



ILAINA LENNARD 1933-2018

Ilaina Lennard, founder of Subud Voice, died suddenly, just after midnight on Monday October 15. She was still working for Subud Voice, writing a new book, and in the process of planning to move into Wisma Mulia. Harris Smart, the current editor of Subud Voice, writes...

Dear Ilaina, your passing leaves a very big hole in my life. You have been such a big part of my life for so many years from the time when I first got to know you through contributing articles to Subud Voice.

Then came a visit to England where I was able to stay with you and your husband, Lawrence, in Bracknell. This was a wonderful time, the time of Anugraha.

I will never forget the hospitality of your comfortable house and the excellent walks you took me on, including that park where there were earthworks said to go back to Roman times or even beyond. It was called Caesar's Camp, if I remember correctly.

Then there came a time when our roles were reversed, and I became the editor and you were the contributor and proof-reader. How marvellous that you, the founder, were able to stay involved in the magazine, working on Subud Voice right up until the end.

I always tried to honour you as the founder of this magazine and please forgive me for any occasions on which I was less than perfect. Knowing you and being editor of this magazine has had such an impact on my life. By passing the editorship to me, you really gave me a great opportunity and a powerful connection to Subud which I would not otherwise have had.

Subud Voice is an institution. How many other things do we have in Subud which have endured >



Ilaina with Romina Vianden-Prudent at the Subud Britain Congress in 2017.



*In Subud Voice, she
founded an institution...*



SUBMISSIONS AND DONATIONS

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

We rely on donations to keep Subud Voice going. You can donate by going to the PAYMENTS tag on the left side of our homepage at www.subudvoice.net

for more than 30 years.

Her Life

Ilaina was born in London May 3rd, 1933, with the name Charmian Landon, into a family background of largely military and clergy

She spent World War 2 in Wales. Later she was educated at several schools, and took Higher Certificate in English, History, French and Art. Her first job was at the reception desk at Harrods Library. She later worked for Michael Adam on the courses known as 'How to Win Friends and Influence People'.

She married Lawrence Lennard in 1957. They moved to Birmingham area, and had their first child – Alizon Pauline. They then moved to Denham, Bucks in 1961 and had second child – Sorrel Rose.

Ilaina was opened in Subud May 16th, 1961. The family moved to Belfast and while there developed the Patchwork Panels enterprise, which they sold when they moved back to England.

They joined Ascot Subud Group and began sending out news of the Anugraha project. Later when Bapak died in 1987, Ilaina started the monthly 16-page worldwide newsletter, SUBUD VOICE.

In 2001 Ilaina retired but continued to edit articles and collect material for her books – the first was IN THOSE DAYS, and later three volumes, all called THEY WERE THERE. Her main purpose was always to provide more background for Subud members, everywhere. These books have continued to be bestsellers and she was working on the latest one, THEY WERE THERE VOLUME 4, when she passed away.

Ilaina had two children, seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Thank you to Ilaina's daughter, Rose, for information and photographs generously provided to us.

Ilaina wrote this account of how she started Subud Voice...

When Bapak had died in June 1987, everyone felt bereft. But strangely enough, a few months before, I had already felt that there should be a Subud newsletter going out worldwide. So, it was that only a month after Bapak's death – in July 1987 – the first SUBUD VOICE was born, carrying the news everywhere. At first there were only 41 subscriptions, but this soon increased to over 1000, and producing it every month kept me very busy for 14 years.

I began to travel and attended three World Congresses in my role of reporter. But producing SV was a big challenge, because no one seemed free to help me. I had to report, type and edit, arrange the 16-page layout, print and mail it, and do the subscriptions. In 1999 I had a kind of breakdown and thought I could not continue. For a while there seemed to be no one who could take up the work, but a talented professional editor Harris Smart was found, along with two supportive Australian businessmen.

When I recovered my balance, I began collecting stories from past issues of Subud Voice, which I thought would make an interesting book. I had earlier already collected some for *In Those Days*,

“ *She was always looking for the good in everything...* ”



: Ilaina with two of her seven grandchildren and two of her five great-grandchildren.

and now I began a second book: *The Best of Subud Voice*, Volume 1. This became a series, all called *They Were There*, and these will probably end with Volume 4. I also collected many wonderful passages from Bapak's talks, in a book I called *Creation, the Planets, The Prophets, Mankind*. My main purpose has always been to provide more background for Subud members, everywhere.

To read a full account of Ilaina's life, [click here](#)

<http://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/IlainaLennard-MyLife.pdf>

From Sophia Hughes

To our group latihans she always brought a cheerfulness and quiet wisdom, whilst laughing at herself for always forgetting to bring her hearing aids, and we shall miss her gentle presence.

From Rahman Connelly

Ilaina was a person I greatly admired on many levels. There was her sense of mission to create Subud Voice in 1987 and continue as its editor until Harris Smart took over in 2000, and then remain actively involved, greatly assisting Harris until her passing at age 85. A marathon of effort and commitment. She was also one of the most positive people I know, looking for the good in everything, and a source of great encouragement to many; she enjoyed cheering from the side-lines. Then there was her personal charm and her easy ability to engage with people. She shall be missed. Godspeed Ilaina, our thoughts and prayers are with you.

From Marcus Bolt

I seem to have been acquainted with Ilaina throughout most of my 50 years in Subud, yet never really knew her socially, so reading her mini-biog was a pleasant surprise.

She had been part of my working life for the last 3 decades though, so it was a shock hearing she had died. A few days before, she'd phoned to say she was ready to send over *The Best of Subud Voice 4*, ready for pre-publication set-up (I'd helped Ilaina put together and publish Volumes 1, 2 and 3, as well as one her other books, 'Creation').

We had also worked together on Subud Voice for some 18 or more years, my sending her monthly the first draft layout, she proofreading it and sending back corrections – she was particularly red-hot on the correct spelling of names.

As a colleague I found her hard working, reliable, willing to compromise – after arguing her case strongly – always good humoured and just plain 'easy to work with'. And I shall miss her now she's gone onto the next stage of her journey. She also wrote well journalistically, so it's a shame she can't report back on how she's doing, what's going down over there – it would make fascinating reading...

From Emmanuel Elliott

I've just heard that Ilaina Lennard, the old friend who I used to take out for coffee every three weeks or so and who I took to the theatre less than 48 hours ago, died very suddenly at 6 a.m. today of an aortic aneurism.



Ilaina's daughter, Rose, writes, "Although this photo doesn't show her face I rather like the fact that she is gazing out over the landscape (towards Frampton, coincidentally) – it seems somehow fitting for someone who has departed this life."

“ She always brought a cheerfulness and quiet wisdom... ”

She was old and frail, so it can only be a great blessing for her to be taken so quickly, but for those of us left behind - as always - it is a great shock for that very reason.

May God bless her and speed her on her way in the Great Life that awaits.

In Brittany

In a corner of my mind there is a room
Like a little cave, windowed by a small bright eye
Fringed with ivy lashes
Looking into pink sweet peas.

There will I lie and think
About the day ahead.
Swim-walking in green shadows with gold pools
Perhaps?
And startling the frogs into wild chattering
As they stir in their cool sun baths?

I'll certainly pick vegetables
As others pick flowers, browsing as I go,
As little of this, or that?
Sweet herbs too, my nose the guide,
Steeped in a pot, all make a fine meal.

In the corner of my mind is a pale scrubbed table
On which I'll set roses in a terracotta jug,
Sweet elderflower, foxgloves, white coriander sprays
And powder-puffs of blue flowers I can't name.

I'll gather them in a lazy lane
High-banked with grass, blackberries, bracken
And old brown leaves.
And I'll smell cows and see birds,
And coming home
I'll hear crickets as the sun goes down.

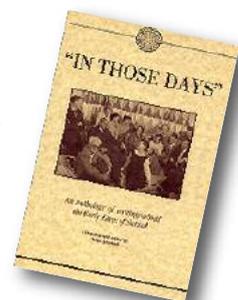
By the lake all's gold, with shivers of
Tiny fish, rising and falling like breath
On its burnished skin.
Night comes soon,
By a yellow lamp
I'll do tapestry with jewel-coloured wools.

