



CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

Hello, and Merry Christmas to all our readers!

Well, you have to be careful about wishing people Merry Christmas these days in our multicultural society as it may not go down completely well. Instead of inspiring peace and goodwill, it might just do the opposite.

So, I just wish you peace and goodwill, Christmas or no Christmas.

What a troubled world we live in. No doubt every generation feels the same. I guess if you were in London during the Blitz in the 1940s you would have reason to think, "The world has never been this bad before."

From time to time people try to figure out whether the world is better or worse now than it was before. So, you try and add up all the positives (we have washing machines now!) and subtract any negatives (the concentration camps, Hiroshima, Ground Zero, etc) and see which comes out on top.

Actually, I believe that only God has a computer big enough and an operator skilled enough to insert all the data and come up with all the algorithms necessary for the computer at the end to spit out a simple "yes" or "no".

We know the Trump has turned politics upside down. We know that there are millions of people - displaced by invasion, warfare, poverty and civil strife - moving around the planet looking for a refuge. As usual, we seem to have some insoluble problems. Meanwhile, the planet itself is showing signs of exhaustion and agitation.

Where will it all end? Fortunately, we have Subud, which provides us with a place of refuge and sanctuary within ourselves. Whenever the world gets too troubling for me at least I can go into my in a space of refuge and sanctuary where I will receive relief and good advice about how to deal with the situation at least within my own tiny sphere of influence.

I wish you all also, a place of safety, a place of refuge, a place of wisdom for the coming year.

Love, Harris (Harris Smart, The Editor)

Marcus Bolt (SVO Production Manager) adds...

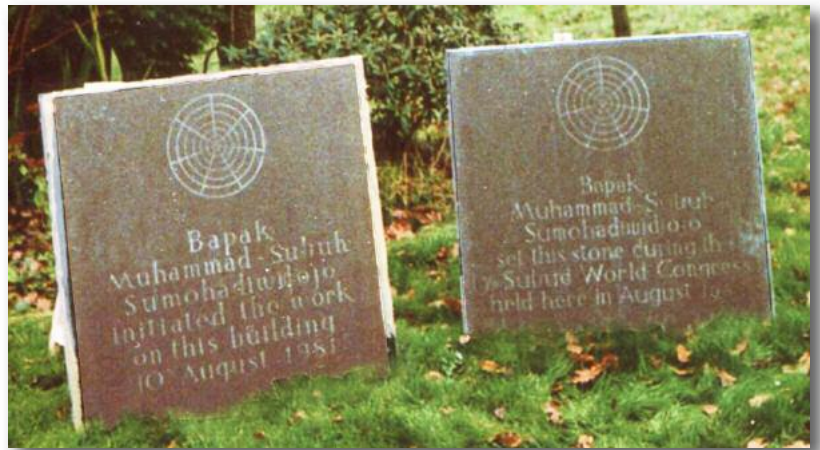
As a Christmas analogy, it seems as though Harris (our Editor) is the one who supplies all the festive food, the tree and the decorations as well as being the Santa Claus who finds and delivers all the presents. Kitka (our webmaster) is like all those wonderful people who keep the water, gas and electricity flowing over the holiday period, as well as medical services etc. I'm the one (as production manager) who decorates the tree, the house, the groaning boards and wraps all the presents. And so, I wish all our readers a very Happy Christmas and an extremely Prosperous New Year.

THE STONES OF ANUGRAHA

Luthfi O’Meagher writes about the fate of the Foundation Stones which were installed at Anugraha by Bapak...

Anugraha means something that comes as a sudden and surprising gift. Anugraha is unexpected. So, it means that this Centre’s development happens in unexpected ways beyond our planning of them. Anugraha contains within it the aspect of planned development as well – because it is God’s Grace or gift, and God’s Gift is all-encompassing. Anugraha means creating a way for the welfare of the people. Why?

Because a man, someone who has received the *anugraha* cannot help but be generous. A man who has received *anugraha* automatically becomes generous, automatically looks out for the welfare of his fellow human beings. (*Bapak, ‘About Anugraha’ 1982*)



The foundation stones of Anugraha rescued by Luthfi O’Meagher.



Anugraha.

Ten years ago, I remembered that twenty years before that, I had lent to Anugraha, a great mirror, which I had designed, and we had made in our works in South Kensington. I rang up Anugraha, now The Saville Court Hotel. They had just finished building another wing of bedrooms on the side lawn and completed a ‘refurb’.

Yes, they had the mirror, carefully wrapped, with my name on the back. They invited me down, pleased to show me what they had done and to hear my story. They looked with admiration at the

programme for the Music Festival, wondering how we had got planning permission to do it.

Through this contact, Luthfi was put in touch with people who knew what had happened to the foundation stones...

Andrew Brown rang me, and of course wanted to know; “Who owns the stones?” I explained that the Founder of Subud had wanted Anugraha to be owned by the individual members of the charity, so it was not owned by the charity, but by 3,000 shareholders, mainly of moderate means, from all over the world.

“ *When Anugraha went into receivership, the stones went with the building...* ”

So, when Anugraha went into receivership, the stones went with the building. It meant that the >

SUBMISSIONS AND DONATIONS

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

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

Aurora Company owned them. All the shareholders were familiar with the image of the building and its purpose.

Presumably, as the demolition was about to begin, there was no reason why they should not be thrown on a tipper and used for hardcore somewhere. What I was asking was that they should be entrusted to me for safe-keeping. He said he'd have to get approval but didn't see a problem.

I thought that the stones were stone, but he rang me to say that they had located them and to ask if they were slate or lead. I said, of the two, I would say slate. When he rang me again, he said that it appeared that the stones were of slate, and were cemented in. I said, "It wouldn't surprise me, as they were intended to be there for ever."

He rang me once again to say that very skilled stonemasons were now removing all the fireplaces, and he was asking them to take out the stones, when they had done that. Finally, the Site Manager, rang me to say that they had wrapped them in duvets, stored them carefully and I could collect them by going to the main gate...

