Number 59 • APRIL 2016

www.subudvoice.net

Editor: Harris Smart

Meetings in Indonesia – Back to Basics



Delegates and visitors to the Indonesian meetings went to Bapak's grave at Suka Mulia. (Photo by Viktor Bohm).

It was a busy time in Indonesia at the end of February and the beginning of March with a series of international meetings including talks by Ibu Rahayu and the celebration of her 88th birthday.

It began with Munas which is a meeting held between National Congresses. It is arranged by the National Chair and runs for three days. During this time local and regional helpers attended and Ibu Rahayu gave a talk and testing session to everyone during the evening of February 26 in the Wisma Subud Hall.

In this talk (16 CDK 1) Ibu stresses the need for introspection and discipline to correct our faults. The talk is now available on video at www.subudlibrary.net.

Following Munas, the International Helper's Area 1&2 met with national helpers from groups from all around Indonesia to share reports and problems. There was also a trip to Pamulang for latihan and to greet Ibu Rahayu and the family, and also an early morning trip to Suka Mulia, Cipanas, to pay our respects to Yang Mulia Bapak

Zone Meeting

On March 6 the action moved to Rungan Sari in Kalimantan for the Asian Zone meeting. This was attended by committee and kejiwaan representatives from Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, India and Thailand. The meeting was hosted by the Zone Coordinator, Suriyadi Haryono from Indonesia. The International Helper's from Area 1&2 and the WSA chair, Elias Dumit, also participated.

One of the most important outcomes of this meeting was that the countries in the zone will investigate the possibility of creating virtual membership cards in their countries. This has already been accomplished in Australia where members have been able to obtain an electronic card which is delivered to their mobile phones.

The idea now is to develop it in the Asian Zone, with a further possibility that it might be used worldwide, fulfilling Bapak's idea that there should be a worldwide uniform membership card.

The meeting also proposed that there should be a travel budget to cover the costs of delegates to future zone conferences. It was also agreed that the next zone conference will be in Australia.

There was a general feeling of the need to get back to basics. The issuing of membership cards is a way of >

focusing attention on the need to have accurate membership lists. There was agreement about the need to consolidate our administration in order to be provide a platform for moving forward.



The need to consolidate our administration in order to move forward



>

The "back to basics" theme was also present on the kejiwaan side with the need for the international helpers to work with national helpers to enable helpers to fulfil their basic functions.

Muchtar Rawlings, Committee Councillor from New Zealand was appointed the Zone Secretary to assist Suriyadi.

Ibu's Birthday

After the conclusion of the Zone Conference, most people moved back to Wisma Subud where Ibu Rahayu gave a talk on March 10. In this talk she expressed her appreciation of the dedicated work that people do for Subud, while at the same time stressing how everyone should also look after their basic worldly needs. There were also presentations from the Zone chair, the National Chair and the Archives chair in Adi Puri.

There was a visit to Bapak's grave at Suka Mulia on the 11th and then on March 13, Ibu celebrated her 88th birthday (11th Windu) at Bapak's house in Pamulang.

Ibu greeted her guests and cut the traditional mountain of



Ibu Rahayu celebrates her 88th birthday. (Photo by Viktor Bohm)

yellow rice. There was a buffet and birthday songs as Ibu blew out the candles on a beautiful birthday cake which we then all shared.

This article was compiled from interviews with, and reports from, participants in the meetings.

IBU RAHAYU'S LATEST "VERY DEEP" TALK

The Editor writes...

I just watched Ibu Rahayu's most recent talk which is now available on video at www.subudlibrary.net (16 CDK 1 delivered on February 16 this year at the Munas Gathering in Cilandak, Indonesia.) It is a very short talk, I think only about an hour and a half. The translation is by Raymond Lee.

This talk made a great impression upon me. I feel this is a very important talk. Ibu herself says at several points that this is a "very deep" talk particularly intended for people who have been ion Subud for a long time and who may be feeling that they have not "progressed".

As we know, last year she started using the word "introspection" a lot. Meaning that we should look inside ourselves. In this talk she has further made clear what she means by "introspection".

The word introspection as it is usually used in English does not necessarily have a moral connotation to it. . We look inside ourselves, we analyze ourselves, and we try to figure out who we are. It does not necessarily have a sense of this leading to moral improvement. What Ibu makes clear in this new talk is that she is really talking about moral improvement. Doing more and more of the things we know we should do, and less and less of the things we know we shouldn't do.

She introduces a new word. Discipline. She makes it clear that what she is talking about by introspection is discipline. She is not urging us to look inside and analyze ourselves, but to look clearly at ourselves and our behaviour and seek to morally improve ourselves. I do not think that there has been any other talk of Bapak's or of Ibu's that so insistently makes this point; the need for us to make an effort of will to improve ourselves.

I cannot help feeling that this talk of Ibu's is not only relevant to me. I feel it is a talk very much related to this moment in Subud. And that it is of very general relevance

You see that Ibu talks very slowly, with long pauses between sentences and even words. As if dragging up the words of the talk from deep inside herself. You see the same thing in Raymond's translation. It is as if he has to go deep inside himself to find the translation. As I say, even Ibu yourself remarks several times, this is a "very deep" talk.

Her message is clear. This is the moment for really looking inside ourselves and making an effort of will to improve ourselves. Is not just a matter of surrendering in the latihan, but also of making a deliberate, conscious and hon-



Ibu Rahayu urges us to find discipline in our lives...



est effort to change what we know is wrong about ourselves, our bad habits, our vices, our habitual mistakes and weaknesses. To do these things less and less, and to try and do good things more and more.

It seems to be a message designed particularly for this point in Subud when many people are feeling discouraged. We look around and we see that Subud is aging and shrinking. Many still feel dispirited by the failure of the major projects. The way things did not work out with Anugraha, Project Sunrise and so on. We have to honestly face our disappointment about these things.

I feel that this talk of Ibu's is very much about maintenance, sustaining what we have. Many of us may look into ourselves and feel discouraged about Subud for two reasons. 1) Disappointment at our own lack of "progress". Our own habitual failings 2) The apparent failure of Subud to develop in the way that we hoped. That is, briefly, that our works in the world, our enterprises, would be an example to the world of what can be accomplished by people who are accompanied by the power of God.

