



We Are All Connected

Laura Paterson presents a round up of Subud activity around the world at the time of Bapak's birthday...

As the impact of the global coronavirus pandemic begins tentatively to recede, Subud activity around the world is emerging in full force. International meetings and gatherings already have occurred in several countries and more are on the imminent horizon. Many of these events have been diligently reported by 'Subud Voice' as they have occurred.

The 16th Subud World Congress, to be held in Kalimantan, Indonesia, in January of 2024, is driving a great deal of this emergent energy and activity. The World Congress Organizing Team (WCOT) already has presented the world-wide Subud membership with a tremendous amount of practical and useful information.

On the spiritual side, the International Helpers are in Porto, Portugal, at this moment, attending their second round of meetings in eight months.

In the United States, there are several new initiatives which will thrust Subud USA directly onto the international world stage. These mainly are clustered around the Subud Washington DC Amani Center proposals that were outlined in last month's Subud USA newsletter.

In addition, there is the possibility that the next Subud World Congress will be held in North America, which is being jointly explored by Canadian and American Subud members. But there is another kind of international Subud activity that has become increasingly prevalent, which is well outside the boundaries of officialdom



Photo of Rice Mountain at Bapak's Birthday Celebration at Purwoketo Subud House.

Posted by Henry Krijgsman on 'Subud Around the World' FB page, June 22nd, 2022



Photo of International Helpers at IH Meeting in Porto, Portugal

Posted by Kohar Parra Bustillo on 'Subud Around the World' FB page, June 22nd, 2022

SUBMISSIONS AND DONATIONS

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

and its helper/committee/wing parameters.

“ Subud activity around the world is emerging in full force...”

Spontaneous, free-flowing...

This activity is spontaneous, free-flowing, transparent, confessional, and wildly fascinating. It occurs amongst Subud members from very many different countries and is reminiscent of the multi-national cross-pollination that occurred during the early days of Subud. It occurs of course on all of the various social media platforms. These platforms have given Subud members around the world access to personal exchanges and bonding experiences with each other that has not been available to members since the early days of following Bapak around on his world journeys, or visiting him in Cilandak.

This year, the month of June has seen an explosion of activity on the various Subud Facebook pages, a very great deal of which was centered around Bapak's birthday. It was heart-warming be-



*Photo of Rungan Sari Subud Group in Rungan Sari Subud House, Kalimantan
Posted by MazBoesch Muhammad on 'Subud Around the World FB page, June 22nd, 2022*

yond words to see and share in real time through photos and videos the loving celebrations of Bapak's birthday by Subud brothers and sisters around the world.

Especially, it was profoundly moving to see posts from Rungan Sari in Kalimantan, and to see all of the Subud members who are working with endless love and devotion to prepare for our arrival in 2024.

It was also inexpressibly delightful to see a crowd of Subud members filling the latihan hall at Wisma Subud and dancing to the music of a contemporary Subud band. And forming a conga line! You have seen nothing until you see an exuberant conga line weaving through the Latihan Hall of Wisma Subud!

I would like to share with all of you some of these exhilarating photos and videos from around the world. I would like to begin by sharing the immensely moving and profoundly exquisite performance of Bapak's favorite song, 'Bengawan Solo' by Gesang Martohartono, as performed by our Los Angeles Subud sister, Cherie Valaray, accompanied on the piano by her husband, Howard B. Richman, both of the beloved Peter Mark Richman family.

Cherie posted her performance on the very popular 'Subud Around the World' Facebook page, with the simple but eloquent

“ It was delightful to see Subud members dancing to the music of a Subud band ... ”



Photo and Link to Video of Bapak's Birthday Celebration at Wisma Subud, Cilandak

Posted by Aryanadi IC on 'Subud Around the World' FB page, June 22nd, 2022



Photo of Subud Members Outside the Latihan Hall at Wisma Subud, Cilandak

Posted by Arifin Dwi Slamet on 'Subud Around the World' FB page, June 19th,



Photo of Cherie Valaray and Link to Video of Her Performance of 'Bengawan Solo'.

Posted by Cherie Valaray on 'Subud Around the World' FB page, June 22nd, 2022 and also on:

<https://youtu.be/O6leSI2Pm10>

dedication, 'Honoring Bapak on his Birthday...'. Her performance gives the most profound joy. See the link and photo opposite.

I would just like to close by sharing a little exchange that I had with Indonesian Subud brother Arifin Dwi Slamet, when he posted a photo of some Subud brothers in front of the Latihan Hall at Cilandak.

"Oh", I said, "they all look so young!"

"Yes," Arifin responded, "mostly they are young in Subud as well, and also not from Subud families."

I was overjoyed. For how else can Subud spread, if not to young people, from families not yet in Subud. What else would be sharing the gift of the latihan kejiwaan with 'All of Mankind'.

I think that we all can take heart from these photos and videos that Subud is vibrant, thriving, dynamic, and multi-generational in Indonesia. And that it can become so throughout the rest of the world as well.

Bucelas, a peaceful Subud place in the countryside

Raquel Alcobia writes...

The fact that all 18 international helpers were able to meet in Portugal, after more than 2 years' Covid-induced isolation, was a good pretext to also welcome them to the Subud Bucelas property (near Lisbon), on Saturday 25 June 2022.

Their 2-3-week working meeting took place in Porto, where they were warmly received by Isti (herself an IH) and Hamid da Silva.

During the 300km trip from Porto in a private coach, they had time for a quick stopover in Fatima, where they visited the small church of the "Aparições", before arriving in Bucelas in time for a nice lunch served under a fig tree and the big linden tree.

The long tables spread under the shade of those beautiful trees, with the air filled with the amazing perfume of the linden flowers, gave a sense that we were all in a magical garden, as we can see from the photos.

The 3 days of preparations were undertaken by a small team led by our caring, joyful and active chairlady Anali. She was assisted by Susana and Susana's daughter Alina (the one with the nice blue hair), who are living in the wooden house next to that garden.



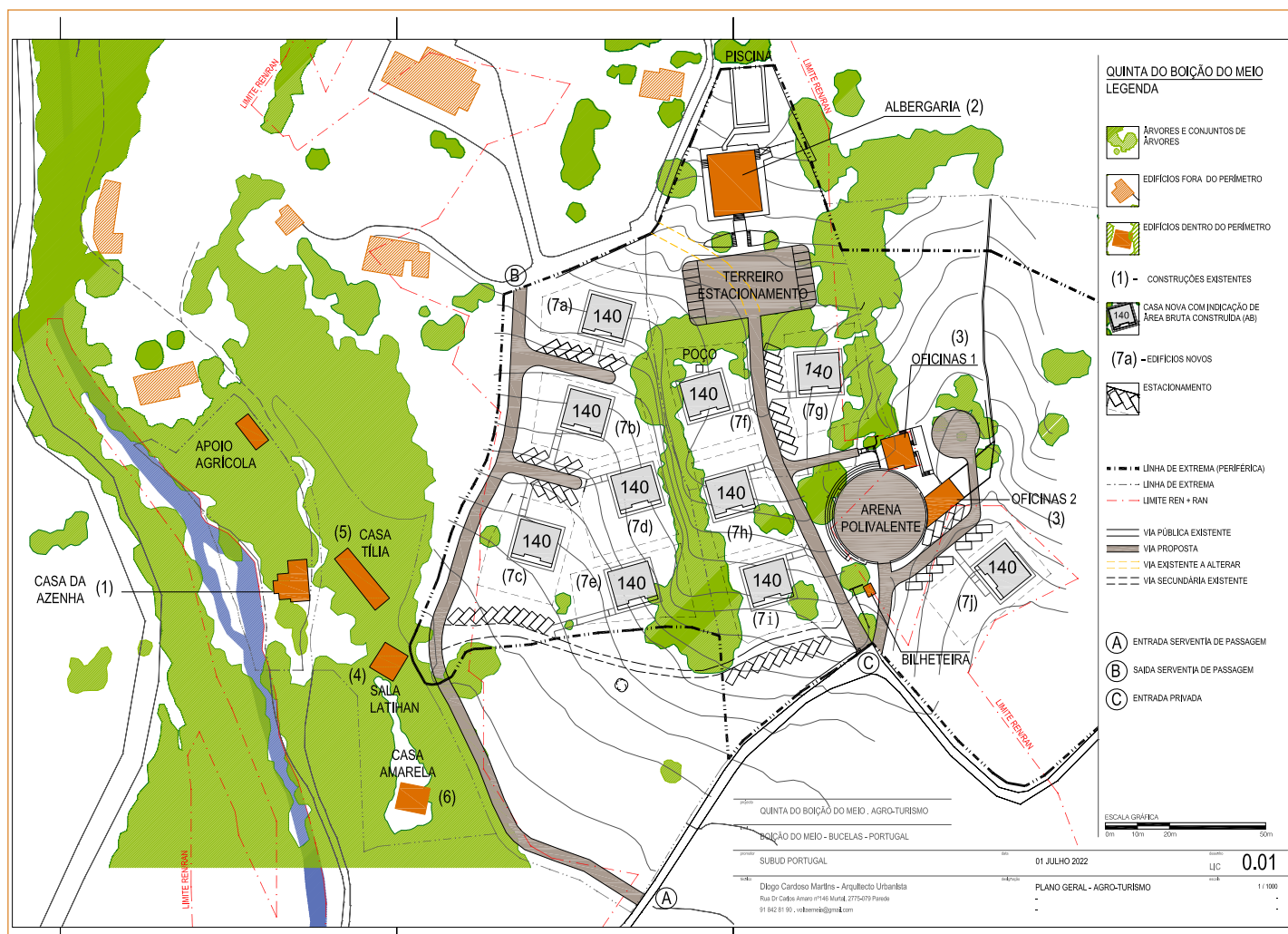
Under the linden tree.