To read the complete story of "the rescue of the stones" click here...

<http://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/The-Stones-of-Anugraha.pdf>



Great Hall at Anugraha.

“ *Skilled stonemasons were asked to take out the stones...* ”

PLEASE SEND SOME MONEY

From the Subud Voice Production Team, Harris, Marcus and Kitka...

As we reported in our last issue our founder Ilaina Lennard passed away in October 2018.

The survival of Subud Voice, the magazine which she founded in 1987, was always uppermost in Ilaina's mind.

The last communication I had with her was the day before her passing when she sent me an email urging me to once again put an appeal in the magazine for donations to enable us to keep going for another year.

I said that I would certainly do so in the December issue and here it is...

Budget

Our financial year runs from July to June. Our budget for the current year is AUD\$8000. So far in the six months of this year, we have received less than AUD\$2000 and so we have had to take from our slender cash reserves in order to keep going. So, we need to raise another AU\$6000 over the next six months to keep going and to replenish our reserves. (We actually received GB£1080 (AUD\$ 1905) June 2017 to July 2018 from Subud Britain, and continue to receive £90 per month. Thank you very much Subud Britain. We wish we had more >

SUBUD VOICE BUDGET July 2017 – June 2018 (In AUD\$)

Bank charges and admin:	600
Printing	400
Travel (to Subud events)	1400
Internet (including webmaster)	900
Phone	200
Proofreading	1200
Design & Layout	2400
Software	300
Hardware	600
Total	AUD\$8000

*(US\$5650, Pound Sterling 4360,
Euro 4930)*

sponsors like you. Therefore, we seek your support. If we were still running a subscription service for Subud Voice we would be charging AUD\$60 for 12 issues. That's just five dollars an issue, one cup of coffee at the café. (AU\$60 is US\$42, £ Sterling 32, Euro 37)

Why support us?

We are a completely independent, international magazine in Subud.

We have always been absolutely reliable bringing out Subud Voice every month for the last 31 years.

We are an institution in Subud. We represent continuity and stability over the long haul. How many other projects you can think of have been sustained for that period of time?

Our enthusiasm for this task is unflagging. I think the past year has been one of our best. If you scan the issues over 2018, you will find we have paid attention to every aspect of Subud life including enterprises, welfare projects, SICA and Youth, as well as members' comments and personal experiences,

We are particularly proud of our coverage of this year's World Congress. Three issues of our magazine were devoted to a full and timely account of the Congress

SUBUD VOICE CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Make a payment **now** to keep Subud Voice going. We recommend a minimum payment of AUD\$60, (US\$42, GB£ 32, Euro 37) which is our old subscription rate. More than that is most welcome!

Pay now by going to the payments tab on the left hand side of our home page www.subudvoice.net where you can make a payment by PayPal which is absolutely safe, reliable and easy to use.

IN THE UK can make payments to Bank Nationwide: Sort Code 07-01-16: A/c No 16341634: A/c Name M. Bolt (please use reference SVO)

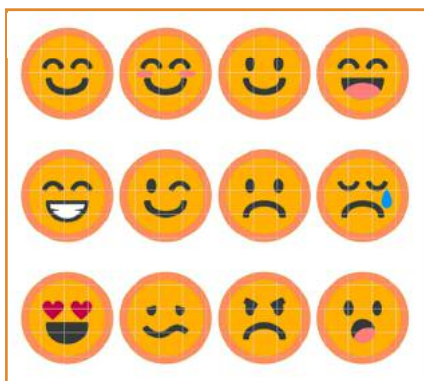
IN AUSTRALIA you can pay direct to our Bank Account: Subud Voice BSB: 033-358 Acct: 39-4674



SUBUD VOICE ONLINE



READ...



EXPERIENCE...



DONATE...

It's free, so please help us keep Subud Voice running in 2019 and beyond; any amount welcomed!

COMPLETION OF THE KWILU NGONGO CLINIC

Viktor Böhm writes...

Hilma Simon and I went to the Kwilu Ngongo in the Congo, where we visited the CSCOM clinic for almost 2 weeks.

The Sika Bridge was inaugurated with the engineer Dilu. An acceptance document was signed for the construction of the buildings, the roads, the fence and the bridge.

This bridge was built with funding from BMZ, the German government agency for international development, through a grant obtained and managed by SD Germany.

After three years' work, we hope that this BMZ project work can be completed in December 2018, and that we can begin a Phase II BMZ project in 2019.

The Report

Hilma Simon and Viktor Böhm visited the new Mother and Child Clinic in Kwilu Ngongo for 10 days in October 2018. The BMZ project for the construction of the clinic ends at the end of December. The purpose of the visit was firstly to discuss what needed to be completed by the end of the year and, secondly, to prepare a follow-up project starting in 2019 (phase II).

The clinic has now been operating for one year. It has 17 employees: head doctor, assistant doctor, several nurses, midwife, laboratory assistant, pharmacist, receptionist, caretaker and cleaners. Kwilu Ngongo and the surrounding area was urgently in need of such a clinic which is now being visited daily by many pregnant women and sick people.

Construction work to be completed...

Paul Roberge, the Subud Canada civil engineer responsible for the project has made a list of construction defects which need to be rectified. The contractor, Mr. Dilu, will complete this work before the end of the year.

The solar panels supplied from Belgium also must be installed on the roof before the end of the year.

Evaluation of the operation of the clinic

An external evaluation of the clinic will be carried out by a highly qualified doctor of a district hospital in Kisantu / Inkisi in November.

Follow-up project

SD Germany together with SD Congo is in the process of planning a BMZ 3-year follow-up project, which we refer to as phase II, starting next year in order to make a number of urgently needed extensions to the clinic. These include: a surgery unit, a paediatric unit and a refectory where families can prepare food for their relatives in the clinic and for themselves as there is no provision for food in Congolese hospitals. Also, a morgue for the deceased is needed.

