



SUBUD VOICE

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CONTACT DETAILS:
editor@subudvoice.net

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Harris Smart writes...

The end of June was a busy time for Subud in Indonesia with a Gathering held at Wisma Subud in Jakarta June 17-23, followed by the annual World Subud Council (WSC) meeting in Rungan Sari, Central Kalimantan, June 23-July 1.

Suzanna Dayne, one of the organizers of the Wisma event, said, "The Gathering hosted approximately 30 international guests from India, Japan, Singapore, France, Spain, Chile, New Zealand, Australia, Canada, the U.S. and the Netherlands as well as around 50 Indonesians. The theme was "From Members to Members" – sharing experiences in Subud.

"Ridwan Umar, a long-time Subud member in Jakarta, had felt to organize such an event for some time. With the World Subud Council and Zone 1-2 Meetings already planned it seemed like a good time. We formed a small team and later worked with the South Jakarta Subud Group, the local Youth and the Bapak's

Pak Haryono cuts the rice mountain and gives the first slice to WSA chair Luke Penseny (left). (Photo: Mariamah Vernon.)

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Birthday committee to arrange a culture night, an enterprise day and kejiwaan activities.

“Many of us remember the time when Bapak was with us and many people would travel to Wisma, so this Gathering was a bit of an experiment, a pilot project so to speak.”

Visitors from overseas and many Indonesian Subud members also attended, particularly for the celebration of the birthday of Bapak Muhammad Subuh, the founder of Subud, on June 22 in Wisma Subud. This would have been Bapak's 110th birthday. (He died in 1987.) Unfortunately, Ibu Rahayu was not able to attend the events in Jakarta or Rungan Sari because of ill-health. She was greatly missed and our prayers go out to her for her speedy recovery.



*Bapak's mausoleum at Suka Mulia.
Peace and reverence.*

Wisma Subud Now

Many people commented that the visit to Wisma Subud was like returning to the “heart” or “source” of Subud. A number of Subud members came to live and visit here while Bapak was alive, especially at times like his birthday or the Islamic fast of Ramadan. Many wondered how they would find the compound now. A place of the ghosts of former times? Or still a living community?



Young fashionista at the fashion show.

There have been many changes in the compound in the years since Bapak's death. It is no longer a place where only Subud members live and a certain architectural integrity which the compound once possessed has to some extent been lost with new buildings.

Nevertheless, for the time of this gathering, Wisma Subud was once again a vibrant Subud community. There is a current initiative to have Wisma Subud declared a heritage site because of the tangible and intangible assets associated with it as a place from which spread this worldwide spiritual movement with its achievements in many fields including cultural, educational and social projects. (This was later discussed in much detail at the WSC meeting in Rungan Sari.) And how wonderful it was to do latihan again in the Wisma Subud latihan hall with its great dome and mysterious echoes.

There were many activities during the Wisma Subud gathering including a series of kejiwaan (spiritual) workshops and also discussions on enterprise. (Reports on these are included in this issue). There were cultural events and entertainment evenings and a lively “bazaar” had been set up in the forecourt of the latihan hall with food stalls and mini Indonesian entrepreneurs selling clothes and souvenirs. There was also a visit to Pamulang (through horrendous traffic!) to the house where Bapak was living when he passed away and we did latihan there.

There was also an opportunity for many of us to see for the first time, Adi Puri, the splendid renovation of Bapak's former home into a reception center and small concert venue. Displayed on the walls are a series of world maps with accompanying photographs showing Bapak's travels round the world. A statistic often given for the distance that Bapak travelled is that it was the equivalent of going to the moon and back. It is most impressive to see the number and extent of Bapak's travels inscribed on these maps, some of the journeys taking hundreds of days, the many places visited and the events attended such as World Congresses.

Bapak's Birthday

For most people the most important part of the gathering was the celebration of Bapak's birthday on the night of June 22nd, and the opportunity to visit Bapak's grave-site on the following days. Around 600 people attended the birthday celebration held in the latihan hall. Dinner was preceded by choral performances and a traditional Javanese *gamelan* orchestra. Pak Hayrono, Bapak's son, officiated at this event, cutting the traditional mountain of yellow rice and giving the first serve of it to ►



Pak Kuswanda, three times former chair of Subud Indonesia, sang cowboy songs at the Gathering. Don't fence him in!

Luke Penseny, chair of the World Subud Association (WSA).

Then, on the 23rd and 24th buses took us to the hills of Cipanas several hours drive away (horrendous traffic again!) to Bapak's mausoleum at Suka Mulia where he is buried along with members of his family and other Subud members.

After the heat, noise and hectic traffic of Jakarta, it was profoundly refreshing to turn off the main road to this place of quiet, clean air and a pristine environment, and then to walk to the mausoleum built in traditional Javanese style with its feeling of peace and reverence. Some were moved to tears or other emotional and spiritual experiences expressive of gratitude to the man who brought us this "Gift of God", the latihan, which has become so central in our lives. It was a fitting conclusion to this "return to the source of Subud".

A fitting conclusion to the return to the source of Subud

Planting the seeds

Harris Smart writes...

The annual meeting of the World Subud Council (WSC) was held in Rungan Sari from July 23 to Friday July 1. Winding up the meeting on Friday afternoon, Luke Penseny, chair of the WSA (World Subud Association), said, "I feel as if we have been living in a beautiful garden. We have received so much. We have experienced Susila, loving and caring for each other.

"So much has happened here. The international helpers, the zone reps, the WSA executive, the wings, and the people who have observed the meeting – all of us have contributed to make this a wonderful meeting. We have shown we have the ability to work together. We can do it!

"We have learned to trust in God and work hard. I give thanks to Almighty God for all we have been able to do. What we need to do now is take back to every corner of the Subud world the seeds of what we have experienced and received here."

A great deal happened at the meeting. Here are some of the highlights. A complete list of reports, resolutions and minutes of the meeting will be available on www.subudworldnews.com in the WSA section.

Some Highlights

Bachtiar Lorot was selected as the new chair of the Muhammad Subuh Foundation (MSF). Bachtiar, from France, has held many positions in the Subud organization including Zone rep and chair of SICA. He has worked in development in many places around the world and is known for his meticulous attention to detail.



Bachtiar Lorot, new chair of MSF.

Amalijah Thompson gave an extremely detailed report on the Archives, outlining a program to preserve the tapes of Bapak's recordings. An important decision for the meeting is that the WSA will delegate this work to MSF who will fund the project. It will cost US\$150,000 of which MSF currently has \$40,000 in hand with a further \$110,000 to be fundraised.

Fundraising was a recurrent topic at the meeting. At one point the treasurer, Hammond Peek was heard to remark, "We need more money, bucket loads of it." A workshop discussion was devoted to the topic and a list of initiatives drawn up. See the Resolutions at www.subudworldnews.com for the complete document.

A very detailed report and discussion was held about the intention to seek heritage status for Wisma Subud and other places associated with the Bapak's life such as his birthplace in Kedung Jati and the house in Semarang where he was living when he first received the latihan.

Josephine Bacikin outlined what needed to be done to make applications to the ►



The Subud World Council.

Indonesian government and/or UNESCO for heritage status based on the “tangible and intangible” assets of these places from which arose the worldwide spiritual movement of Subud with its many accomplishments in social welfare, education, culture and enterprise.

A topic which threaded its way through the meetings was the responsibility of the WSA towards International Centres which had been broadly supported by Subud members and the Subud organization including Wisma Subud, Amanecer and Rungan Sari. The need of WSA to be “attentive and supportive” towards developments in these places was frequently expressed.



Alex Woodward, one of the SYAI reps.

The Wings

“A phoenix arising from the ashes” was one comment about the SICA (Subud international Cultural Association) presentation from the SICA chair, Latifah Taormina. SICA has indeed been very quiet in recent years and Latifah’s presentation of the new SICA website www.subud-sica.org was indeed a burst of new energy and vision for this “wing”. “Culture is the latihan of life.”

SDI (Susila Dharma International) has long been the most successful of the “wings” and the presentation by Kumari Beck confirmed this “wing’s” ongoing strength with 24 national organizations and 50 projects, including three new ones this year. The impressive Annual Report which Kumari distributed showed the breadth of SDI’s achievement. Of particular interest was news of a developing relationship with the Buchan Foundation to fund health centers in the Congo. There was also a discussion of the need to co-ordinate our disaster relief efforts with Susila Dharma and the World Subud Association working together so that Subud members can donate easily and with clarity to situations such as the tsunami in Japan and the earthquake in Christchurch.

SESI (Subud Enterprise Services International) is also showing a new dynamism. The presentation by the chair Ruslan Morris spoke of a return to Bapak’s advice about how to run enterprise and news of an investment fund to support enterprises. The meeting empowered SESI to establish an investment and financial service company to support the growth of Subud enterprise particularly in Kalimantan.

Youth was also well represented by Alex Woodward and Lucinda Young who spoke of SYAI (Subud Youth Activities International) who led a particularly lively presentation of their work and the challenges they face. They talked about projects like the Human Forces camps where young volunteers go to work in Susila Dharma projects. Several have been held in various parts of the world and there was to be another after the WSC meeting, working in YUM projects in Cipanas.

After a strong presentation by SIHA chair, Matthew d’Haemer, it was resolved that SIHA (Subud International Health Association), which has been something of a “lame duck”, should in future be included as one of the areas of activity (“wings”) of the World Subud Association.