Susana has been working at our social project, the Roda Viva school, for many years, and has just been joined there by Alina. Together with Lis, a designer/artist who is living in the Albergaria (the main Bucelas building), they are planning to lease a 30-year surface right on which they will put up a prefabricated wooden house – one of 10, all of which will be reserved to Subud members.

The history...

Already known by many, Bucelas Subud Centre (BSC) is a 5-hectare rural property owned by Subud Portugal, located just 30 minutes' drive from Lisbon international airport.

The property was purchased in 1975 and 1981 and was personally visited and encouraged by Bapak in 1977. It has a history of international gatherings, refugee support, childcare activities, enterprise ventures and artistic retreats, and has recently been used by national television channels as a film production location.



The plan...

After many years of being in a kind of “beauty sleep”, Bucelas now has a team that is driving the project to completely refurbish the Albergaria with 7 double rooms with private bathrooms, rebuild the Azenha mill-house (near the waterfall) and turn it into a tearoom, and lease the surface rights to the 10 plots, where prefabricated private wooden houses (similar to the attached photo) will be built.

The Master Plan will be submitted to the Municipality in the next couple of months. It includes the 10 new wooden chalet-style houses (areas of between 60m² and 140m²) on individual plots

“ After many years of ‘beauty sleep’, Bucelas now has a plan... ” we can see from the attached plan with the dashed outlines of for each plot. Once the Plan is approved, it will be >

possible to lease the surface rights via 30-40-year contracts. If you are interested in:

- Access to affordable housing (a major problem for many nowadays)
- A Subud retirement home, or a downsized residential option
- The possibility of living part of the year in Lisbon and renting it out for the rest of the year
- Living/coworking in an intergenerational Subud community in a rural context and if you commit to your surface right soon, you can be part of the decision-making process to choose the housing models from a range of possible options from different Portuguese supplier/contractor companies.

The long-lease contracts will become available as soon as the Municipality approves the Plan, and there are already several Subud members interested in this opportunity to live or spend time in a quiet place, surrounded by nature and other Subud people, in a country that has good weather, delicious food and hospitable folk and is still very affordable. Stay connected, get in line!

Contact for more info: anali_lay@hotmail.com



Under the fig tree.



*Existing wooden houses
(the new ones will be more modern).*

The Antagonist

Laurence Shorter reflects on the war in Ukraine...

Like most people I have been swept up in the anxiety and disbelief surrounding the Ukraine situation. I never thought it would happen, and my brain is racing to recalibrate. How – my subconscious is asking – should I respond?

Even on a good day it's hard to get into the relaxed, focused state needed to do our best work. But when the entire collective mental field is caught up in the unfolding narrative of a global conflict that will affect us all, and when someone – call him (let's face it) the enemy – hints at the use of nuclear weapons, it becomes almost impossible to find that zone.

Half my attention keeps wanting to hook back into the mass ticker-tape newsreel of the crisis. At the same time, the entire ancestral fear structure of my body seems to be triggered into a low-grade paralysis. If you met me, I'd seem ok – friendly, perhaps a little distracted or busy – but on the inside I am to all intents and purposes managing a fight-or-flight response. I'm not breathing deeply. My thoughts are swirling, unable to focus on prioritising or thinking strategically about my day.

I grew up in the Cold War, my teen years sobered by the knowledge that other humans had arranged for missiles to be pointed at my head and the heads of my brothers. I drew my own conclusions about human nature and survival from that. These conclusions – judging the universe as essentially meaningless or hostile rather than benign – left their mark on my core OS, impeding my creativity, ease and power and hooking me into belief systems about power and competition. For years I have been working to unwind these beliefs as I transition from hyper analytical business idiot to balanced creative person and net contributor to society.

Much of the rest of the world too, brought up in the longest period of relative peace since history began and quite unaccustomed to war, has been warming slowly – albeit with many a backward >



step – to a new account of human life as potentially, essentially good (if collectively incompetent).

We know how bullies work...

But we know how bullies work. It's a mind game. They sense a weakness and they go for it. They needle our deepest fear, the part that still believes in the worst. So too with the enemy. We keep a cherished alcove in our hearts, a place of tender vulnerability, intimate beyond even our closest relationships, and we invite them straight on in. Enemies exist to make us go weak at the knees, to outrage us and to jellify our insides so that we want to sink to the floor and plead. Ultimately enemies exist to test our faith and to call us to our strength. By which I do not mean the barricades and AK47s (although it might also mean that) but our knowledge of our own inviolability – our knowing that none of this can affect us if it doesn't hook our hearts.

To support me in my de-escalation process, I remind myself that there have always been enemies of profound and terrifying power – malevolent agents who appear to threaten our very existence – and history shows me that there is always only one of them at a time. In the period of their most intense manifestation, they almost seem to displace each other in sequence. A few recent examples of this mysterious process of collective manifestation (from a British perspective): The Soviet Union was succeeded briefly by the IRA as public enemy of focus before Al Qaeda stepped on the scene, followed by ISIS, COVID and now Putin.

Notice how quickly the previous threat is forgotten or fades from the limelight each time. These forces don't disappear when we stop obsessing about them or even when they get 'beaten' (as events in Ukraine perfectly illustrate in relation to the former Soviet Union). Instead, for one reason or another, the narrative focus moves elsewhere. The energetic wind goes out of their sails and a space opens up for a new arch enemy. So, is this about them, or us?

Once we start tracking history, we notice that it is an apparent condition of life that there will al-

“ *There will always be an enemy whose job is to challenge the core of our being...* ”

ways be an enemy whose job is to challenge the core of our being. Whether it's radical Islam, Putin or the ex-spouse, these players take on the mantle of ultimate bogeymen, and are always tagged with the most odious and destructive of values. Typically, they are then used to justify internal forms of tyranny in the name of salvation. Our national histories are littered with examples, from Genghis Khan and the Catholic Powers to Napoleon and Hitler. Every country and every era has its own Great Enemy, often directly mirroring the other (e.g. America / Iran).

Enemies can also be found on a national level. Trump took on the role of Great Enemy for many in the USA while the Brexit / Boris connection did for some in the UK. Note the 'fear gap' between ISIS and COVID – it had to be filled somehow (Iran didn't quite do it).

If you accept my observation that there is some kind of weird collective psycho-projection endlessly playing out, then the terror starts to lose its power. We can start to unhook from the drama (stop watching combat sequences on TikTok), invest less in the oppositional dynamic that is an eternal feature of life and start investing in the spaces of inspiration and hope that give us the lungs to breathe.

For me this is not about turning away, but about recognising the universality of this experience: everyone has an antagonist – and the enemy has its own imaginary villain (in Putin's case 'the West'), inflated, caricatured and manipulated by fear. No power is innocent in war. Neither, unfortunately, am I.