Of course, Subud still has many good things in it. We may feel that we have not made much progress, but we may concede that we were a bit we are a bit better than when we started. We still may not have overcome our major vice, but we may have cleaned up something. We may not have had much success, but we may have had a bit. We can point to aspects of Subud that are really working well, such as Susila Dharma.

The success stories at the recent world Congress were and encouragement. We may not have accomplished the great things we hoped for in the "major projects" but some people are at least aware of a degree of success in their lives which they are able to relate to being in Subud and doing the latihan

I think this new talk marks "the moment" we are in and points the way forward. The need to tighten our belts spiritually. The need to make an effort (as people in all times and all places have had to do) to act morally, to act with integrity. To be congruent. That is, to make what we profess on the outside match up with who we are on the inside. In other words, to be sincere. That quality which Bapak stressed so often.

But no doubt, many of you, like me, have over the years made efforts to try and overcome your particular moral failings and habitual bad behaviour. Perhaps some of you have succeeded. But perhaps many of you, like me, still struggle. You try, you fail again. You try something else, you fail again.

What I feel is special about this talk is not only the literal message that Ibu is speaking, but also the "content" of the talk, which I understand to mean...To what extent is it imbued with, or accompanied by, the power of God. I feel this talk gives not only a message to our hearts and minds, but carries within it a real help to make the changes that are necessary. There is real power in this talk.

I think many would agree that we have been in a "slough of despond" in recent years compared to the high hopes and expectations of previous moments in the development of Subud. The aging membership, the shrinking and divided groups, the apparent "lack of success" in many individual lives and collective ventures. The lack of new members, the fact that while the children of some Subud members to come into Subud, many do not. Etc., etc., etc., etc.

This talk seems like the antidote for present despair. The way forward we needed. A guide to renewal.

RACHMADI'S PASSING

Rachmadi Fiedorowicz died peacefully on March 7, 2016, in Vienna, Austria, aged 66.

He was suffering from leukaemia that had only been very recently diagnosed. He leaves behind his wife Aminah and four young children, as well as three children from his first marriage. Our sympathy and prayers go out to his family.

Rachmadi (Machmud at the time) was the first ever chair of the newly-created Subud Youth Association International (SYAI), appointed to the position by Bapak during the 1983 World Congress at Anugraha in the UK. He served in this position up until the 1989 World Congress in Sydney. He lived in many countries around the world, was chair of Subud



Britain in 1994 and 1995 (Rohan at this time), and was most recently located in Austria, where he was a helper in the Bad Vöslau group. Rachmadi was also notable as both a performance and a visual artist.



When we said goodbye, it was easy...



Arifin Konrad writes...

Rachmadi passed away in the morning of 3rd March 2016.

None of us nearby were prepared for this and it went very fast. He was rushed to hospital on Thursday night and on Monday morning he had gone.

I have been thinking what I could write about him and got confused. He had such a rich life that one could spend hours talking about him without being able to touch it all. He has enriched so many people's lives in his time as Youth Chair on Varindra's team but it didn't stop there. And there was so much more. Thinking about this I realized that actually all of this was kind of summarized when I last saw him on Saturday.

He was in the emergency unit and I came in with his wife Aminah. We didn't know what to expect because the day before he was only partly aware of what was going on. And it took a while until he understood who was there and what was going on, but after about 15 minutes he was fully conscious and we were talking for two hours until he had a sore throat. Looking back all that was important to him was packed in these two hours:

First and foremost there was Bapak. "With Bapak it was easy ... a smile, and I was hooked for life ..."

"I don't know why Bapak loves me ..."

His love for humankind. "Subud is so easy. Why is it that people find it so hard? Everybody could have it." And a teardrop rolled down his cheek.

The artist. "A few days before it happened I had a dream. Bapak quietly smiling standing on the edge of a cliff. Below him an amazing storm. I would like to paint this picture."

The musician and the latihan. At one point he sang a song he had sung the night before.He smiled with mischief in his eyes. "You know this is my compromise with the latihan. They told me off last night for singing in the emergency unit."

Receiving and hallucinating. "You know at times I am hallucinating. It is not at all like receiving. It's that psychedelic stuff."

His always present sense of humor. We were remembering all the strange places we have been to and this was just another place. At one point we got told off for laughing so loud.

No fear of what was coming. "You know I have been in the light two times (these days). I didn't feel ready yet."

All through that time together I felt peaceful and joyful. When we said goodbye it was easy.

When the news came that he had passed away there was sadness of course but above all there was joy, peace and love.

Good bye Rachmadi! We'll meet again someday.



"Dream-inspired and dreamlike, the simple landscapes of Rachmadi Fiedorowicz appear like beautiful, mystical scenes..." (Peter Kerr)

MACHMUD'S EXPERIENCE

Harris Smart writes... More than 30 years ago I published a book called "Sixteen Steps" a collection of Subud members' experiences. From time to time, people still come up to me and talk about this book and nine times out of ten, they will refer to a particular passage in it as having made a particularly strong impression upon them.

This passage comes from the story in the book about Machmud Fiedorowicz as he was known at that time. The story tells how he grew up in Newcastle-on-Tyne and became a heroin addict and then how he was rescued from this by a doctor, and how after that he became a Subud member. He goes on to describe his early years in Subud and then comes the passage which has made such a strong impression on so many people...



4

In the early part of 1981, I experienced many difficulties in my personal life and felt myself left with absolutely nothing. Everything I had worked for seemed to have disappeared or been taken away. At this time, I tested with

I saw a vibration in the doorway, as though the air were hot...



some helpers and I received that I should work on a Subud farm building in Edinburgh.

I began to travel to this building on weekends. At first many people worked on the building, but gradually fewer and fewer people came, until one day, I found myself working alone. It was a very cold day and pouring rain. I was smashing concrete with a sledge hammer. My hands were cut and bleeding and swollen. I felt utterly depressed.

I decided to leave Subud at this point. I felt fed up with Subud, with Bapak, with Islam, and I went into the latihan hall and lay down to sleep, determined to go home and forget about Subud afterwards. I woke up to a knock on the door.

I answered the door and there was no-one there. I began to tingle and I searched around the farm to see if anyone was there and found no-one. I came back frightened.

I sat for a while staring at the open door. I saw a vibration in the doorway as if the air was hot, but I thought to myself that I had just been staring too hard. The heat wave seemed to pass straight through me and then I heard a voice. The voice was one of someone who had been with me all my life, but whom I had almost forgotten. It was very calm, very sensible and very normal.