*SIHA chair, Matthew d’Haemer.
SIHA is to be recognized a a “wing”.*

World Congress

External Relations has been through a difficult period and the meeting resolved that in future the WSC encourages the self-funded, independent activities of Subud members to engage with outreach activities such as conferences, events, interfaith and other forums for the purpose of providing points of engagement and explanations about Subud.

Osanna Vaughn talked about the “Space for Grace” initiative which is exploring new ways for Subud members to express their care and support for each other.

There was of course much discussion of the forthcoming World Congress to be held in Puebla, Mexico, in 2014. Those who had visited Puebla recently spoke of its

*We have
received so
much*

excellent conference facilities and safe, friendly atmosphere. It was hoped that the relatively low costs of holding the congress there might mean affordable registration fees enabling more young people to come.

The timing of the congress was discussed and while no definite decision was reached one possibility was that it might be late July into mid- August following Ramadan and taking advantage of school holidays in many parts of the world. The need to provide good translation services at the congress was emphasised. ◆

Promoting justice... An unexpected life in Subud

Livingston Armytage has been a Subud member since 1971, and is a child of Subud parents, Sofyan and Halimah. He served as National Chair for Subud Australia between 1981/3, and as a regional and local helper. He has lived and worked with his wife Miyako in about 25 countries mainly in Asia, and is presently leading a judicial development program across the Pacific region. His Ph.D entitled: Reforming Justice: a journey to fairness in Asia, is being published by Cambridge University Press in early 2012...

I originally trained as a lawyer in the early 1970s and practised law for about ten years. I then became increasingly convinced of the importance of promoting justice. So I left my law practice to make training judges and reforming justice systems my vocation. Since then, I have worked to promote justice in many unexpected places like Afghanistan, Cambodia, Palestine and Papua New Guinea. While there are rarely Subud groups in such places, I do my best to bring the latihan to keep in touch with that ‘quiet place’ amid all the challenges that I encounter.

All human beings have rights. These rights may be economic, social, political or cultural. People’s lives are, however, all too often blighted by injustices. In many countries, citizens – usually the poor – are routinely denied their fundamental entitlements by the powerful who exploit inefficiencies and subvert justice through corruption and impunity.

I have encountered many examples of injustices as a practitioner reforming the courts. While courts are only one focal point for redressing injustice – and many people in developing societies live in the traditional or customary domain beyond the remit of formal justice systems – they are nonetheless the key mechanism of the state to do so. In Port Moresby, Papua



Girl on Phnom Pehn rubbish dump. The need to redress injustices affects the rights of people across the spectrum of human life.

New Guinea, the physical safety of colleagues was daily threatened by extremely violent crime which fell beyond the control of the justice system.

In Multan, Pakistan, I met farmers whose grandparents’ dispute remained entangled in the courts for 60 years. In Ramallah, on the West Bank, the court staff were so poorly paid that they openly procured commissions. In Panjshir, Afghanistan, I worked with judges untrained in even the basics of secular law. In Phnom Penh, Cambodia, judges knew that confronting the government for stealing land from customary owners had career-terminating consequences. In Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, I worked with courts unfamiliar with the notions of enforcement of contract. In Dhaka, Bangladesh, I worked in court-houses which had no electricity or record-keeping systems. Clearly, justice cannot be administered under these deplorable circumstances.

I have found that injustices continue largely unabated despite increasing quantities of development assistance worth hundreds of millions of dollars to improve what governments like to call ‘the rule of law’. These reform efforts have mainly focused on alleviating poverty. While economic growth, good governance and public safety are worthy goals, global efforts have however seldom directly addressed injustices and more often than not success has been elusive. The best efforts of development practitioners seem to go awry.

As a result, I found myself grappling with the challenges of becoming more effective. The difficulties of this work impelled me to embark on a ▶

All human beings have rights

journey to examine why global endeavours have been so limited in improving the access of ordinary people to justice and how justice systems could be reformed to improve their lives.

Three years ago, I embarked on my PhD to solve the riddle of why reform efforts so often produce anaemic results. How can justice reform be improved? Surely, there must be a better way! Sheltered from the demands of my daily practice, I was able to engage in critical reflection. In order to deepen my understanding of reform endeavours, I returned to the foundations of philosophical thinking and then out to the edges of the latest empirical research. In doing so, I was humbled by the limits of my own knowledge but enthralled by the extent of existing inquiry. The multi-disciplinary dimensions of development – combining economics, political science, and law and justice – are immensely enriching.

I became exhilarated by the elegance and persuasion of great thinkers, from Aristotle to Douglass North and Amartyr Sen. Where I had expected to discover clarity, however, I found myself ensnared in a conundrum of uncertainty, divergent disciplinary inquiries, and debates over truth. I challenged these utopian ideas with my experience of ‘the real world’ in places like Haiti and Pakistan to ask: But, does it work? This was at once disconcerting and fascinating. Making sense of these mysteries has characterised my journey of learning.



Afghan children in the Jelosi refugee camp.

So, this is what I know: any notion of development without justice is incomplete. Justice is fundamental to human wellbeing and is thereby indivisible from development. Justice has been recognised as core to any civilised notion of the good life since Aristotle: government without justice is tyranny; and society without justice is anathema to its citizens. Any notion of civic wellbeing is unattainable without justice.

From the outset, reform efforts must define what justice is before they can attempt to promote it. While philosophers and political scientists may continually debate the nature of justice and the role of judicial reform, even a four-year-old child will immediately recognise unfair treatment from its parents and know when justice has been denied.

But, what is justice – and why is it so important?

For me, justice is the notion of rightness built on law, ethics and values of fairness and equity. Justice protects humanity

from Hobbesian notions of anarchy, societal breakdown and the brutishness of life in nature. It embodies an ordered community governed by the rule of law. While there are many renditions of justice, the principles of justice are universal and are reflected in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and constitute the core covenants of the United Nations.

All societies comprise some basic structure of institutions that embody renditions of justice, whether formal or informal. These institutions may be political (governance, social affairs and the allocation of interests), economic (opportunities for livelihood), social (civic order and safety) or humanistic (fundamental individual rights).

Additionally, justice may be utilitarian – concerned with maximising social outcomes; egalitarian – concerned with equality of opportunity, individual rights and freedoms; distributive – concerned with allocating interests in wealth, power or privilege; retributive – concerned with punishing wrongdoing; or restorative – concerned with restoring social harmony. Notions of justice are pluralistic and may be variously defined in terms of equality, need, reciprocity or just deserts.



Homeless mother with child in Darjeeling.

*To make a difference
by promoting justice*



At the Central Court in Karachi.

judicial reform must promote justice. To bring this into life, justice in development must embody notions of fairness and equity, and enable the exercise of rights and entitlements which are what political scientists describe as the allocation of interests in law. These rights are embodied in law whether at the international, domestic and customary levels. Once this approach is put into effect, it becomes possible for us to focus on and measure the success of reforms in visible improvements in the access to and exercise of these rights by ordinary people.

The critical importance of justice becomes immediately apparent as soon as it is denied. Recognition of the importance of justice is however only now entering the development discourse, as evidenced in the World Development Report 2011 which links justice with employment and security to prevent violent conflict and war. The promotion of justice as fairness and equity requires the inclusion of a human-centred, rights-based approach to improving justice as an end in itself, providing the powerless and poor with the means to exercise their substantive rights.

Such an approach will dynamically increase justice across all aspects of human wellbeing. It enables us to focus on improving aspects of the human condition, specific rights of people which are to be enabled, and how improvements can be measured. In my experience, these improvements in human wellbeing can be enjoyed across the spectrum of civil society.

These rights may belong to Afghanistiani girls to education, to Bangladeshi politicians to be held accountable by fair trial, to Nepali dalit women to physical and sexual security, to Vietnamese businessmen to secure investments, to Palestinian labourers and Pakistani taxi drivers to earn a decent living, and to judges to have the capabilities, systems and procedures to enable these rights. These improvements to wellbeing must be measurable in terms of the actual exercise of rights to equality, efficiency, integrity, transparency, accountability, access and legitimacy to improve justice.

As we all know, it is evident that the real world can be a very messy place, particularly when the interests of rich and powerful people are affected. It is daunting to acknowledge the complexity, nuance, ambiguity, and contradiction of reform efforts to promote justice. Ultimately we must accept that there are no magic elixirs. Our understanding may always remain limited; and yet we must persevere as best we can as believers, pragmatists, dogmatists, sceptics or seekers in improving the often dystopian conditions of our world.

So, for me, this is our unrelenting challenge: to make a difference by promoting justice; to find order in chaos, reduce complexity to simplicity, and offer practical solutions to the injustices which ordinary people are encountering around the world. I am committed to doing this by using the latihan in my work and research, however modest this contribution may be in redressing these injustices. I am fortunate to have found this path; it is the most extraordinary work that I could have.

Photographs by Livingston Armytage.

Within this understanding, justice embodies values which societies institutionalise through their laws and courts that administer the laws. Beyond the truism that law may not necessarily be just because political decision-making reflects the interests of the powerful, promoting justice is primarily concerned with enabling rights. These rights are vested across the spectrum of human welfare, that is: political, civil, economic, social and cultural. Hence my work in promoting justice focuses on two levels: first on directly improving the effectiveness of the courts to enable rights allocated in law; and second, more broadly on the political, economic and social dimensions of development.