In the corner of my mind I'll remember
This is my dream, my whole, my simple Eden
And I'll sleep again in the cave
With its one bright eye
Framing the pink sweet peas.

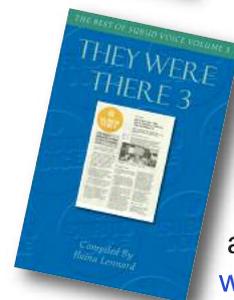
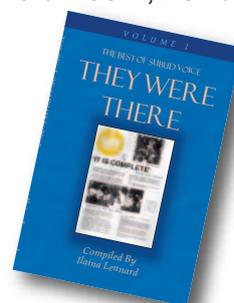
Ilaina Lennard
published in 'we humans' 2018

Books by Ilaine Lennard

In Those Days
An Anthology of writings about the early days of Subud.
Out of print, but copies being searched for...

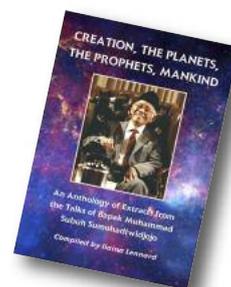


They Were There – The Best of Subud Voice
Volumes 1, 2 and 3



Three volumes of articles from Subud Voice since 1987, all available from www.lulu.com

Creation, The Planets, The Prophets, Mankind
An anthology of extracts from the talks of Bapak Muhammad Subuh Sumohadiwidjo



To buy a copy or copies of any of these 4 books above, go to: www.lulu.com and type ilaine lennard in the search box (note the spelling of ilaine) and follow the onscreen prompts, choosing number required and postage rate.

“DANKE AWARDS” NIGHT

Susila Dharma International writes... Highlighting the Wings' Contribution to the 10 Aims of Subud...

Towards the end of the Congress came the magical “Danke Awards” – a first in Congress history – in which all the Wings participated in thanking some of the Subud members who have achieved amazing things in the Social and Humanitarian fields.

Lincoln Myerson and Harlan Gleeson of the US, among many others, directed and produced this celebration of 50 years of SD and the Wings in the world: a wonderful evening of music, performance, comedy and the awarding of medallions to recognize the role that SD projects play in helping to meet the 10 Aims of Subud.

The evening started out with prayers and continued with a tribute to Bapak, who, during his lifetime, set an example for us and told us many times about the importance of Subud being at the service of those who are disadvantaged and neglected. Evan Padilla, incoming SDIA Chair, paid tribute to Bapak and the social welfare foundation he created: Yayasan Usaha Mulia (YUM).

Incoming SESI Chair Gaye Thavesin then presented two awards for outstanding contributions by entrepreneurs to Subud’s Social and Humanitarian work. These went to Isaac and Renee Goff for the work of Dharma Trading in supporting children to achieve their human potential, and the original Board of Trustees of Kalimantan Gold Corporation for creating the social foundation Yayasan Tambuhak Sinta (YTS) to respond to the needs of communities that would one day be impacted by the company’s mining developments.

Sebastian Flynn, outgoing SICA Chair, presented an award to Erica Sapir of Puppeteers without Borders for its contribution to Subud’s social and humanitarian work through the use of arts and culture. Erica and her team have travelled all over the work to reach underprivileged communities, giving them the tools to communicate their messages of change.

On behalf of SIHA, Maxwell Fraval and Elsa von Amern presented three awards related to Subud’s social and humanitarian work. The first was to SD Congo team for its role in building three hospital centers and a number of community health centers making health services available to hundreds of thousands of families; followed by Emilia Galarza and Asociacion Vivir in Ecuador for working with the Ecuadorian government to help thousands of poor communities prevent disease through the power of healthy eating and the recovery of ancestral culinary traditions.

Maxwell and Elsa also recognized the many Subud members who dedicate their lives to helping



SD National representatives and others on stage at the end of the Danke awards celebration. (Photo by Kohar Para)

“ *Thanking Subud Members who have achieved in the Social and Humanitarian fields...* ”

the elderly and those with chronic health problems to enjoy a better quality of life and finish their days in a loving and compassionate environment:

Robert Coker on behalf of the board member of Wisma Mulia in the UK; Irwan Wylie for Morningside Care in Australia, carrying on the work of Munuwarah and Labasir English; Isabel Cristina Rengifo of Mis Corazones Alegres in Colombia, running an eldercare center for those with cognitive disorders such as Alzheimers and Dementia; Lusijah Marx, who with Lucas Harris founded “Project Quest” as a support for people living with HIV/AIDS, chronic illnesses and pain; and Hermione Elliott, for her work in Living Well, Dying Well, which empowers and supports people to accept death and prepare practically, emotionally and spiritually for the end of life.

Youth Coordinators Ethan Harris and Davida Flynn gave out awards that recognized both the role of SD projects working to improve the lives of the young, and the role of youth working to help Subud’s social projects. Awards went to eight Subud initiatives helping to change the way we treat and interact with children: Lailah Armstrong for the International Child Development Programme’s (ICDP) work in 26 countries to train parents and caregivers to improve their interactions with children; Daniela Dinis for the work of



Sharifin Gardiner paid tribute to those SD projects working in the most sensitive eco-systems including Valli Krishnaswamy, Anisha (India); Illène Pevec, A Child's Garden of Peace; Emaline Gonzalez and Davida Paul, volunteers at Fundación Trópico (Colombia) with Sharifin Gardiner, past SDIA Chairman. (Photo by Kohar Para)

Roda Viva and Subud Portugal in providing quality childcare and mentoring to older children from immigrant families in Lisbon; Benita Gavilan of Vida Plena for her tireless work on behalf of children in the Central Wholesale Market area of Asunción, Paraguay; the Wawa Illari international team, represented by Anna Sofia Mazzini and Honorata Herrera, for their work to improve health, nutrition and development of children aged 0-3 in Pachacamac, Peru; Muhammad Bachrun Bustillo on behalf of Borneo Football International Academy for its support to children’s healthy development through football; Utami Geiger for the work of Bina Cita Utama in providing bilingual, multicultural education to children in Rungan Sari in Kalimantan; Ibu Ismana Haryono for her work in developing Sekolah Cita Buana school in South Jakarta since 1995; and Sharif Horthy of Guerrand Hermes Foundation for Peace (GHFP) was recognized for GHFP’s innovative approaches to Human-Centered Education.

Ethan and Davina also recognized the role of youth in supporting Subud’s social initiatives around the world, contributing their energy, enthusiasm and skills. They presented awards to Human Force Volunteering for Social Change, developed by Subud Youth for Subud Youth who want to learn about Subud’s social and humanitarian work by volunteering at an SD project; and YES Quest for helping so many Subud Youth to find their direction

“ An amazing celebration of 50 years of Susila Dharma and the other Wings... ”

in work and life.

Sharifin Gardiner paid tribute to those SD projects working in the most sensitive eco-systems, where communities are requesting the support of Subud practitioners to develop sustainable livelihoods that do not damage the precious environment upon which all life on this planet depends. He presented awards to Frederika Paembonan for Yayasan Permakultur Kalimantan's work to promote permaculture in Central Kalimantan; Bardolf Paul for Yayasan Tambuhak Sinta's work to create sustainable livelihoods and prevent environmental contamination in the artisanal mining sector; Valli Rajan Palaniyappan for Anisha's efforts to help small farmers utilise traditional organic agricultural practices; Illène Pevec of A Child's Garden of Peace for raising awareness among children and communities of the intimate connection between food and nature; and Emaline Gonzalez, Davida Paul and Clara Rust, youth volunteers at Fundacion Tropico, which works to support communities to protect their beautiful, unique and fragile eco-systems.