The voice said: "Machmud, stand up." I stood up. "Now put your hand in the air. Be honest, how does it feel?" I said aloud: "If I am honest, it feels like having my hand in the air." I couldn't say more than that. That was all I could say.

The voice said: "Now move your finger, how does that feel?" I replied: "It feels like I am moving my finger." The voice continued: "Next finger, how does it feel? Next finger..." And went through the various parts of my physical body.

When this finished, the voice said: "This is the latihan kejiwaan which is completely normal: you are responsible for every movement you make in your life. The latihan has been with you 100% from the time you were opened. Stop waiting to be moved, move in any direction you choose. The latihan will guide you."

Then the voice said: "Machmud, experience Susila." Here I felt nothing special, simply being normal and healthy. "Now experience Budhi." There was a slight difference. I became aware of something greater, something outside myself.

Then the voice said: "Experience Dharma."

Here I experienced a real difference. The only word I have to describe it is "incredible" and I don't like to use that word because I don't like to exaggerate.

I began to move around the room, giving everything I had to the latihan, until there was nothing left. I wanted to stop, but the voice said: "Keep going, find people, ask them for what they need, and help them find what they need." For the first time, I felt who Machmud was.

The voice said: "This is Susila, Budhi, Dharma, Subud. In Christianity it is known as Faith, Hope and Charity. Susila is Jesus, a man of perfect faith, the Son. Budhi is the Power of God the Father who fills the universe, before whom you can only hope, and the Holy Spirit is the power of love, charity."

Then the voice asked: "Machmud, how many Gods are there?"

I said: "One." And became afraid.

"No, Machmud, be honest, how many Gods are there?"

I answered: "None." Then felt: "Allah, Allah, Allah, this is God, God is."

Later that day, many of the group came to work on the property and I took a rest. That night I had a dream about Bapak and his grandson, Mas Adji. Bapak was seated in the corner of a room with a look of concentration on his face. There was a powerful light shining onto Bapak and the room was filled with a golden rain which enveloped Mas Adji and myself. Mas Adji and I were looking at each other and he said: "Machmud, talk fast." We both talked very fast until it became crazy, just gibberish.

Adji said: "No more talk. Now work." We didn't know what we were doing. but we worked until the sweat poured off us.



Be honest! How does it feel? "

Then Mas Adji said: "Now, Machmud, no more work, think."

Our minds became one mind, we thought the same thoughts at the same time and we made the appropriate movements for

that thought together. I entered a state of consciousness which I cannot recall.

I looked at Bapak and saw the light was shining straight into him still, but the rain had disappeared. Bapak was smiling and relaxed. I looked at Adji and saw the light was shining directly into him. I looked above myself and saw a light shining into me. As I looked back at Bapak, I felt: Now, at last, I've understood something.

The next morning, being a Muslim, I got up and began to say my prayers, but I found I couldn't do them in the usual way. It wouldn't work because I couldn't use my mind in any way. Then I experienced inside myself the sound of counting very slowly. I couldn't stop counting. I thought I would die counting.

It went on and on. I thought it would stop at 100, then 250, then 500, 750. I gave up and finally counted to 1001. I felt after this that I couldn't neglect anything in my life. Every little thing is really important. You can't reach the end until you have covered every detail. I then received a kind of vision like a movie.

First there were some islands and I was travelling over them and there were lots of young kids. I was surrounded by them. They were all looking at me and looking very happy. I wondered what they were all doing around me because I didn't have anything to give them or tell them. I felt they'd all be disappointed when they found out I didn't have anything to give them.

I saw a bridge and lots of people moving around on this bridge. I saw Bapak and Adji on this bridge. They were both smiling and just laughing at what was happening. I received I would travel the world, that I would have something to do with Adji and something to do with children or young people.

The story goes on to describe how Machmud went to Cilandak soon after and met Bapak. Then at the 1984 Anugraha World Congress he was appointed as the first coordinator of the newly formed Subud Youth Association.

He immediately went on a trip around the world stirring up interest in this new development in the course of which he came to Melbourne. He gave a wonderful talk there and Simone Melder, a member in the group, wrote down everything that he said including the passage just quoted, and she was kind enough to give it to me to put it in my book.

HUMAN FORCE CAMP IN INDONESIA

The next Human Force 10-day volunteer experience is at Yayasan Permakultur Kalimantan (YPK) in Indonesia. YPK makes permaculture education and training accessible to communities in Central Kalimantan to improve land management, increase community resilience and food security, support sustainable livelihoods and culture and help to conserve the natural environment in the region.

This year's Human Force programme is all about the environment! Expect to learn about conservation and sustainability from the experts, get your hands dirty with permaculture practices, help build part of YPK's demonstrational and action action and action action and action action and action a



Human Force in Puebla, Mexico 2013.

tion plot and get involved with conservation activities and local school children.

The camp is timed to precede the planned Basara Youth Camp so you can combine both events if you want to get the most out of your trip to Kalimantan. It will run for 10 days from 13th to 22nd December. All ages are welcome* and you can bring your friends who are not in Subud.

The Human Force camp will be followed soon after by the Basara Youth Gathering, also in Kalimantan. See the next story for the latest on Basara.

The cost? \$600 (USD). This includes accommodation, all meals, in-country transport, farming materials, and small donations to our project host and for local youth subsidies. It excludes international flights, visa & compulsory travel insurance. Small subsides may be available on request.

Write to register you interest to hellohumanforce@gmail.com

OR visit us at http://www.susiladharma.org/?page_id=1264 where you can see videos of our past camps. You can visit our project partner's website at http://permakulturkalimantan.org/

*Minimum age to attend without a parent is 16 years old; organisers will ensure there is a balance with a majority of over 18 year-olds.

BASARA MEANS "SURRENDER"

Latest news about the Basara Youth Camp which will be held in Kalimantan over the end of 2016 and the beginning of 2017...

The Basara Youth Camp will take place for ten days from December 29, 2016, to January 8, 2017 in Rungan Sari, Central Kalimantan. A Facebook page has been created to keep everyone interested in the loop.