It's clear to me now that I've detested Vladimir Putin for years. I've been using this man who I don't know at all as a dumping ground for the shuttered stores of contempt I still harbour for human nature. Putin is the limp rag doll my ego uses to personify the ruthless and demented bullies of my



childhood. I have made him my personal enemy. You can be sure he's done the same for us.



Stop investing in fear and start investing in the space that births dreams...



I'm not saying we should start pretending our enemies don't exist in the real world, and just switch off the news (though I wish I was a bit less compulsive in my use of BBC Radio 4). I'm saying we should take ourselves seriously as contributors to the situation, by noticing our own personal investment in the field of conflict instead of being swept up in panic, outrage and horror.

Far from being narcissistic or self-obsessed, this choice has real world consequences. The war in Ukraine is not a bolt from the blue. It is the climax of a breakdown that has been deepening for years, and we have all played our part. Only by paying attention to our inner dramas and locating the psychic hooks that activate our fear and hatred can we see how we've been part of the problem all along. We need to start treating ourselves like humans. We need to attend to feelings, doing the forgiving we need to do – that good old fashioned Christian stuff.

Maybe then the great flywheel of fear, defence and attack will lose its momentum and we can step off the endless cycle of historical samsara. War will end or never start again, and the New Age will be born. Maybe it could happen. Maybe it's ridiculous and impossible. Either way, it's too late now. Isn't it?

Well, no. The war began a long time ago. And Putin – or whichever Great Enemy suits us best right now – needs all our psychic energy to fuel his determination. Like all bullies, he needs to draw from the well of worry, outrage and protest in order to whip himself and his machine into battle.

So, it's time to get to work – stop investing in fear and start investing in the space that births dreams. We must tend our own gardens: these wars are lost and won in our hearts.

Laurence lives in the UK. This article was originally published on his blog:

<https://laurences.substack.com> Please visit him there to comment or subscribe. The article also appeared in www.goodreed.uk

The Latihan and Illness

Mashud Darlington, Central London Group, writes about the impact and meaning of a car accident...

Since my car crash at the end of November 2020 and my subsequent stay in hospital to recover from my injuries I've been invited to add to the comments I've previously written about this in Subud publications.

This is fortunate, as the road to recovery has been a kind of unfolding inner journey that may be of interest to others. Like many other people confronted by personal suffering, as someone who has received the Latihan since I was eighteen, it forced me to question the meaning of this distressing accident.

I can't describe the crash as my last recollection was of checking my wing mirror and turning in my seat prior to pulling out into what appeared to be a clear road. My next recollection was a coming to, on the far side of the road covered in my own blood and bits of broken glass.

I was then taken to hospital by ambulance accompanied by traffic police officers. After eighteen months I still have no memory at all of the actual crash and am still recovering from the trauma with physical issues of balance. Fortunately, no one else was injured in the accident with no further action to be taken by the police.



Mashud Darlington with his wife Rohana and son Afandi and eldest daughter Juwariah.



I spent three days in a local hospital and the intention of the doctors was to transfer me to Southampton where specialists would repair my smashed sinuses



An unfolding inner journey...



and deal with my brain injuries. However, the hospital doctors considered an operation may do more harm than good and released me to recover at home. My car, however was declared by the insurance company a complete write-off and I'm still unable to drive.

Many people on spiritual paths find the question of why a merciful and all-powerful God should permit such suffering an incomprehensible paradox. Having grown up in a culture influenced by Christian teachings, some time ago I became interested in the ideas of Doctor Bart Ehrman, Professor of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina and author of thirty books on Christian beliefs.

More than two million of his books have sold world-wide. Professor Ehrman, because of his sincere Christian beliefs, became distressed by the problems of the existence of evil and the suffering he encountered in the world through his work with refugees. He has written movingly about his loss of faith and his adoption of agnostic atheism. When a man of Bart Ehrman's scholarly stature and sincerity expresses these beliefs, I took them seriously.

A different journey,,,

However, my own journey as a Subud member has been different. I can't deny the reality of my own experience in the Latihan. I saw the light, quite literally, when in Latihan in Manchester a fragment of light broke off from a greater light, fell on my head and burnt its way through my body. You can't negotiate with something like that, along the lines of 'I'll do this, if you give me that.' You can only surrender to a force overwhelming in its omniscience, holiness and transformative power.

So, I was obliged to question why this accident should happen to me after sixty years of Latihan. What could I learn from it? Just before the crash I'd been praying for the gift of a pure and loving heart. The crash jolted me out of habitual patterns of thought and behaviour. I became aware that the only way for me to progress further inwardly was to be in a state of love for my fellow beings.

I knew I should be able to forgive people who had caused me suffering in the past but found this difficult. This raised for me the dangers of forgiveness: would those I forgave take advantage of me? This was particularly acute in the case of Anugraha. I had invested all my hopes in this project because Bapak told us it would be the gateway for Subud in the wider world and I had mortgaged my house to support it. I felt bitterly betrayed by those in charge.

During the Subud Britain Congress in Malvern, after fasting for twenty days of Ramadan, I went to a group Latihan in the evening. This is a special time for Muslims, as Laylat al-Qadir, the Night of Power, is a time when grace and blessings are said to descend on those who have fasted sincerely. I had however no expectation that anything unusual would happen to me as I was aware that there were those at Congress who were fasting for much longer than I was.

During the Latihan I suddenly found myself alone in a vast space. A voice then spoke the words within my chest, 'Whenever you meet anyone, just say to them, Peace be upon you.' The implication of this was that I should become closer to God than to other people. After this, my Latihan returned to normal. This was just the beginning of a long journey which led to my accident.

Strong enough...

Before the accident, but some years after the Congress Latihan experience, I felt strong enough to bless others inwardly and sincerely. I felt that this experience was in my chest because this was an attitude of the heart, not something I should be doing literally. It was strange, as when I did this, a firewall seemed to descend in my being, separating the past from the present. I felt that nothing that had happened in the past could affect me and I began to see what Bapak meant when he advised...

'This world is a place of suffering, full of danger, full of trials and difficulties. But at the center of this life, which is a life of suffering and a life of trials for man, there is also a great peace and bliss if we are able to surrender at that moment.'

I then understood that this world is a place of evolution and education for the soul, in fact emphatically not an earthly paradise.

Within my suffering I was then able to separate myself from thoughts and feelings of the past and memories of places and incidents that no longer exist outside my own mind.

“ I can't deny the reality of my latihan experience...”

A continuation of the process...

I now feel that the shock of the car crash was a continuation of this process. As a child I felt dissociated from my family and had difficulty relating to my parents and brother and the family culture. Paradoxically, I now feel a closeness to my forebears and sympathy for their lives led in the dirt and squalor of nineteenth century industrial Manchester.

I feel changed as an individual and more part of an ancestral continuum going back for centuries. I'm now aware that my present blessings are in part the result of my forebears' worship in the churches and non-conformist chapels they attended, and also of my mother's regular church attendance, bringing grace into the painful circumstances they faced.

I'm so grateful that, to quote Shaikh 'Abd al- Qadir al-Jilani, the 11th century Sufi mystic, 'the arrows of fate have scratched me but not killed me.' I could so easily have been in a wheelchair for the rest of my life, or blind, or in a coma. Or I could have lost my life in the crash.

With the loving help of my wife Rohana, children and grandchildren, I'm well on the way to recovery. And hopeful that, unlike my car, I am not beyond an 'economical repair', and that 'God is breaking me down to His oblivion, to send me forth on a new day as a new man'.

Zone 3 Magazine PROJECTS & PROPERTIES, Summer edition

This issue includes...

· **Assisi 2022...** The latest news about the upcoming Z3 & 4 gathering including the developing programme and a call-out to the youth, together with details about one of our workshop contributors, and their latest project.

· **Supporting Ukraine...** The crisis in Ukraine has moved many Subud members worldwide to find ways to offer their support. Read about some of the responses and efforts being made by SDIA and Subud members to support the Ukrainian people

· **Properties...** Learn about a proposal currently under development for a Subud European Property Foundation, how the exciting mortgage free milestone for the Lisbon Subud House has been reached, and an investment opportunity in France

· **Gatherings...** Read about recent national gatherings in Italy, France and the Netherlands

· **Introducing...** Meet the new Z3 Council members from Britain, Ireland and the Netherlands

· **World Congress...** Read about the developing plans for World Congress, the WCOT's new podcast series, and a call for proposals to host the next world congress

To read the magazine in English, click here:

<https://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Projects-Properties-Zone3-Magazine-Issue.pdf>



A Growing Community

Hassan Czwiertnia writes after a recent visit to Orgiva...