An important element of Phase II will be the further training of the medical staff to improve the medical quality of the clinic and to handle the various equipment such as ultrasound, X-ray, cardiology and anaesthesia equipment and oxygen masks.



The District Officer cutting the blue band of the Sika Bridge.

Inauguration of the nearby Sika Bridge by the official representatives of the district in central Congo

The previous small bridge over the river Sika was destroyed by 8 hours of continuous rain in April 2017. As a result no material could be delivered until a provisional bridge had been constructed. SD-Congo then commissioned Mr. Dilu to build a new bridge able to take a 30-ton load. This work was part of the extension contract approved by BMZ in 2017.

On 18.10.2018 the new Sika Bridge was inaugurated by the district officer from Mbanza Ngungu in the presence of the mayor of Kwilu Ngongo, the police, the zone health doctors, the manager of the health center of the sugar factory, the committees COSA and CODESA, SD-Congo and SD-Germany and many other people and spectators.

After a few speeches, the district officer cut the strained blue ribbon and sprayed alcohol from a bottle on the bridge to bless it. The sky sent us a small shower of rain, which was also interpreted as a blessing of the bridge, as well as the happy pigs that ran about nearby.

Review and Preview

The first year of the clinic operation went very well. But due to the great need, the clinic is becoming too small, which is the reason for the follow-up phase II project.

The newly established Health Mutual Association (HMA) has also been well received by the community and already has 3,860 participants! The new HMA-manager is sitting every day in the HMA-building Musakwi.

On the 16.10.2018 the general manager of the big sugar company in Kwilu Ngongo visited the clinic and he was very impressed.

We have also just been informed that the governor of Congo-Central visited the clinic on October 24. Such attention shows the importance of the clinic.

Our visit to DR Congo was a very special experience for us and we were wonderfully taken care of by SD Congo especially by Dianteza, Papy and Victorine.

(Salomon Dianteza Dimpikia is the Chairman of SD Congo. Papy Kabondo is Communications Coordinator of SD Congo.) To read more about this project in Susila Dharma enews go to:

<https://mailchi.mp/04e7f8f81a52/teamwork-gets-results-in-the-congo-and-senegal?e=a525a63a4c>

To link to a video about the project:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OmwiwVnZ1_E

To read blog articles about the project:

<https://www.susiladharm.org/health-care-for-a-neglected-population>

<https://www.susiladharm.org/a-new-partnership>



After the inauguration on the Sika-Bridge with children from Kwilu Ngongo.



Kwilu Ngongo medical staff with Victorine and Viktor.

CHRISTMAS SONG FROM IZELLAH

“If Every Day Was Christmas”, releasing on 29 November is a moving expression of hope for a better world...

Rahman Connelly writes...

The song was originally written for Summer Watson, a British classical soprano opera singer and released in 2013. The song received 126 YouTube views and that was it. Earlier this year we picked up a licence for the song and Izellah recorded it in LA with the original producers, Michael Jay & Andre Lindal.

To download the song, go to iTunes or Google Music and search ‘Izellah’, with half of all download revenue till 31 December going to Subud Voice. So you can support Izellah - and Subud Voice - at the same time.

The song was the creation of a pretty serious writing/production team:

Andre Lindal (Norway) whose credits include Maroon 5, Britney Spears, Justin Bieber, Kelly Clarkson and Nelly Furtado

Michael Jay (USA) whose credits include Eminem, Celine Dion and Australia’s Kylie Minogue
Comment from noted Music Critic:

“I think the "Christmas song: sounds like a real winner.. .the Christmas song seemed the most meaningful of all her songs and I like the voice style that she uses in this one...”

<https://itunes.apple.com/au/album/if-every-day-was-christmas-single/1439198199>



HUSEIN ROFÉ'S VEIL OF LIGHT

Mardijah Simpson writes in appreciation of Husein Rofé's autobiography edited by Sharif Horthy...

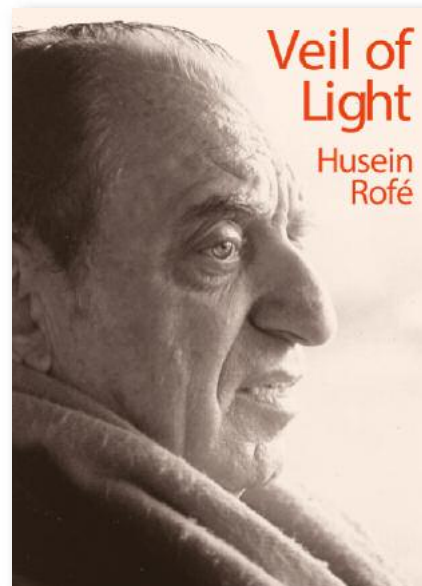
At World Congress in Freiburg among the many events, activities and people, I settled in the Subud Village one afternoon to watch some archival film footage from interviews of Subud members who had played their part in times gone by.

This particular day was a lengthy dialogue with Husein Rofé – I am not sure when or where this black and white film was made. Mysteriously, although he answered questions, we only heard his lively replies. But he did not need much prompting and held us rapt as he talked of his life and some experiences in Subud.

His eyes twinkled in his animated face and it was only when he sat awaiting the next silent question that I could see some sadness or maybe just age veiling his face. Then, as he started to share again, he lit up and the years fell away.

The Gift...

I had never met Husein, but he had been instrumental in giving me one of the greatest gifts in my life. His book, 'The Path of Subud', had been the key that unlocked the gate that led not only >



Cover and book layout designed by Marcus Bolt.

me, but Ramdhan (my husband) onto our Subud path.

Long ago in London, in the sixties, we had been searching for some years for a connection with a deeper spiritual experience. We had both been raised in the Anglican Church but sensed there could be a more direct and universal way to worship.

We had explored, read and enquired but could not find whatever this elusive way might be within formal Christianity nor the Quakers, Buddhism nor Zen, Ouspensky or Gurdjieff. The newspaper tale of a man from the east healing an actress did not sound like our sort of thing. While our local south London library's selection of esoteric books focused on astrology and palmistry.

