. Besides technical expertise and financial resources, it needs both a short-term and a long-term vision, with an action plan involving different locations in the world, managed by different teams.

Since last world congress it is Matthew Moir, former International Helper (IH) from New Zealand, who took on the coordination of this very important WSA subcommittee. After the Australian congress last January, Matthew and his wife Rosario (former IH and currently WSA deputy chair), together with Suyono Sumohadiwidjojo (WSA Executive chair), visited Canberra to see what the possibilities are for building a permanent home for the International Archive Centre there.

The Australians decided during their congress to donate 30,000 AUD to finance the planning stage of the archives project at Canberra. They also offered to facilitate the construction of new premises for the archives on the available land that belongs to the Canberra Subud group.

The situation of the archives in Canberra started to become rather urgent last year, when it was confirmed that the current hired premises would soon no longer be available. Everything seems to come together now in a natural way, because Canberra is Australia's centre of archivists with a lot of expertise in the area, and therefore has supportive governmental regulations. Moreover, having the new premises on land already owned by Subud is of course the best option available.

Suyono and Matthew, accompanied by Rosario and IH's Isti Da Silva and Hermina Flynn (Area 1), visited archivist Amalia Thompson, who showed them where all the archival materials are currently stored.

At the National Library where the video and film collections are being preserved at a cold storage facility, Suyono was very surprised to see the video material of "Building Bapak's House", which he had never seen before.

The time they spent together was really productive and encouraging for all. At the end of the visit, Amalia handed over a set of LTFS of the 'Memnon' tapes to Suyono; the digitalised recordings of Bapak's talks, to be delivered to the International Archive Centre in Cilandak for the purpose of creating and distributing Back-Up Copies.

From Zone 3 Newsletter, Project and Properties, March 2020 Issue



The Canberra Subud House. It is planned to build a place for the archives adjacent to the house on Subud land.



The topic of archives is complex for many reasons...



Transcribing for the Memories of Bapak Project

Rohana Darlington, Subud Britain, writes...

I'm a transcriber for the World Subud Association Archives, working on the Memories of Bapak Project (1995-2000) to help record people's memories of Bapak before they are lost.

I became interested in this project after reading of a call for stories from people who were in Subud when Bapak was still alive. I'd been lucky enough to have had the chance to help with the arrangements on his visits to Manchester and London in the 1960s, so have some wonderful memories of those times. I'd also had some remarkable latihan then, which affected the rest of my life, so I felt drawn to this work.

So, I wrote to Lawrence Pevec, co-ordinator of the project and was happy to be accepted on the team. I learned there were quantities of video recordings of interviews stored in the basement of the New York Subud Centre waiting to be transferred to a digital format and transcribed before they deteriorated.

It's so important that written records are made of these in case any electronic calamities should ever occur. Lawrence put me in touch with the knowledgeable and ever-helpful Daniela Moneta, Head Archivist for the USA branch of the WSA. Soon audios and videos arrived in my in-box. I installed Transcribers Software into my computer, bought headphones and a foot pedal and was ready to go.

Previous experience had prepared me for this as I'd been trained in publishing and with my husband Mashud I'd already written a History of Subud Manchester when Solihin Garrard requested this for the Subud Britain archives.

This transcribing work is absolutely fascinating and spiritually educational, requiring research in English/foreign dictionaries, books on the history of Subud and the internet to make the transcribed text as accurate as possible. So far, I've typed up the memories of nine different Subud members from their video interviews. I've just completed transcribing Husein Rofe's reminiscences of when he brought Subud to Britain in 1957, where he tells us that Bapak described him as "the herald of Subud in the world."

I really recommend and encourage Subud members to visit the Subud Archives Online website where you can access the first half of the 250 interviews made for the Memories of Bapak Project plus documents, publications, photographs and films about the history of Subud, its growth and development. Contact Daniela at admin@wsaarchives.org for access to this members-only website.

Sharing Experiences of Doing the Latihan

The following is from an article prepared by Daniela Moneta, WSA Archivist for Area 3, for Subud newsletters in December 2019, with extracts from the Memories of Bapak Project.

Nobody said that the latihan would be easy. It sometimes helps to hear what others have experienced.

One young Subud member said that after he was opened, he took a nap on the floor during latihan for about two years and later found that was probably the only way he could have gotten quiet. One day he didn't need to take a nap and was singing and moving around during latihan. (Stephen Camp, 1995).

A young hippy member recalls going up to Bapak at the airport in Manchester in 1970 not long after she was opened. Bapak was standing alone with Tuti and Usman waiting for his flight back to London. The helpers were trying to give Bapak some space -- when the young woman and her boyfriend walked up to Bapak. Bapak, through Usman, asked "Is there something she would like to know?" Her question and Bapak's way of responding was an experience of a lifetime. (Ismana Carney, 1995)

Another member said that after he was opened at his first World Congress at Briarcliff, New York, he started leafing through some Subud books for sale on a table and was astounded to find on



Rohana Darlington.

each random page -- all the answers to the questions he didn't even know that he had. (Matthew Mayberry, 1995.)

Sometimes just hearing about other people's experiences in Subud, and the ups and downs that happen when we are opened, can be inspirational and a confirmation about what we are going through; just what a new member might need or what an older member needs to remind them of the value of the latihan. If you are a helper, you might consider directing new or isolated members to the Subud Archives Online website. See what interesting and helpful things are there...

The Subud Archives Online website is a place you can go for a full Subud experience. Contact Daniela at admin@wsaarchives.org for access to this members-only website.

From Zone 3 Newsletter, Project and Properties, March 2020 Issue

“ *It's so important that written records are made in case electronic calamities should occur...* ”

INTERNATIONAL HELPERS TRAVEL

IH AREA 1 – VISIT TO SUBUD JAPAN – NOVEMBER 2-4, 2019

Hermina Flynn & Hussein Rawlings write...

Nov.1 We met with Tomita and Saodah (KCs), and Masato (Vice Chair) at Jakarta airport before flying to Japan. We discussed the situation in Japan which they had so clearly set out in a digital presentation during their report at the Zone meeting in Jakarta.

They had some concern about our focus on the number of active helpers –and what that may imply for older Helpers. Japan was one of the first countries where Subud developed (1955, two years before Coombe Springs, England), and there exists great respect for those Helpers who were part of that pioneering time.

Many of them, however, are now old and unable to fulfill all the aspects of

Helper duties (such as actively supporting the development of the members latihan, testing with members, or interviewing candidates), yet they remain listed as Helpers.