With over 50 members, the Órgiva, or more precisely the La Alpujarra group, is now the largest Subud group in Spain. Located immediately south of the town of Órgiva, the extensive property project known as Jaramuza at the foot of the Sierra Nevada in Andalusia is, in actual fact, primarily agricultural land.

Regulations require that a purchase of land there must be of a minimum of 5000 m², to avoid the area being broken up into small plots. The main crops grown there come from olive trees, some over a thousand years old, but also oranges, lemons, pomegranates, and so on.

To be able to live there, the plot must include at least one existing structure, which can be converted accordingly. This has given – and is giving – rise to a community of Subud members who, >

while sharing the latihan in common, also have a generous amount of space for their private sphere.

Even so, it has taken time for La Alpujarra to reach its current size. The original driving force behind it included Hubert von Bissing, Sergio Moreno, Marc Vouga, Andrew Bromley, and others. Various efforts to get Zone 3 investing in the area came to nothing, and the people living there gradually became older – it seemed like things were coming to a standstill. Everything change, however, following the construction of new, spacious and beautiful latihan halls in 2016, which were largely self-financed, while also supported by international donors and MSF.



On Sunday, May 29, 2022, there were 18 men, and a similar number of women, at the simultaneous latihan at 11am. The tangible blessing, which also attracts visitors from around the world, has also brought a number of young families to live in La Alpujarra and the surrounding area. One large property is administered by Rohan Gebhardt. With 25,000 m2 it is one of the largest, and is currently the location of a number of projects. Two young families are living there with Rohan and his son.

Oliver Haitzmann is currently the chairman of this large Subud community. He and his family have been living in a wonderful home there since 2005. His wife, Sophia, has become an expert in all kinds of herbs, vegetables and fruits, of which there are a large variety. A clever irrigation system, built 800 years ago by the Moors, ensures the cultivation of the gardens and fields.

For information on the Jaramuza Project in Orgiva, please contact: Muctar Nankivell, muctarn@gmail.com

French National Congress

Zone 3 Rep, Hannah de Roo, writes...

Once again the French congress was held at the beautifully located conference centre 'Le Lazaret' in Sète, on the ever sunny southern coast. On Friday evening the council and international guests arrived to prepare the agenda and discuss last minute changes.

The outgoing national committee, chaired by Maria Blakey, met with the six national helpers and SD France chair Nurul Har-nadi, as well as the group chairs from Paris, Mayenne, Mane and the South-West group. Besides the Zone 3 representative, also four international helpers had come to attend this congress. Around seventy people in total had arrived by Saturday afternoon, including guests from Poland, USA and Spain.

The programme included workshops on various topics: supporting the project of the south-west group (eco-village and Subud house); fulfilling roles in the Subud organization; an evaluation of 'what is consensus?', and more.

At the end of the afternoon each facilitator reported on the outcomes of the discussions and everyone showed a lot of interest. In a well-attended 'kejiwaan café' the international helpers talked about their work and answered some questions about the situation in other countries.

During the AGM members approved the financial report and voted for several resolutions to do with proposed changes in the constitution and bylaws.

The main decision was to appoint a new chair for the coming term, and although there was only one candidate, Ra'ouf Neuman (in the photo above with his wife Adele), he was unanimously recommended by the national helpers to fulfil this role and gratefully accepted the position.

Since collaboration between the committee and the national helpers has been challenging during >



the last term, it is hoped that this new situation will bring new opportunities for a positive development in that respect.

SD France chair Nurul Harnadi was reappointed for a second term and towards the end of congress there was a feeling of having accomplished all the necessary tasks in a positive atmosphere. In between meetings there was music and singing, and a comic play about 'putting the life forces in the right place', which caused lots of laughter.

Of course, the Mediterranean environment was greatly enjoyed, with a bright sun and just a two minutes' walk to the seashore: a wonderful setting to meet with brothers and sisters, and most likely not the last time for Subud France to have its meeting here!

This article first appeared in www.subudworldnews.com

Touring Art Exhibition

SICA Britain has organised an Arts Exhibition, which is touring the Subud Houses around Britain — Bradford, Bristol, Tunbridge Wells, Loudwater, Amadeus Centre London, and Lewes.

This exhibition embodies SICA Britain's aim to showcase the work of Subud artists and reflect the reality of their inner individual existence.

SICA Britain is a member of the International SICA Organisation affiliated to the World Subud Association, working to create local and international opportunities for cross-cultural exchange.

SICA Britain aims to nurture love and respect for spirituality in all forms of life, helping to build a truly humane, harmonious and inclusive future for all life on planet Earth.

There are seven artists represented in this current exhibition. Their work is to be seen on the SICA Britain website. Please select the artist from the icons shown to view the examples with details and prices.

REMAINING SICA BRITAIN ART EXHIBITION DATES

- Loudwater hanging 6 August takedown 3 September
- Amadeus London hanging 3 September takedown 1 October
- Lewes hanging 2 October takedown or sending to buyers End of October

To see information about the venues, dates, artists and examples of their work go to:

<https://www.sicabritain.co.uk/#events>



Rohana Darlington

One of the artists included in the SICA Britain touring exhibition is Rohana Darlington from the Central London group. Here is her artist's statement and one of her works included in the exhibition...

I am an artist, textile designer and illustrator living and working in rural Hampshire. I've been in Subud all my life and am married to Subud member Mashud Darlington. We have four children and three grandchildren. Art has always been my way of self-expression in response to the beauty I see around me, and I strive to grow closer to God in the process.

I've worked professionally in these areas since graduating from the Central School of Art & Design and the University of Manchester Institute of Science & Technology. I'm an author, published by A & C Black and a Fellow of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust, awarded a Travelling Fellowship to Ireland and Norway for my work as a writer, designer, and illustrator.

Before moving to Hampshire from Cheshire I worked as a rehab creative therapist running community arts projects at Macclesfield Hospital for 20 years, employed by Age UK.

In 2021 I was selected as a semi-finalist in the international art competition 'In The History' run by the Artists Lounge Gallery for my illustrations of historic buildings in rural settings. In 2022, I was long-listed in the Jacksons Painting Prize international art competition for a series of landscapes. >



The Visitor.

I'm currently working on more landscapes, scenes from my garden and local village, and on an illustration for an interfaith online magazine *Monotheismus*.

To see the work of other artists in the Touring Exhibition, and for further information. go to <https://www.sicabritain.co.uk/#events>

Farewell Pak Kuswanda

From Subud Indonesia...

Born on June 7, 1933, Pak Kuswanda was a long time Subud member who dedicated his life to the National Committee of Subud Indonesia. As such he was well known around the Subud world, when he attended international congresses or welcomed international visitors to Indonesia. He was an active helper, former Subud Indonesia National Chair (1984-1990), former Committee Councilor until 2009, former Board of Muhammad Subuh Foundation and Yayasan Muhammad Subuh.

Since he had a background in forestry, Pak Kuswanda was also one of the Subud pioneers of Kalimantan. During his last years, he served as an adviser, translator, (for example of the book *An Extraordinary Man*) and a writer of several books about his experiences in Subud.

His sense of humor was very popular among Subud members. He became the life of the party on many Subud occasions with his funny stories or entertaining songs. The last occasion was on Bapak's birthday celebration at Wisma Subud Cilandak, June 22, 2022.

Pak Kuswanda passed away peacefully during the night of Tuesday, July 5, 2022. He leaves behind his children Purnama Widjajakusumah (YUM chairman), Suryanti (National Committee for Asset) and Inda, and five grandchildren. He was buried in Jeruk Purut cemetery, together with his beloved wife.

Farewell Pak Kuswanda, thank you so much for your contribution and dedication for Subud. May God bless him on that journey and reward him for all his work here in this world.



Remembering Kuswanda

Harris Smart recalls time spent with Muhammad Kuswanda...

I heard today that Muhammad Kuswanda, a former National Chairman of Subud Indonesia, passed away at the ICU of Siloam Diagram Heart Hospital in Jakarta on July 5, 2022, 7:27 p.m. local time.