Unexpectedly, around Christmas time, we had to move, and even more surprisingly we found a small affordable flat in the heart of Chelsea, an area we had both loved. So, I joined the Chelsea Public Library and checked out the esoteric books. Flicking along the shelves I found a book, dark red, I recall, titled 'The Path of Subud'. I did not know that word but for some reason took it off the shelf and glanced inside.

[If this Is True...](#)

This writer, Husein Rofé, as a young man, had searched for his spiritual path and been led to Indonesia ... I borrowed the book. I put it on our coffee table and read it over several days, and in between whiles Ramdhan had started to read it too.



Husein Rofé with Bapak.

I had reached the part where Husein has left the west and is off to discover a wise man in Indonesia – I felt so sad, here we were in a cold London winter, short of work and money and no chance to get to Indonesia.

Ramdhan looked up from his turn at reading and said, 'If this is true it is what we have been looking for'. He was right – it was indeed true. We were opened at St. Matthew's Hall in London in early 1964 and been in Subud ever since.

Now and then we heard mention of Husein and that he was living in Hong Kong but in all our Subud journeys we never came across him.

[Back in the Village](#)

So back in the Subud Village a few days after seeing the interview I went to listen to Rachman Mitchell, Harris Smart and Sharif Horthy being interviewed about Subud books they had recently produced. They were all fascinating.

To my surprise, Sharif spoke of how he had been invited by Husein Rofé to edit and produce Husein's autobiography. Apparently Husein had been working on the manuscript for some years. But now in his eighties, after a full life, he was finding it hard to complete the saga. Having read, in Hungarian, the biography of Rachmaniah Bowden, that Sharif had produced of his mother's life, he felt able to trust his manuscript to Sharif's editing.

In fact, it took Sharif over ten years to bring the publication to fruition. Plus, ten years from Husein's death in 2008 at the age of Eighty-six. Now *Veil of Light* was completed and available. >



Husein Rofé 1922 - 2008

Amazing for Many Reasons

I have just finished reading this book of Husein's life. It is amazing for many reasons. Of Syrian heritage, he was born and raised in England and had a difficult childhood – which I had never known before. He had an exceptional talent for learning languages and over his life time learned so many he could not be quite sure how many – probably well over seventy.

It was this talent for learning and speaking so many diverse languages and his interest in humanity, culture and spirituality that gave him such a unique role in the spread of Subud around the world.

As a wordmaster he writes eloquently and honestly, but with little apparent ego. In the introduction he explains:

"Yet while I offer an autobiography and in no sense a Handbook on Subud those accustomed to the manifestations of Divine Grace and Guidance may observe the golden thread of Subud running through this account of my life and transforming it. I shall feel most privileged if the present book inspires anyone to go and do likewise.

The earlier part of his life introduces us to his family and heritage and his early adult quest for his true path. The middle section tells of his journey to the east in 1951 and finally meeting with Bapak and learning of Subud and starting to latihan. This covers the same period he wrote of in his first book *The Path of Subud* which is now out of print. So, it is helpful to be included, at Sharif's suggestion. This period is so important as it is the key to his whole life and a major event in the history of the spread of Subud.

He recounts his own early experiences in the latihan and conversations with Bapak. They are vividly told, and his own knowledge of world religions and language enrich the telling.

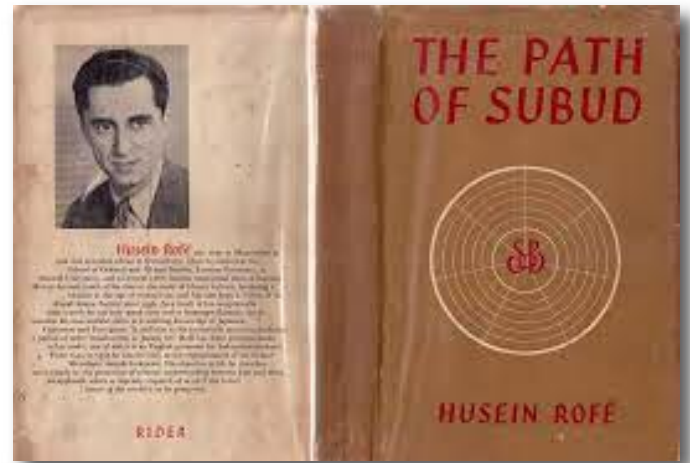
One amazing account tells of an elderly Javanese man, who had been in Subud for over 15 years, recalled Bapak telling members in 1936 that a Syrian man who spoke many languages would come to Indonesia from the West, which would herald the dissemination and spread of Subud throughout the world. This indeed is what happened.

Husein's language teaching and interpreting skills led him to work in many countries and resulted in him being a catalyst in the spread of Subud to many faraway places

The later section of his story recounts travels, adventures, experiences, friendships, reflections on language and learning, conferences, health and nutrition principles, enterprises and much more in many homes and many countries; a whirling roundabout.

As I wondered at Husein's arduous task having to extract all this information from his diaries and records, I read, to my surprise, that he apparently wrote everything from memory and did not research or refer to old documents!

This is an extraordinary book about an extraordinary life. Husein reflects at the story's end that throughout his life two things have been apparent: "inadequate judgement on the part of a human being who is unwittingly saved from turning his back on his true destiny, and external but incomprehensible interfer-



'The Path of Subud' by Husein Rofé.

“ *The key to his whole life and a major event in the history of Subud...* ”

ence that ensures that the appointment with destiny will be kept regardless of whatever follies we commit."

Indeed, the golden thread weaves through strange labyrinths. Thank you so much for sharing your story, Husein.

To obtain the book go to www.lulu.com and enter the title *Veil of Light* in the search box...

Or click here: www.purplepagoda.com

“ The appointment with destiny will be kept regardless of whatever follies we commit.. ”

BEING AN INTERNATIONAL HELPER

Isti Jenkins, a member of the previous dewan, writes about the experience of being an International Helper in Subud. She presents a detailed account of her personal journey and of the work of the International Helpers generally...