The evening ended by recognising two Subud women who embody the spirit of giving, commitment and dedication to Subud – through their contribution to building SDIA and SICA as strong and viable Subud organisations. Rosanna Hille of SDIA, was honoured for her huge contribution to building and sustaining the SD Network as Chairperson, as Executive Director, and now as advisor and office team member since 1989; and to Latifah Taormina for her role in developing, sustaining and nurturing SICA since its inception in 1983. After recalling the 10 Aims of Subud, a big thank you was given to the World Congress organizing team, all the SD nationals, volunteers, and all the members who support SD's efforts in so many countries. Danke! ●



Rosanna Hille of SDIA, was honoured for her huge contribution to building and sustaining the SD Network as Chairperson, as Executive Director, and now as advisor and office team member since 1989 (Photo by Kohar Para)

SESI Award Message from Isaac Goff

First Published in Subud World News www.subudworldnews.com

Bapak suggested that, in Subud, our social and humanitarian work should be funded by profit-making enterprises run by Subud members. So the relationship between Enterprise and Social work has always been key to achieving results for our fellow human beings. The Awards in recognition of the commitment of entrepreneurs to supporting Subud's social and human work were presented by Hadrian Fraval, outgoing Chair of SESI, at an event during the World Congress in Freiburg.

"Tonight, we remember the inspiration that Bapak gave us and the message that Subud Enterprises should lead the way in supporting Subud's social and humanitarian work," Hadrian began. "Tonight, we honour the spirit of Entrepreneurship and the deep commitment of Subud entrepre- >



. Isaac in the centre with sons Sampson on the left and David on the right.

neurs to take into account the well-being of the communities whose lives they touch. We remember the example set by the Board of PTSW in the 1990s, which allocated \$50,000 a year to supporting SDIA and its efforts to fund the social work of Subud members around the world.”

One of the entrepreneurs acknowledged was Isaac Goff, the founder of Dharma Trading, whose very successful business has been committed to supporting social projects for many years now. Through the proceeds of their business, Isaac and Renée Goff have helped thousands of children achieve a better life, through access to needed healthcare and education. However, Isaac and Renée were unable to attend congress, so Isaac sent a messages with images and words, which he hopes may inspire others. ●

HUMAN FORCE CAMP IN KALIMANTAN

Solen Lees writes...

We're strong, active and informed!

For over 8 years Human Force Volunteering has been raising awareness of our planet and its people through fostering human relationships, positive contributions to sustainable development and open, responsive learning to global issues.

Our next camp is in December (7 to 17) and you can apply now!

Volunteering can be an exceptional vehicle for developing awareness of social and sustainable development whilst supporting local community-driven initiatives.

The Human Force 10-day volunteering adventure begins in the heart of Kalimantan, home of the ancient Dayak people, rich in both culture and biodiversity. We join Susila Dharma International member project Yayasan Permakultur Kalimantan, promoting ecological sustainability and following the permaculture principles of 'care of people, care of earth, care for the future!'. ●



Human Force participants at a previous camp in Kalimantan, in front of a mural just painted opposite the kitchen garden created during the camp.

MSF PANEL INSTALLED

Viktor Boehm writes from Kinshasa...

Yesterday Hilma Simon and I participated in the Subud Group Latihan at the Kinshasa Subud house.

Afterwards we handed over the MSF Panel to the new Kejiwaan Councillor, Seraphine. The RDC Chair Bernard could not come because of the death of this brother.

They will install the MSF Panel on the wall of the Subud house in the court.

MSF supported the Kinshasa Subud Group several times and the refurbishments were coordinated by Paul Roberge from Canada. Now the group want to submit another proposal for the house >



Viktor Boehm hands over the MSF Panel to the Kinshasa group.

to also complete the left side of the house.

Valentin Pizzi gave me the MSF panel during the WC2018 in Freiburg to hand over to the Kinshasa Subud group, on my way with Hilma down to the Kwilu Ngongo Mother and Child Health Centre, which should be finished end of the year 2018.

THE INDIANA JONES OF INDONESIA MINING

Read what others think of us in this article By JOHN MCBETH Jakarta, Sept. 2, 2018...

Kalimantan Surya Kentana director Mansur Geiger has worked with Kalimantan's local Dayak tribes to find and exploit ores for over 35 years.

Thirty-five years ago Australian geologist Mansur Geiger set off into the heart of Indonesian Borneo, where he spent the next month with Dayak tribesmen prospecting for gold and other minerals in a rugged jungle wilderness populated by orangutans, nine-meter-long pythons and Malaysian sun bears.

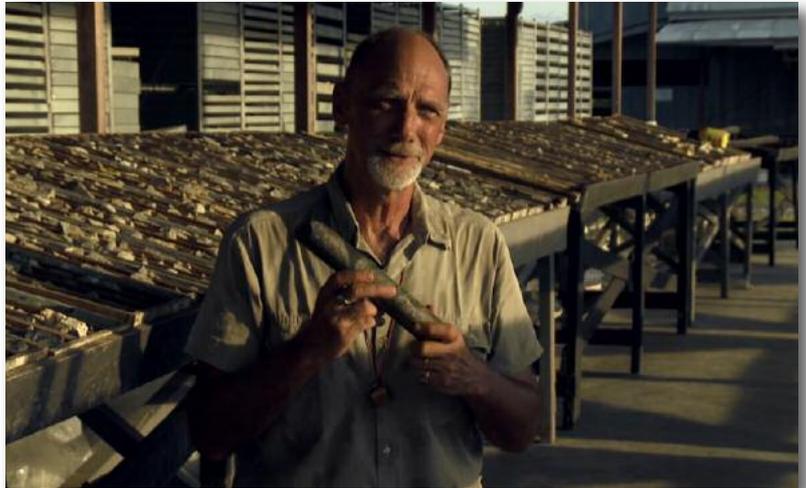
On foot and by canoe, it would be one of many expeditions undertaken by the modern-day Indiana Jones into the upper reaches of the Kahayan River, which over time would lead to the discovery of Beruang Kanan, a deposit containing an estimated 200,000 tons of copper cathode.

This isn't the end of the story, however. About 30 kilometers to the west lies Baroi, where preliminary drilling some years ago revealed long near-surface veins of high-grade ore and the promise of a major porphyry copper deposit beneath.

Dayak children Geiger met on that first trip up the Kahayan subsequently became part of the 100-strong work-force of PT Kalimantan Surya Kencana, (KSK), then a subsidiary of Indonesian-owned Kalimantan Gold when it was first formed in 1997.

Under his guidance, former subsistence farmers, hunter-gatherers and gold panners turned their hand to geology, drilling, engineering and carpentry as KSK expanded the search for promising copper and gold deposits in uncharted territory.

Geiger's growing bond with the Dayaks also led to the birth of the Tambuhak Sinta Foundation, one of Indonesia's earliest corporate social responsibility programs aimed at community empow- >



Mansur Geiger.



Mansur Geiger with Dayak tribesmen on Kalimantan's Kahayan River. (Photo: Mansur Geiger)

erment, environmental protection and providing education for under-privileged children.

To read the complete article, go to:

<http://www.atimes.com/article/the-indiana-jones-of-indonesian-mining/>

UNLEASH YOUR VOICE – UNLEASH YOURSELF...THE BOOK !

Adrienne Thomas, the author, writes...

It was many years ago now that I did a mini tour of Australia giving workshops, individual sessions and performances (of a show I am now rather embarrassed by!) all based around voice. I met some wonderful people and had a great time but when Harris Smart, who had organised the tour, suggested I write a book about my work, I realised that neither I nor my work, were ready then.

Back in England and years passed until I found a studio space way out in the country and decided I would go there every day and work on my own voice... just to experiment and try to receive guidance. I knew I had a powerful voice but I just couldn't fully release it.

What followed was remarkable, almost miraculous and sometimes very scary. It was as if there was a teacher whispering in my ear do this and now do that... sending my voice off in all directions, vibrating sound where I didn't know sound could be vibrated! I wrote it all down; like taking dictation, and much of it didn't make any sense to me.

Then I realised I was being invited to sound in the chakra centres which I knew little about, but when I began to study them I saw that they provided a simple blueprint for life – for all the developmental stages we journey through from infancy onwards.

The Ancients must have understood this and because of it, developed a number of different systems for sounding through these centres. As I became more comfortable with what was happening I sought out teachers and more information, stepping into a vast world of sound, energy, scientific exploration, quantum physics and of course the latihan.

I began using these new exercises with groups and individuals and they worked! There was a definite system which made sense as it sought to work on mind, body and spirit simultaneously.