Subud Japan is honour-bound to revere these pioneers so there is concern that asking them to stand aside, or become honorary helpers when new Helpers are appointed, may negatively reflect on their honour as well as Subud Japan's.

We spoke about how, during the Ramadhan he spent in Los Angeles in 1984, Bapak addressed the issue of some helpers now becoming too old to properly fulfill all Helper responsibilities. He announced that anyone over 7 years in Subud could serve as a Helper if they have good character and are committed to supporting members in their latihan. He also said that older Helpers will retain their status and recognition of service rendered, in the title of Honorary Helper.

Nov.2 We had breakfast with Tomita and Saodah at the hotel to discuss the Kedjiwaan weekend, due to start at 1300. The Kedjiwaan weekend only began at 1330 due to an 84 yr old member, Hanafi, being taken to hospital by Tomita and Masata after he fell outside the Subud house, injuring his head on the pavement.

Hermina met with the few ladies in attendance (who were all helpers) and after Latihan and discussion, explored through testing the nature of being Bapak's Helper and our role in furthering the >



The Area 1 international helpers at the Subud Australia congress. Rohmana (Australia), Isti (Indonesia), Hermina (Australia), Hussein (New Zealand), Yadi and Majdi (Indonesia).

mission of Susila Budhi Dharma. Hermina also then met individually with a presently inactive NH for discussion.

Nov.3 This was a full Kedjiwaan day, beginning with Latihan in the morning, followed by a joint meeting which began and closed with a moment of quiet. At this meeting those who were at the Zone 1&2 Meeting in Cilandak reported on events there. The IHS gave an overview of the WSC meeting, and the Japanese delegates reported on the Zone meeting. The thoroughness of this reporting back was pleasing.

Then we had lunch, after which I was asked to make a short visit to Hanafi in the nearby hospital. That short visit grew in length as Hanafi continued with questions requiring translation both ways and extended to me arriving back at 1600. During the time, I was at the hospital, the women did Latihan and testing with explanations and sharing. Testing covered receiving the Essence of God within you, the Inner I, and what activity in our daily life makes us happy.

Hermina met with a new member who had an issue she wished to discuss privately, with Saodah translating. The response that is appropriate to share: There are many, many influences in the world that are striving for separation and division, so it's always best to find a solution that encourages connection/connectedness.

The men did latihan and testing, and as all those present on the male side held committee or helper roles, we tested about these and the state of Subud Japan.

Nov.4 Began early at 0900. Both groups did Latihan and testing, then met together in joint session. The women discussed the importance of the quiet time and the purpose of the full 30-minute latihan. If it seems to stop earlier, you can ask if there is more that God wills for you to receive. A member asked if it was ok to sit down even though she is still feeling the Latihan very strongly. It was recommended she can check for herself next time the difference if she stays standing.



Japan was one of the first countries where Subud developed – 1955, 2 years before Coombe Springs, England...



Hermina discussed Bapak's last testing with members in 1987 regarding having courage even within the Latihan. We then tested:

- How do we currently show courage in the Latihan
- How would God have it be

Hermina then did individual awakening testing with 2 of the newer members, which they felt strongly. Hermina also explained that it is a beneficial experience for the helper taking the testing as it is a training in being guided as to what the members need are.

Saodah and Hermina then met privately to explore the necessity of finding new helpers. The outcome of which was the testing in of a new candidate helper. The men did latihan and testing. For the newer members we tested how they receive for 'Yes', and how for 'No'. And other basic tests such as 'what are our hands for'?

Joint session

Hussein related the fable of the nut trees, as it could be seen as relevant to Subud Japan's situation.

There was once a village that grew prosperous on the crop from nut trees growing plentiful on the hillsides surrounding the village. Indeed, the village became famous for the quality and bounty of the nuts the trees provided. One day a villager asked, "Should we plant more trees, for these now grow old. We do not know how much longer they will be able to provide nuts."

But some said that the trees had always produced nuts, so they would continue to do so. Others thought if they planted more trees the old trees would be offended and stop producing nuts. Their respect for the trees that had supported them so well over many decades, and their fear of offending them, meant the villagers took no action. Within a few years the trees stopped producing, and many died within a short time, and the once prosperous village became poor, and declined.

We also spoke about the need to separate out the culture of Subud, from the culture and custom of host countries. For the English, this means Helpers are chosen from all members, not just those

of the upper class. For Japan, this means that while the respect and honour shown to pioneers is commendable, if it prevents the appointment of new Helpers, able to be fully active, it is actually harming the development of Subud.

Therefore, we have a duty to Bapak to bring the appointment of Helper roles into line with Bapak's recommendation. When Old Helpers are unable to fulfill the duties of Bapak's Helpers, they need to encourage new ones to come forward.

Because the culture of Subud is uniform across national boundaries we all (especially Bapak's Helpers) must be conscientious in appointing new Helpers as required and lifting the burden of responsibility off those Helpers whose age or illness prevents them remaining fully active. If they hold the title but cannot fulfill it, they risk obstructing Bapak's mission.

But if they stand aside, their recognition and honour for the work they did for Bapak will continue under the title of Honorary Helper. Hussein and Hermina undertook to supply Bapak's guidance on this matter, and excerpts from his talks quoted in the book, 'Advice and guidance for Bapak's Helpers', have already been forwarded.

Latihan and Members

The Latihan is good in Japan, light and strong, even though the restrictions of formality and custom have been depriving them, in some cases, of Helpers who are truly Active. So, we feel the prospect of Japan moving to a healthy kedjiwaan state will become positive with an increase in active helpers.

Nov.5 Hermina left at 0830 for the Airport. Masato took Hussein to the airport at 1630, after a pleasant day together at Narita township's attractions (Shinto Temple and Park, tea house, Old City).

To read the International Helper reports from Zones 2 & 3 go to the web sites given at the start of this article to download the complete WSA F.Y.I Newsletter.

This article is republished from the MARCH ISSUE OF WSA F.Y.I NEWSLETTER The March issue of WSA F.Y.I contains important articles including the work of the international helpers and reports from the Zones.

To read the complete newsletter in English

<https://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/FYI-newsletter-march2020.pdf>

And in Spanish

<https://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/ESPANOL-FYI-newsletter-march2020.pdf> ●

LEARNING A NEW LANGUAGE!

Anthony Bright-Paul, UK, writes...