He had been three times Chair of Subud Indonesia and in his professional life had a distinguished career of public service in Indonesia's Forestry Department.

He had been educated in the USA and was as versed in western ways as he was in Indonesian. He liked to wear a cowboy hat and to sing Country and Western songs.

He leaves three grown up children, two daughters and a son and a number of grandchildren. Kuswanda and his daughters and sons-in-law and children all lived in a group of houses at the end of a cul-de-sac in Cilandak near Wisma Subud. Kuswanda's wife died before him.

Kuswanda was a very amiable man, very friendly, very likeable. He was very humorous, knew a lot of jokes, some of them very rude.

I knew him for a long time, perhaps 50 years, and often stayed with him when I went to Jakarta, and sometimes we took journeys together.



Journey to Jogja...

Once we travelled on the train together down to Jogjakarta. In case you don't know, Jogjakarta is a kind of spiritual and artistic centre in Indonesian. You see, Java has rich traditions that go back for many centuries, and even if the surface of Indonesia today may look increasingly "modern" and western the mythological traditions are still there working beneath the surface.



Once we travelled on the train together down to Jogjakarta



On the way to Jogja on the train, Kuswanda told me, "There were once these great kingdoms in Java, some Buddhist, some Hindu and then Islam came to Indonesia in the 15th century, but even so many of these ancient spiritual traditions persist beneath the surface and give Islam the particularly friendly, tolerant and "liberal" face it wears in Indonesia, at least up until recent times."

"I'll give you one example of the spiritual traditions of Java," he told me. "Jogjakarta has a Sultan. At one time he was the ruler of this place. Nowadays he is not as powerful a ruler as he once was, although he still has economic and political importance. But mostly now he is the repository of the ancient spiritual and artistic traditions."

At the Sultan's Palace

On our arrival in Jogja we went to visit the Sultan's palace. As we wandered around, Kuswanda told me, "It is said that the Sultan of Jogjakarta must mate with the Queen of the South Seas who is a mythological or spiritual being said to inhabit the sea of Java. This is probably a strange concept to westerners."

"Yes, how can a human being mate with a mythological figure?"

"Well, apart from anything else, she is quite dangerous, you have to be very careful of her. It is said that there are certain beaches where you should not swim because the Queen of the South Seas might take you. In particular it is said that if you are a man, you should not wear green bathers because for some reason she is particular fond of taking men in green bathers."

"I know," I said, "that sometimes people drown at beaches said to be her particular province, but they are often dangerous beaches with rips and currents, so it is not surprising that people die there."

“Maybe so. You may say that this myth is just a fanciful explanation of a natural phenomenon, but many Indonesians, even otherwise very modern



We both accomplished this feat of strength...



and western-orientated ones, believe in the Queen of the South Seas as an actual figure still with us today. And both Bapak and Sudarto, amongst others, had experiences of meeting her.”

“But how does a human being mate with a mythological figure?” I insisted.

“I am not sure of the technicalities of how this is accomplished. Perhaps she incarnates, takes on human form, for the occasion. Perhaps it is a spiritual rather than physical union. A meeting and merging of spirits rather than bodies. Such a thing is possible. I am told.”

“And the Sultan of Jogja must mate with her,” he continued. “At least he used to. I don't know for a fact if he still does, but perhaps he does. It was an essential part of his power and prestige that he should mate with the Queen. I have heard it said that there is a special tunnel leading from his palace to the place this union takes place.”

The Language of Birds

Apart from that, Jogja has many other wonders. The sultan supports many of the traditional arts of Java, such as dance and music, and you can go to the palace and see performances of the ancient court dances of Jogjakarta. *See a video of it* at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IcOjAADt6wM> There is also market full of birds, thousands of birds twittering.

Kuswanda told me, “We Indonesians like to keep birds, not only for the beauty of their plumage and the beauty of their song, but also it is said that birds can act as guardians and watchdogs, warning you of danger approaching the house. Or you can speak with them, and they will talk to you and give you messages of interest and importance.”

“Yes,” I said, “Once someone at Wisma Subud told me he had a spiritual crisis in which, like St Francis of Assisi and other saints in the western tradition, he could understand the language of animals. He kept chickens and he used to while away many a pleasant hour listening to their conversation as they went about their business.”

“What did they talk about?” Kuswanda asked.

“Food and sex, food and sex.”

The Tortoise and the Rock

So Kuswanda and I wandered around Jogja visited all the wonders I would never have learned about if he had not been my expert guide. We got to know each other well. I got to appreciate Kuswanda very much and we “bonded” as they say in a way that has now lasted many decades.

We went to a place where there was a tortoise said to be many centuries old swimming in a pond. There was also a stone there and it was said that if you could lift it, you would have success in life. Both Kuswanda and I accomplished this feat of strength.

Subud has so enriched my life. Subud is not only about spiritual experiences and “progress in the latihan” but also about the experiences of everyday life. If I had not found Subud when I did, I probably would have killed myself, I had painted myself into such a black corner. How much I would have missed out on! So many people I have met, so many places I have been.

Kuswanda has written a book, *Moments of Insight*. I think it is a very good book, an important book. It is a book of everyday experiences, little anecdotes, moments of insight, epiphanies, showings forth of life and meaning. Too often we think of spirituality as some very remote and high-flown thing. Kuswanda's book shows you how it is the texture of everyday life.

On the way back from Jogja on the train he told me a story about a sawo tree that had found its way into his book *Moments of Insight*. Since we talked about talking with birds, it seems good to have a story about talking to trees...

The Fifty Ninth story in *Moments of Insight*

THE SAWO TREE THAT SPRANG BACK TO LIFE

In 1974 I decided to build my house in what was then a relatively undeveloped part of Jakarta >

where sawo (sapodilla) trees are commonly planted for their fruit. The land on which my house was to be built had three big sawo trees, which were believed by the village people to be the dark-leaved trees where spirits love to dwell.

As my house went up, stories about the spirits in one of the trees started to go around; a worker had fallen off it, and others on the second floor who slept near the tree were often disturbed at night.

One day I walked up to the tree holding a machete and after making myself quiet, I tapped the tree lightly with the machete saying, "whatever lives here, go away, do not disturb us" and then I let the matter go. But as time passed, I noticed that the leaves of the big sawo tree gradually started to wither, until after several months, all the leaves went brown and fell off.

The tree is dying, I thought, and my neighbouring village people thought the same, which confirmed my own opinion, while the two other trees growing not far from it were still lush with their dark green leaves.

After a year, instead of cutting down the dead tree, I felt sorry for it and I approached it again, but this time without a machete. I made myself quiet and then while stroking it I said as if it were an order, "The rainy season will come soon, take as much water as possible and spring back to life".

And then, after a few months of rain, I noticed with surprise that while the twigs had remained bare, small buds were sprouting from the bigger branches of the tree. It had sprung back to life!

Many months later it was covered with new leaves and after several years, it looked like a normal tree again and now bears fruit just as usual. Amazing! I could feel God smiling while poking fun at me.

It seemed that plants need love too. My seemingly hostile act of striking the tree with a machete even though I had done it so lightly had made such a stressful impact on the tree that it almost died. My touching and caressing act towards it, together with encouraging talk, had caused it to spring back to life.

I understood then that people today can communicate with plants also. The subtle power of God had again been proven to me and I became even more convinced that His Power is encompassing the universe and our wishes can, through a process beyond our minds, become a reality.

Moments of Insight is available both as an e-book and a printed book from www.lulu.com ●

The Passing of Subagio

SUBAGIO, Tomik, affectionately known as "Possum" died at home, Saturday 11 June 2022 aged 90 years, born Solo 7 May 1932

He was the loved and adored father to Riawati and Bima and the loving husband of Janet.

Tomik was a long-time member and respected elder of Subud Australia

Subud Adelaide Chair, David Egege, writes, "It is with a great deal of sadness to inform all members of the death of Subagio who died last night, apparently in his sleep.

"Subagio only mentioned a few weeks ago he was ready to go on the last big journey, nevertheless, it always comes as a great shock when the death of someone close finally occurs. We wish Subagio well in his final journey and in particular, wish his family, friends and relatives solace at this time of sadness and grief."

Harris Smart writes, "Subagio had many spiritual experiences, and he was a frequent contributor to Subud Voice. We shared a long and interesting correspondence."

Biography...