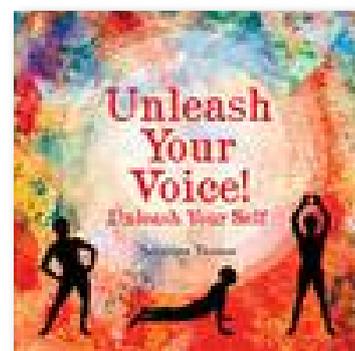
It developed into a system of sound cycles, each dealing with a different form of energy and with a different aspect of development; so there are gentle sensual cycles based in the lower energy centres and strong warrior like cycles based in the solar plexus centre, where our authenticity and personal power is held (or not).

There are “animal” energies which help in liberating new exploratory sounds as we imagine birds and bears and cats and ally ourselves to them! The cycles very much encourage the use of imagination and feeling as we bypass the mind and enter the realm of the limbic system and rely on our own intuition.

I am increasingly interested in the effects of being “silenced” as a child and the internal dialogues that can occur as a result, encouraging us to play small in order to survive. It makes perfect sense that, through the liberation of the very means of expression most affected, the voice, the wonderful talents and energies which were repressed, can also be set free. It's an immense privilege to witness this and hear the sounds which are released as a result, often surprising the person themselves most of all.



Adrienne Thomas.



“Where did that come from?” is something I hear a lot.

It’s wonderful too to witness the sounds produced by groups of people, mostly strangers to one another when the voice is trusted and allowed to follow its own course.

Whole choruses of rich sounds, natural harmonies, rising and falling together with no direction from any one person.

We witness, too, the strange miracle of entrainment, when, after working together for a short time, a group of people will naturally begin sounding together and finish sounding at exactly the same time!

I remember one night in particular, when working at the Steiner centre in London, when the warden came over and said, “You know I’ve heard something like that before; it’s called the latihan!”

I promise you there wasn’t a single Subud member in the room, nor had I “opened” anyone, but perhaps the sound had the same sense of freedom about it?

Another time, a man working in a nearby studio as we were going through a session, asked of he could record us as he had never heard sounds like that before! Of course I had to say no... for me, and I think probably for the participants, the sounds are deeply personal; part of their process through to a bigger self and not for “entertainment”... but it was nice to be asked!

So, when a few months ago another friend said, “What you need is a book about your work” I knew it was ready... it just needed to be taken off the computer and out into the world. What a miraculous process it has been.

Working on an absolute shoe string, I have been overwhelmed by the generosity of friends offering skills and support. Harlan Cockburn for his editing skills and advice; Pam Hewitt for some late stage amendments, but most of all to Lynda Durrant the illustrator, who has spent hours of her time, both creating the wonderful illustrations and for patiently taking me through the whole process of self publishing and more agonisingly, for creating an e-book and uploading it to Lulu !

Next will be an on-line course which I think is a great way to learn. I’ve bought several myself and just love the idea that people all over the world can be following this work in the privacy of their own homes or together in groups! Another steep learning curve but it seems that this is the age to definitely go in that direction.

So... a big thank you to everyone who has helped, but also of course, to all the people I have worked with over the years who really taught me more than all the study books and research... I owe you all a huge debt of gratitude!

You can email Adrienne: Adrienne.thomas1@aol.co.uk or see the ad (page 26) for more info. ●

THE FREEDOM OF POETRY

Mardiyah Simpson reviews “we humans” a new anthology of Subud poetry released at World Congress...

"In the beginning was the word..." and poetry is that magical creation comprised entirely of words. Through time and across the world, in as many languages as humans speak, sometimes neat and rhyming, these days freer and flowing, unique national patterns, riddles, short and sweet or long and languorous, a silent read, a performed shout, a limerick, an ode, a haiku, a saga, a ballad, a sonnet, a myth, a truth, a dream, an elegy, a prayer – the possibil-



Mardiyah Simpson

ities of poetry are endless.

This year on a hot summer day in Freiburg 'we humans' a fresh poetry anthology was launched on the stage at the Subud Village at World Congress. Emmanuel Williams and Stefanie Brown produced the book of 76 works by Subud poets from 17 different countries with love, patience via the internet. Many of the poets were at Congress and read their work. Listeners stayed on and so we were able to read more of our poems until time ran out!

These words – the voices from so many Subud poets from so many places; Australia, Bali, Britain, Canada, Columbia, Greece, Denmark, France, Indonesia, Ireland, New Zealand, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Thailand, Turkey and USA are fascinating.

Apart from five poems; Catalan, French, Indonesian, Norwegian and Spanish (from Columbia)– with translations in English included, the rest are in English. The themes, styles and moods vary but the sense of wonder at the world, life – inner and outer – runs through them all like an underground stream. Until you read the short biographies of each poet at the book's end you cannot sense any separation – we are all just humans living our lives in this one world as best we can.

As I too have a poem included, I was interested to learn more of who these Subud brothers and sisters from around the world were. I discovered the oldest is 95 years old and the youngest contributor just ten. Apart from their home countries listed, many of the poets had travelled, lived or worked in so many more. I spotted Afghanistan, Cyprus, Denmark, East Timor, Egypt, Italy, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mexico, Russia, South Africa, Turkey, and UEA.

When you read this collection you will find a choice to suit every mood; amusing poems, happy poems and sad poems. On universal topics such as birth and death, life and love, grand-parents, fathers & mothers, husbands & wives, sons & daughters, children, babies.

There are animals and birds: badgers, cats, cows, dolphins, elephants, frogs, horses, pelicans, squirrels, swallows and whales. A word world alive with bees, trees, oaks, cumquats, flowers and fruit - strawberries & raspberries, pumpkins, herbs bread and broth. A feast to relish. Love and prayer is everywhere.

For those who were not at Congress or too busy with other business to get a copy of this anthology – sponsored by SICA International and SICA USA.

You can order on line from www.lulu.com just type the title in the search box on the home page Proceeds from sales will go to SICA International to support future poetic endeavours.



Some of the “we human” poets on the main stage of the Subud Village at Freiburg. Leo Sedgley, Leo Horthy, Daphne Alexopoulou, Donna Coogan, Marcus Bolt, Mardijah Simpson, Diego (Konrad) Román, Stefanie Brown, Harris Smart. (Photo by Armando Agredo)

”

*We are all
just humans
living our lives in
this one world
as best
we can...*

“

I PROTECT ME - MAKING SCHOOLS SAFE FROM SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Taken from issue 108 of the SDIA e-newsletter...

Seven-year old Gracie was attacked by her stepfather at home last year. The next day she told her teacher what she had done: "I did what I Protect Me taught me. I kicked him and ran to the police station ...". Her stepfather was charged with attempted rape.

Gracie was in school when I Protect Me's prevention workers gave a training session to students on how to protect themselves against this kind of attack. She is just one of the young people who have managed to escape from threatening situations like this because of I Protect Me (IPM) training.

IPM addresses gender equality by giving self-protection training to women and children in South Africa and raising awareness about attitudes around gender with a view to changing the way women and girls are perceived and creating an atmosphere of respect.

I Protect Me in South Africa helps protect children and vulnerable adults from sexual violence. Read how the project is spreading its wings to reach more youngsters in the SDIA Newsletter. ●



Participants at a summer school in Cape Town, where I Protect Me played an important role.

IZELLAH'S LATEST SINGLE "DREAMS COME TRUE"

<http://tigerbeat.com/video/izellah-dreams-come-true/>

This 11-year-old Australian-born popstar is making a name for herself in the music industry with her latest and greatest single "Dreams Come True." Co-written with Wesley and Keaton Stromberg, this song is the upbeat, positivity-driven anthem you've been waiting for! The best part? TigerBeat readers are getting early access to this oh-so-relatable new bop. Keep scrolling to check out Izellah's song and stay tuned because big things are definitely coming from this pint-sized powerhouse!



Rahman Connelly writes... "There was a serendipitous story of how this song came about. Last July on our last day in LA our publicist arranged what we thought was a meet and greet with a songwriter/producer, but when we arrived, he asked, 'Are you ready', to which we said, 'To do what', with his reply being to do a song. So, starting with a blank sheet of paper at 12 midday, by 5pm the producer and Izellah had co-written and recorded the song."