Testing in Innsbruck

Because my history of being a devoted Subud member dates back to the early 1960s, by 2005 I felt willing to see if I had the qualities needed to serve the kejiwaan side of the Subud organization.

So, during the World Congress in Innsbruck, Austria, I put my name forward to be tested.

In the years prior to this I had served as Vice-Chair for Susila Dharma in Subud Australia, as Subud Youth Coordinator and also supported SICA both in Australia and Internationally in many various and creative ways.

It was my love for Bapak's mission, his divinely inspired work, in giving members explanations about the spiritual life, that I gave the idea of being part of the WSA consideration.

My willingness in testing for this role showed me something unexpected. It showed me even before not being chosen that I was still influenced by my heart and still in a state that was affected by pride or criticism... not a state that was neutral!

I accepted the truth and as always delight in the truth since this never fails to bring me closer to the guidance and advice of Bapak.

Testing in Puebla

By 2010, I became aware that the age I was, (65 years) would begin to limit my capacity and strength to serve Subud outwardly in a physical sense.

And since my creative aspect was still strong I chose to be active with a Project during the entire World Congress in Christchurch.

There was no time to consider testing for the role of International Helper on this occasion!

(A Yes Quest at Akaroa, NZ followed for a week when myself and Ruth McKay catered for 15 Subud members attending the course).

My International Fabric Project was successful in producing a magnificent Banner raising \$3000 US dollars for YUM in Kalimantan.



Isti has become known as a creator of banners for World Congresses and other events. "My International Fabric Project was successful in producing a magnificent Banner raising \$3000 US dollars for YUM in Kalimantan. By 2012, I was living in Melbourne and had been asked to Coordinate the making of Banners worldwide for the next World Congress in Mexico 2014"

By 2012, I was living in Melbourne and had been asked to co-ordinate the making of Banners worldwide for the next World Congress in Mexico 2014.

“ It was a joy and a dream come true...”

But this time I did feel the urge to put my name forward once again to test for the role of International Helper... despite my degenerating bones and age!

So, with the support and encouragement of the National Helpers of Australia the result felt light and very good.

My husband Peter and I arrived in Puebla, Mexico a week before World Congress for a Yes Quest training session for 15 youths and I was invited to help with the creative aspect.

This time, at last I am free to put my name forward to serve as an International Helper for the Subud Organisation without any feeling of anticipation or hope one way or the other of being selected! I remained completely neutral.

When I was called to be tested and placed in front of a panel of nine women I was really relaxed. The questions asked were 'Did I have the qualities to serve as an International Helper for the following term?' And 'Did I have the ability to work as a team?'

During the second question, I felt a 'gift' arrive inside me, something unexpected that gave me a certain kind of authority to use the strength that came from my soul. This provided me with comfort and reassurance that it was the right time for me to fulfil this role to my best ability.

First Experience

My first experience was to travel to Japan with Lewis Hayward and to meet the National Helpers and Subud members of Japan.

We both found the language barrier challenging because you must have a good interpreter and it's a strain on the one always giving translation.

Sometimes it seemed to flow in a session where members had questions and testing could follow. At other times it seemed to be necessary to initiate a testing session since no one had an agenda or was simply too shy to speak up. For me it took a little time to gain the inner confidence to test questions that would come spontaneously...

But what was interesting to me was that the power of God could always be felt from the moment of having the intention to be active on behalf of Bapak.

Also, I so often witnessed that the more surrendered I was the greater the clarity and conviction was received for the one whose question was being asked through testing.

Our Subud members show great respect for their visitors or guests and insist on providing the best accommodation and service possible on every level.

Although the various groups we visited were mostly small except for an organised event such as the Regional Gathering... the members were very sincere but shy and I could not help wondering how often 'awakening testing' was done?

In Asia, many groups are not familiar with this form of 'testing' and although it



International Helpers Area 1 2018-2022.

happened in small groups members responded and opened up to basic inner questions around 'singing, dancing, laughing' or having a latihan, especially for their health.

A Major Year for Travelling

The following year was 2015 and a major year for travelling. We tested and agreed to visit as many Subud Groups in Area 1 as could be managed. Skype meetings were regular, and issues resolved patiently. The feeling of unity increasing with time.

It was a joy and a dream come true to be meeting so many members from around the world, to join them in worship through our latihan together and each of us seemed to radiate from the undeserved privilege and experience.

Giving the best and correct explanations to members learning from Bapak's words, became more and more important. This was particularly apparent in Indonesia. The National Committee always arranged for a 'questions and answers' session and several members shared their personal experiences, stories or difficulties.

A rather extraordinary gathering for all 18 of us IHS from every Zone around the world began in February 2015, when several meetings with Ibu Rahayu were held. This provided an opportunity for the Central Archives in Wisma Subud to show us why Ibu Rahayu suggested we produce a new book for Helpers. The research showed that some translations were not correct, and changes were necessary. And so, the process began.

This became a major learning curve for not only those closely involved, but for all of us who were forced to pay more serious attention to the divine gift of wisdom bestowed upon us. A gift that contains the secrets of life on planet earth. A gift precious to our soul and to the evolution of our understanding and salvation.

Meetings in Santiago and Indonesia

Our second time together as a Dewan was during the WSA meeting in Santiago, Chile, at their newly renovated Subud House.

It was Autumn and the weather was cool. An Earthquake came suddenly while some of us were testing "was it best for Basara to be an International event?" And as the earth shook everything trembled around us. For some of us we continued to rock as if on board ship and still at sea.

On this occasion we were surely on the same 'ship' sailing towards the next World Congress to be held in Germany. We were strongly united in the process of preparation.

The next big adventure was in returning to Indonesia for a trip through Java. A trip that included a visit to Bapak's house in Semarang where he received *Susila Budhi Dharma*. I had made this journey before only 100 days after Bapak's death. Only now it had been restored and reconstructed a bit to preserve it longer.