Tomik Subagio was born in Solo, Central Java, on May 7, 1932, and he is the grandson of Kanjeng Raden Tumenggung Reksoprojo, Patih (Prime Minister) Kasununan (Kingdom) Surakarta Hadiningrat, who has lived on the kangaroo continent, Australia, for more than half a century. >



Subagio was affectionately known as "Possum" and had tamed a female possum in his backyard.

After working for 24 years as a civil servant at the Department of Engineering and Water Supply, South Australia, Tomik devoted most of his time to humanity. Tomik was dedicated to his professions as a Consulting Mechanical Engineer & NAATI and later as an Interpreter/Translator in the Justice system.

He was a very simple person. Since 1970, he went to work by bicycle right up to the end of his life. "So that the body is fit, and it is not difficult to find parking, and be free from air pollution." he said.

He received many awards from the Governments of Indonesia and Australia and made several Indonesian and Australian print media covers.

Subagio credited his grandfather Tomik as "the one who taught me not only to care for others and the environment, but also to always live a simple and humble life."



Subagio continued to be an enthusiastic cyclist right up until the end of his life.

POSSUM IS INDEED LUCKY

At 90 years of age still working and riding bike.

Possum is indeed lucky being born to very good parents, with siblings that care for and love one another

Possum is indeed lucky to have won a scholarship
That brought him to Australia to study engineering
He has been given the opportunity to serve the community
To give something back to the community and leave behind a legacy.
As an engineer Public Servant
Possum is the only one ever presented the Government
with an Intellectual Property.

Possum is indeed lucky to have married Janet
Who taught me what to eat and taught me to ride bike and stay healthy
The proof of the pudding
Is at 90 Possum is still working as a Translator and still riding bike
at 90 years of age, I am the longest and the oldest Public Servant in South Australia

Possum and Janet is indeed a lucky couple
To have been entrusted as guardians of two complete children
Those now have grown up as well-equipped adults
To take care of themselves and serve the community

Possum is indeed lucky
He has friends of any age,
Regardless of status, gender and colour of skin
Even a wild animal, Lady Possum befriended Possum.

Possum is indeed lucky
At 80 he still enjoyed his son's companionship on the golf course.
And his daughter's at the gamelan.

Possum is indeed a lucky person
To have accomplished his mission
As husband and parent to his children

A Book on the Life of Tomik Subagio in bilingual Indonesian-English has been published in Indonesia. If you wish to have a copy of the book you can contact his grandniece Sherry Hendraswari in Indonesia through her email address: Hendraswari-s3h4r1@gmail.com

The Passing of Helen Ruxton

Helen Ruxton, a long-time member of Subud Adelaide, died at Resthaven June 12th 2022.

David Egege, Chair of Subud Adelaide, writes, "Helen's daughter, Amanah, had contacted the group earlier to let us know her death was imminent.

"Sandra and Davina went to sit with her for a few hours. After latihan they played some classical music to bring Helen a sense of peace in her last hours.

"Helen had been a member of the Adelaide group for well over forty years and had always been diligent in her support of the group, its members, and the National Committee."

Roseanne Jansse writes, "I know she was one of the earliest members of Subud Adelaide, from 1961, a devoted member and a diligent helper. And all through some turbulent years in the history of Adelaide never wavered. A stalwart to the end. And importantly, a regular contributor, who was part of the group who purchased the first Subud House in South Australia."

Helen was married to John Walker and George Ruxton (both deceased) happy times for Helen, but she also knew the pain of having a disabled daughter Susan, and later experiencing the death of her daughter Jan. Helen was a fine pianist and an enthusiastic member of a choir.

Helen was truly remarkable with regard to her decades long determination to get herself to group latihan each week.

Right up till Helen went into a nursing home, she would drive herself through Saturday morning traffic to the Richmond Rd hall. This was at a stage when Helen was already unsteady on her feet in getting from her car to the front door of the hall - but she still rocked up. Every week.

Helen's dedication and commitment and drive were something to behold.

David concludes, "It's been a difficult and sad weekend for our group to lose two members within two days, however, our thoughts turn to Helen and Subagio's families wishing them peace, comfort, courage, and all of our love at this challenging time." ●

Sofyan Brugger Memories

Oswald Norton writes...

Sofyan Brugger passed away, 29th May, in Boise, Idaho, USA

I met Halimah and Sofyan Brugger in the mid-90s at our annual Subud PNW Kejiwaan event at Menucha. They'd be sitting together in the opening circle, at our meals and in sessions where we spoke of our experiences with the latihan and its impact on our lives. It seemed that they were inseparable.

These kedjiwaan events are filled with conversations with those you'd just met. Sometimes someone would talk about an experience in Subud you want to know more about it and you'd speak further. And, I wanted to catch up with people I'd met there before. And, there were the latihan.

It seemed like it was a rare moment when I had the time to explore the back story of how someone found Subud and where that opening had taken them.

The more Subud work I did, the more opportunities I had to hear these deeper stories. It was when I became a Subud Pacific Northwest regional helper that I learned of the Bruggers.

On Friday, March 17, 2017, Marius Harold and I traveled to Boise, Idaho to witness the opening of the husband of one of their members. The Bruggers put us up in their home and provided meals for us including a fantastic potluck group meal. The opening and group latihan used the living room and one of their 3 car garage spaces which had been walled off and turned into a latihan room with nice carpets.

Sofyan's early days in Subud...

During this visit, I heard some of Sofyan's stories about his early days in Subud. After checking with Halimah Brugger on the details I remembered, I've decided to include what she sent me (which >



The Idaho River near the Brugger home.

was so interesting, and, more factual):

Even before Sofyan went to university, he wanted to learn Bahasa Indonesia so he could understand Bapak. He learned quickly. He received his degrees in Oriental Languages, Arabic and Turkish, from Oxford University.

After graduation and a stint teaching in Turkey, he was looking for a job. He applied as Producer in the Indonesian/Malay section of the BBC, passed the Indonesian language test, and got the position. A great deal of his work there involved checking the work of the Indonesians and Malaysians for accuracy.

Sofyan's office was very near the UN where Varindra worked. They occasionally met for lunch. Varindra told Sofyan about the work being done at Wisma Subud. Sofyan's understanding of languages, including Indonesian could be helpful in this work. Would he be interested in moving to Jakarta and assisting in that work? He was and he did.



Sofyan Brugger

[Work with translations...](#)

I've learned since then that his work helping with the translations included over 120 of Bapak's talks and thousands of Bapak's responses to members' questions. It was there that he met and married his wife, Halimah, in July of 1969, which was reported in Vol. 3, No. 6 of Subud Voice. [For more about their life at Wisma Subud, visit the WSA archives.]

For those interested in knowing more about Sofyan and his wife Halimah and their life at Wisma Subud, please visit the WSA Archives website. This site is open to Subud members. Send a request for access to: admin@wsaarchives.org and a personal account will be set up for you.

The website contains thousands of historical Subud records in newsletters, films, photographs, and documents. See also, on the WSA Archives website, interviews from the Memories of Bapak project of Sofyan Brugger and also of his wife, Halimanh Brugger talking about their lives in Subud, their experiences in the latihan, and their relationship with Bapak and other Subud members.

[More from Halimah...](#)

When Sofyan arrived in Indonesia, almost the first thing Bapak said to him was, "Learn Spanish." Later he would translate many, many, long letters from South American members from Spanish to Indonesian.

About two evenings before the opening of the 1971 World Congress in Indonesia, Bapak sent Sofyan the address that he would give at the Congress in front of President Suharto to be translated by the next morning.

It was published in the Congress brochure and is probably the only "Talk" Bapak prepared in advance and in writing. Nowhere will you find Sofyan's name as translator. In those days it didn't seem right to include the translator's name. Sofyan did not mind. He didn't wish to put himself forward, and only wished to serve Bapak.

Sofyan took other jobs in Indonesia, including teaching at the Jakarta International School, UNESCO, and UNICEF. However, even when he worked at these jobs, Bapak, the Sekretariat and Sharif continued to send him letters and talks to translate in the evenings.

Later after Bapak died, Ibu Rahayu sent him letters to translate right up until we left Indonesia in 1997. Sofyan had lived in Indonesia for 31 years.