I believe that the goal of development is to promote civic wellbeing. In order to achieve this goal,



Livingston Armytage at Darulaman, Kabul, Afghanistan.

Sekolah Cita Buana

*Bringing
cultures together
in bilingual
harmony*

Sekolah Cita Buana began 13 years ago with nine pupils in Bapak's former bedroom in his house in Wisma Subud, mostly catering to the children of Subud members living in the compound. Today it is a flourishing National Plus school with 350 pupils, ranging from preschool to the final year of high school, and with special attention to children with special needs.

The idea for the school first arose when Hartati Horthy became involved in a non-Subud school which was occupying Bapak's house. Ibu Ismana Haryono and other Subud members became trustees of the school and gained experience which gave them the idea of setting up their own school.

As well as Ibu Ismana, the original trustees for Cita Buana included other Subud members such as the Geiger family. The wife of an Australian diplomat, with teacher training experience, helped to design a curriculum based on Australian standards combined with the Indonesian national curriculum.

Ibu Ismana, President Director of the school, says, "I wanted a school which could meet both international standards and Indonesian requirements. I also wanted children to be able to learn about their own Indonesian culture. And from the beginning, our aim was that it should be a school which could really help children, not just be a moneymaking venture."



Ibu Ismana, founder and President Director of Cita Buana School.

The school got under way with grants and gifts from S Widjojo, Yayasan Muhammad Subuh, Simon Guerrand, the people directly involved in the school and other individuals. The school's name, given by Ibu Rahayu, can be understood to mean "global education" and the school's motto is "excellence and equality" and "bringing cultures together in bilingual harmony".

Three years ago the school was able to obtain a large piece of land about 9 km from Wisma Subud. On this land it has built excellent facilities for both primary and secondary children in modern custom-built multi-storey buildings, one for the secondary school, and another for the primary school, and a building for children with special needs. There are also sporting facilities including a swimming pool.

The school prides itself on integrating the Australian-based curriculum, with the Indonesian national curriculum, providing students with an innovative and dynamic experience. The curriculum is outcome-based and incorporates the worlds best practice teaching methodologies, promoting academic excellence, independence, and creative and analytical thinking. Delivered in both English and Indonesian, the program encourages students to become bilingual and bi-cultural, global citizens and lifelong learners.

The teachers and students at the school come from all over the world and bring a richness of cultural diversity to the campus. This diversity brings richness of ideas, respect for others and ultimately develops a deeper appreciation of unity in diversity.

The school's Special Education department accepts students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and students with learning difficulties with an intellectual disability. Dedicated and skillful teaching staff educate students to achieve independence and to make a meaningful contribution to the community.

"I feel that the school is one big family," says Ibu Ismana. "The principal of the school is a Subud member and we have a couple of other Subud teachers. But Subud is now becoming so normal in life and everyone, Subud ▶



Children at Cita Buana.

and non-Subud, works together well. At the same time, of course, we are guided by God.

“We seem to have some quality that attracts and holds people. One of the non-Subud teachers said to me, 'I don't know why, but I just can't leave this school.' Knowledge of the school spreads by word-of-mouth. The parents are also very involved and supportive. For instance, contributions from the parents have enabled us to build a library.

“Twice a year we send our teachers to Australia for further training. Our students have been extremely successful in getting into universities, not only in Indonesia, but also in Australia and the United States.

“I am especially proud of the attention we give to special education. We are generally recognized as having the best program for them in Jakarta. Often still in Indonesia there is a stigma against these children and it is especially pleasing that in our school there is real care for them. The other children accept them fully and often volunteer to help them. Respect and tolerance grow naturally amongst both mainstream students and those with special needs. They learn, play, laugh, care and hug each other like brothers and sisters in harmony.”

Ibu Ismana can be contacted at
yayasan@sekolahcitabuanajkt.sch.id



FAVOURITE PHOTOS



Sunset at Hanmer Springs

Alica Bryson-Haynes writes...

A week before the World Congress in Christchurch in 2010, I was staying with my family and friends at Hanmer Springs in New Zealand. We saw this sunset which was the most spectacular all of us had ever seen. We all interpreted it as a good omen for the congress. It felt like a blessing. The photo is exactly as I took it. It has not been photo-shopped in any way.

Alica is currently going to university in Australia, the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, where she is doing a Masters in Fine Art (Painting.) To see more of Alica's work go to www.briannaalica.com. There you will see a selection of her work from when she finished her degree at Kingston University in England. You can contact her from the site about purchasing her work.



Two meetings with my father

Emanuel Paeman writes...

Around 1980, twelve years after the death of my father, and about six years after I had been opened in Subud, I had the following experience. Roughly once every two months my telephone would ring at four o'clock in the morning. This lasted for approximately a year. Each time – when I was just about to get out of bed to pick it up – it would go silent. I have to say that I was never quite sure whether the telephone had really rung or whether I had dreamed it.

Then, one night, I found myself dreaming that I was flying through a dark space. I was not alone, I could feel that there was someone flying behind me who guided me in the right direction. Somehow I wasn't able to look behind me to see who it was and I also had the feeling that I wasn't supposed to. I remember thinking something like "this is strange, I am not sure if I like this."

After a while I saw a little light in the distance and gradually a landscape emerged below me. What I saw was flat, barren land near a sea. It was a dark night and the weather was stormy, the whole feeling of the place was miserable, lonely and depressing. As I got closer it became clear that the little light came from a telephone box. In it was my father, he wore the same black suit in which he had been buried and he looked exactly the same as around the time of his death.

He stepped out of the telephone box because he had noticed me. By this time, I had stopped flying and was hovering about three yards above him at an angle. He looked slightly bemused to see me. Then he said to me: "I would like you to pass on a message to your mother. Please ask her to forgive me." Then he said: "Has she sold the car yet?"

The next thing I knew was that I had woken up and was lying in my bed. I looked at the alarm clock and it was four o'clock in the morning. After this experience the four o'clock phone calls ceased.

I told my mother about the experience and conveyed the two messages to her. My mother is a practicing Christian and interested in spiritual experiences, she is not in Subud though. I told her that I could understand the first message but not the second one. During his life my father had never been able to overcome the death of his mother when he was a child. This experience had left him with a deep sadness and loneliness that later turned him into a workaholic and an alcoholic. Although a quiet and peaceful man, his alcoholism had caused suffering to my mother.

My mother, however, clearly understood both messages. She told me that around the time of my father's death he had asked her to forgive him but she had told him that she couldn't. Also she said that during that time my father owned a large American car that he had wanted to sell, but he hadn't been able to get a good price for it. Apparently, this had been on his mind a lot.

It was obvious to me that twelve years after my father's death he hadn't been able to move on and was still trapped in the thoughts and emotions he'd had around the time of his death. He seemed to be confused and not to have realised that he was dead. I also believe that the desolate landscape that he was in was a reflection of his inner state. He had wanted to contact me and the only way he knew was by "phoning" me..

The Second Experience

About four years later I had another experience. Again, in a dream, I found myself flying through a dark space. After a while I saw a landscape appearing below me. It was a lush forest full of beautiful trees. It was morning and the sun was shining. The impression was that of late spring. I stopped above a clearing where I saw an old-fashioned sawmill near a small waterfall.

There I saw my father again. This time he looked about ten years younger. He wore light coloured carpenter-type clothes and was working with wood in some manner. He looked cleaner, happier and less burdened than when I'd seen him four years before. The feeling in this place was one of healing and nurturing and very much of a "new beginning". Again I was hovering about three yards above him at an angle and he gave me the same bemused look as in the first experience. That was all. I woke up and, as usual, it was 4 am.

I assume that I had been given these experiences to show me what effect my latihan was having on my father and that thanks to me he was able to progress. Also, perhaps, it was a reminder to me never to neglect the latihan. Needless to say that I feel incredibly grateful to Almighty God for this.

Many years later, when I was living in Australia, I unexpectedly felt the urge to make furniture out of wood. I've always been a bit of a handyman but I'd never made furniture before. I decided to make all the furniture for my ▶



Emanuel Paeman.

We are not only doing latihan for ourselves

son's bedroom. This took several months and I really enjoyed it. All the time I had this subtle and slightly mysterious feeling that I was connected to something – as if something else was taking place at the same time on a different level. There was something clean and pure about making this furniture as well.

One day I mentioned this furniture project to my mother. Her reaction surprised me. She told me that my father, when he was young and before he had become a businessman, had loved making wooden furniture and that this had always made him happy. I hadn't known this. I've since heard of another Subud member who unexpectedly found himself doing something that a deceased relative really liked doing and had been good at. Ibu Sumari had told his mother that this meant that this relative was "doing latihan in him."

During a recent kejiwaan day we tested with a small group of men, what the state of our fathers was before we were opened, after 5, 10, 20 and 30 years and how it is now. Bapak had done this testing in the past. We could all feel the enormous benefit of our latihan to our fathers – how they'd progressed as we'd progressed. We felt deeply touched by this experience.

When we tested the effect after 30 years I really had the feeling that my father had been opened and was doing latihan. When we were sharing our receivings I thought I'd better keep this to myself because it might sound a bit pretentious. To my surprise though, several of the other men had had the same experience. They too had felt that their fathers were doing the latihan!