Hospitality was served with gratitude and love for our presence and latihan always strong and



International Helpers Area 2 2018-2022.

”

We found the language barrier challenging...

“

convincing.

We were taken to a spot where Bapak had his first important spiritual experience at the onset of the great revelation he shared with us all

To follow was another short journey to the place of Bapak's birth. Something I had longed to do many times for some reason. And here Pak Widarbo agreed to sing some verses from *Susila Budhi Dharma*. A very moving a most appropriate touch to say the least.

On this trip we discovered just how much strength and energy was needed to fulfil the duties and obligations required of us.

Time was spent with members either at an organised gathering or simply to join members at their place of worship. Many issues were discussed, and one could only hope that our presence brought further proof and conviction of the latihan kejiwaan, our spiritual education.

[Ibu Rahayu Explains](#)

After every journey, the next was already being planned... Sri Lanka, Malaysia, India, Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand, Iran, etc. – all Subud groups, small or large, reports were recorded.

By August 2016, I felt the need to make the journey to Poland. The gathering there was twofold. Both Zonal as well as a Youth Camp.

Since I was the liaison for SICA I wanted to support the Chair and the project of gathering Subud Stories.

It proved a rich and rewarding experience for me, helping to increase confidence in my ability to conduct a kejiwaan workshop. (Perhaps because there seemed no language barrier!)

[Meeting in Salobrena](#)

The next WSA meeting was to be in Salobrena, Spain, again in September and the climate still sultry and warm. Another great Dewan reunion – many, many hours together in serious sessions to resolve issues presented unexpectedly.

Many efforts to bind successfully the various aspects of the next World Congress were made. Some looked hopeful and others did not. The shape, design and roles continued to change, and we remained open, flexible and willing to test.

By the end of the year, the BASARA had been organised and I had been asked to present a Kejiwaan Program for the Youth. Therefore, in December 2016, close to Christmas we made our way to Rungan Sari for a two month stay.

This is a time during the wet season, so heavy rain comes during the afternoon or evening most days. We don't mind because everything tends to cool down a little bit. From Area One only three of us were present (plus one from Area three, a bonus).

[My Main Role](#)

My main role as International Helper, was to interact as much as possible with the Youth. To join >



International Helpers Area 3 2018-2022.

“ Skype meetings were regular and issues resolved patiently...”

them in their activities. To listen to their stories, worries and problems.

Also, to enjoy their evenings of music and song. Every day, before dinner, they were free to come for latihan or testing and several did so. BASARA was an experiment, initiated by the Youth, for the Youth, bringing a hugely successful outcome and result.

Sadly, the event was followed by the sudden death of George Demers the International Youth Coordinator at the time. My role at this point was to comfort, support and stay close to his wife Camille until the family members arrived, the funeral arrangements made and finally some of the ashes returned to Canada.

In Freiburg, before Ibu Rahayu departed, she called both the old and new International Helpers together and explained that since we had been chosen for this role, God had given each of us an extended inner strength to cover the area of countries allocated to help continue Bapak's mission and serve the membership.

Life Continues

Life continues, so on my return to Australia, well after missing the National Congress in Adelaide, we made fresh plans for 2017 involving further travel on the East Coast to visit Subud members from New Zealand, Brisbane, Sunshine Coast, Sydney, Canberra Melbourne and Tasmania, (although not always with all Area 1 International Helpers all the time).

There was now a window of opportunity with the imminent sale of our Gunnebah property to find a suitable new place to live. But the process is slow and therefore a year of travel began, this time returning to Rungan Sari at the end of March 2017.

Moving from Asia to Europe and attending a Zone meeting in Greece, a National Congress in UK, and a WSA meeting in Freiburg, the inner work became endless, often tiring yet always fulfilling.

What an incredible Blessing to be able to serve Subud in this way, at least once in a lifetime!! ●

”

An incredible blessing to be able to serve Subud in this way...

“

WSA ADMINISTRATOR WANTED

Dear All;

The WSA Executive is looking for a new Secretary/Administrator to fill the position being vacated by Salamah Dick LeClaire this spring. She will be staying on until August to ensure a smooth transition for her replacement.

The position is a four-year contract starting in February/March of 2019 and continuing to same time of 2023. Unlike other positions in the WSA team, this position goes beyond the World Congress to ensure a smooth transition from one team to the next for both terms. The selected person for this position will receive a nominal remuneration and will have travel & living expenses to the compulsory meetings paid. If taxes are required in your country, these will NOT be paid by WSA, and you will have to make these arrangements yourself.

If you are interested in presenting yourself for this position, please read the enclosed job description and qualification requirements. Send your CV and the names of three references who can attest to your ability to do this work and that you are currently an active Subud member, to the current Administrator, Salamah LeClaire, at wsa.secretary@subud.org For full information and selection criteria click here:

<http://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Call-for-WSA-administrator-position.pdf>

SHORT STORY WRITERS IN SUBUD



The Subud Voice Editorial and Production Team would like to produce a compendium of **short stories by writers in Subud** in order to help raise money for the survival of Subud Voice Online.

Contributing authors will receive a free copy of the final book, but no royalties will be paid. The copyright will, of course, remain with the author.

If interested, you are asked to send up to three short stories, in English, on any subject. How many are published will depend on the number of authors contributing, length of stories etc.

The collection will be made into a 'print on demand' book (through www.lulu.com) and advertised in the Subud media and on Amazon. Copies will also be on sale at National Congresses and available from the SPI website – a great opportunity to get some exposure!

If you are willing to participate (thereby helping ensure the future of Subud Voice), please send your finished and proofread short story **up to 7,500 words maximum** (1, 2 or 3 stories) in Word.doc format to: marcusbolt@easynet.co.uk – and include a mini-biography, if you wish. **The deadline is 3rd January 2019.**

We will keep you all informed of progress in Subud Voice Online and via email.

Looking forward to working with you,

The Subud Voice Editorial and Production Team

NEW BOOK FROM DOVETAIL..