Izellah adds... "When writing this song Wesley had three melodies for me to choose from. One of them had this twinkly sound and it reminded me of my favorite lyric: 'Will they come true I wish I knew if my dreams will really come true,' it all came together from there!" ●

OUR SUBUD STORY AT FREIBURG

The OSS team writes...

For millennia human beings have shared important information by telling stories. Ibu Rahayu has encouraged us to share our stories, which show the reality of the latihan working in our lives, especially when the results are visible to other people.

The SICA 'Our Subud Story' team was developed to promote many different aspects of storytelling at the Freiburg World Congress. Here are some of the great story-telling activities that were promoted by the OSS team, and the outcomes of those activities.

Memories of Bapak

A highlight for many people was the wonderful interviews of Subud pioneers sharing their memories of Bapak, particularly from the early years. There are 250+ of these extraordinary interviews including ones with Hussein Rofé, Patricia Lacey, Sharif Horthy and Lusana Faliks.

Most were recorded around the mid 1990s by filmmaker Jerry Chalem and his associates. It's delightful to see the fresh, younger faces of familiar people, including many much-loved people who have now passed away. Each interviewee spoke of their unique encounters with Bapak which gave insight into his extraordinary power and presence as he pursued his mission to bring the latihan to all mankind.

The interviews, recorded on celluloid tape, were found under a staircase in Subud New York by Kristiana Kalab in 2013 and were in danger of decomposing. Kristiana brought some of these tapes to the Puebla Congress, met WSA archivists, and Subud videographers and created enough interest to get help and funding to have them digitized and transferred onto external hard drives.

Her mission at Freiburg Congress was to get together technical experts who could take over the project from her nontechnical hands. A suitable team was identified and is being led by Lawrence Pevec from the USA.

The focus of the current effort is to prepare the interviews for publication on a dedicated and secure website to which Subud members have access via username and password. The aim is for the site to be linked to the World Subud Association (WSA) website eventually.

In this way one user name and password would be used for all the WSA material. The material will also be available for anyone wishing to do research on Subud and the relationship of Bapak to the Subud members who remember him personally.

In addition, it is hoped the project will expand and continue with new recordings being submitted by Subud members and uploaded to the site. We estimate that there are still hundreds, perhaps thousands of Subud Members who have firsthand memories of Bapak.

This will be an invaluable contribution to our understanding of the early days of the expansion of the latihan from Indonesia into the rest of the world. If you want to help, the project team is still looking for skilled volunteers in the following fields:

- A. **Budget /Acct. Team:** Accounting person needed to keep account of funds raised and spent.
- B. **Video Editing Team:** Transitions, and titles/ credits: We will need three or four editors conversant with iMovie, Final Cut Pro or Adobe Premier. Includes minor colour correction.
- C. **Sound Editing Team:** Four to Five Sound technicians needed, includes sound syncing with video.
- D. **Transcriptions Team:** We will need up to five transcribers.
- E. **Translators Team:** We will need translators for three to five languages, to be determined.
- F. **Subtitle Team:** Determine the order of add captions.
- G. **Publishing Team:** Development of a dedicated website or upload to WSA Archives website. To be determined.
- H. **Fund raising:** Dahlan Simpson, others.



The OSS Team: Maia Burra, Laksar Burra, Maria Blake and Rashidah Pope.

If you can help or have questions, please contact:

Lawrence Pevec, MoB/JCIP Project Director: lfpevec@gmail.com

Kristiana Kalab, General History and Project Overview: kristiana.kalab@gmail.com

Subud WSA Archives: Daniela Moneta: daniela_wsaarchives@subud.org

SICA Culture Couch

Culture Couch was a TV interview-style program presented by Harris Smart in the Subud Village Auditorium. It featured lively interviews with a wide range of diverse people, projects and experiences. Those interviewed included Osanna Vaughn, Arifin Konrad, Robi Sumohadiwidjojo, Utami Geiger and Sati Soesetyo. Their stories were informative, touching, intriguing and occasionally just plain miraculous. This was another crowd-pleaser with many people making it a regular feature in their Congress program choices.

Forum for Authors

Self-publishing is now relatively easy and cheap and provides a pathway for increasing numbers of people to publish and sell their own books. And we Subud members certainly have some stories to tell, as we witness the reality of the latihan guiding us and impacting our lives in many and varied ways.



On the Culture Couch: Sharif Horthy, Rachman Mitchell, Harris Smart and Maria Blake.

Thirty writers gathered for this forum to speak briefly of their work and share any areas of expertise they had that may be helpful to others. Those present were able to connect with someone who may help them with any writing or publishing problems they were encountering. Many present recommended using self-publisher Lulu and Marcus Bolt and Stefanie Brown conducted a follow-up workshop to help new authors use it effectively and to answer any questions.

An email group of Subud authors has now been set up and if you want to join it please contact oursubudstory@gmail.com

Storytelling Workshops

We conducted three general storytelling workshops to encourage ordinary Subud members to share their stories of the latihan working in their lives. Many wonderful stories surfaced. We roared with laughter, shed tears or were surprised by unexpected events as ordinary folk shared their Subud experiences. In all 40-50 people attended the workshops.

One outcome was the real enjoyment that people felt in sharing their own stories and listening to the very varied stories of other Subud folk. A sense of closeness and mutual respect was evident by the end of each workshop. A young woman who joined one workshop was not opened, clearly enjoyed hearing the variety of stories from Subud members old and new - and later that day approached helpers about becoming an applicant.

Another person shared a story then felt able to do some testing to further explore some aspects of the situation. These are just some indications of the value that comes from sharing stories of our Subud experiences.

We have written guidelines for conducting a story telling workshop, so if you would like to run one at your group, regional gathering or congress, please contact us at oursubudstory@gmail.com and we will email you a copy. It's also a great way to get to know our Subud brothers and sisters and to build stronger bonds.

[The Second Wave and other video stories](#)

Harlan Cockburn filmed 'First Wave' Subud pioneers at the Thank You 2007 celebration in the UK. At Freiburg he filmed the 'Second Wavers' - those who have done the Latihan for 40+ years. Also, two young videographers Aswin Vogel and Anwar Lowther showed video interviews that they had filmed in Puebla of Subud pioneers sharing their reminiscences. These are fine examples of individuals taking the initiative to capture stories of Subud's early years for future generations.

[In Memoriam](#)

For years former International Helper Isti Jenkins has been seeking a way to honour Subud members who are now deceased. She eventually settled on creating a large scrapbook-style book called 'In Memoriam'. This was also a highlight of the Our Subud Story program. People commented on how touching it was to turn the beautifully decorated pages and come upon the record of family members or old friends.

Each entry was different and used material supplied by those who knew them well, including photographs, eulogies, news items or other relevant material. This book is stored in Archives and will be bought to the next World Congress with added information provided about other Subud members who have passed away. If you would like a friend or family member remembered in 'In Memoriam' and can provide suitable biographical or other material please contact us at oursubudstory@gmail.com

[Our Subud Story Website](#)

The youth gathered for the Basara Youth Camp saw the importance of preserving the stories of the Subud pioneers, saying "How do we know where we are going if we don't know where we have come from?" SESI funded Robiyanto Sumohadiwidjojo to develop a website that could contain stories, both of our pioneers and current members. You can see this website at oursubudstory.id We would like to see this website taken to the next level, so that stories in written form, audio or video recording can be displayed for a Subud audience with appropriate username and password access.

This work would be undertaken if it gets WSA input and approval. As part of a feasibility study we are looking for people who have the necessary skills to make this happen. This includes someone with webmaster/webpublishing expertise, 3-5 people with editing experience willing to sit on an editorial committee and a general administrative officer to co-ordinate activities and manage correspondence. If you have the necessary skills and are willing to help, please contact us at oursubudstory@gmail.com

[In conclusion](#)

We hope that all this work will continue to bear fruit and that sharing stories of our Subud experiences will become a part of Subud culture. This sharing can build our understanding of how the latihan works and give us insight into, and confidence about, our individual latihan. Storytelling can also build our community as people get to know each other better and can reflect on their own and others' journeys.

HELPING TEEN-AGE GIRLS

Emmanuel Williams talks about his project...



Emmanuel Williams.

Somehow it arrived in my consciousness... the issue of millions of young teen girls spending so much of their time on social media, with consequences that are mostly negative.