The word "Basara" is taken from the language of the Dayaks (the indigenous Kalimantan ethnic group), which means "gathering". Basara is a gathering which will bring individuals from various cultures, races, religions, and backgrounds together and provide an op-

BASARA YOUTH CAMP 2016

portunity for them to connect and collaborate, while also learning and having experiences in this magical place called Kalimantan.

The invitation is sent out to all Subud Youth worldwide between the ages of 17-35 years. The vision for Basara is to bring young Subud members together from all over the world in one place and one time. They can all connect, share, and make an impact by developing something valuable and lasting for Subud, Kalimantan, the world, and themselves.

Peter Jenkins, the founder of the YES Quest, which has enabled many young people to discover their di-

rection in life, has recently been appointed the Program Adviser for the event. He was in Indonesia during the meetings described in the front page article in this issue of Subud Voice. Peter will work with George Demers and Davina Flynn of SYAI and the young Indonesian Team, SICA and SDIA to develop an exciting and involving program.

At the at the WSC meeting held last year in Santiago, Chile, Peter was asked to develop YES Quest activities of various kinds for various age groups, working in collaboration with the Wings. This has led to his involvement in Basara. The program is arranged around three themes... MY BASARA, MY SUBUD and MY LIFE

Workshops around these themes will be held in the morning and then participants will be given the opportunity to further explore them through art and kejiwaan activities in the afternoons.

MY BASARA will give participants the opportunity to develop an idea of what it is they wish to achieve during Basara.

MY SUBUD will support them in exploring the opportunities

Peter Jenkins, founder of the YES Quest, has been appointed Program Adviser to Basara. Seen here with participants on the first YES Quest in Kalimantan. (He is the one in the centre at the back in the BALI t-shirt.)

open to them in Subud, particularly in relationship to the content of the wings. For instance, the development of entrepreneurial, social and cultural activities.

MY LIFE will encourage participants to look at their own lives. Where have they come from? Where do they want to go? The aim is that they should leave Basara with a clear idea of what it is they want to accomplish in life.

The Culture Compass workshop developed by SICA chair, Sebastian Flynn, will also be woven into the experience. The whole thrust will be that the 100+ young people expected to attend will share a common journey.



Connecting and collaborating in this magical place called Kalimantan

Peter Jenkins will be going to Kalimantan before the event to train a team of facilitators.

Peter writes, "At the recent Kalimantan Meetings they were saying Basara means 'Surrender'."

It is expected that registration for the event will open in April. Watch the Basara Facebook.

GUITARS HAVE A SOUL

Stephen Hill talks to Harris Smart about his life playing, making and teaching other people how to make guitars...

I arrived in Spain in 1988 in the spring. Full of hope and excitement at the possibility of living in Spain. I travelled in my Citroen 2 CV with all my tools and wood in the back. During this time I had been doing the latihan very intensely, having also been through a very difficult time of purification, perhaps scouring me of my marijuana years.

In Spain I started meeting with guitar-makers and players, hoping for the true contact with the gypsy world. I suppose I was a pretty naive! But that's how I was, and I travelled in search of the true flamenco soul or duende. During this time, however, it was quite hard to practice the latihan. I suppose this first visit was a prelude to my return to Spain in 2004 when I came here to live permanently.

Flamenco has at its heart the same content as many other world music cultures but it has quite a dark side to it as well as light. Some great Flamenco artists have completely burned themselves out through drugs and alcohol. In a sense, though, it is searching for a way of connecting with the great life. It's a pretty strange phenomenon, Flamenco. Once you start on the Flamenco path, somehow, you have to complete it inside yourself. To read the complete interview go to



Stephen Hill with the guitar he made which was given as the 1st prize to the winner of the prestigious Frauchi Competition Guitar in Moscow in 2013.

http://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Stephen-Hill-Guitars-Have-Soul.pdf

AN INVITATION FROM SICA

JOIN OUR GLOBAL INIATIVE TO EXPLORE AND CELE-BRATE WHAT PEACE MEANS TO EACH OF US THROUGH THE SIMPLE ACT ACT OF SHARING POEMS FOR PEACE.

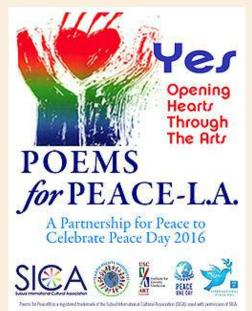
Every year on the International Day of Peace the United Nations calls on the people of the world to reaffirm their commitment to living in harmony as members of a single human family. SICA invites you to join us in reaffirmIng that commitment by sharing poems for peace.

Write, Recite, Sing, Dance, Perform, Create, Paint YOUR Poems for Peace — your own or your favorites — in whatever way is meaningful to you — and then SHARE WHAT YOU DO WITH OTHERS.

Poems are in every culture , every country , every language. They're in our nursery rhymes, our anthems, our prayers. All the

Holy Books of the world are in verse. All the love songs we sing are in verse. Poems come from the deep voice inside us all, for poetry is the language of our humanity.

JOIN US! SHARE YOUR POEMS for PEACE in your places of worship, your homes, your schools, your workplaces, your towns, cities, countries. Chalk them on sidewalks, fly them on peace flags. send them on postcards, recite them in cafés and bookstores. Sing them aloud. Let them come from your singing soul. In the beginning was the WORD.



ARTE NOMADA

Monica Aracen, Chair of SICA Mexico has her own art venture. Arte Nomada.

Here is her Facebook page link:

www.facebook.com/artenomadamexico

And web site: http://www.arte-nomada.com

"Nomadic ARTE is the combination of beauty, simplicity and taste for art in motion, captured in unique pieces, crafted and painted 100 % by hand." She makes clothing, accessories, and more.



She writes... We live to travel... no plans... no rush... Wandering across the globe learning about different realities... Living and sharing with people of every nation... A dream we are able to live thanks to Arte Nomada.

We created this site convinced that others would love to discover some of the treasures that we found along the way and that it would be a great way to share our travels and continue the adventure.

Arte nomada was born from our wanderlust and deep curiosity about the art and crafts of the indigenous traditions. We love getting lost in all kinds of markets, bazaars and souks, visiting the artisan communities and artists in their own studios and workshops, getting to know them really well and allowing ourselves to be blown away by their talent.

We prefer to work with local artisans so that they and their families can benefit directly. This also allows us to offer high quality handcrafts at a reasonable price.

Arte nomada is packed with unique native art objects. We want to share the story that hides behind their shapes, colors and symbols as well as the techniques and materials used to create them.