These experiences with my father have made me more aware of the fact that we are not only doing latihan for ourselves but that our ancestors are very much dependent on our spiritual progress as well

Embodied light

*Look up to the light,
to the light*

Emmanuel Elliott writes...

With her permission, I am sharing with you Elena Gál's account of her recent experience following the sudden death of her cousin. Elena is a Subud member living in Budapest, Hungary...

My cousin died recently, and I said farewell to her in latihan a couple of weeks ago. She was 32, and had a 13-year-old daughter who has been raised by her parents (the grandparents) for some years by now, because my cousin had epilepsy and no job. She was living with a man who also had no job, so they were doing their best to support each other but were really low in every sense of the word. Her life, in other words, was not a success story. One day she went to take a bath alone, suffered an epileptic attack and drowned.

I offered up my latihan for her and knew it was to be our farewell. (I had not been able to attend her funeral.) I started to do the latihan and it was as if she had already been waiting for me. She appeared in a form that showed her without illness, without sorrow, without regret; she was her self that she could have become in this life at its highest level if all had worked out in the best possible way. She was healthy, beautiful, cheerful and the best qualities of her character were realized to the fullest.

A strong sense of nostalgia and remorse for her unhappy fate came upon me, but she kept on raising my head high with her hand and telling me very cheerfully: "Look at the light, not at the shadow, look up, look up, to the light, to the light!" We were communicating without words, and she made me understand or rather feel, how wonderful she is doing and how it can possibly be totally alright and acceptable to even leave a child behind...

She also told me that it is wonderful for them – for all family members alive and dead – that I am doing the latihan and that I should keep on doing it. My great-grandparents and grandparents (my grandmother whom I used to talk to a few years after her death, and who also told me then how great it is for them that I am doing the latihan) were also there but only as companion to my cousin, they didn't interfere in any way.

Then we said good-bye. The scene changed for this event, and I saw her standing in a hilly landscape in tall grass and summer flowers; there was a huge tree through which the sun was shining – it was like a Tuscan scene. I could see the grass and the wooden floor of the latihan room meet right in front of my feet. On top of the hill I saw figures standing, waiting for my cousin. We said goodbye and we were all waving our hands, and slowly they were gone.

And then the light that I thought was the sun started to come out from behind the tree as if the sun was going down at sunset. But it was not the sun, it was The Light itself, it was God or God's Love as light slowly accessing me, the whole room, everyone else in the room, who were doing latihan, and I saw it poured out to the street, all over the world, and it came across my body, everyone else's body, so that we became transparent and full of light,

I could also see my sister, her husband, her child and Annamari a few streets further away, for they were babysitting her while I was at latihan: they were all transparent and full of light, and then it came: "You are embodied light."

The Grand Design

In the keynote address at the Enterprise Meeting during the Wisma Subud Gathering, Pak Haryono spoke of a "Grand Design"...

When Bapak Muhammad Subuh was alive, he attracted much interest in the West because:

He went around the world many times, and opened thousands of people to join the latihan kejiwaan of Subud and brought people back to faith in God Almighty.

He managed to create unity and love amongst those opened, so that quite a few wanted to move to Indonesia, and follow Bapak's way of life, living in a less developed country and even converting to Islam.

He created one harmonious community all those people from different nationalities, ethnic groups and religions, forming the unity of one big family across the globe.

Bapak explained about this phenomenal "wave". The latihan kejiwaan of Subud has been sent by the Grace of God to the world which needs redirection. Men have drifted away from the path guided by Almighty God. The world needs to reform.

This is a big leap of a global undertaking which I call the Grand Design. This Grand Design is the Grace of God and all of us, Bapak's followers, want to be included in this grace.

In short, the Grand Design can be defined as "reforming civilization". This may need further elaboration, but I discourage any philosophical argumentation. As a philosophy, it serves as the goal and direction only. Its implementation lies very much in the physical actions which will be guided and inspired by inner wisdom.



Pak Haryono outlines the "Grand Design".

Issues which are ripe for attack

The following issues are illustrations only. There are many more which could be mentioned.

- Humankind is becoming greedy in defending itself and chasing its goals.
- The gap of wealth and opportunity between nations and different groups within nations is getting wider and wider.
- Humankind is becoming indifferent to God.

Questions about Subud's capacity

The scope of civilization goes beyond any individual age. Subud's capacity will be helped by the latihan which is the Grace of God. There is no deadline although we are racing against modernization and individualism. What is important for us is to take part in the Reformation based on a belief and conviction that we are acting within the Grand Design which is the grace of God brought to us by Bapak. The development of civilisation is a huge process of mankind over long periods of time. We can take part in the process by taking small steps as long as they are in line with intentionally following the Grand Design.

Examples of small steps that can be regarded as part of the Grand Design

1. Writing a book about Bapak's teaching in relationship to nature and the environment. (Farlan Carre)
2. The activities of the Guerrand Hermes Foundation for Peace such as the seminar in which Gus Dur, a pluralist from Indonesia, participated.
3. The participation of Osanna Vaughn and others in activities like the Parliament of World Religions in Australia.
4. The establishment of the "special" school Cita Buana by Ismana H. Sumohadiwidjojo.
5. The plan to establish a research university by Ocho Wiroreno and myself.
6. The campaign by Fauzy, the Governor of Jakarta, for Jakarta to be free for one day from motorized vehicles.
7. The cooperative union Sempulur by Asmodiwati and Subud Indonesia.
8. The plan to forbid smoking by the Dewan Ulama Indonesia.
9. The plan to forbid the advertisement and promotion of drugs/medicines by the Minister of Health. ▶

*The world
needs
reformation
and Subud is
part of
that process*

Examples of bigger steps taken by others in history in line with the Grand Design

1. The abolition of slavery in America.
2. The abolition of apartheid in South Africa.

Examples of the biggest steps taken by the hand of God.

1. The ending of colonialism.
2. The end of the communist regime in Russia and the breaking up of the Soviet Union
3. The demolition of the Berlin Wall.
4. Natural disasters like tsunamis, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions.

A command for the reformation of civilization has been decreed and Subud has been born within that decree.

W S A N E W S

MORE QUAKES IN CHRISTCHURCH...

On June 13th, two additional earthquakes struck Christchurch, measuring magnitude 6 and 5.5. They destroyed buildings and caused additional damage to others. The damaged clock tower collapsed before dismantlement work could be completed and there were widespread power outages. By coincidence, on the same day an additional USD \$26,237 collected by the WSA, was transferred to Subud New Zealand for earthquake relief.

Maynard MacDonald, Christchurch chair writes...

What happened when the quakes struck? Balance was gone. Even the idea of balance was gone. The sound was awful. The world moved, but for a snapshot in time, the mind and heart stopped absolutely. We ended up tossed wherever, and then struggled out of it. The wreckage was stupefying. It was mildly surprising to be alive. Over time, months not days, the tally of destruction is growing. In a city this size it seems that everyone knows someone who has died. ...their absence creates its' own weight on our hearts. And the other heart, the heart of our beautiful city, is gone. We can only realise this piece by piece. Nobody can take it in all at once. We get confused driving on familiar streets because they are unrecognisable.

How does it look for the future? Bang, bang, bang, more aftershocks. The scientists predict in the forthcoming year that we have a 90% chance of a quake of magnitude 5 to 6, and a 23% chance of a quake from M6 to M7. Estimates for reconstruction run to 20 years, 15 billion dollars – and still counting. We anticipated early on that our members would need on-going help as conditions for harm accumulated. The numbers presented earlier have already changed. So, we are very grateful to still have a good amount of funds in hand. It is impossible to predict what will happen, but it is inescapably clear that we have ring-side seats for a continuing seismic circus.

What does it mean?

At the WSC meeting, Hammond and Renata Peek talked about life in Christchurch following 3 major earthquakes and more than 4000 aftershocks. 182 people were killed in the February quake. The CBD is in ruins. More than 1000 buildings there will have to be demolished. People can no longer enter the area.

But Hammond and Renata said people frequently ask them, what does it mean? Why did it happen? We have a congress and the city suffers a catastrophe? Is there some purpose in it all?

They said that in the wake of the disaster, some positives have come. The community has become united. People help each other. It has brought out some of the best of human qualities. People are also grateful that compared to the tsunami in Japan, they have not suffered as much. In Japan whole communities have been wiped out and the dead are numbered not in the hundreds but in the tens of thousands.

Renata mentioned that there had been testing in Christchurch recently which showed the earthquakes could even be received as a blessing and a grace. "People have been awakened to the true realities of life and human values, and the community has come together as never before."

JAPAN: A VISIT TO THE DEVASTATED AREA

Masayuki Nagamine, Chairman of Subud Japan sends this letter to members May 31, 2011...

As we reported earlier, no Subud members experienced serious damage, but there are nearly 24,000 dead or missing from this catastrophe...many lives have been rescued. Lifelines have been re-established in many areas, and living conditions in disaster areas have been improving. However, more than 100,000 evacuees are still living in temporary shelters.

In Fukushima, many workers are doing their best to bring the crippled nuclear power plant to a safe level that they can control. ▶



Hammond and Renata Peek – surviving life with 3 quakes and 4000 after shocks.



Children from Masayuki's trip to one of the affected areas, Kesennuma.

helping each other without losing composure. It is my heartfelt hope that the people will continue to work hand in hand, treating each other with compassion... and that each and every Japanese will continue to care for the afflicted areas and the people for years to come and, together with the afflicted, watch over and support their path to recovery.”