When one enters Subud one has to learn a new language. We all have to do this right from the start. Why? What the heck is the true meaning of latihan? Even more what is the kejiwaan? A lot of people don't realise that this is a composite word and can be written ke-jiwaan, at least by me to make clear that it concerns the jiwa. You do know what the 'jiwa' is, don't you?

There was a one-time editor of The Journal (Mufidah Kassalias) and as soon as she took charge, she decided to do away with words from the Bahasa Indonesia and use common or garden English words so that everybody could understand. So she promptly substituted 'soul' for 'jiwa'.

I was somewhat upset about that at the time and wrote to Mas Haryono, but he was not too concerned. It did not really matter since we don't know what the word 'soul' means either. Ever thought about that? One can know the meaning of fork, knife and spoon, since they are material objects, but actually one can never know the meaning of 'jiwa' >



A recent photo of Anthony Bright-Paul by George Bennett, son of John Bennett.

or soul or spirit or psyche. Why? Answer: Because these are immaterial things, which belong in another dimension.



Actually, one can never know the meaning of 'jiwa', or soul, or spirit, or psyche..



In my first essay I quoted Bapak, when he declared that a man may leave the organisation of Subud, but he can never leave the 'kejiwaan'. That is a pretty profound declaration. The heart may leave, the mind may leave, but once a man is opened he can never leave the kejiwaan. Thank God for that and thank God again.

Over the course of the years I have known quite a number of people in Subud, people who at one time or another were even quite prominent as Helpers, people who had opened a number of others and yet left the organisation. It is as well that we all remember that they may leave or have left the organisation, but they can never leave the kejiwaan. Indeed in one of his talks Bapak specifically referred to the numbers who have left apparently and what they engaged in later.

I believe that we should be careful just to keep in touch with our brothers and sisters who apparently leave. Sometimes it is simply a matter of capacity. A cup can only take so much liquid. A fish tank can take a thousand times as much as a cup. But, if you remember, Bapak was able to swallow an ocean, he even burped because of the salt water – this is a parable about capacity.

Got to stop now – nearly 3AM. It's OK since I did a lot of sleeping while wifey was watching TV. And then when I started to write it was not what I meant to write at all.

Blasts From the Past 1

Marcus Bolt, Lewes Group, writes...

Been doing a lot of reading during lockdown, including re-reading 'The Plague' by Albert Camus. Because they seemed so apt, I decided to post some quotes from the book on my Facebook Timeline. They are: *"All I say is that on this earth there are pestilences and there are victims – and as far as possible one must refuse to be on the side of the pestilence."*

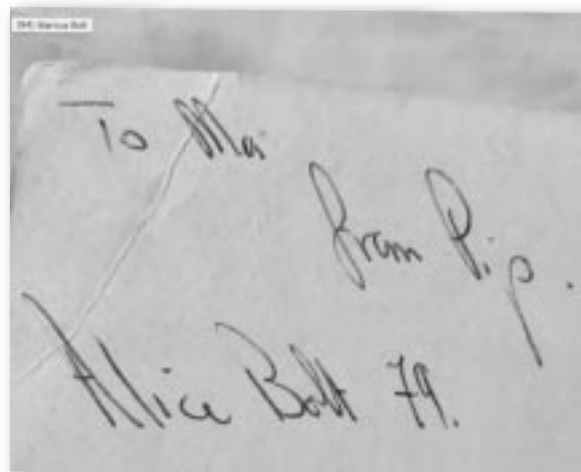
And: *"In this respect, our townfolk were like everybody else, wrapped up in themselves; in other words, they were humanists: they disbelieved in pestilences. A pestilence isn't a thing made to man's measure; therefore we tell ourselves that pestilence is a mere bogey of the mind, a bad dream that will pass away. But it doesn't always pass away and, from one bad dream to another, it is men who pass away, and the humanists first of all, because they have taken no precautions."*

And this one: *"There's no question of heroism in all this. It's a matter of common decency. That's an idea which may make some people smile, but the only means of fighting a plague is — common decency."*

Then, to my surprise, I received this reply from Hardy Speight, with a photo of a book inscription attached:

Hey, funnily enough I picked up the same book the other week and found the attached inscription on the inside cover. I took the book from my mum's bookshelf when she passed, but only just opened it to read. Is it your Pip and Alice?

Well, it most certainly is... my mother, Alice, who died in 2004, and my younger brother, Pip, who died in 2014. A seemingly spooky-woo, Month of the Ancestors coincidence? Well, logic says it's not surprising that two people should start reading a well-known book about a city in lockdown, er... during a lockdown... And the book may well have travelled over the years from Bolt to Speight bookshelves through our mutual connections with Loudwater Farm... But I prefer to think that this incident >



The inscription inside the book.

relates to Ibu Rahayu's recent statement that the world health situation is more to do with our ignoring and not caring enough for our ancestors... so, in case this is their way of getting in touch with me, think I'd better start paying them a little more attention...

Blasts From the Past 2

Daphne Catherine Alexopoulou, from Brisbane, Australia, writes...

A post by Marcus Bolt reminded me of this story of my own. I had neglected it for three years, it looks like.

This being the Month of the Ancestors, I had my usual reminder. I was mucking around on my phone and one saved file, untitled, attracted my attention. Here it is.

Road trip to the City in the Sky

I was born and grew up in Athens, Greece but by now, I have lived more than half my life outside Greece. My mother comes from Corfu, so when husband Rashid and I decided to move to Greece, we opted for Corfu, where we stayed put in our wonderful house. The Zone 4 Subud Gathering in the North of Greece, gave us the incentive to finally visit the mainland.

Road trips with an open mind bring surprises and gifts at the best of times but this trip exceeded all expectations. A week of latihan does wonders. I had felt we should continue on the road after the meeting, for a trip down memory lane, a magical trip to Mt Pelion, home of the Centaurs and one of my dad's favourite places.

My Babas, Pavlos never tired of driving and taking us places. He was keen on ancient history, so we visited endless ruins and beautiful views, that we were too young to appreciate. In my heart, I was dedicating this trip to my father. I should have guessed this was going to be special. The town the meeting was happening in, is called Ouranoupolis : City in the Sky.

The first surprise was how deep the latihan and testing was, despite the harassment by the hotel management. We were forced to change room three times but the gifts kept coming.

It felt like my father was making contact, especially after I had felt him asking me to pray for him. You mustn't forget to pray for the dead, he said. My father was never officially opened, unlike my mum and my brother but I feel he knows the latihan.

On arrival, my friend Rita gave me an envelope, addressed to me, that she had found among her things in Germany. At first, I couldn't even take it in. My father's unmistakable handwriting was on the envelope. He has been dead for seventeen years now.