SPUR FESTIVAL

Taken from FaceBook...

Presentation on April 7 at 19:00 at the Toronto Reference Library, 789 Yonge Street, Bram & Bluma Appel Salon.

Human Migration and the Changing Demographics of Canada: The 21st century has brought unprecedented change when it comes to personal freedoms. Many greet this fluidity with open arms. Others cling to the tribes they most identify with. What does this mean for our communities here in Canada, and for the world? Journalists Ben Rawlence, Irshad Manji and Hadani Ditmars (Subud Vancouver) discuss our new tribalism.

Hadani Ditmars (top right in photo) is the author of Dancing in the No-Fly Zone: A Woman's Journey Through Iraq. A past editor at New Internationalist, she has been reporting from the Middle East on culture, society and politics for two decades. Her work has been published in



the New York Times, Al Jazeera and The Guardian and broadcast on CBC, BBC, and NPR. Her next book, Between Two Rivers, is a political travelogue of ancient sites in Iraq. Hadani will be reading excerpts from this new book.

FROM PLANT LIFE TO STREET LIFE

Marius Grose SICA Co-ordinator for the United Kingdom has had an interest in photography since his father introduced him to the technique when he was twelve. With the coming of digital photography that interest has blossomed and resulted in two extraordinary and very different photo-books. The most recent is titled Floating Harbour, Floating World. Walking around Bristol with a camera. The other is Green Eye. A garden in close up. The two books are extraordinary for both their beauty and the totally different approaches to photography.

Green Eye. A garden in close up.

Green Eye is the fruit of an eight year exploration of the plant life in Marius's garden in central Bristol. Using macro techniques the photographs draw us into the strange, beautiful and often unseen world of plants viewed in extreme close up. The camera lens transforms leaves, stems, flower and seeds into images that might be from an alien world.

http://www.blurb.co.uk/b/6095704-green-eye

"I wanted to reveal the strangeness that is around us in ordinary plants when looked at differently."



Asplenium scolopendrium.
The common name is Hart's
Tounge Fern.
(Photo by Marius Grose)

Marius was inspired by the work of Karl Blossfeldt a pioneer of the macro photography. Blossfeldt published The Alphabet of Plants in the 1920s and it was a runaway best seller remaining in print to this day.

Floating Harbour, Floating World. Walking around Bristol with a camera.

Floating Habour, Floating World, the most recent publication is as different as it could be from Green eye as it sits firmly in the genre of Street Photography. On each of the three hundred and sixty five days of 2015 Marius took photographs and published them as a visual blog on his website photography.mariusgrose.co.uk. In early 2016 he reviewed the material and selected images of street life in central Bristol and made them into this fascinating book. The book is full of street performers, street preachers, living statues and people going about their lives creating a vivid portrait of a city full of vibrant life.

http://www.blurb.co.uk/b/6931506-floating-harbour-floating-world?t=1457626314448

"I have lived in Bristol since I came here to study in 1978 and I thought I knew the city too well to be able to photograph it; I could not have been more mistaken. Every day I walked around the centre of the town I was constantly surprised and inspired by the people and the place."

To see more examples of Marius's photography and to purchase either of the book and high quality prints please go to his website: photography.mariusgrose.co.uk Ten percent of profits will be donated to SICA Britain.

LUCAS RICHMAN TO CONDUCT BOSTON POPS

Lucas Richman will conduct the Boston Pops Orchestra when Brian Wilson Performs Pet Sounds: The 50th Anniversary Celebration. Named one of the best albums of all time, Brian Wilson's Pet Sounds revolutionized pop music. The album's hit singles are legendary: Wouldn't It Be Nice, God Only Knows, and Sloop John B, and hearing it performed by its creator is a not-to-be-missed experience. This 50th Anniversary Celebration will be the final tour of Pet Sounds in its entirety, performed along with rare cuts and greatest hits with the Boston Pops.

Here is the link to the announcement that Lucas Richman will be conducting the Boston Pops Orchestra on June 17 and 18, 2016. https://www.bso.org/Performance/Detail/79106

Scroll to "featured performers" and click on "Lucas Richman, conductor".



VEDA HILLE Rosanna Hille writes...

Veda is going great guns on numerous projects including writing musicals with high school students and launching a new musical with the Arts Club Theatre in March called ONEGIN based on Eugene Onegin by Pushkin and the opera. http://artsclub.com/shows/2015-2016/onegin

Her collaborator on that is Ami Gladstone who worked with her on Craig's List Cantata which has been a relative 'hit' in Canada Someone is trying to put it up in NY off Broadway. She won the Mayor's Arts Award for music last year, which was a nice recognition for her contribution to the city, and has a new album of original songs released in May. http://vedahille.com

In a future issue we plan to feature a major interview with Veda.



IRONS IN THE FIRE

SICA Chair, Sebastian Flynn, writes about some current initiatives...

I am putting a performance/cultural enterprise proposal to the SICA Board at our next Skype – a kind of framework around an idea that Erica Sapir (Rafaela's Mum) had – but aim to structure it to happen in many countries.

Each initiative to be like a kind of reverse micro-credit where each event puts a small donation from proceedings into the SICA account – but still remunerating performers/artists/crafts people etc – and developing the local initiative. I know from experience that the door entry to such things generally covers artists – and food and drink sold is then profit. Some small percentage of this profit could go to SICA.



If a range of initiatives worldwide signed up and committed to a small quarterly or annual contribution, this ought to be substantial. I am going to do it with our gallery/performance space in Brisbane and will be aiming to get other groups to sign up to commit something.

We too have done events for refugees and for ICDP and Congo enterprises etc over a number of years – and this is my current occupation (working for the wellbeing of the UNHCR quota of refugees into Australia).

But I am also aware that as Subud/SICA we still haven't learnt to organise and help ourselves first. We react when there is an immediate need. At our SICA Summit in Cilandak the principle tenet was that SICA needs to forge an independence via 'Cultural Enterprise' and not rely solely on grant support.

There is admittedly more to do in securing grants but we also need to retain this focus of our cultural potential. Our 'skill' or 'talent' as SICA is essentially culture – and regardless of the general understanding that this embraces all things, Kebudayaan and the 'artistic' aspect of SICA should be our 'stock in trade'.

I believe this should be our SICA priority.