I here again say thank you very much for all in Subud.

AFTERMATH OF THE TSUNAMI

Arisa Ooi, vice Committee Councillor...

On April 29th and 30th, our chair, Masayuki Nagamine, visited the Sendai area. First of all, he made a short visit to Mr. Kato, a member living in Furukawa, near Sendai city. According to Mr. Kato, the quake which occurred on March 11th was bigger than anything he has ever experienced so that a part of his house collapsed. However, he and his family were safe.

After this visit, he went to Kesennuma Port city, one of the areas most damaged by tsunami disaster. It was very hard to describe how the city was, Masayuki said. Then he visited a graveyard outside of the city where the tsunami victims had been buried in a hurry. When he put incense sticks on graves, our cultural and religious custom to pay respect to the dead, the school teacher told him that many people had been visiting this area, but only very few had come to the graveyard.

Upon hearing Masayuki's report, we immediately decided to donate to them 200,000 yen (about 2,500 dollars), a part of our collected money.

On May 6th-8th, Setsuko Kobayashi, Saodah Hayashi and myself, Arisa, went to Sendai to attend a seminar on trauma relief methods held at the Shichigahama International Village, now turned into an evacuation center for some 400 people.

Before the seminar, we made a short visit to a community space where the NPO was taking care of children. It was good to see children play cheerfully as well as any other children. However, the chair of this NPO told us that they seemed to be very cheerful, because they were happy to see people coming to visit them, but once the visitors had gone, they sometimes looked tired or sad, as they were still in shock.

Back from our trip, we are thinking and discussing how to contribute to humanitarian assistance in our way. This disaster is a really sad experience for us all, even when we are not victims, but I feel that we are also being tested how to commit in a society, as Subud, especially, when the society is facing difficulties. I'd like to add also that I feel so happy to be Subud, because we are always feeling connected with our brothers and sisters across the world through your prayers and encouragement to us.

Thank you for all.

"IT FEELS LIKE A DREAM": SUBUD ANGOLA

International Helpers Elisabeth Bammel from Portugal and Lawrence Leetz from the Netherlands visited Subud Angola in May. Elisabeth wrote immediately after her return: "I still can't believe we did it. It feels like a dream now and it often felt like a dream when we were there."

They write: There is a Subud Angola! Arising from the ashes, one would like to add. They had been waiting for this visit for ten years, they say, and it was about not to happen again – we got our visa only the day before our flight, in spite of having started to prepare this trip in February. ...Everywhere in the country construction works are taking place run by Chinese and Brazilians. Angola received huge loans from the Chinese government. They even say that Angola has so much oil that they don't know what to do with it.

Old members were contacted and appeared (one of them was opened in 1969!), three young couples were opened and a man helper appointed. ...For some it wasn't easy to reconnect after 6 years. So the first tests had to do with reaffirming the potential of Subud Angola.

Thank you to WSA News and Subud World News for these stories.

We are not sure how long it will take to calm down, how the area severely contaminated by radioactive materials will be, and when the residents there will be able to go home. What the effect of the moderately contaminated areas on the children will be in five to ten years is unknown... And there exists suspicion that the large amount of highly contaminated water will accumulate from little fish to bigger fish, and eventually into our food supply, causing internal exposure to radiation. And vegetable foods produced in contaminated land could be the same.

I think many people in Japan are thinking about what we can do for the people in the disaster areas, and not a few are spending their time helping. And some Subud Japan members are also planning to assist people in the afflicted areas.

I would like to quote a message from by His Majesty the Emperor, that was very impressive. "I have been told that many overseas media are reporting that, in the midst of deep sorrow, the Japanese people are responding to the situation in a remarkably orderly manner, and



Lawrence Leetz from the Netherlands, one of the international helpers who visited Subud Angola in May. Kesennuma.

Semarang and beyond

*I will never forget
this trip*

Suzanna Dayne writes...

After the gathering in Wisma Subud, a two day trip was arranged to Semarang where Bapak YM received the latihan and to Kedung Jati where he was born. A small group of 11 members from Canada, US, Chile, Australia, New Zealand, the Netherlands and Spain joined the tour which was hosted by the Semarang group.

We flew to Semarang in Central Java and took a bumpy two hour bus ride to Kedung Jati. We toured the train station near his home and saw the river where he played as a child. In Semarang we did latihan with the local group and shared experiences. Many local members asked us why we joined Subud and this, you can imagine, led to quite a few unusual stories.

The next morning we visited Bapak's house in Semarang where Subud began to grow. The house is much as it was with many old photographs displayed. The group included young and old, long time members and the newly opened but everyone said they felt something quite special.

"I will never forget this trip, it was a special experience... something I will take away for the rest of my life", said a young member from Australia. The feeling was reflected by others. One member who was opened 50 years ago said "I have read all about Bapak's early years but to see these places for myself is really something special".

There was a consensus by members that this sort of event should be held on a regular basis. The organizing committee is putting its feet up for a bit but if there is a demand, as members we will always be here for members.

Note: for anyone wishing to visit Wisma Subud during Ramadan or any other time contact ysubud@idola.net.id for accommodation.



At the Kedung Jati Railway station.

HELPERS' WORKSHOP

Harris Roberts writes about the Kejiwaan Gathering at Wisma Subud Cilandak 2011...

During the Gathering there were five Kejiwaan sessions, in which some 50 helpers participated either wholly or in part. The focus was on two areas:

- Caring for Members and Candidates
- Growth of SUBUD (Helpers' role)

There was full consensus by all Helpers attending on all the points below, which were points considered to be current and relevant, so testing was used only to assist understanding and was never needed to resolve lack of agreement. It needs to be said that there is nothing official about these results, which were achieved through a process of sharing, and if published are simply that, something to be shared.

Results from Helper Workshop

Opening Statement: In some groups Helpers do not always read or memorize exactly Bapak's words, but will use their own words or interpretation or idea of what is best. Furthermore, it has occurred in some places on some occasions that there was an effort by someone or some members to remove any mention of Bapak in SUBUD.

Bapak's words should not become or be used as a mantra, but Helpers should read or repeat exactly Bapak's words for the Opening. This has just now been implemented in Indonesia. The Opening Statement by Bapak has been printed on card stock and laminated then provided to the Helpers for use in Openings. Efforts will be made to follow-up at all the groups in the country.

Helpers Duty towards SUBUD and Bapak

Helpers are Bapak's Helpers and should read and follow Bapak's Guidance for Helpers and the talks of Bapak and Ibu Rahayu.

It is the duty of Helpers to guard and protect SUBUD and what we are given through the Latihan Kejiwaan.

Bapak's Photograph in the Latihan Hall

It is becoming increasingly done that a group might place a photograph of Bapak in the Latihan Hall. It was the consensus of Helpers at the Gathering that it is not possible to make a rule or suggestion about this being done or not, even though it does occur that a member might seem to treat the photograph as a sacred object.

Group Helpers should make sure that a photograph of Bapak in the Latihan Hall does not become an object of worship. ►

Relating Personal Experiences

Bapak said that what we receive is meant for ourselves. Bapak also said that we should share our experiences.

On one hand sometimes members, especially those with under five years or so of Latihan, can react negatively or become confused by a Helper telling them about a personal experience. On the other hand, especially Candidates often say that they appreciate and benefit from hearing about experiences, and Helpers will also do this to avoid the candidates becoming bored during the probationary period.

Helpers should be cautious in relating personal experiences to members or candidates so that it is appropriate and beneficial, is not beyond that person's capacity to understand, and does not result in confusion or negative reaction. It is not always appropriate or necessary to relate exactly an experience, often the meaning can be conveyed in another way.

Three-month 12-meetings Probationary Period

Helpers should not unnecessarily delay an Opening. The Probationary Period is not a rigid rule, individual cases often occur where the Helper or Helper Dewan needs to be flexible and practical about the length of time and number of meetings, for example in the case of illness or a spontaneous opening or when a candidate will not be available for Opening at the end of the probationary period.

Helpers and Members

Helpers should act as a Dewan, work together and be harmonious one with the other and with the members. Helpers should be approachable and close to members and look after their needs. Helpers should always be humble and never proud. Explanations by Helpers should always be appropriate and according to the need and capacity of the member, and should not be just the Helper's opinion; and intellectual or overly detailed conversations should be minimized. A Helper's role is not passive but active, so a Helper should be conscientious and work hard to be sure the members are truly satisfied. It can be beneficial for a Helper or Helper Dewan to arrange a specific time and place where members can meet with the Helpers.



Three women from Chile at the Wisma kejiwaan Gathering.

Helpers and Latihan

Helpers should make an effort to encourage the members to start the Latihan on time and together and to continue each one's individual Latihan for at least 30 minutes.

Persecution

As Bapak has said, people have always been persecuted for their belief in God. This is something that can occur to any Subud member in any place at any time. This persecution is a difficult time for a member experiencing it, and deserves attention and support from Helpers.

Growth of Subud, Helper's Role

In the experience of those attending, if the Helpers are harmonious and work together and really care for and look after Members and Candidates, then the group will grow. And if they are not, then the group will not grow.

Relevancy

It was considered that although all the above points are not new and have been said many times before, that it was still necessary to say them once again at this time.