I recognised what was inside when I looked in. It was an out of print book, lovingly photocopied by my father, sent to me when I was studying weaving in London, detailing the history of Ouranoupolis and the Greek refugees from Asia Minor who had settled there. Though the refugees were Greeks from Turkey, who had been displaced and persecuted, they didn't immediately get integrated and they were resented by the other Greeks.

Their settlements often had the name New as part of the name, like Nea Roda, where our gathering was happening. There was an explanation as to how the book came to be in Rita's possession. What was miraculous was how this was so perfectly choreographed by the Angels.

Before coming to Ouranoupolis I had been having doubts about whether I am going in the right



In Olympia or Pylos 1966. Daphne, Renate (stepmom) and brother Pirros.



Posing outside a church with dad and brothers.

direction in my life. To me, this was like a message from the Universe that I am in the right place, my father approves, and all is well.



Above: With my mum and dad at our family summer home.

Right: A reluctant tourist on the Acropolis of Athens, 1960. >



PURIFICATION OF ANCESTORS

An article submitted anonymously...

I have had some experiences with ancestor things popping up in my life. I am a genealogist and learned a lot about my ancestors. I can't know them personally, but there is evidence of some of their deeds that have been documented. These documents tell something about them. For example, some of my Southern US ancestors were slave owners and even one that I know of was a slave trader. This goes back six generations.

My parents were very accepting of all people and raised me that way, they were loving and caring, especially my father who had a number of black friends that he loved to play cards with in the evenings. He used to bring me with him sometimes so I could play with his friends' children. These were dear friends to him, and he kept in touch with them until we moved away.

I have the same love for all people of all ethnicities that I inherited from my father and my mother. It was a shock to me when in my sixties, out of the blue, I felt a noticeable aversion to people of colour. It knocked me over in the moment. The first thing I said was "Dear God, where did that come from?"

It was a struggle for a time. It actually took a couple of years to get completely rid of the feeling – until I was back to my normal self. That was my first real experience of what I believe is purification of my ancestors. I think these things go on in the lives of Subud people all the time. Sometimes it is very subtle, and we probably don't even know or understand what is happening. ●

KATJA, A SHORT LOVE STORY

Sebastian Paemen writes...

My uncle Henk died last year. He was a quiet and pleasant man. His party piece was a bit of shrapnel in his right leg which he sometimes showed off. Like so many young men, he had been rounded up by the Germans in occupied Holland during WWII, and sent to work in Germany in an arms factory.

He got badly wounded during the allied bombardments in 1945. A Russian nurse found him in the rubble just outside Berlin and saved his life. Her name was Katja. She lovingly cared for him. Despite not speaking a common language, they fell in love with each other, their romance lasting >

for over a month. Uncle Henk was sent to a p.o.w. camp where he stayed for about a year during which time he'd lost contact with Katja.

All this time his family had assumed that he was dead, because they hadn't heard anything from him since the attacks on Berlin had started. One day in late 1946 the doorbell rang and my mother, who was a girl at the time, opened the door to a skinny, pale man with a beard. "Who are you, sir?" she asked. To which the man replied "I am your brother, Henk!"

She hadn't recognised him because he'd changed so much. Needless to say that his family was ecstatic to have their son and brother back. The rest of his life he would hide in the broom cupboard whenever there was a thunderstorm, the trauma caused by the bombardments never went away.

Uncle Henk later married a local girl. They had four children and several grandchildren. He had a successful textile wholesale business, which later his oldest son took over. Uncle Henk lost his wife years ago and died at the age of 93. Not long before he passed away, his daughter heard him talking to himself. He was sitting in his chair, staring out of the window, quietly whispering, "Katja".

Sebastian writes...

I enjoy writing short stories. I share these on my blog. I find my inspiration in childhood memories and daily encounters with people. I have a passion for art, history, books and Islam and this is also reflected in my writing.

I live in Oxford, UK. I am originally from the historic town of Dordrecht in The Netherlands. Dordrecht features regularly in my writing. I am currently translating my stories into Dutch and plan to publish the Dutch version of this blog in the near future.

I hope you enjoy my stories.

Sebastian has an excellent blog: <https://sebastianvthoff.weebly.com/blog>

“ *A Russian nurse found him in the rubble just outside Berlin...* ”



THE BIRTH OF MY DAUGHTER RIAWATI – JUST ANOTHER RECEIVING

Subagio writes from Adelaide with more of his spiritual experiences...

Introduction...

It is my testimony to the "power" residing at the place called "Cilandak", that my first introductory visit to that place, strangely enough before I was even opened in Subud, had "switched on" this "receiver" within me.

Now I had become sceptical of the ability of my intellect to provide me with the right answer to every problem I encountered in life and had unshakeable faith in the "Source of True Knowledge and Wisdom".

Obviously, the mind is still of practical use as a tool for solving worldly mundane problems, such as mathematical problems, engineering problems, how to make money and the like.

However, on matters of profound consequences to my life I would now try to "tune in" the "Receiver" for the right answer.

Receiving...

My wife and I had then been married for 4 years and were still childless.

As anyone would expect, questions started to enter our mind, if we ever would have a child of >

our own by natural ways.

One day my wife asked me the question whether or not we should adopt a child. I said to her that it was a very difficult question for me to answer.

I also mentioned to her that if we adopted a child, I would like to be able to feel as if I were the natural father of the child, conversely I would like the child to have the same feeling towards me.

My wife did understand and appreciated fully the reasoning behind my indecisiveness and shared my believe that it is beyond the domain of the intellect to find the right answer to question of that nature.

We decided then, to wait for a clear indication from God before we made a firm decision to adopt a child.

In the meantime, we just "sat on the bench" and waited for the right answer.

If you are not sure...

As Bapak used to advise us, if you are not sure what to do, "op de plaats rust". (Bapak's favourite Dutch phrase meaning "stay put on the spot, don't move").

A few days after my wife and I had the above talk, I had a dream.

In that dream, which remains vividly in my memory, I saw my wife pushing a blue pram in the street and she was wearing a blue vest.

When I woke up the next morning, the first thing I did was to tell my wife with absolute certainty the following...

"Darling, don't worry the Great Lord is going to give you a baby". Then I told her about the dream.

Three months later my wife started to conceive. Of course, we were very thankful and delighted that we were going to have a child of our own.

And to cut a long story short, our first long awaited child, a daughter, was born on Friday 13th March 1970.