The projects "In Memoriam", "Poems for Peace", "Keys to Creativity" and the "Culture Compass" are all current irons in the fire – but creating a fruitful 'SICA Circuit' of enterprising cultural events is what I want to devote myself to making happen.

I have recently liaised with Michele Frankel – SICA Lewes Coordinator *(more on Michele shortly in Subud Voice...)* and that I am keen to liaise with other Cultural Capitals re their current activities and anything that can be shaped as a contribution to the World Congress Cultural program which will be discussed in Zone 3/4 Meeting in Poland in July/Aug – and for which we are already including proposals and ideas.



THE CIRCLE OF LIGHT

We hear that Latifah Taormina, former SICA Chair, has moved from Austin, Texas, to Laguna Beach in California. Emily Conyngham was a student of Latifah's many years ago when Latifah taught at JIS (Jakarta International School). Emily wrote this tribute to Latifah...

They circled around her chanting, "Ibu, Ibu, Ibu, Ibu" which means Mother, or is a term of respect for an older woman. She glowed, silver white hair and bright eyes in the center of the stage, absorbing the good energies of the improv actors. Latifah shone there, right in the flow of creativity, as she has always done. Here's how creativity grows inside you, and around you when you play from the heart.

Latifah Taormina's story was part of the Lucky Chaos production of The ReSet Project at Salvage Vanguard Theater in Austin. The show featured creative people talking about pivotal times in their lives, the choices they made, and their sources of inspiration. This spawned an improvisational scene by the actors, who reframed and bounced themes back to the speaker. The narrator and the audience witness how an individual's inspiration and life choices radiate to others, refracting joy, and instigating more creativity.

Coming of age in the early 1960s, she was one of the first improvisational actors to come out of Second City in Chicago and Cafe La Mama in New York. In San Francisco, with her husband, she went on to co-found The Committee; the theater troupe was a great success, turning out political satire at the epicenter of the early anti-Vietnam war protests in the Bay Area. Her acting career picked up speed as she landed more and more roles in television and film. She was playing at the edges of the cultural revolution of the era.

Meanwhile, her marriage ended, and she felt a gnawing sense that her soul was not being fed by the work she was doing. She had joined Subud, a spiritual practice based in Indonesia by this time. One day she heard a clear message in her head, "Sell what you can, store the rest, and go to Indonesia immediately." Acting on this, she did move to Jakarta where her willingness to try anything, to contribute her talents to any situation, led to funny encounters, and soon to her life's calling. She began teaching drama at the international school I attended.

She found her joy drawing out creativity, spontaneity, and confidence in her students. For almost a decade she inspired hundreds of us to venture out into our own imaginative playgrounds through improvisational theater, creative writing, and theatrical productions. While she has gone on to be a tour de force in many other cultural arenas, she remains proudest of this work and its lasting resonance in so many lives. And there she was, my Ibu, my guide, shining on that stage, sharing herself with others, forty years later. I'm grateful to still be in her circle of light. I'm so proud of her.

Here's a note she wrote to me when I was a kid. I'm passing on this message of encouragement to you too – Be yourself. Play from the heart:

Emily

Carefully nonchalant Unbuttoned, center-stage Her embroidered heart.

The audience -

Anxiously checking the program -

Did not applaud.

But God -

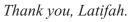
Who was watching from the light booth -

Laughed heartily.

And Emily -

Bless her heart,

Said, "Thank you."





Latifah.

In a future issue of Subud Voice we will have a long interview with Emily who is a writer, photographer and sculptor.



SICA ON FACEBOOK

Isaac Goff, entrepreneur and philanthropist, is also now a photographer. He posted this photo of Death Valley on the Subud Creative Facebook page. He wrote...

Heading down into the great empty!

Death Valley is like no other place – incredibly desolate and mind-bendingly beautiful at the same time. Devoid of color yet rich in endless subtle earth tones. Terrific place to visit and don't ever think of living there!

There are several pages where SICA people post.

The SICA Facebook group page: https://www.facebook.com/groups/1644161475802612/

The SICA Facebook fan page: https://www.facebook.com/SICAorg

And Subud Creative: https://www.facebook.com/groups/SubudCreative/

On Facebook Poems for Peace One Day: https://www.facebook.com/PoemsForPeaceOneDay/

On One Million Poems for Peace (some non Subud folks here too):

https://www.facebook.com/groups/594127290727235/

CULTURE COMPASS UPDATE

From emails by Sebastian Flynn, SICA Chair, to Rosanna Hille at Susila Dharma International...

I would like to chat with SDIA re the potential for the Culture Compass as an individual and community re-

orientation program. My employer is currently negotiating with the Dept of Social Security in Queensland to secure it as part of their staff training – especially for those dealing with people from migrant or refugee backgrounds – in need of cultural competence especially around trauma and stigma.

I am also giving workshops at Queensland Uni of Technology – and have pitched to the VICSERV – Victoria Mental Health Conference this year. So will see where it leads. I am also discussing with Peter Jenkins to combine forces with Yes Quest – especially for Poland – a 'Compass Quest'!

I am glad you liked the Culture Compass. I am really

The Culture Compass DELIVER My Purpose SICA

working to try and create some sort of cultural enterprise – by giving it as a workshop – and also getting it implemented in govt and private sectors – as it has application for refugees – as well as people generally looking for creative reorientation.

HELP FOR REFUGEES IN CALAIS

Vincent Mount, Susila Dharma Britain, writes...

Last year in Lewes several members felt strongly enough to act on their empathy about the growing refugee crisis over the Channel in Calais. They started going over and getting involved in various ways.Pollard Blakeley blazed a trail, aided by Pam Hewitt, Subud Lewes Group Chair, taking over second-hand goods to contribute to the refugees.

In September 2015 Lili Simonsson, Peter Murray and Matthew D'haemer took another load of donated goods and brought back reports of the situation there, inspiring others to go and visit for themselves. Raphaella Sapir and her husband David Stevenson and son Toma, have been eleven times between them over the last three months, building shelters for refugees over several weekends.

Susila Dharma (and Soup Aid) have been supporting the building of shelters for unaccompanied refugee children. It costs £145 to provide the materials to build a shelter that will house up to 4 people.

100 shelters were built in a burst of energy...