I was wondering aloud at a recent USA Congress if I should write a short book about this, but a younger Subud sister – Christina – told me most young teens don't read books any more, and that instead I should compose a series of 20 second video 'blasts', each one addressing some aspect of the issue, and put them on YouTube.

I applied for a grant of \$2500 from the \$100,000 awards. I videotaped a proposal and sent it to Freiburg. To my delight it was accepted.

I bought a good Canon camera, a tripod, a lapel mic. And some really good books.

Every Day

Then I was talking about the project with Sarah Morgan, who's a librarian in a high school, and she said it's a very good idea, and that young teens like something they can click on every day. Wow! I thought. Every day? Then she said it doesn't have to be talk stuff all the time. "How about short videos of nature?" I asked. "20 or 30 seconds of birds or a creek or leaves?". "Great!" she said.

So, I've been working on that. Recently we had to move from our home in the Bay Area to the Sierra foothills, near the Seven Circles Retreat Centre.

There's a creek flowing through woods near us, so I've been going there with my camera. Ripples and reflections... water boatmen, trees. And mountains. And drifting clouds. Got about 60 v. short nature videos.

Then another friend, Nirel, Subud Portland, suggested we set things up so that people – teens, parents, counsellors etc – can send us written or video messages relating to the issue. YES!

Meanwhile, as I said, I've been reading. There are excellent books on the subject. "Glow Kids." "Disconnected." "10 arguments for deleting your social media accounts RIGHT NOW". Currently I'm reading "Beauty Sick", which is downright scary.

It's BIG, this project. It's taking shape. There's a lot of work to be done. An emergent theme is the difference between inner and outer, or intrinsic and extrinsic. This relates to another theme – the influence if the material energy in the world: the influence, for example, of commercial culture in the lives of kids and teens.

A techie in the team that developed Facebook said, somewhat ambiguously, "God knows what we're doing to the minds of children!" The phrase has stuck with me.

If you have thoughts, insights, suggestions, experiences relating to this issue, please contact me. My email address is: emmanuelriddlemaker@gmail.com

“Teen girls spend so much time on social media, with consequences that are mostly negative...”

FINDING SYFA, THE MISSING LINK

Daniela Bustillo writes...

The first time I saw the acronym SYFA (Subud Youth Family Association) was during the preparation work for the Freiburg Congress. It kept coming up associated with this great group of people preparing the spaces and content for the younger youth – babies, toddlers and teens. I vaguely wondered what SYFA stood for but didn't pursue it then. What drew my attention was the welcoming and comfortable feeling it gave me. It was a sense of completion.

Recently, a month after congress, I decided to ask Mariamah Mount about it. I knew she was part of this great group of people and I always recall in awe how she was in charge of the younger ones in Spokane Congress and then at BIG and I actually got to the right person!

Here is her feedback, that although it was through Whatsapp, I believe explains it well:

Mariamah Mount responds...

I rallied for SYFA to be started in around 2004 to expand it from the existing National Congress childcare role and to fill the gap that SYA left. Subud Britain very enthusiastically accepted and supported this, and from then it became a Wing: testing the coordinators with National Helpers - at least 2 coordinators from 2006, a regular budget and attendance in the National Council meetings.

“ *I realised just how interactive SYFA and SYA are...* ”

From 2008, the coordinators expanded it further to include an outdoor exploration focus (previous focus tended to be bonding, games, art and craft and kejiwaan) and since 2010, we always hire a hall

for latihan and kejiwaan, even when camping.

Now SYFA has a formula of gatherings which is seasonal and fits with school holidays: Autumn Gathering indoors or with indoors and camping in some interesting location; Winter New Years' Gathering; Spring Gathering (which has often been at a Subud owned place, Glansevin); and a Summer camping trip in different beautiful places in the UK; plus UK National Congress in the summer. (There's also talk of international explorations and SYFA took part in organising the 2016 Zonal Gathering in Poland.)

In each SYFA event, everyone shares cooking of lunches and dinners. There is sign up for a 'head chef' and kitchen helpers. Sign up also for set-up and clean up, as well as offering workshops, entertainment, games and walks etc. Kids join in work and offering things as well as having fun. We usually have a disco night and a talent show night. For check out, everyone joins in getting the whole place clean.

Over the years, we've had different collective issues: sometimes lots of work on problem solving with the children; for many years we've had limited mobile and tablet use during gatherings (in lots of different ways).

Each gathering includes lots of kejiwaan - often a local Regional or National Helper will join for a few hours - and deep talks as well as loads of laughs. One of the things the kids have shared is how much they like playing with adults with their friends, too, so we make sure to have games that >



Subud Youth Family Association (UK) family gathering.

mix up the community. Grandparents and other people without young children often join the gatherings, which is further enriching to all.



The puzzle is finally complete...



[The Inspiration for SYFA](#)

The inspiration for SYFA was seeing how many people were inactive with latihan during parenting years, and many even never coming back. Unintentionally, the culture blamed them, but I and others felt their needs weren't being met in the right way.

So the intention was/is to meet the needs of the whole family: have a place where Subud children can connect to Subud, make friends in Subud, have fun and enriching experiences; for Subud children to have a wider web of community with mentors and role models etc, for them to have good memories and relationships that can help carry them forward in their lives.

For parents to have support (mutual, but also from helpers and shared expertise); a venue where doing latihan doesn't unduly separate parents from their children; fun experiences with other people; deep experiences that help parents live more in accordance with their latihan, parent better and develop skills and contemplations together with others.

The feedback is that since SYFA started, parents feel more supported and connected. And that there are more parents in UK who do latihan and more opened youth. People who are active parents are taking on more roles within Subud Britain and internationally. The importance of creating community is prioritised throughout Subud Britain - this is absolutely not only due to SYFA, but is part and parcel of it."

[Daniela adds...](#)

By the way, SYFA stands for Subud Youth Family Association and as I visited their Facebook page, I realized how interactive SYFA and SYA are. Suddenly all the pieces fell into place and it was complete. SYFA and SYA complement each other. After many years of puzzling about the scope and role of SYA the puzzle is finally complete. ●

THE PASSING OF HALIMAH ARMYTAGE

A very much beloved member of Subud Australia, Halimah Armytage passed away peacefully in her sleep on Sunday September 23. A celebration for her life attended by almost 70 people was held on Thursday September 2. Halimah was opened around 1960 and was an active helper most of her Subud life. She was also a national helper.

[*Here, her son Harry writes in memory of his mother...*](#)

The sadness that you have now gone is balanced by the joy that you died peacefully, without the anxiety or fear that had settled on you in recent years.

I am so lucky to have had such a beautiful mum. Not fully realised until preparing for today. Your love of life profoundly shaped the lens of my life. It allowed my curiosity to blossom. So boredom and monotony remain but distant companions.



Halimah on her 90th birthday.

You adjusted to my disruption to your life at 22. But wow, what a romantic prelude – as a Wren you learnt to drive a ten-tonne truck with a crash gearbox. You intercepted Nazi signals on an Enigma machine. Only telling us that you had worked on the world's first computer. Keeping your secret until the film was released. Then you fell in love with a dashing Spitfire pilot as a fine art student.

I felt so safe and cosy in your care. With a freedom to roam, only to return for meals or bed. My days were filled with exploring, riding & climbing the surrounding countryside. Braving many physical risks just for the fun of it, which today would be quite unfashionable.

One of my fondest memories is coming into your bedroom in the early evening. You looked so beautiful in your pearls and pretty dress, complete in your perfumed elegance for a night out. I felt so proud of you.



Halimah and Sofyan at the Chelsea Arts Ball.

Mum, you had what my Dad called a fair hand – so while we sunned and swam as kids along the river near Alba La Romaine in the South of France, you captured the oxen, the shimmering water and the dappled light in delicate water-colours. In later years, you potted masterpieces in clay. I prize your reject asymmetric fruit bowl whose grey-green lining complements the colour of any fruit we place inside. So it felt natural, and easy, to be creative in such a fertile space.

Thanks for the encouragement to explore the inner life with courage and joy.



Nearly 70 attended a celebration of Halimah's life on September 27, including all her children, most of the grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Harry writes...