ENTERPRISE!

Harris Roberts writes about Wisma Subud Gathering Enterprise Meeting. The keynote address was given by Pak Haryono, Bapak's son. This is included elsewhere as a separate article, "The Grand Design"...

Why Subud Enterprises in Kalimantan?

Muchtarudin Siregar: I simply wish today to provide the answers to three questions:

1. Why enterprises?

If you do the Latihan, eventually you will do an enterprise. It can be said that enterprises are an expression in this world of the Grace of God that is received through the Latihan Kejiwaan of SUBUD. ▶

2. Why in Central Kalimantan?

Central Kalimantan is largely empty and Palangka Raya is a newly created city with no traditional culture, so it is possible there to create a new culture for Mankind and for peace.

3. Why have some SUBUD enterprises failed?

There are three reasons: a lack of harmony, not doing what Bapak said, and unprofessionalism.

SUBUD Activities in Kalimantan: Radya

Kalimantan Gold Corp. www.kalimantan.com This Subud Enterprise has entered into a joint-venture with leading international mining company, Freeport-McMoRan Exploration Corporation to develop copper and gold prospects in Central Kalimantan. The prospected investment could be in the range of seven billion dollars and employ 400,000 people.

Yayasan Tambuak Sinta www.tambuhaksinta.com The foundation has been appointed as the channel for Corporate Social Responsibility by the Kalimantan Gold-Freeport joint-venture to Central Kalimantan, to provide a communications bridge between government and local communities for the advocacy of community rights and livelihoods. Other activities include capacity and institution building, community and regional development, the safe handling of mercury in mining, educational scholarships, and social marketing/social media production.

Rungang Sari Resort and Meeting Center www.rungansariresort.com Located at Rungan Sari, this boutique hotel pioneered international hotel standards in Central Kalimantan. Additional to 24 rooms, business and convention center, restaurant and sports facilities, a full agenda of adventure tourism activities is also available.



Radya, until recently a volunteer at BCU school, presented activities in Kalimantan.

Bina Cita Utama School www.bcuschool.com Also located at Rungan Sari, BCU is a pioneer for quality primary and secondary multicultural education in Central Kalimantan and the first to offer curriculum in both English and Indonesian. The philosophy is holistic and highly interactive, aimed at assisting children to become people truly capable of beneficial contribution to their communities and the world. There is a new school building for the 85 students. Core also to the BCU Mission is the Teacher Training and Professional Development Program aimed at improving educational standards in the province through child-centered education for 80 teachers, or 3,200 children per year. Another BCU aim is to achieve the resources it needs to open a kindergarten.

Yayasan Usaha Mulia www.yumindonesia.org/index.php/en/project/article/community_development/agricultural_project

The YUM Farm in Bukit Batu, Central Kalimantan is a research center designed to improve the nutritional and economic situation of the local population and to reverse the current deterioration of soil quality. The YUM Sponsor a Child program also includes providing of school scholarships, including to BCU.

Rahai'i Pangun jungle river cruises www.wowborneo.com

Borneo Productions International www.borneoproductionsinternational.com proposed higher education institute, proposed enterprises support agency

Amelia Lerrigo vegetable and fruit farm, biocharcoal production

Utami Geiger poisoned land reclamation project

Subud Enterprise Services International: Ruslan Morris www.subudenterprise.com I am the SESI coordinator and together with Rashad Pollard to act as a focal point for large and small capital enterprises. There are two categories of companies, Enterprises of Subud Members and Subud Enterprises, which tend to be larger and are the focus, and for which there is an organizational model providing the necessary supervision.

World Subud Association Web Services Shop Opened from May 2010 providing centralized low-cost internet services to WSA, SUBUD institutions, members, and enterprises, and later to the general public. Its website and portal is at www.subudenterprise.com There is a Wiki which discusses previous Subud Enterprises, concerned with profiles and lessons learned.

International Financing Organization For Kalimantan, there is an initiative to establish an international financing organization, which is not a Subud World Bank, to support Subud enterprises and is open to members providing US\$10,000 in seed capital.

SINAR INVESTORS ASSOCIATION An informal voluntary association like a chamber of commerce, in which people can either own shares or register themselves as a Friend. Please contact Ruslan at rrmoris@clubbali.com

Subud Enterprises Services Cilandak: Harris Roberts roberts.harris1@gmail.com In an initiative to revive SES Indonesia, 20+ businesspeople in the Cilandak group have joined together in a Subud Members Enterprise, **United Budhi**, to be domiciled in Palangka Raya. A survey team is investigating specific opportunities in the area, and the company will open its office there in June or early July. A strong spirit of entrepreneurship is notably active among members here, making it easy for us to come together into enterprises. It can be said that there is currently a collective understanding that the internal problems that beset enterprises in the past need not continue, that the past is gone and done with, having very little to do with the current reality of Subud. At least at Cilandak, Subud is now more mature; helpers, members and organizations are on the whole easily able to ▶

work together with good harmony; expectations are realistic; and very importantly there is generally a good balance in putting the Latihan to practical use in our daily and professional lives. So the question here is not 'Why do Enterprises?' but more 'Why would you Not do Enterprises?'

begin. : Suzanna Dayne www.beginchange.co begin. is a creative agency working to generate positive social change. We work with NGO's, the United Nations, governments, and companies that support corporate social responsibility both here in Indonesia and internationally. We provide a comprehensive service including strategy, development, implementation, assessment, media engagement, creative and media production, consultancy; whatever is needed to communicate for social change.

Sunrise Farms: Harris Roberts sunrisefarms.co@gmail.com We are in agriculture, but are only farmers when that is necessary. Our goal is to provide an alternative model for improving the livelihood of farmers and reducing the cost of quality produce to consumers. Current activities are: rice cultivation demonstration to move farmers from non-organic to organic production, tree nursery for re-greening, rice mill for processing and supply of organic rice, and commercial development of a soil microbe activator and an organic fertilizer – both developed by Subud members. By 2012 we want to be in production in Palangka Raya with organic vegetables, fish and poultry and also for reclamation of land poisoned through improper use of mercury in mining.

Jewels by Irwan: Irwan Holmes www.squidoo.com/fine-jewelry-and-antiques I am an American jewelry designer who has lived and worked in Indonesia for over 40 years, and now only work with Indonesian gemstones including opal, pearl, fossilized coral unique to Indonesia, and many more. We have held exhibitions in Bali, Singapore, Tokyo, Munich, Dubai and Paris (where I won first prize for design). We will be showing in Rome and Milan in late September and are always interested in opportunities to exhibit abroad. We sell both wholesale and retail. My email address is dmulia@cbn.net.id

LPTTI: Sudanang Danajaya www.lptti.com I want to share with you my experience of working for Subud while at the same time doing enterprise, that we must be balanced between the kejiwaan and our work, and in this way it becomes easy for us and our opportunities seem to come by themselves. But for this to work we must really work hard and well while at the same time not forgetting to worship God. We provide training, technical services and products for IT installations. This will be also very important for Kalimantan, so we must also soon start there; and this will be beneficial for the youth in Kalimantan for their knowledge, skill and entrepreneurship.

Agro Munjul: Alam Lestari: Sumartono mobile: +622191470711

I have researched and developed my products over ten years, and just recently have been successful in producing two commercial products. One is ethanol which I can make over 90% pure, where usually pharmaceutical manufacturers can only produce 70% pure. Also, from the waste from producing ethanol, I now can make an organic fertilizer by mixing it with the waste from sugar production, molasses. Now, to my surprise Dayak tribal chiefs have invited me to Kalimantan to assist them to improve soil quality in their area. So, I don't have to make any extra effort to go to Kalimantan, I just have to accept the invitation to go there.

Asian Zone gets together

A meeting of the Asia-Pacific Zone was held at the time of the Wisma Subud Gathering. SESI chair, Ruslan Morris, generously made his Club Bali resort in Cipanas available for the event. I asked Zone Rep, Hadrian Fraval, how it all went and he told me...

It was a very enjoyable and harmonious time together. The meeting was well attended with representatives from Australia, New Zealand, India, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and of course Indonesia. The meeting began with a time of deep sharing about conditions in the Zone and getting to know each other.

One of the most moving contributions came from Masayuki Nagamine, the chair of Subud Japan, a doctor, who described his visit to the devastated tsunami area. He said how supportive it had been to receive messages from around the Subud world. People in the tsunami affected area were in shock, he said. Many had lost everything, even their families. It was a scene of total destruction, nothing left standing; a great ocean tanker lifted up by the tsunami and dumped inland where it will remain forever. The whole situation was worse than Hiroshima.

After the sharing, there were a number of presentations including the proposed Community Centre inn Rungan Sari which has been an initiative of Subud Australia and the Zone. Discussion groups looked at External Relations, Archives, the growth of Subud, and the question of honoraria for Zone reps and others working in the Subud organization.

Subud Thailand announced it has a new Subud house on land gifted by the Vogel family.

There was a strong presence of Subud Indonesia through Indonesia's chair, Pak Suryadi, and a sense of Indonesia joining the mainstream of the Zone. There is an increasing sense now of the need to get together in this far-flung Zone and gatherings are planned for the coming year in Malaysia, New Zealand, Australia, Indonesia and Japan.



Hadrian Fraval, Asian Zone representative.

An increasing sense of the need to get together

Rungan Sari Residents Association

By a staff reporter.