But that was not where the story ended...

I was then teaching Indonesian language to members of the Indonesian Australian Association of South Australia. Among the members of my class was a young couple, Dr. Aleric Maude a lecturer at Flinders University and his wife Anabel.

One day he said to me "Subagio, Anabel and I decided not to have anymore children, three (or four I can't remember exactly) is enough. Would you be offended if we offer you our old pram?"

I replied, "Of course not, Janet and I would be delighted to have your old pram".

When Dr. Aleric Maud brought the pram to our house, to my bemusement I noticed that the colour of the pram was none other than blue, and it was the blue pram I saw in my dream. I wondered who told him to give his blue pram to us?

The uncanny coincidences had not come to an end yet.

When our baby was a couple of months old my wife took her out for a walk in that blue pram.

I could not escape that curious and quaint feeling of *deja vu*, when I was watching my wife actually pushing a blue pram and wearing a blue vest.

It was exactly the scene I saw in my dream just over one year earlier.

As if my feet were nailed onto the ground, I just stayed on one spot and watched and watched, from across the street, the re-enacted scene I saw previously in my dream.



Riawati, now aged 45, with her father, Subagio.

“ *Across the street, I saw re-enacted the scene I had previously seen in my dream...* ”

YESTERDAY'S FLYCATCHER: THE POWER OF THE DOODLE

Harris Smart writes...

"Yesterday's flycatcher" is a collection of drawings by Hannah Kusterer with poems by Emmanuel Williams. Notice that I put the drawings first.

The drawings came first, and the poems are Emmanuel Williams' response to them. He has done several books like this, responding to other people's artwork.

Hannah's drawings are doodles, but they are much more impressive than the doodles that most of us produce. They are extremely intricate witty drawings.

They seem to follow a line unfolding from the subconscious; Hannah's line is much more artful and complex than the doodles most of us produce.

Perhaps being a psychotherapist has loosened up her mind to the point where her hand can follow the weird wanderings and associations of her mind.

They are often bizarre in the way they combine things or distort things and are indeed sometimes quite sinister. But always amusing and startling.

These drawings seem to have a magnified a particular quality in Emmanuel. There is a quality of strangeness or weirdness in his poems which was sometimes present in his previous work but here, inspired by these drawings, it really stands out.

So, I would say that this is a collection that will give you a jolt in a good way. It will present you with some work that will startle, surprise, amuse and stimulate you.

Emmanuel Williams on writing about pictures...

As a poet I enjoy writing in response to visual stimuli. I've written poems about paintings by modern painters, and about collages by English artist Sofiah Garrard. So, when Hannah showed me her collection of over 200 doodled images I was, to say the least, excited.

'Yesterday's Flycatcher' is a collection of poems about drawings by Hannah Kusterer. It's my 4th ekphrastic book; I wrote two books about collages by UK artist Sofiah Garrard – 'Inside Story and 'Introductions', both published by Greenchair Gallery; and one about 19th and 20th century paintings entitled 'Senecio', available from Amazon.

This book is a collection not of Hannah's best images – they're all brilliant – but of my best poems and the images that inspired them.

Note: An ekphrastic poem is a description of a scene or, more commonly, a work of art. Through the imaginative act of narrating and reflecting on the 'action' of a painting or sculpture, the poet may amplify and expand its meaning. American Poetry Society

Hannah Kusterer describes the circumstances that got her doodling...

Before I was an artist, I was a psychotherapist, but in the course of things, my clinical work swallowed up my time and for many years I created very little art.

By 2003 I had been working for several years as a clinician/manager in a large hospital-based Chemical Dependency program. The department Chiefs (my bosses) were spectacularly dysfunctional at that time and the staff had just joined a union. Morale was low, but everyone cared deeply about the work we did.

However, in meetings designed to forge a collaborative working relationship between management and staff, passions were high, and it was not uncommon during this period for staff and managers to be screaming (literally) at each other. It was not pretty. For me, it was a major challenge to abstain from engaging in these battles, especially since I sympathized with the staff more than the managers.

Initially, I was mostly unsuccessful at detachment. But, always a doodler, I began to doodle furiously in meetings, and learned to listen without reacting. Soon, these drawings grew that time I never went to a meeting without drawing materials, and there were a lot of meetings. But my attitude went from dreading and hating meetings to "oh, good, I get to draw."

These "doodles" became ever more elaborate, and re-opened me to the daily practice of draw- >

ing and making art. After years of Subud latihan, and also Expressive Art (another surrender practice) I have learned to just go with whatever comes to me. I never know what will show up. It's a lot of fun.

Yesterday's flycatcher

If you would seek to know me
Oh my brother oh my sister
If you are intent on entering
The cave behind the waterfall
The crawlspace beneath the devastated city
The gap between the future
And the worst that could happen
I am moved to remind you
That everything is being continually sacrificed.

Yesterday's flycatcher
Is tomorrow's rabbit hole.

I wish I could tell you
Who I am
But we're still working on it

meanwhile
feel free to love me

To obtain this book go to [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) or email
emmanuelriddlemaker@gmail.com



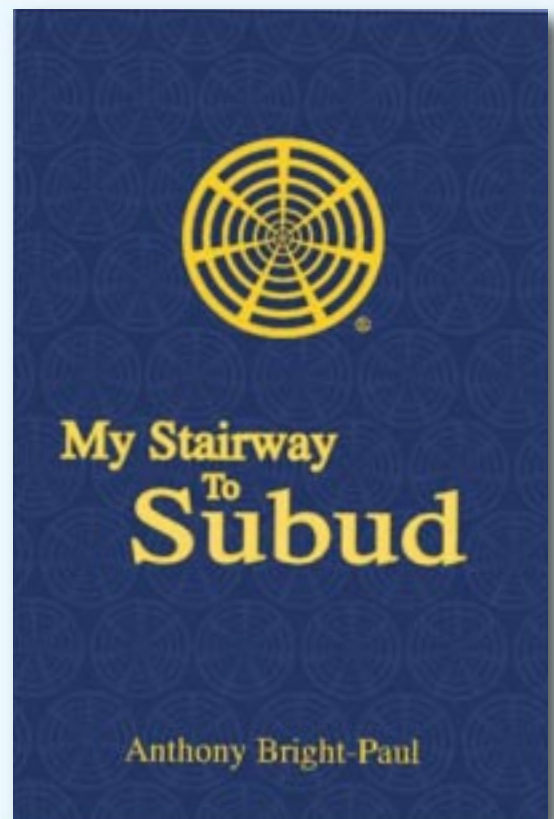
Much of *My Stairway to Subud* first appeared as the record of a young man in the early 1950s searching for values and inner understanding. At various times he was an admirer of Mahatma Gandhi, a student with the Sri Ramakrishna Vedanta Society, then a follower of G.I. Gurdjieff for seven years under the direction of J.G. Bennett, author of *The Dramatic Universe* and *What are we living for?* His search reached an explosive climax when Pak Subuh, the founder of the international spiritual movement Subud, came to England in 1957.