[On that first visit in 2017...](#)

Sofyan was trying to recover from a



His work helping with the translations included over 120 of Bapak's talks...



back injury with the help of Dennis Lockhart, a former US Army medic, who assisted him with his physical therapy. Through this work with Sofyan, Dennis became interested in Subud and was opened this trip.

On my next visit in 2018, Sofyan was confined to a wheelchair and he and Halimah had moved their bedroom down to the bottom floor of their home so that she could take better care of him. Though the work was very time consuming, Halimah's care and love for Sofyan was always there, along with her care for their son, Silan who is mentally challenged.

This time Rosalyn Neel – wanting to dive right into the work of being a regional helper, even though her “official” term hadn't started yet – joined me so that there could be a woman regional helper as well as a man.

In spite of all the challenges facing her household, Halimah organized a group potluck for the whole Boise group. Our Irish themed dinner consisted of “Bubble and Squeak”, green veggies, salmon and salad, with ice cream and fruit for dessert. It was a wonderful meal which was enjoyed by one and all. No Guinness was served.

Before dinner we did latihan. I always experienced something unique in my latihan when I went out to visit groups and this was no exception. My latihan was a deep and clear. I felt grateful to be doing latihan with these members who were keeping the latihan alive in Boise.

So many interesting stories were told after dinner and cleanup were done. We spoke of our lives and the people we'd met on our journeys before and after being opened until nearly 11. It was great to see everyone again and understand in a deeper way their stories. All of it had been made possible through Halimah's effort.

Emergency surgery...

In December of 2019 Sofyan had emergency surgery. Marius Harold and I wanted to visit him and have the chance to do another latihan in person. Nadia Woodcock was to join us so that there would be a woman visiting as well. It took us until March 2020 to organize ourselves just as the COVID-19 pandemic was getting started.

As more and more information about the virus was known, it became clearer and clearer to all of us that if we went to Boise, we might bring the virus to the Bruggers. So, at the last minute we reluctantly cancelled our trip.

I was determined to support Halimah and Sofyan in some way. As more and more of us did the virtual latihan via phone, it occurred to me that I might also do this with Sofyan. And, so, after checking this out with the two of them, Sofyan and I began doing phone latihan once a month.

I cherished each and every one of these latihan. The depth of receiving I experienced in them was unlike any other experience I had had before. One thing in particular I remember was that I felt the latihan start right away which was not always the case for me. And, I know that the reason for this was that was I was doing latihan with Sofyan Brugger.

In thinking about what I wanted to say in this remembrance I did some research on Sofyan in the WSA Archives. There I found a Bapak talk that he'd translated. It's Bapak's Talk in Singapore, December 3 1958, “FOLLOWING THE DEATH OF IKHSAN...”. In this talk Bapak says this about Ikhsan Ahmad Muhammad, who had died suddenly:

“It is generally the custom for people who follow a religion, or are obedient to God, to say, when a human being dies, that he has been called by the One God.

“Viewed superficially, it really feels very heavy to be left by a friend, or someone we know very well. But if we reflect more deeply, we realize that we who are still alive will also not escape death, and it becomes clear that our brother Ikhsan's death was only a question of time. There is time a long way off; there is time near at hand.

“So, there are those who still have a long time; there are those who do not. Clearly, we who are still alive are sure to follow him one day; we don't know when. This is why we simply give thanks to God that God has willed our brother Ikhsan to go on before us. Such are our feelings and reflections on human death, and on the death of our brother Ikhsan whom we have known for so long.”

In reading this, I was reminded of my own mortality and that there is still time for me to continue to do the latihan regularly, with patience and submission. I am glad I have time. >

There will remain in my calendar, for a while at least, the monthly reminder of my time to do latihan with Sofyan. I need to keep it there for a while as I let go of our brother and pray for his journey after this life and for his family who are left behind.

Link to some of Rachman's photos of Sofyan and Halimah Brugger.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/ScW8gxc6YKES8jrk6>

WSA CALENDAR AND COUNCIL NEWS

FROM THE WORLD SUBUD ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVE OFFICE – WWW.SUBUD.ORG

AUGUST 2022

WORLD LATIHAN [WSC Latihan: every month, one hour (GMT) before World Latihan] 7TH Aug. 03:00 (Los Angeles) - 05:00 (Bogota/Mexico City) - 06:00 (New York/Santiago de Chile) - 10:00 GMT) - 11:00 (London) - 12:00 (Paris) - 17:00 (Jakarta) - 20:00 (Sydney) - 22:00 (New Zealand)

13th Aug. Monthly WSA BOD Meeting.

20th & 21st Aug. WSC Periodic Zoom Meeting

SEPTEMBER 2022

WORLD LATIHAN [WSC Latihan: every month, one hour (GMT) before World Latihan] 3rd Sep. 13:00 (Los Angeles) - 15:00 (Bogota/Mexico City) - 16:00 (New York/Santiago de Chile) 20:00(GMT) - 21:00 (London) - 22:00 (Paris) 4th Sep. - 03:00 (Jakarta) - 06:00 (Sydney) - 08:00 (New Zealand)

10th Sep. Monthly WSA BOD Meeting.

30th Sep.- 3rd Oct. National Congress Subud Germany. For details SubudGermany@t-online.de

Calendar & Council News: Information such as dates for travel, IH visits, Zone meetings, Gatherings, National Congresses help us all to stay connected. Please send information by the 20th of each month to wsa.secretary@subud.org

FYI Newsletter: Information to be published in our WSA FYI which comes out every three months – next issue will be published end of September 2022. Any article to be featured needs to be submitted by the 20th of the month prior to the issuing month to wsa.secretary@subud.org

Thank you, Best wishes, WSA Secretary

COUNCIL NEWS June 2022

• **WSA Meeting with SICA Board** – 4 June

As part of the WSA communication efforts with the WSA Affiliates, the board met with the SICA board. Matters discussed, after introducing members of each board, were the visibility of SICA to the world, space to discover talents in Subud, and technical support for SICA. SICA will also work with WSA on an MOU.

• **WSA Monthly BOD Meeting** – 11 June

The following topics were discussed during the meeting: The board agree to re-format the style of the formal WSA minutes of board meeting and for approved minutes to be placed in a shared Google Drive folder. Statutory Accounts of 2021 was discussed and the board agreed to approve after receiving final draft from the WSA accountant. Audited Accounts for 2021 to be presented to the Zone Representatives by 30 June. The board of directors have agreed to conduct the WSC Meeting in Kalimantan from the 5th to the 14th of February 2024. WSA working party on SDIA MOU will invite IH for consultation on the draft MOU. SICA is ready to discuss a draft Charter with WSA.

• **WSA Working Party Meeting** – 12 June

The working party met to discuss comments and proposed revision to the draft MOU prepared by SDIA. The revised draft MOU was prepared and shared with other members of the board by Google Drive. After consultation with the IH on WSA comments and revision, it will be proposed to SDIA. WSA scheduled to meet with IH on 3rd July.

• **WSA – WCOT – Survey Invitation**

Share your thoughts on the upcoming 16th Subud World Congress in Kalimantan 2024.

The WSA Executive Committee and the World Congress Organizing Team (WCOT) would like to invite individual Subud members from around the globe to participate in this short survey about world congress attendance. Take survey here. <https://survey.napier.ac.uk/n/Kali2024.aspx>

AFTER RAMADAN

(At the Shabby Attic Cafe)

By Marcus Mackay



We broke our fast
After thirty days
In companionable silence
And warmth
around a 'long black'
And a 'skinny chocolate'.

Our backs cushioned comfortably
Together in well worn chairs
At the Shabby Attic cafe
Watching a winter day's last light
Warm white trunked gums
Along the damp road.

Jean clad moms in SUVs
Dropped cold legged girls
For weekly dance instruction
While friends at tables
Snacked over coffees and
Communed in conversational bubbles.

Slowly and gently
Feelings came back
As the forces of life
Recolonised their home
After an extended absence
Free to live again
Like water filling a dry creek bed.

Not like earlier times
When these feelings were like
Caged dogs eager to be free
Strained at their constraints
With energy to run
As the fast approached the end.

There were no fireworks
Of the spirit kind this Ramadan
Rather a steady perseverance
As the forces retreated
Replaced by patient acceptance
Of the long journey of the soul.

One month in twelve
Is the requirement
To retreat from wilful doing
With patient being and awareness
Of how one has been
And what needs to change.