Robiyan Easty writes... **IF WE ALL PULL TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE THIS A SUCCESS**

Cost free - Needs just 10 minutes max

THE BRAIDS OF KAMINARI

Book One: Vendetta in Arcadia

eBook FREE on all Amazon shops until 4 Dec then \$2.99 and rising. *Paperback in the pipeline*

Much loved Greek-American member John Panopoulos wrote and revised his long novel over 20 years or so, with the help of his beloved Olivia. He always wanted to see it published and he knew that the length would be a problem for at the first book of an unknown author.

Fast forward to a couple of years ago when Emmanuel Williams suggested it to Robiyan Easty during a conversation about the opportunities presented by self-publishing.

At that time Robiyan was not ready to take this on, but then...

He contacted Alicia, John's daughter, who was very happy that the project would be revived and an agreement was reached with the three siblings. Alicia was again very happy last week that the upload of Book One to Amazon worldwide coincided with the third anniversary of John's exit from this life.

The key to making this a viable project was the realization that the modern trend of creating a series of shorter books was a perfect fit, given shorter attention spans and that eBooks can be priced very cheaply, even at zero for a promotional few days.

With the ease of self-publishing comes massive competition. Amazon sold more than 65% of all books sold in USA and UK last year. A monster. To be successful on Amazon you have to trigger its promotional algorithm and to do that you need a lot of sales in a short period of time. Free 'sales' no longer help you get on the Best Seller lists (there are many), but do give Amazon important information. Accordingly Robiyan is asking everyone who has an account with Amazon to 'buy' the book for nothing right now or after 5 December for \$2.99 .

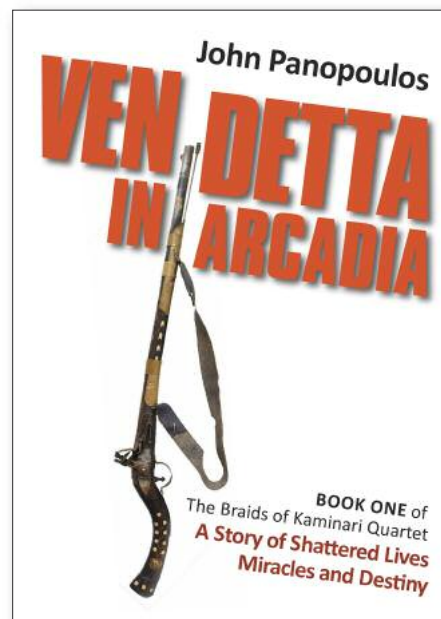
If you then buy it at \$2.99 - and/or the paperback in a week or two - you will be supporting Subud through a percentage of the proceeds, as well as John's family and Robiyan's new publishing enterprise. Note that Subud is referenced in the About the Author section.

Please go ahead and get *Vendetta* for free. Don't lose the opportunity. Or buy it later at \$2.99.

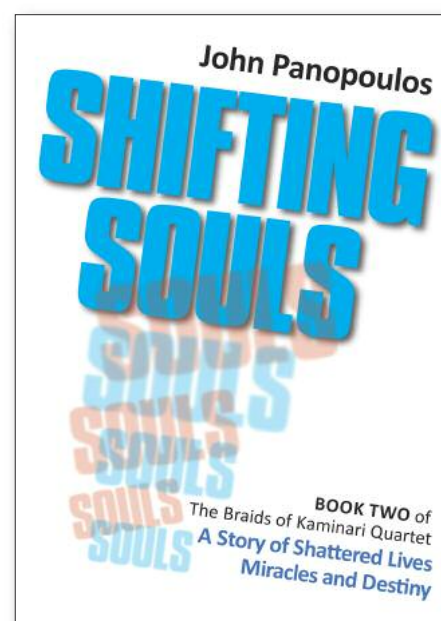
It is a great book and if we all do this together it can be a big success.

And by the way, please do a shout out to all your friends, brothers and sisters.

Then send 'Notify Braids' to dovetail.publishing@gmail.com to get notified of the release of the paperback, audiobook and of Book Two, SHIFTING SOULS.



Cover designed by Marcus Bolt.



Preview of cover designed by Marcus Bolt.

Storyteller is the term that best describes Greek-American John Panopoulos, his life and his works.

John's stories have taken many shapes: poetry, short stories, sculpture - a favourite medium - various forms of visual arts, bedtime tales, good conversations over coffee and of course the Braids of Kaminari quartet. Each piece of artwork tells a story and is deeply rooted in his spiritual and philosophical values.

He found those values in the spiritual movement of Subud, a movement which embraces all cultures and religions, and the inspiration he gained from Subud shines through his creativity.

Despite identifying so thoroughly with his Greek heritage, John made only one visit to the land of his roots. It was just as he had always seen it in his mind's eye. In the wake of that journey, deeply affected and inspired by the testimonies and folktales, landscapes and faces he found there, he picked up his writers pen and wove the Braids of Kaminari. Almost two decades later, with the assistance of his beloved Olivia, the final draft was completed.

The Braids of Kaminari quartet reflects John's being in so many ways. It is a treasure trove of wisdom and humour, personalities and contrasts, a masterful dance of love and hate, light and darkness, the spiritual and the physical, pushing the boundary between truth and fiction.

The Braids of Kaminari quartet is the culmination of John's life's work. His masterpiece, many say. God bless him.



John Panopoulos.

CENTRAL KALIMANTAN FOCUS ON COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

For the water & sanitation project

The first few months of the Clean Water & Sanitation project was aimed at assessing the situation in the sub-district of Bukit Batu as well as identifying community leaders who will be partaking in the implementation of the project.

The first training of community leaders delivered by the YUM team took place in the third week of September. The subject of the training was "Communication" and it was attended by Kaders from 13 different health posts. "It felt very good to understand how to convey messages to others so I now don't feel nervous when addressing many people" Ibu Karlina, Posyandu Karuya Murni – Banturung

After designing and collecting data through a survey of the households in 7 villages, the project received support in the form of trainings from the Indonesia untuk Kemanusiaan organisation, who worked on building the capacity of the YUM staff as well as work on their interpersonal skills.