During the gathering at Rungan Sari, the Residents' Association held a series of meetings leading up to their AGM on Monday June 27. It was interesting to observe this unique Subud community in the process of organising and governing itself.

One of the topics debated was a draft set of Bye-Laws intended to address the many issues involved in living together in such a community. There is an Articles of Association, a legal document which all residents are expected to sign, and the Bye-laws is intended to provide a more detailed set of regulations governing everyday living.

The discussion broadened out to consider other issues such as the best legal vehicle for the Residents Association in the Indonesian context. Should it, for example, be a yayasan (foundation)? Another option brought forward was a special provision under Indonesian law for places dedicated to educational or cultural purposes.

Although it had been hoped to have the Bye-Laws passed at the AGM, it was decided that they needed further refinement.

Community Centre

There was also a great deal of debate about the subject of a Community Center for Rungan Sari. This had been proposed a couple of years ago when an Australian Subud member, Minh Su, donated a plot of land which had been owned by his sister Alfiati.

But it was then decided that rather than build the Center on this plot, it should be located on common land. The plot was sold and further money was donated by Minh Su and others so that AUD\$36,000 was now available for the building of the Center.

The Center, sponsored by Subud Australia and the Asia-Pacific Zone could serve a number of purposes both for visitors to Rungan Sari and the residents. There is currently no common meeting place.

The question was now, whereabouts exactly on Rungan Sari's common land should the Center be located? Sumali Agrawal reported on the work of the sub-committee which had been investigating this matter and put forward two locations both on the common land near the latihan hall which occupies a central place (geographically, spiritually and socially) in the life of Rungan Sari.

A very lively discussion ensued. A number of alternative sites were suggested and broader issues raised. Was it possible to even have a discussion about the location of a Community Center before a complete plan for the development of the compound had been finalised?

Again, the consensus was that while the Center was needed and welcomed, further investigation was required. But the discussion ended on a hopeful note that more money might be forthcoming from overseas that would broaden the participation in the Center to other parts of the Subud world and enable several of the suggested locations for the Center to be utilised.

One of the major discussions at the AGM itself was around energy and infrastructure issues, particularly the need to carry out an audit of the residents' current use of electricity and to inevitable alternative and sustainable sources of energy such as solar.

It was interesting to observe all this and to witness the style of participatory democracy which has evolved in the discussions of the Residents' Association.



Architect Halim Korzybski presents his plan for the proposed Community Centre.

BOOK REVIEW

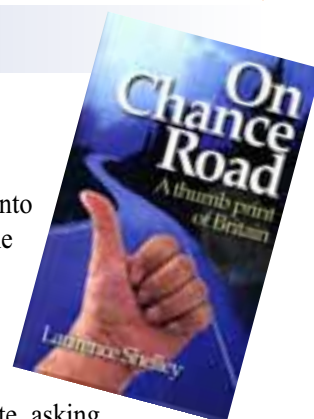
'ON CHANCE ROAD' Laurence Shelley

Review by Marcus Bolt...

I really enjoyed this book, written by Subud author Laurence Shelley. I didn't think I would, not being into travelogues per se, plus the fact I knew 'travel' is an overblown genre, with writers constantly upping the ante by swimming in every English river, or climbing every Himalayan peak, for example.

But the book is not what it seems, and it took me by complete surprise (perhaps I was misled by the, to my mind, redundant sub-title, 'A Thumb Print of Britain').

Laurence sets off to hitchhike the length of Britain, from Lizard Point in Cornwall to North Ronaldsay on the Orkneys, interviewing the people who give him lifts and those whom he meets en route, asking questions such as 'What led you to do what you like?', 'What dream remains unfulfilled?' and 'What one thing will you never forget?', constantly modifying his questions and approach as the journey unfolds.



Laurence writes well and engagingly, coming across as a warm hearted, open-minded, easy-going kind of guy, a philosopher with a wealth of life and work experience, cultured reading and spiritual seeking under his belt, and he's pretty non-judgemental too. So it's no surprise that he gets people to open up so easily. But I'm also aware of the fact that the kind of people who give hitchhikers lifts, or who are willing to help strangers, either have some of the same qualities, or have stories they need to tell, and tell often. As my wife, a retired Social Worker, used to remind me, everyone has a story; everyone has a saving grace, and the stories are uplifting, surprising, horrendous, as in Laurence's book.

Beneath the fascinating, day-by-day account of his meetings and conversations – as well as his acute observations on place, history, geography and the weather – lies the sub-text and where the book really takes off for me.

Laurence begins to become more and more involved in, and intrigued by, chance and connections, coincidence and synchronicity – and the wealth of serendipitous experiences that he interprets en route as signs and guidance – often brought to life by his subtle word-play.

One example: Laurence finds a wounded blue-tit in the lay-by he is hitching from, describes its plumage in detail and then perches it in the fork of a branch before continuing on. Later, he comes across the site of a recent and obviously very serious road accident, and muses on how it could have happened, who was involved and so on. A while later, he is picked up by a young man who has had a tough and difficult life and now, at the age of 25, was needing to settle down, but having trouble choosing a career, not knowing if he should be a drugs counsellor, a plumber or a paramedic.

'Where do I go from here?' he asks Laurence plaintively.

Laurence answers: "...And then words fizzed out of me... 'Ask for what you need,.. Say out loud: please show me... what direction I should go in. Be alert, watch for a sign, an indication. It will come... There's an agency out there, waiting to help. Call it.'

After being dropped off, Laurence feels dissatisfied with his answer. And writes: "...How could I be so blind? I see the aftermath of an accident, then Jez picks me up and wonders about being a paramedic. Haven't I got the message? He just has to be a paramedic. Then I remember the blue-tit episode. Who picked me up after that? Wild life rescuers!

"It's what happens: the future's foreshadowed. Signposts are here now, pointing to the next destination... I could have told Jez about the accident scene. He might have realised the connection and understood its rightness..." (Luckily, Laurence has Jez's mobile number, and calls him... Another aspect of Laurence's character – he really cares about people.)

And then comes the paragraph that neatly sums up the tenor and essence of the whole book for me: "I'm stunned. This whole journey is slipping into one long conversation where each encounter is like a word, but only the connections between convey the message..."

One 'event' I particularly enjoyed, because of my own Subud connection, no doubt, was an account of visiting Ronald and Helen Leask at Fountain House, a year or two before Ronald died. Laurence's explanation of Subud here is one of the best descriptions and summaries for enquirers I have ever read – and he does it in one paragraph:

"The benefits can be many: a release from old habits and hang-ups, a new look at oneself and fresh thoughts about one's direction in life. As to the source of such benefits, that's open to conjecture. Some believe... that it's a reconnection with a life force all too easily masked by the demands and habits of everyday life. Belief in God or spiritual influences is not obligatory, though some followers maintain that it helps and that the exercise is a form of worship. There are times when it seems to go beyond previous experience."

There is much to enjoy in this intriguing book as it wends its sequential route north, meandering through travelogue, social study and philosophical treatise, and I thoroughly recommend it.

On Chance Road: A thumb print of Britain *Laurence Shelley* £8.99 (plus postage)

Published by Thetis: paperback, 272 pages ISBN: 9 708955 675010 available from www.amazon.co.uk and all good bookshops.

The best day of her life

The following good news story shows that Subud Voice can not only communicate information...but we can provide connections that can make a real difference in people's lives.

In an earlier issue this year we ran the story by Chandra MacDonald about Herni...a young woman in Kalimantan who had endured and continued to face enormous difficulty in life...Chandra was able to help her get a job at BCU looking after the library...then Herni came into Subud...then she was moved to the office at BCU learning office skills...turns out she wants to go to uni to study accountancy.

Hanafi and Levana Fraval saw our story in SV and decided to raise money to help Herni achieve her ambitions. *Now Susila Dharma International writes...*

"Just to confirm that SDIA has transferred \$875 US to BCU for ▶



Herni Listiani.

Herni's education, and are standing by as more funds are needed.”

And Rashidah MacDonald writes from BCU School...

Dear Hanafi: Thank you very much for the information about the university scholarship funds for Herni. I spoke to Herni today after receiving your email, and she burst into tears! She later sent me an sms saying that this was the best day of her life. Chandra, our daughter, was also in tears when I told her!

Thank you so much for doing this for Herni. Tomorrow she will go to Palangka Raya and find out about enrollments and the different course options. Pak Gunarjo, the BCU School principal is also a lecturer at the university and he can also help advise Herni on the different choices. The timing is perfect, as now is the time to enroll for the next academic year which starts in August or September.

It's very kind of you and Levana to do this for Herni. I pray that from this new beginning, something blessed and strong will grow and that you will also receive many rewards for your efforts and compassion. Herni was opened just around the time that you first contacted me about helping her, which makes it feel even more blessed.

I will send you some information when she has been to look at the courses. Once Herni has started her studies, I will ensure that you get regular updates from her. Would six monthly intervals be alright? Her English is improving since she started working at the school, and God willing, I hope that eventually she will be able to write to you herself in English!

Finding Subud *Hammond Peek writes...*

“FINDING SUBUD” is a young stranger’s 9 minute documentary glimpse into a world we Subud members all pretty much take for granted.

Back in May 2010 my phone rang.