We asked forgiveness
Of each others' failings
As fingers touched and joined
In warmth and love
Of two companions
Sharing life together.

Poem written at the end of Ramadan 15 June 2018 by Marcus Mackay

FOR RENT: SUBUD HOUSE – SUBUD MELBOURNE

The old weatherboard house on the Subud Melbourne 5 acre property at Clarinda, Victoria, Australia has effectively been completely rebuilt and is now ready to rent.

- 3 good sized bedrooms, all with built in wardrobes
- A brand new kitchen & appliances
- A brand new bathroom
- Central heating & double glazed windows
- Insulated walls and ceilings
- New tiles and carpet throughout

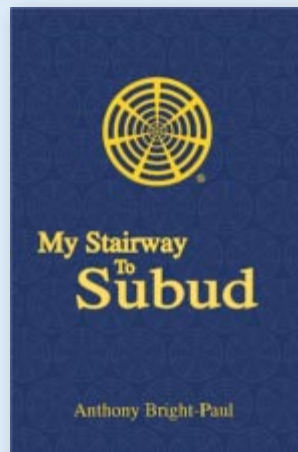
Join one of the longest established Subud groups in Australia. (We moved to this property in 1973.)

- Latihan hall
- Social Hall
- Brick house and Annexe for members
- Community Garden
- Caretakers House

AUD 490.00 per week and an option of light, paid, caretaker's duties (negotiable).

CONTACT:

Latifah Slade +61 418 789 548 sladelatifah@gmail.com
or Haridas Bahar +61 405 154 563
pudgeo@yahoo.com.au



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

**Available from: www.subudbooks.com
price £10.00 including P&P.**

All profits to SPI's Bapak Talks retranslation project

The Complete Recorded Jokes

Campbell and Bolt

Comprising:

'The Bletchley Handbook' (1987)

'A Laugh Within a Laugh' (1995),

'The Great Laugh Force' (1999),

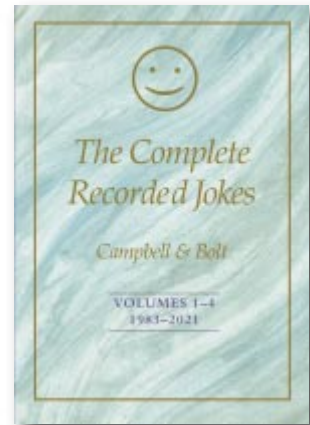
'The Great Life Farce' (2007),

Plus some extras Paperback, 320 pages

Price £15.00 (plus p and p) from:

<https://www.lulu.com/shop/dirk-campbell-and-marcus-bolt/the-complete-recorded-jokes/paperback/product-e29m8g.html?q=The+Complete+Recorded+Jokes&page=1&pageSize=4>

Click the URL above and follow the onscreen prompts



A new book from Lawrence Brazier

AN OBLIQUE LOOK AT THE WORLD

In the introduction, Lawrence writes...

This is a book about travel, people, and religion. Although I find it impertinent to write seriously about God – He's heard it all before – spirituality is also addressed.

From Muhammad Subuh: "If you can laugh from the belly you are unable to simultaneously think. You are then in the spiritual (realm)."

Harris Smart writes...

Lawrence has an idiosyncratic view of the universe. He often adopts the persona of the jester and someone who looks at life with a sideways glance, sometimes quite in askance.

Nevertheless, I am convinced he is a very serious man at heart, and this shines through in these essays. There is humour and striking observations to entertain you, but deep down he wants to get to the heart of the big issues.

The book certainly includes the categories that Lawrence mentions, travel, people, and religion, but there's lots more besides. We meet many characters in this book who include strangers he has met on his travels, as well as famous people past and present.

Other chapters are based on thorough research. His wonderful essay "The Orientalists", which we recently republished in *Subud Voice*, is a fascinating survey of those Brits who embraced Oriental beliefs and lifestyles.

There are jokey pieces about sarongs and getting blessed by sneezing, but above all one senses the deep wonder of his good fortune, which he has received in a difficult world.

Beautifully designed by Marcus Bolt, who has also illustrated the cover and LB's cartoons, **the book can be obtained from:**

www.lulu.com/search?adult_audience_rating=00&q=Of%20Course%20God%20Loves%20Atheists%20Lawrence%20Brazier

Click on the link above, or copy and paste into your browser. When the page opens, click the book title; then

click 'Add to cart; then click the cart icon top right (with the number of books ordered in a circle), and then

follow the onscreen prompts to add your delivery address and preferred postage & payment methods

Paperback, 216 pages; ISBN: 978-71662-730-9: price **£10.00** plus postage. Books normally take a week to arrive.



An Extraordinary Man
Stories of Subud Members'
Experiences of Bapak
NOW AVAILABLE
AGAIN FROM SPI

£12.00 plus p&p.
 For full details visit our website
www.subudbooks.com



Pay by UK bank cheque or
 via our website: www.subudbooks.com
 Subud Publications International
 47 Waverley Road
 St Albans
 Herts AL3 5PH
tel: +44 (0) 1727 762210



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.com
MEMBER LOGIN

PRICE **£10.00** plus postage and
 packing

Pay by UK bank cheque or via our
 website:
 Subud Publications International
 47 Waverley Road
 St Albans
 Herts AL3 5PH
telephone:
+44 (0) 1727 762210



e-mail: spi@subudbooks.co.uk

SUBUDVOICE

MONTHLY ONLINE

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE:

20 AUGUST 2022

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

www.subudvoice.net

SUBMISSIONS

Send articles, photos, cartoons etc. to Harris
 Smart, Editor Subud Voice,
 email: subudvoice@gmail.com
 Tel: + 61 (0)402 842 807

Submissions are invited which relate to Subud
 life or are from Subud members. We cannot
 guarantee when or if a submission will be pub-
 lished. Preference will be given to articles of up
 to 2000 words or less accompanied by a pho-
 tograph, well-written in English and dealing
 with the activities of Subud members, or ex-
 pressing a Subud member's perspective on a
 subject.

Articles should be written in such a way that they
 are intelligible and interesting to both Subud mem-
 bers and the general public. Sometimes this august
 mean providing an explanatory introduction or
 notes for the non-Subud reader. There is no payment
 for submissions. Correspondence about articles will
 generally not be entered into.

Submissions to Subud Voice august 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. (Devel-
 oping countries – no charge).

To make payments by credit card to Subud
 Voice for any purpose including sponsorship. go
 to our website www.subudvoice.net and click
 on the PAYMENTS button on the left hand side
 of the screen. Payments can be made there to
 our PayPal account Or contact us for bank de-
 tails for bank transfers. Do not forget to indi-
 cate if you would like your sponsorship to be
 publicly acknowledged.

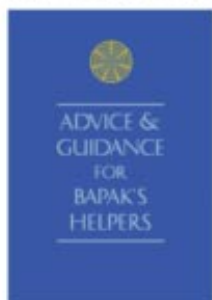
SUBUD VOICE TEAM

Harris Smart: Editor and Business Manager
 Marcus Bolt: Design and Layout
 Kitka Hiltula: Webmaster

*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 (WSA).*

NEW
ADVICE
& GUIDANCE
FOR BAPAK'S
HELPERS
SOFTBACK EDITION



NOW AVAILABLE
 FROM
www.subudbooks.com
MEMBER LOGIN

PRICE **£10.00**
 plus postage and packing

Pay by UK bank cheque, or via our
 website: www.subudbooks.com
 Subud Publications International
 47 Waverley Road
 St Albans
 Herts AL3 5PH
tel: +44 (0) 1727 762210



e-mail: spi@subudbooks.co.uk

BAPAK'S TALKS
VOLUMES 1-36

NOW AVAILABLE AS
eBOOKS FOR KINDLE, iPad
etc. £5 each from:

www.subudbooks.com
MEMBER LOGIN

follow the online
 prompts to
 download and pay
 by Debit or Credit
 Card



e-mail: spi@subudbooks.co.uk

BAPAK'S TALKS
VOLUME 38

AVAILABLE NOW
£16.00 plus postage and packing

Pay by UK bank cheque, or via
 our website:

www.subudbooks.com
MEMBER LOGIN

Subud Publications International
 47 Waverley Road
 St Albans
 Herts AL3 5PH
telephone:
+44 (0) 1727 762210



e-mail: spi@subudbooks.co.uk