"After the service, we went back to Lydia's place (Harry's sister) and shared a snack and many hugs). We buried her ashes near Sofyan's at Lost World (a bush property owned by the family).

We often chatted and in more recent times, we took care to forgive each other's mistakes and to celebrate our triumphs and strengths. We said all that was needed in the time we had together. Bound by the bond of DNA and unconditional love, we shared an enthusiasm for life's adventures.

Your amazing meals were hard to match, at any price. You taught me the importance of good food and of the embodied love. Minimal temptation for soulless happy meals. Your legacy extends – Lucas rang me one day and said, "Sit down Dad, I've got something really important to tell you, Now I understand why you never took us to McDonalds. Worthy of a Toyota jump, Mum! Many of you here today have enjoyed a delicious feast prepared at moment's notice by our resident chef.

Mum, you had what my Dad



Halimah was a WREN.



With breath now stilled
And skin so cold and wan
even as I shed a tear
In the stillness before dawn
Don't worry mum
For I know your beauty and love
Will live Inside me, forever more

“ Encouragement to explore the inner life with courage and joy... ”

Pallbearers Matt, Ethan, Lucas and Seb ●

THE WORLD PATTERN OF PROCESS: MORE ON ZAT, SIFAT, ASMA, AF'AL

Rasunah Marsden writes from Canada...

You may be interested in a doctoral dissertation in Education recently submitted to the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. Entitled the World Pattern of Process, the thesis introduces the concepts Zat, Sifat, Asma, Af'al and the material, vegetal, animal and human energies to an academic audience and discusses correlations in the sciences and humanities which support these concepts.

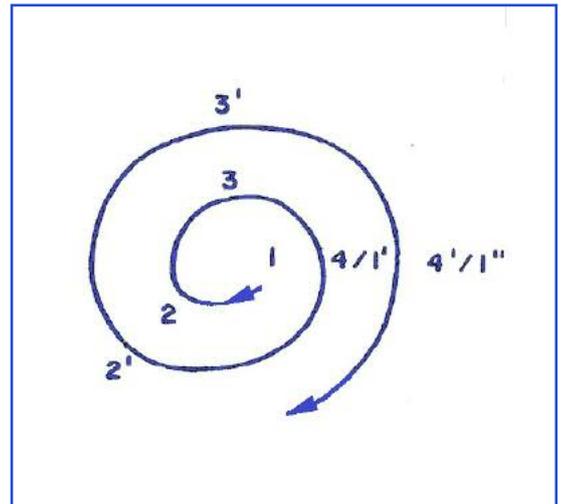
Part I (Chapters 1-4) articulates the World Pattern as Zat, Sifat, Asma, Af'al. Part II (Chapters 5-7) shows the application of the concepts when viewing Indigenous World Views, the Great Chain of Being, and Theories of Everything. The reason these viewpoints were chosen was to illustrate how these topics may be viewed from the perspective of the World Pattern in areas selected for their focuses on the alternate, the past, and contemporary world views, respectively.

Here are a few statements from the Concluding chapter (Ch. 8) in the thesis: “The purpose of elaborating the World Pattern of Process has been to provide a new set of correspondences and points of comparison and reference which can enrich deliberations on existence and process in the field of education and beyond... The World Pattern of Process offers a holistic approach to knowledge systems and re-invigorates dialectics on human being.”

Salamah Pope and I had been discussing the World Pattern occasionally over the past decade until her passing on August 30, 2017. Just previously, I had just completed the last edits to the article she had finalized on June 22, 2017. I sent the article to Harris Smart as a piece Salamah had originally entitled “Bapak’s “Filsafat” – A Piece for Subud World News. Salamah’s book, Pattern of the World, is a major accomplishment in conveying Bapak’s “Filsafat” to the world. Here’s her question from her last paragraph: “Is there anyone else out there who considers Bapak’s philosophy worth taking on board? – and promoting it? I honestly think these ideas could indeed change the world.”

Getting back to my story, in choosing those three applications, I had no idea what I was getting into, but had asked Salamah to write about how the Pattern of the World could be applied to academic disciplines, but alas, she only had time to write the article published in Subud Voice.

Several questions arose while I was writing the thesis. I will mention two. The hypothetical ques-



“ The thesis wrote itself... ”

tion, “would I have written about this if I had never been a Subud member?” could not be answered, since I had first been introduced to Zat, Sifat, Asma, Af'al at Bapak's talks in 1971 at the Subud World Congress in Indonesia.

“ *Would I have written about this if I had never been a Subud member?* ”

Later I was quite amazed, in 1981, in Subud Vancouver, when Bapak tested, “How do you walk when your legs are filled with the material force?” (the tests following this question were about the vegetable, animal and human forces.) Writing the thesis, again I felt closer to Bapak's explanations. The second question, “Why was Bapak's “Filsafat” – and not another cosmology, so important?” The answer to that question lies in Bapak's explanations, it is not something that I can articulate – but perhaps we are meant to receive it!

Writing the thesis was also intriguing, in a manner of speaking, the thesis ‘wrote itself’.

What is needed is that more Subud members, especially Indonesian-speaking Subud members who may be more familiar with Zat, Sifat, Asma, Af'al (ZSAA), can either translate articles already written about ZSAA into English, or can write articles about their understanding of ZSAA, because this will be part of the ‘proof’, the Af'al, of the contribution that Bapak's “Filsafat” makes to the world. Especially, English-speaking Subud members will gain further understanding. As mentioned by Muninjaya Anak Agung Gde recently, “I received Salamah's book sent by her from Perth... Regarding ZSAA, this concept of philosophy should not just be understood, but needs to be used by individual Subud members to apply “mawas diri” (introspection) for her/his self.”

rasunah@shaw.ca

SUBUD PAROCHIALISM

“Subud: A Miracle in the Diverse World and its Uncertain Future...”

Simon Shima from Tucson, USA, writes on this theme...

On July 28, 2018, the first day of the 15th Subud World Congress in Freiburg, Germany, the hundreds of men - young and old, tall and short, with fair and dark complexions, and diverse cultural and religious roots - began doing latihan together in the men's latihan hall, the size of a football field.

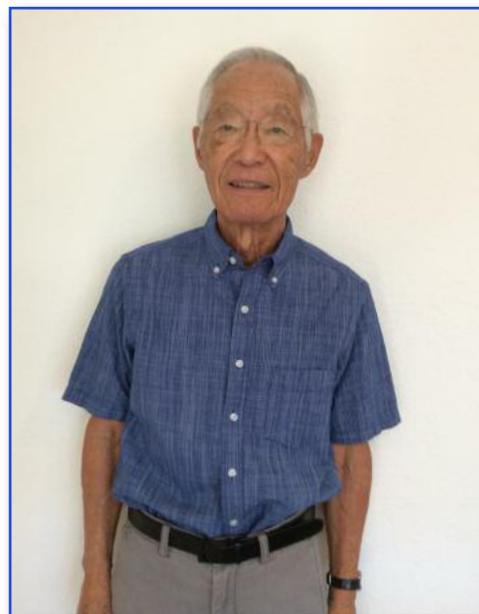
I was amazed to see some men literally half the height of the tallest. What a sight!!! How could those men with the diverse backgrounds come together for the same purpose? Where else could we witness the gathering such as this? I was elated. I was simply overwhelmed.

Before our first latihan, an older man from the Ukraine sat next to me. Assuming that he would not speak English (I could have been wrong), I never spoke to him. Nonetheless, a deep connection was made instantly between us.

Each time we ran into one another during the Congress, he acknowledged me by putting his right hand close to his mouth as if saluting me. No words were spoken, just a profound connection. Where else did I ever feel connected this deeply to a total stranger? Subud is a miracle indeed...

To read the complete article with a comment by the editor, go to

<http://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/SimonShima-Subud-World-Congress.pdf>



Simon Shima.

MONEY MATTERS

Marcus Bolt, Subud Britain's National Treasurer, writes...

As Subud Britain's National Treasurer, I went to this year's National Congress full of trepidation. Due to disagreements over the interpretation of the audited accounts, the Trustees and I had been forced to create two budgets for 2019.