77

Lili has been over four or five times since, most recently filming for Citizens UK, and one weekend she took Annabella Ashby over there, visiting the women and children's area in what is known as "The Jungle". There are about six thousand people from Iran, Iraq, Syria, Sudan, and Afghanistan taking refuge there, in an area in Calais that has been evolving as more refugees have been arriving. To read the complete article go to

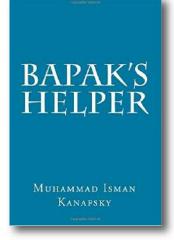
http://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Refugees-Help-for-Calais.pdf

BAPAK'S HELPER

A new book by Muhammad Isman Kanafsky (Author) is now available on Amazon. Available in paperback and also on Kindle...

I have been in Subud for more than 50 years now and I feel moved to write about some of my helper experiences and understanding. I have been a helper for almost 40 years and have served as local, regional and national helper during that time. My hope is that this will help the younger members in Subud understand the importance of helping Bapak with the mission that was given to him by Almighty God. Subud is for all mankind who wish to worship God.

It is one of the helper's duties to explain that to applicants before they ask to be opened. This is sometimes overlooked by helpers and causes confusion in a person's feelings after they are opened. God is consequent. This means that if you do not



believe in God, God will not guide you. If you believe in God half heartedly, God will guide you half heartedly and if you believe in God fully, then God will guide you fully.

So it is really important that an applicant understand that Subud is the worship of God and the latihan or receiving that each person experiences is their worship of God. It's also very important for them to understand that they need to direct themselves to God when receiving it. If that's not understood from the very beginning, they will always feel confused about it.

The result of not stressing that Subud is the worship of God is a lack of harmony, which is necessary for Subud to grow and make progress. Subud is God's latest gift to humanity to help us to return to the original state that we were created in, human beings with human souls and true human qualities. May the One Almighty God deepen our understanding and ability to carry out all the duties and responsibilities that are necessary to help Bapak with his mission. Amin!

http://www.amazon.com/Bapaks-Helper-Muhammad-Isman-Kanafsky/dp/1523784660/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1454587834&sr=1-2&keywords=kanafsky

Also, here's a link to the workshop that he did in Puebla. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bfp8p8cmPfo

SUBUD SOULMATES

Mahmud Henry Rogers writes...

It can be hard for Subud members, whatever their age, to find that special someone. The boy or girl next door may be perfectly nice, but they are rarely supportive of Subud. We Subud members are spread thinly across the world, and World Congresses only come around once every four or five years.

Many people say finding our right partner is the key to creating happiness in life. So why not enlist the help of technology? This is why I've sent up an international Subud soulmates website. Ibu Rahayu told



the International Helpers in February 2015 how important it is to meet "from budhi to budhi", meaning from our true inner self to another's true inner self. That's why I've created the website www.budhi2budhi.com to help Subud members looking for their true partner around the world.

In his romance novel, Sinar Pribadi (The Light Of The Inner Self), Bapak wrote a beautiful passage about the significance of looking for your true soulmate:

"I am sorry, brother. I feel I must return to the problem of Sri Ruhanasari. What will happen if she cannot find a man whose soul is equal to hers? Is it possible that she will not marry at all?"

"This could happen, brother, if in the future, after seeking here and there, she does not find a true partner. But in my opinion, this will not happen. Because if Sri Ruhanasari can really put herself in her own true place as a person having a high soul, there is not only one man who could become her true partner, but several in this world. The reason that she has not found one yet is that the world is very wide, and men do not live together in one place" Ki Pranawasita explained.

"It is possible" he continued, "that the man who should really become her husband lives in another place, or even another country. Of course the heart wishes to look for the easiest way and prefers to seek nearby rather than far away, because the heart has a selfish nature and will only seek its own pleasure. But if a man leaves it to the body, or the feeling of the body, then he will not be limited to neighboring places, but he will range over the whole world, because in fact this world is meant for the whole of mankind. But the world of the heart is very limited. It already feels strange and worries after passing the borders that exist in its world. And it will worry so much the more if it has to pass into realms beyond the world of mankind, where it will feel strange and lose all its pleasures. So in fact the way to look for a life partner is no different from the way to seek guidance in life or on the spiritual way. They cannot be separated because both have the same requirements and can be considered as one action."

Some instructions on how to use www.budhi2budhi.com

1) Use the link and click "create an account"; 2) Read the terms and conditions; 3) Fill in your profile (including uploading a picture); 4) Confirm your email address; 5) Log in, add extra details to your profile, and search for a soulmate!

If you need support, have any problems, or if something isn't working, email budhi2budhi@gmail.com

LETTER TO THE Editor Andrew Clague writes from the UK...

Hi Harris,

What a great edition this month – all that positive SICA material – and the Kalimantan stuff too.

I've just returned from Rungan Sari so I've watched Bachrun's football training sessions (it's hard to miss them as my house is about 50 yards away). I also met Rizaldi who is recovering well & getting to latihans on crutches – and also Sulfiati, currently working in the hotel reception.

The articles from Emmanuel also struck a chord – here's what I sent to him:

Hi Emmanuel,

After reading your pieces in 'Voice' I'd like to add a couple of comments if I may:

On the prayer topic – certainly pray & ask for positive outcomes – but also withdraw your consent from what you don't want. The escalating anti-human actions in the world are carried out with our 'tacit consent' by our so-called 'leaders'.

On the subject of pot I remember talking with a Subud guy about drinking alcohol. He did some testing and got 'it depends how far from the latihan you want to go'. Hope you are well. Best wishes, Andrew

WHAT MATTERS IS...

Ramzi Winkler has sent us this recollection of Bapak from the Subud World Congress in Germany, June 1975...

On June 24, 1975 Bapak visited the Subud group in Wendhausen (near Wolfsburg). Bapak was shown around the castle and the apartments of the Subud families. He was very impressed. Afterwards he relaxed in the living room. He allowed members to ask questions.

One brother told Bapak the following: "We have made effort to invite the people of the village to our cultural activities and discussions. We have shown them the castle which we completely renovated. They appreciated our work, but commented that for themselves it was too difficult to do this kind of work. However nobody joined Subud."

Bapak replied: "What you have done is good; but what matters are Subud enterprises. They will provide the capital in order to build hospitals, schools, homes for the handicapped as well as for senior people who have to live alone. The doctors are qualified and are helpers in Subud, also the nurses. In schools we will have qualified teachers. They guide the children from within to find the right way in their lives, also young people who have lost their way.