Anthony Bright-Paul gives an acutely observed account of the Gurdjieff methods as performed and practised at Coombe Springs with John Bennett, and a first-hand account of both the euphoria and the upheaval caused by the arrival of Pak Subuh who brought with him the latihan kejiwaan, the spiritual training of Subud.

Because he was so devoted to the ideas of Gurdjieff, and to John Bennett personally, the story of his initial resistance to Subud, and then his complete reversal, makes poignant and dramatic reading. His chronicle of the early days in Subud in the western world is unique for its detail of this period.

Available from SPI at: www.subudbooks.com

PRICE £10.00 incl P&P UK (*but, plus Postage rest of the world*).



THE PASSING OF LEONARD VAN HIEN

Subud Indonesia writes...



It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Leonard van Hien. He was the son of Rosamund van Hien and Edward van Hien, a Subud pioneer in Singapore, the husband of Indrawati, one of Bapak's granddaughters, and son-in-law of Ibu Siti Rahayu Wiryohudoyo.

Leonard passed away peacefully in his sleep on Friday 3 April 2020 shortly after the dawn prayer at his home in Pamulang, Indonesia following a long illness. He was buried in Suka Mulya on the same day.

Leonard made many contributions to Subud in his life. Amongst other things, he was the Treasurer of the Subud Britain National Committee in the early seventies and oversaw the affairs of the Subud Human Welfare Trust. Following the 1979 Toronto Subud World Congress, Leonard was appointed as a consultative committee member for Bank Susila Bakti and a shareholder representative for PT S. Widjojo. Later, he founded and became a Director of the Kalimantan Investment Corporation in 1992. He was on the Muhammad Subuh Foundation Board of Trustees between 1992-1997 and was also on the Board of Management of Yayasan Muhammad Subuh during that period.

In his professional life, Leonard helped to build Price Waterhouse's tax practice in Indonesia, specializing in international taxation. Between 1998 and 2008, he acted as a Country Chairman of Jardine Matheson, a British conglomerate with a broad portfolio of market leading businesses in Indonesia. He was the Chairman of the European Chamber of Commerce in Jakarta during those years. Leonard also played a key role in the development of various projects benefitting the expatriate and local communities in Jakarta, having served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the British International School and developing the Jakarta Chamber Music circuit. Leonard was a keen cellist and golfer and filled his retirement days enjoying these pastimes.

As he often said though, his number one hobby was his children. He was a family man before anything else and it was as a loving husband and father to his seven children that many will remember him. It was a tremendous blessing that they were all able to celebrate his and Indra's thirty-seventh wedding anniversary and his seventieth and final birthday together with him at home in January.

He leaves behind his wife Indrawati, his children Mustafa, Hastono, Indriatti, Murdiany, Afandy, Alina and Armand, in-laws Risyantie, Michelle, Robert and Georgina, and grandchildren Emeria, Elaina and Oscar.

May God bless him on his continuing journey and reward him for all his work here in the world. Our thoughts and prayers are with him and his family.

Republished from www.subduworldnews.com

THE PASSING OF LOUISA DAVIES

Caroline Osborne writes...

Our dear sister Louisa Davies passed away on Saturday 2nd May, a few days after her 87th birthday (28/04/2020). She had suffered a massive stroke a week before and was in hospital for those last days. Her four children were able to be with her for at least some of that time. She was very peaceful and calm. Though she was not able to speak, her children felt she was aware of their presence.

Louisa had been in Subud from the early days in Britain, following her brother who joined first the Gurdjieff movement then Subud at Coombe Springs.

Louisa was totally dedicated to the Latihan and as a helper was always ready to test or do special Latihans with anyone who needed. She was also always there to help in practical ways, but was fiercely independent and hated having to accept help from others. This made her increasing frailty in recent years hard for her.

Louisa was marvellous with young children. She was a great help to me when my children were little, looking after them so that I could have a Latihan and helping me in many ways. She was a substitute grandmother, my own mother being the other side of the world in Australia. She always remembered all my children's birthdays with a card carefully timed to arrive on the right day, even long after they were grown up.

Louisa was one of the most intelligent women I've known, an avid reader and keen on classical music in spite of being totally deaf and dependent on her hearing aid. She was always keen on all things natural and brought her own children up on homeopathy and homemade herbal remedies long before it was fashionable. She has been an inspiration to me and a huge support over the years. I feel very privileged to have known her. I shall miss her.

Hassanah Wilson writes... She never recognised her own nobility of character. Having been deaf since she was 3 years old, her confidence must have taken many hits in her childhood and youth.

When we got to know her, her strong-minded-ness, the fairness in all she did, her energy and care for others defined her character and so endeared her to all.

She couldn't hear very well in testing, but she could 'hear' with her inner. She would respond with that inner knowledge, by-passing the outer thinking.

We have been lucky to have had her in our Group. As I said to her son 'a great soul has left this world'!

Julia Russell writes... Louisa was living 'proof' of the latihan. In later years she was hampered by deafness, but her warmth of nature shone through. Already in the group I missed her presence in the Latihan, but even more so as a helper. She might not hear, but she could listen. In the time at Norwich she was never not a helper, she just was – a helper. Humble, self-deprecating, always there, until the last few months when she stopped being physically strong enough. God speed, God bless, you will be so much missed.

Louisa's son, Rafael, writes... 'Mum left a feeling of peace, as well as releasing me from any regrets... she had turned inside to a deeper place. It was a good moment and almost not sad. I felt I know what it means to wish her well on her next journey. She would not want sadness. Blessings.' ●

DANIEL'S PASSION

Another story from the short story collection Fifteen Writers in Subud edited by Marcus Bolt. This story by Harris Smart won a major literary award in Australia, the inaugural Age Short Story Award, when it was first published in 1984 and Harris received his full allotment of 15 minutes of fame, since then, not a sausage...

SO, IT IS Easter again, and time for me to be crucified.