“Hi, I’m Sam Mulgrew, a student at the Christchurch Broadcasting School. As a class film assignment we have to make a documentary. I’m making mine about Subud and I’ve been given your name.”

Wow...stunned silence...“Why Subud?” I replied.

“Well, I was searching the internet for what’s been happening recently in Christchurch looking for ideas, and I came across an article about the Subud world congress event held locally, attended by 1700 people from all around the world. I’ve never heard of this thing called Subud...so I became intrigued.”

A few emails and phone calls later I met with fresh-faced, 20-something Sam and co student film-maker Victoria at a local cafe. Over a cappuccino I answered their many questions, gave them some suggestions, and Subud names to contact.

Oddly, I find myself in a darkened theatre only 4 weeks later, with my better half Renata, fun-loving Subud sister Rafaelle (who features in the doco), Sam, his mum, Victoria, around 100 students from the Broadcasting School, plus their family and friends...about to watch this even handed, rather charming short film – “FINDING SUBUD”.

See it for yourself on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=snJfaHQeevE>

Obama’s mother and Subud

By Staff Reporter...

A Singular Woman: The Untold Story of Barack Obama's Mother, a biography of the mother of US President Obama, Ann Dunham Sutoro, contains several references to Subud. As is generally known Obama lived with his mother in Jakarta for some years...

Arianne (no second name) wrote to me to say, “Talked to Irin Poellot who is reading the book about Obama's mother and has already run into several literal mentions of Subud!!! I remember the late Mansur Madeiros mentioning he knew her in Indonesia and he is mentioned in the book! I can't help wondering if we will get inquiries about Subud since it is mentioned often in a book which probably will be widely read. It also is a delicious fact that our Subud sister, Ms Fuddy, just was appointed to her post in the Health Dept in Hawaii in time to be involved in the documentation of fact that Obama was born there.”

I wrote back asking for more specific information and Arianne replied, “Irin kindly supplied some quotes:

In chapter 4 "Initiation in Java" the Subud members are quoted. And then (on page 116): "...she (Ann) was hired to start an English-language, business-communications department in one of the few private non profit management-training schools in the country.” ▶



Ann Dunham Sutoro, the mother of Barack Obama.

Ann "found a group of young Americans and Britons enrolled in an intensive course in Bahasa Indonesia, the national language, at the University of Indonesia recalled Irwan Holmes, (a member of the original group). She was looking for teachers. A half dozen of them accepted her invitation, many of them members of an international spiritual organization, Subud, with a residential compound in a suburb of Jakarta.."

AndMohammad Mansur Madeiros, a reclusive and scholarly Subud member from Fall River, Massachusetts, and Harvard, whom Ann hired as a teacher, had immersed himself so deeply in Javanese culture, language and religion that friends nicknamed him Mansur Java. When he died in 2007, friends recalled his preference for the company of ordinary Indonesians -- street vendors and becak drivers -- over that of other Subud members and expatriots."

And...there you have it (says Arianne)!

Obama's mother certainly sounds like a most interesting woman. From Time magazine online...

"Each of us lives a life of contradictory truths. We are not one thing or another. Barack Obama's mother was at least a dozen things. S. Ann Soetoro was a teen mother who later got a Ph.D. in anthropology; a white woman from the Midwest who was more comfortable in Indonesia; a natural-born mother obsessed with her work; a romantic pragmatist, if such a thing is possible."

For more go to...<http://www.time.com/time/nation/article/0,8599,1729524,00.html>



Subud member in Indonesian Parliament

Eva Kusuma Sundari, a Subud member from Central Java, is serving a second term as a member of the Indonesian parliament and attracting a lot of attention because of her strong anti-corruption stance.

Only the now

Emmanuel Elliott sent this quote from Bapak...

"Because in what is called *ilmu* or in the spiritual life there is of course no difference between death and life, tomorrow and today do not exist. What exists is only the now."

Bapak, Toronto, 23 August 1979 (79 YYZ 11)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Adriana Vincent writes from Perth, Australia...

Hi Harris,

I hope this gets to you, I got the email address from Salamah Pope. I just wanted to congratulate you on the Subud Voice, I have been catching up with it, reading it online, and am feeling you are doing a terrific job. I always liked it of course. But anyway I meant to write when it changed to an online paper, I felt then that you were doing a really good job, but after reading the recent issues I feel even more so. I like the layout, it suits ►

me as I still have dial-up, and I hate mucking about anyway with different columns – that is so old fashioned – and I really also like the fact that you have so few pictures frankly, because it is easier for me.

And lets face it, globally, really a lot of people are on dial-up or equivalent. I like to see the faces of people who have a Subud job, but that's about it. I hope you are blessed for your efforts and are able to continue for some time to come.

Cheers Adriana

Translator Needed *Ruslan Moore, Al-Baz Publishing, Inc., writes...*

Following the passing of my long time Subud brother and translator Muhtar Holland late last year I am in need of an Arabic translator, capable of translating Arabic Islamic texts originally composed around the 11th century CE by luminaries such as Imam al-Ghazali, Shaikh 'Abd al-Qadir al-Jilani and so on into English. Al-Baz Publishing, Inc. is at this point a well known and respected publisher of religious works for the Muslim community, scholars and the interested layman.

To review the list of titles published during the last 20 years, please feel free to visit the web site at www.al-baz.com and click on the link 'Our Books' and if that sparks any interest then visit www.al-baz.com/shaikhabdalqadir/ and click the link 'List of books from which excerpts...' to read some of the content. From this you should get an idea of what I am looking for.

It is my great hope that I can find someone from within Subud to fill this position, since in my estimation there is a need for the translator to be alive inwardly – it is not enough to merely be competent in rendering from Arabic into English something like, say, a technical manual. Furthermore a good command of the English language is a necessity.

Interested parties may contact me by email at albaz@bellsouth.net in the first instance and we will take it from there. Qualifying steps will involve completing a page or two of a sample text.

INFORMATION ABOUT SUBUD

This magazine is produced by members of the spiritual movement known as Subud, but it is not an official publication of the Subud organisation. It is just an enterprise of some members. Recently the magazine became available free and online to the general public as well as to Subud members.

In each issue we try to include some articles which will give information about Subud to people who are unfamiliar with the movement. Interested people could also look at the article "What is Subud?" in the February 2011 issue of this magazine.

This is a very brief sketch of Subud. Those wishing for a more detailed explanation should go to www.whatissubud.org There is a link to it on the left hand side of our home page. There are also links to the web sites of the various organisations which also include explanations of Subud. See for example the official web site of WSA, www.subud.com

If you would like to make contact with a Subud group, you should check the telephone directory to see if there is a group in your locality.

Or you can go to the web site www.subud.com where you will find contact information for the WSA and the various national bodies who will be able to direct you to a group near you.

SUBUD EVENTS & WORLD LATIHAN

For news of forthcoming Subud events and World Latihan times go to www.subudworldnews.com and click on "Events".

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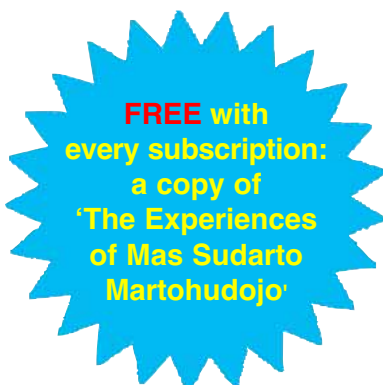
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Send articles, photos, cartoons etc. to Harris Smart,

Editor Subud Voice,

email: editor@subudvoice.net

Tel: + 61 3 95118122

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Articles should be written in such a way that they are intelligible and interesting to both Subud members and the general public. Sometimes this may mean providing an explanatory introduction or notes for the non-Subud reader

There is no payment for submissions. Correspondence about articles will generally not be entered into.

Submissions to Subud Voice may be edited for a variety of reasons including the need to shorten them or improve expression. If you do not want your submission to be edited in any way, please mark it clearly **NOT TO BE EDITED**.

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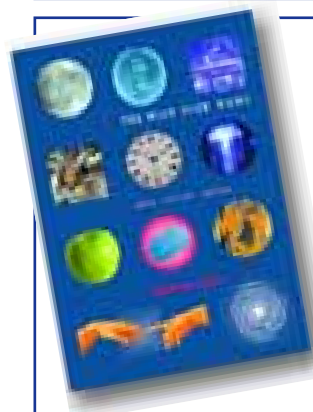
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**BOOKS & RECORDINGS
FROM HARRIS SMART**

BOOKS

Sixteen Steps – Stories of Subud life. \$25

Stella (with Stella Duigan) – If *16 Steps* is a collection of "short stories", *Stella* is a novella recounting one woman's recovery through the latihan from severe childhood abuse. \$25

Destiny – Three stories of Subud life. \$15

Tom Bass Totem Maker (with Tom Bass) – Life Story of the most important Australian sculptor of the 20th century and a profoundly spiritual man. \$30

Occasional Prayers – Meditations on life by Tom Bass. \$20

Contact: harrissmart@optusnet.com.au

DVD

The Man and His Mission – 60 minute multi-lingual DVD telling the life story of Muhamad Subuh and the development of Subud 1901-2001. In English, Russian, French and Indonesian. \$30

Contact: harrissmart@optusnet.com.au

MUSIC

Precious Morning – a collection of original songs in rock, blues, jazz and gospel moods by the Act Naturally Band. \$12.97

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