The one, which I supported, calling for increases in payments from our seven Regions to pay for a full time National Office and paid Executive (including new posts required by recent government legislation on Health and Safety, Safeguarding and GDPR), while the Trustees were in favour of the other – an austerity budget with cutbacks all round, including disbanding National Office and replacing paid staff with volunteers.

In effect, the Trustees were saying, "If we continue as we are, paying for all the above on top of the current round of property maintenance, we will soon go broke," whereas I was saying, "But there's £440,000 languishing in Group and Regional accounts and we have a £7.5 million plus property portfolio, so what's the problem?"

It felt as though a war was impending and Congress would be the war zone.

But I was, admittedly, concerned and unsure of my position; as National Treasurer, I had already

“ Which way to go?
A stark choice between
budgets...” ”

contacted all our Regional Treasurers asking for at least a 10% increase in payments, and had been turned down. My take on this was that there was still a marked lack of trust lingering in Subud Britain's corporate psyche over the failures of Anugraha and Premier Hotels, and the way the St Anne's Project had been handled, augmented by an endemic parochialism.

(I totally understand and admit to having had this 'Our group first, all else second' parochial attitude, having been treasurer of various groups over the last 26 years. It only diminished when I became a member of National Council and observed, first hand, 'the other side' in action and the enormity of their workload, their sincerity and dedication.)

I presented both budgets during the finance slot at Congress, and explained to the delegates that they had two choices. Cajole Groups and Regions to pass up more and keep the status quo in place, or cut out National Office, National Secretary, Membership Secretary and a paid Executive*, then run the whole show with the Trustees doing all the work with a group of volunteers.

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(*By the way, by 'paid Executive' I don't mean professional salaries, more like 'honoraria' of about >



Marcus Bolt.

£10 per hour... roughly half what I pay my window cleaner for half an hour's work!)

“ Thus a war was avoided... ”

During the presentation, I used the analogy of Subud Britain as a large company, consisting of a Head Office (National Office and Executive) and seven subsidiary companies (the Regions), each subsidiary with employed, shareholding staff (the Groups). It was as though the Managing Directors of the subsidiary companies (the Trustees) had decided that Head Office and National Executive was a redundant 'luxury' as they felt all the work could be handled in-house more economically by staff on 'voluntary overtime'.

However, I had to point out that this situation had been brought about because the subsidiaries – in effect the whole corporation's profit centres – were not passing sufficient profits to the National: a perfect example of circular reasoning!

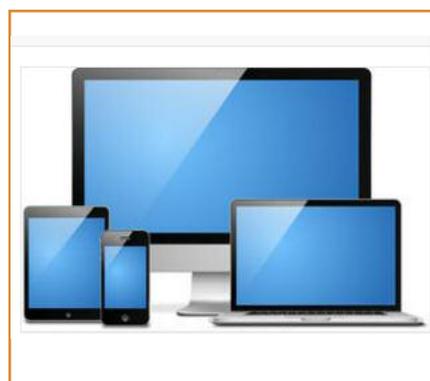
After all the presentations in the plenary sessions, the delegates could choose two out of five workshops, the Finance workshop being run twice (morning and afternoon) by myself and Mahmud Rogers (a qualified accountant and Trustee). And this is where, it seemed, some magic began to happen. In both workshops, the attending delegates argued strongly for a compromise between the two stark choices.

Further discussion on the options began during the final plenary session leading up to delegate voting; and again, the upshot was that all delegates argued for and supported a compromise budget, which was expertly put together by Mahmud in double short time.

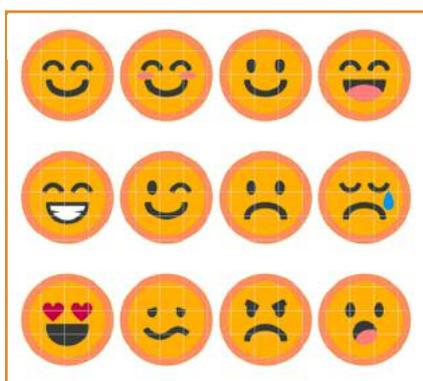
Finally, the delegates voted unanimously on this third budget incorporating some cutbacks, keeping necessary paid posts (including National Secretary – the human touch and a person at the end of a phone being deemed essential, and some Executive posts) and giving the volunteer scheme a chance, but with a financial contingency in place for paid staff in case this proves to be unworkable. All of this is to be funded by a 12% increase from the Regions.

Thus a war was avoided as Subud Britain Congress followed the advice Bapak had painstakingly given us over the years, namely; approach worldly, material problems with an admix of ego-less inner quiet allied with common sense. ●

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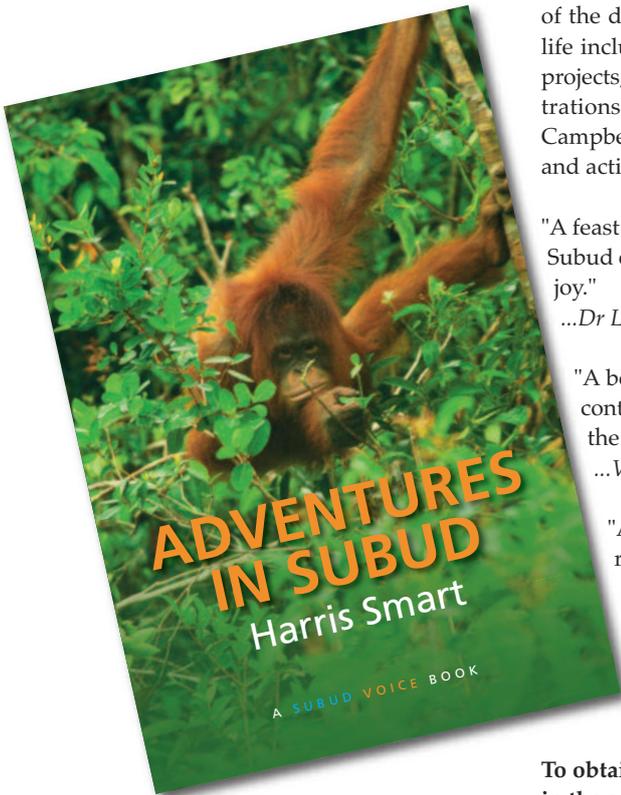


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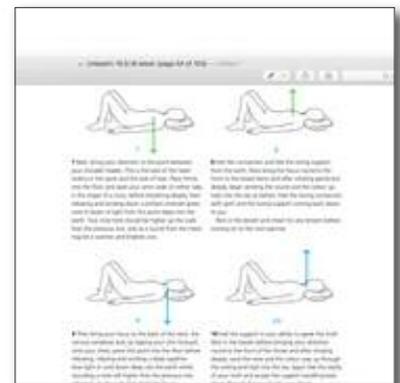
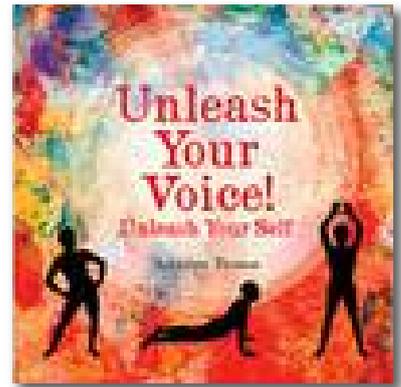
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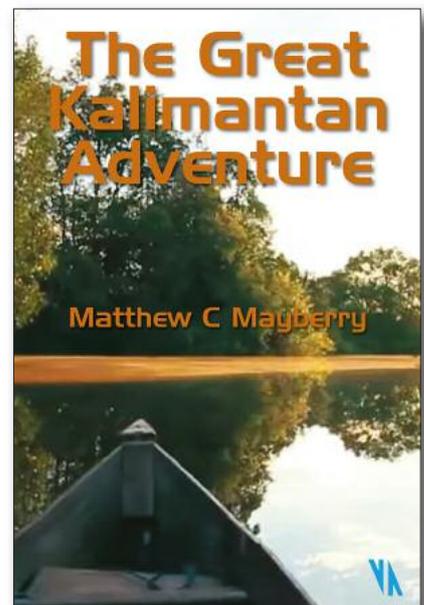
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20 NOVEMBER 2018

Subud Voice is published monthly and the English
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