For the last four years, my friend Morrie has organised an Easter pageant in a park in the city. It culminates in the crucifixion. Morrie keeps giving me the main part. I am six feet tall, of slender build, darkly bearded, and sufficiently resemble the conventional image of Christ.

The Roman soldiers are hammering in the nails. Every year, Morrie comes up with improvements. This year he's added the hammering of the nails.

Of course, I am not nailed to the cross, merely tied. A realistic effect is achieved by having the Roman soldiers crowd around me, hiding me from the crowd, while the nails are



Illustration by Spooner.

>

driven home with ringing blows...

To read the complete story click here...

<http://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/Daniels-Passion.pdf>

To buy the book, see the advertisement on page 27

BEACH

Alena Kennedy, Wollongong, Australia, writes...

Some years ago, my husband Oliver and I rode a motor cycle around Australia: we camped at a beach in southern West Australia. On our wedding anniversary we walked along the beach in the evening and at the point where we turned around to go back, we saw our dual circle of footprints. I was inspired to write this poem...

BEACH

Azure

Seas toss and turn to the rhythms of moon and sun.

Tides in, tides out

Impermanent

Permanent

Water recedes, revealing topographies of creature worlds:

Ripples to some are mountains and valleys.

To others,

Patterns made

To be lost and reformed at the next tide,

The same concept but different views.

Our walks along the golden ribbon between liquid, air and earth

Sustain us through our busy lives, giving us opportunities to reflect

And pause, on the brink of understanding meanings of life and relationship

Before taking the next plunge into our very different worlds.

He is an engineer and I an artist

Each mysterious to the other.

Convergence is possible when we draw symbols in the sand.

Water approaches...

We talk about engineering and art.

I discuss my thoughts on the formal arrangements of colour and composition

As being the real meaning of modernism,

And argue

That there is no good reason to exclude it in a post-modern world.

...That

Aesthetics and intuitively inspired concepts are as important in art as socio-political issues...

And anyway,

The artists still practice it regardless of what the theorists decide.

He listens, shakes his head, and wonders at a world created by imagination and discourse.

Is it possible that reality in life can be borne of ideas?

Can we create our reality?

What is meaning?

I wrinkle my brow as he tries to explain the concepts of his latest engine design.

To him numbers have purpose which combined in peculiar ways provide the keys to elegant solutions,

Unlocking physical laws

And manipulating elemental materials to solve all the problems of living.

I am in awe of his intelligence. Diving into his mind I flounder in an ocean of knowing and unknown.

Water retreats.

I pick up a shell

Gaze at the exquisite patterning

The spiral growth shapes.

He analyses it with his geometry

And understands why that shape is optimum for growth.

My husband and I

We are waves,

Restless seas

Approaching and receding

Almost touching

Hiding, revealing

Moved by forces of emotion and learning

Uncertain of our understanding.

Ever-changing and adapting

We cling to the beach that is our love.



Hamlin Beach, Western Australia, October 28, 2009.

Bina Cita Utama Celebrates 15th Anniversary

Bina Cita Utama (BCU) School in Rungan Sari, Central Kalimantan, is a non-profit social enterprise with the aim of producing graduates who embody noble values and aspirations, and who will in time transform their province, their nation and the world for the better. This year marks BCU School's 15-year anniversary.

[15,000 trees...](#)

To celebrate this occasion, BCU have initiated a 15,000-tree reforestation programme. On the 22nd April, which was also the 50th annual Earth Day (the world's largest environmental movement), the first 15 trees were planted in Rungan Sari. These were all seedlings from the school's kitchen garden, in-



cluding fruit bearing trees such as durian and rambutan.

This programme is being delivered in collaboration with partner organisations, Permakultur Kalimantan Foundation (YPK), Borneo Nature Foundation, and Borneo Productions International.

BCU is also engaging with the wider community and other schools in Palangka Raya, including a logo design competition (the winning logo is pictured), and to identify potential sites for tree planting over the next 3-5 years.

[From a tiny seed, great things grow](#)

BCU's story began in 2003, when a group of parents and educators got together to find a new way to educate their children, in line with Bapak's vision to develop a child's inner talent. It started with just 12 students, for many of whom English was not their first language. This "home study" centre was the nucleus of what would become BCU.

The pioneers of BCU: from left to right: Lalita Geiger, Adina Thavisin, Robiyanto Sumohadiwidjojo; back row: Arisai Vogel, Latimah Bustillo, Fatimah Bustillo, Adriani Geiger; front row: Mashudi Robiyanto Sumohadiwidjojo, Rohniah Bustillo, Miranda Geiger, Utami Geiger, Hamilton (Hamid) Camp, Rashid Carre

As interest in the study centre grew so did the dream of a school. In July 2005, with just 28 students of all ages and four classrooms, BCU officially opened to the public as the first bilingual, multicultural school in the province. Most students came from the provincial capital, Palangka Raya and surrounding areas, while some of the children were from the international community in Rungan Sari.

BCU now provides 155 children between the ages of 3 ½ and 17 with a high-quality learning environment (both inside and outside the classroom) that nurtures and educates the 'whole child'. There is a particular focus on English language proficiency, which is important in the modern job market.

[Nurturing talent...How you can help!](#)

BCU has a long tradition of supporting local, talented children from low income families, both Subud and non-Subud, to allow them to access high-quality education. The current COVID-19 pandemic has had considerable impacts on parents and students as incomes have been destabilised. While BCU has discounted school fees, more individual support is needed to close the financial gap created by the current crisis, and for that the scholarship fund needs bolstering.

Full and partial scholarship support is offered to up to 15% of the school population. This fund helps subsidise tuition costs, daily school lunches, uniforms, books and school materials. All donations received go toward a specific fund, and any amount contributed, large or small, is most welcome.



The pioneers of BCU: from left to right: Lalita Geiger, Adina Thavisin, Robiyanto Sumohadiwidjojo; back row: Arisai Vogel, Latimah Bustillo, Fatimah Bustillo, Adriani Geiger; front row: Mashudi Robiyanto Sumohadiwidjojo, Rohniah Bustillo, Miranda Geiger, Utami Geiger, Hamilton (Hamid) Camp, Rashid Carre

Please visit the BCU website for details of how to donate: <https://bcuschool.org/scholarship-fund/>
Growth through generosity

BCU has been supported by SDIA and many SD national organisations since its inception, including Australia, Britain, Canada, Germany, France, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, and USA.

BCU is also thankful for the support of Subud groups and members around the world whose generosity has also supported our growth and development over the years.