"Furthermore, also people who intend to go into politics should be Subud members. The result will be that we are able to demonstrate a real social – democratic society. This will be convincing to the public. Do not be afraid of communism, because Subud will represent the real "policy" which is social and democratic."

Republished from the German Subud journal: Subud Info No. 5/2015, page 37. The translation into the English language was done by Ramzi Winkler.

YOUR NEWS – WHATEVER HAPPENED TO..?

Do you ever wonder what happened to a Subud friend? Subud Voice thinks perhaps you do, but there is at present no special way to connect with your friend or find out what happened to him or her. So as soon as there is enough material, SV will start a news column just for small items. These could be births, deaths, marriages, name changes, moves to another country, your new address, your new national chairman, international helper, your new enterprise or if you are looking for a new job, and so on. It's just whatever you want the rest of us to know. I have undertaken to be the recipient and editor of any of these news items, so you can write to me at: 8 Sissinghurst Grove, Cheltenham, GL51 3FA, UK, or phone me on +44 (0)1242 707701 better still, e-mail your item to ilaine.l@blueyonder.co.uk and I will then pass it on as soon as possible to SV's editor, Harris Smart. Deadline is usually 15th of the month so please get it to me before then. I look forward to hearing from you!



Ilaina Lennard

PASSING OF EVAN/KUMUDU GUNAWARDANA

Robert Goonetillecke writes...

I am passing this news for the many who knew Evan/ Kumudu Gunawardana. He passed away this morning. He was good friend and dedicated Subud bro. We will all miss him. The last two years was a trial and test for him. May his journey ahead be easy.

DO YOU NEED HELP?

llaine Lennard offers to do your proof reading/editing/typing. Fees to match those in your own country. Excellent references. ilaine.l@blueyonder.co.uk TEL: +44(0)1242 707701 8 Sissinghurst Grove, Cheltenham, GL51 3FA, UK

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

An Extraordinary Man

Stories of Subud Members' Experiences of Bapak

NOW AVAILABLE AGAIN FROM SPI

£15.00 inc postage.

For full details visit our website www.subudbooks.com



Pay by UK bank cheque or Credit Card Subud Publications International Loudwater Farm, Loudwater Lane

Rickmansworth
Herts WD3 4HG
tel: +44 (0) 1727 762210

Subud Publications
International

e-mail: spi@subudbooks.co.uk

NEW DVDs FROM SPI

Bapak's video Talks subtitled in English

currently available:

81 NYC 4, 81 YVR 3 81 NYC 5 81 YVR 4 81 YVR 2, 81 LAX 1 83 LON 8 83 LON 22

83 LON 18

For full details visit our website www.subudbooks.net

PRICE (Incl p&p)

UK £11.20 Europe £13.50 ROW £14.70

Pay by UK bank cheque or Credit Card Subud Publications International Loudwater Farm,

Loudwater Lane Rickmansworth Herts WD3 4HG tel: +44 (0) 1727 762210 Subud Publications International

email: spi@subudbooks.co.uk w w w . s u b u d b o o k s . n e t

IBU RAHAYU VIDEOS ONLINE

NEW Videos of new talks by Ibu Rahayu are on the online Subud library!

Go to www.subudlibrary.net

(If you don't yet have a password, it's easy to get one. Instructions are there.)

On April 8, 2012, Ibu Rahayu talked at length to members in Kalimantan, Indonesia.

See these: Ibu Rahayu Questions, Answers & Advice

Ibu Rahayu Talk to Members

MUSIC BY SUBUD ARTISTS

Music By Subud Artists available from: www.djcrecords.co.uk

Recording, mastering & CD production:

DJC Records 104 Constitution Hill

Norwich NR3 4BBUK clague@paston.co.uk

BAPAK'S TALKS 29

AVAILABLE NOW

£15.80 UK • £18.50 EU • £20.70 ROW

Pay by UK bank cheque, Credit Card or via our website: www.subudbooks.net Subud Publications International Loudwater Farm,

Loudwater Lane Rickmansworth Herts WD3 4HG

Herts WD3 4HG tel: +44 (0) 1727 762210 Subud Publications International

e-mail: spi@subudbooks.co.uk www.subudbooks.net

SUBUDVOICE

MONTHLY ONLINE

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

20 APR 2016

Subud Voice is published monthly and the English edition is issued on the 1st of each month at

www.subudvoice.net

A Spanish facsimile edition usually appears a little later on the same web site.

SUBMISSIONS

Send articles, photos, cartoons etc. to Harris Smart, Editor Subud Voice,

email: editor@subudvoice.net Tel: + 61 3 95118122

for the non-Subud reader

Submissions are invited which relate to Subud life or are from Subud members. We cannot guarantee when or if a submission will be published. Preference will be given to articles of about 2000 words or less accompanied by a photograph, well-written in English and dealing with the activities of Subud mem-

on a subject.

Articles should be written in such a way that they are intelligible and interesting to both Subud members and the general public. Sometimes this november

bers, or expressing a Subud member's perspective

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

mean providing an explanatory introduction or notes

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.

The opinions expressed in the various articles are the sole responsibility of their authors and cannot be seen as representing the opinion of either the editor or the World Subud Association.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Classifieds: 50 cents a word. Minimum charge AUD\$15.00. Display rates on request. (Developing countries — no charge). To make payments by credit card to Subud Voice for any purpose including sponsorship. Go our website

www.subudvoice.net Click on the CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS button on the left hand side of the screen. Click on SUBUD VOICE CREDIT CARD PAYMENTS. Fill in the form which comes up and in the comments box put SPONSORSHIP or whatever is relevant. Or contact us for bank details for bank transfers. Do not forget to indicate if you would like your sponsorship to be publicly acknowledged.

SUBUD VOICE TEAM

Harris Smart: Editor and Business Manager Ilaina Lennard: Founder & Contributing Editor

Marcus Bolt: Design and Layout

Kitka Hiltula: Webmaster

Samuel Perez Morillas: Spanish Edition Melinda Wallis: Marketing & Publicity

The opinions expressed in the various articles are the sole

responsibility of their authors and can not be seen as representing the opinion of the World Subud Association.

The name Subud ® and the Seven Circles Symbol are registered marks of the World Subud Association.