This generosity has helped us sustain our scholarship programme, build new classrooms, train teachers, and provide books and equipment that help our students reach their goals. ●

THE PASSING OF JOAN GEIGER

Mansur Geiger writes...

Joan Geiger, wife of Lloyd and mother of Halimah Russ and Mansur Geiger passed away peacefully in Perth, on Saturday the 16th of May at 3:45 a.m. in the morning, the 23rd night of Ramadan, with Halimah at her bedside. Joan was 94 years old and had 6 grandchildren and 3 great great grandchildren.

Joan grew up in Kalamunda where she developed a great love of nature and its beauty; something she lived by till her final day. Joan was opened in Subud 1975 and she will be remembered by her family for her strength and love."



Halimah Russ with her mother, Joan, and Halimah's daughter Alexandra, and Alexandra's daughters, Ameena and Samira.

A Prayer from Bapak

O Allah, please forgive all her sins,
And wipe them clean,
Please accept all the good she has done,
Grant her honor and her rightful home,
Open her way to you,
O most loving and forgiving.

Amin

Mansur Geiger with his mother, Joan. > ●



Jewellery by Torun

Torun Viviana von Bulow Hube was an extremely talented modernist jewellery designer and Subud member. She designed for Georg Jensen and her designs have stood the test of time and accelerated in value over the years. There is a very strong market for her jewellery, some rare early pieces fetch up to £20,000!

Many Subud members own her jewellery. Do you have some Torun pieces stashed away? Are you looking to cash in your smart investment? I buy and sell Torun pieces and will happily take yours to market for a commission.

Please email me at torunsalesuk@gmail.com to discuss. *Susannah Bolt, UK* ●



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A GIFT FROM GOD &
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“ *A landmark production
presenting a vivid and coherent
account of Bapak’s life and
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For the first time Subud Voice is making available online four video programs which document the history and development of Subud from Bapak’s birth in 1901 to his 100th anniversary in 2001.

The programs are...

BAPAK THE MAN AND HIS MISSION

Part 1: 1901-1959: The Origins of Subud. 1 hr 16 mins

Part 2: 1957-1971: Preparing the Vessel. 1 hr 20 mins

Part 3: – 1971-2001: Putting the Latihan into Practice. 1 hr 26 mins

Then all three were compiled into one handy 65 minute version
A GIFT FROM GOD 1901-2001.

For more information and how to get the programs
CLICK ON THIS LINK

<https://www.subudvoice.net/shop/>

This will take you to a page where the four videos are listed, each one identified by a thumbnail of Bapak.

If you want more information about each of the videos click on the thumbnails of Bapak, which will take you to a page describing the contents of the video and its duration.

Each of the videos costs **US\$25** to purchase the rights to watch online, as many times as you like.

Or you can purchase the rights to stream all four for **US\$60**.

The site will ask you to set up a LOG-IN with username, email address and password in order to purchase the rights to view. Please make a note of this information in case you need to access the site on future occasions.

The site will give you the option to pay for the videos from a PayPal account or from a credit card. Once you have made the payment you will receive in your email account LINKS to whatever videos you have purchased to view.

Remember that we are selling the rights to these videos in order to support the ongoing production of Subud Voice.

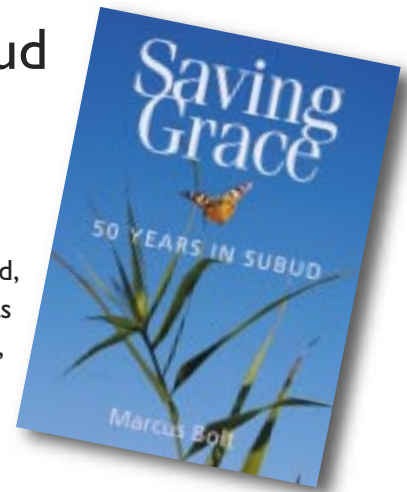
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Marcus Bolt

Fourth Edition (revised 2019 with corrections & additional material).

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“In this refreshingly straightforward narrative, Marcus Bolt reflects on his years in Subud with humour, affection, insight, courage and delightful candour. There is nothing pretentious or preachy. It's all straight stuff, but straight from Marcus. And that's what makes it work...” *Latifah Taormina, SICA*

Price £11.00 plus packing and postage from SPI at www.subudbooks.com

A percentage of sales goes towards SPI's Bapak's Talks Retranslation Project

The perfect lockdown read

Buy a copy of *FIFTEEN WRITERS IN SUBUD* and have a most enjoyable lockdown read, while donating to *Subud Voice Online* at the same time!

The 31 stories in this book were given free by Subud member writers from Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Ireland, the UK and the USA to help fund *Subud Voice Online*. The writers are:

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These writers are all at varying stages in their writing careers, and their stories are from 2 to 20 pages long, covering a diverse range of subjects.

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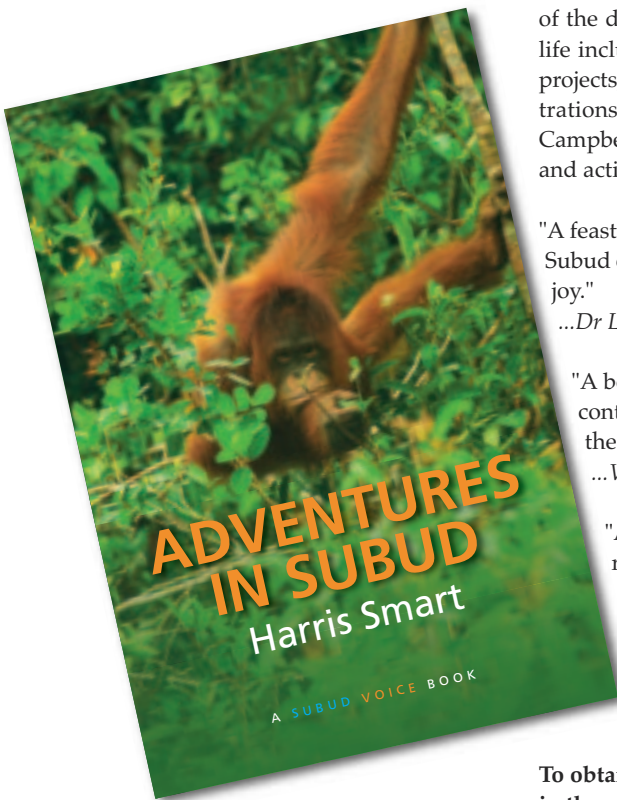
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and follow the on-screen prompts.





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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