Even though the YUM team was already sensitive to the participatory approach employed during their work, this training was nonetheless enriching to open up the scope of sensitivity for gender awareness and identifying community leadership characteristics in the project participants.

For news of other YUM Projects in Indonesia see the latest issue of their newsletter, October 2018. Click here <https://www.yumindonesia.org/images/uploads/report/1540444424.pdf>



HOLIDAY READING...

THE ULTIMATE CURE

By Lawrence Brazier.

Lawrence asks you all to be aware that this piece was written for a non-Subud readership...

One supposes that among the laity and professionals there lies, deeply imbedded within the human psyche, a desire to witness a miracle. Those working within the medical profession, however, are naturally restricted to a practical approach.

On a bad night the emergency clinics begin to fill with the results of car crashes, all manner of human strife that has engendered gunshot wounds and all of the rest that make up a busy doctor's daily round.

There is little time for anything spiritual, for anything, in fact, beyond giving a needed injection, bandaging wounds or getting limbs into plaster; and on to the next patient who shows up, one way or another, in dire need of a quick fix before infection sets in.

Nevertheless, those tantalizing Biblical accounts of physical regeneration must give us pause for thought, albeit a worrying and frustrating pause. 'Could it be...?' asks a doctor, a surgeon, a researcher looking to open the next door on the long path that represents a further step in curing human ailments.

The surgeon will sigh, if he or she has the time, and get on with the next incision, administration of the next alleviating remedy, or attending to the ongoing personal need for getting a good night's sleep.

“ *Deeply embedded in the human psyche, a desire to witness a miracle...* ”

How did He Do it?

How did He do it? we may be forgiven for asking. What is this grace that the religious people speak of? Was it charisma, an outflow of power, the purest form of empathy, a special touch, sheer niceness,

or a combination of them all?

Moreover, could those within the medical profession acquire this all-embracing capacity for healing? A cynic may suggest that they would probably be cautious of possessing such a capacity because, after all, it would put a lot of their colleagues out of work.

Again, how did He do it? Nobody knows, of course. Well, there are a few anonymous mystics who could give a clue or two. But they do not give much away because the mystical experience is exactly that, an experience. It is not something one could write a thesis about. Getting it down on to paper would naturally be a difficult undertaking. It probably amounts to what Duke Ellington said about jazz, 'If you don't get it, forget it.' The mystic may even suggest that it cannot be learned, it is more a matter of un-learning, which, of course, is anathema to the inquiring mind.

The Big Question

The big question will simply not go away. Your correspondent sits and ponders, praying only when prayer arises as a spontaneous expression of hope; hope being all that is available when no rational answer is given. I believe, quite literally, and not in a religious sense, that a spiritual cure could be possible. I don't know why.

My lady wife maintains that it is a wishful notion coupled with congenital laziness. According to >

my lady I want everything done by waving a magic wand. No messing about, just a goodly portion of abracadabra. Imagine putting up that shelf by magic.

“ I believe, quite literally, that a spiritual cure could be possible...”

The dogged research, which must not necessarily be devoid of prayer, into the human condition, meaning the state we are in, has resulted in what could be called minor miracles. But it should not be forgotten that there have often been years of hard work in the laboratories before any breakthrough was achieved.

Moreover, to some extent I am not alone in my own dogged research. An acquaintance gained in my youth made it clear that I am among others of a like mind. My cogitations, my reading, in what had become my overriding occupation, is shared. I found a friend in the wife of an American professor who had been invited to join the faculty at Cambridge University, in England.

The professor's wife went along with her husband. She was herself a writer and went on to write a book about Stephen Hawking. On one occasion, she spoke of an interesting aspect of social life at Cambridge.

Social Life at Cambridge

'There were evening gatherings of the faculty,' she said. 'There we were, sipping things in an atmosphere of alcoholic congeniality among the world's intellectual elite.'

'Present were scientists of all stripes, mathematicians and physicists, some of them of world renown. The chat soon developed to include matters remote from science. They all started to talk about God.'

'They possibly felt that there was nothing left for them to do. They had landed in a black hole of the mind,' I suggested.

'Perhaps that is true,' she said. 'After all, they above all others are aware of several unanswered questions. I supposed that for an intellectual, especially a scientist, the unexplained is irresistible.'

'The realm of metaphysics...?' I prompted.

'Quite! It is as if their chosen fields had somehow become secondary. They now all seem to be trying to pinpoint that which makes everything, or in fact anything, possible.'

'You mean that which enables a scientist to undertake science.'

'Yes, that about sums it up. That which, or Who, enables.'

'Did anything come of it?' I asked.

'Apparently not, or we would have been subjected to some stunning headlines in the media. On the other hand, they probably wouldn't publish if they had come up with anything for fear of being laughed at.'



The Tingle that Tells

There is a stirring, at least in my inner world, that tingles and tells of a glorious possibility. I recall >

few mystical moments in my own life. There had been, however, an afternoon, deep into a translation of a book by a German physicist who maintained that the Big Bang never happened. The author said that the universe had always been there (or is it here?). Period. I liked that.

Albeit later to be poorly received by his colleagues, the book was fascinating, and I found myself delightfully lost to the world, lost in translation, in fact. The room in which I worked seemed perfectly well ordered. My chest felt cool, the way it feels when you drink a glass of water and you feel it going down. My mind became unaccountably quiet, devoid of clatter and chatter. Thoughts were received and not conceived.

My wife came home. 'Gosh,' she said, 'the house feels nice.' Since I have yet to master the vacuum cleaner she had not said that the house looked nice, it felt nice. I felt nice, too! I had also read of a spiritual person who said that when his wife was feeling amorous she claimed that the house was fragrant with the odour of flowers. Thus, we now know why men are forever giving women flowers for reasons mostly attributed to convention, but a convention previously unexplained.

Although I have lived a life excused of meditation, a Buddhist friend informed me that I had experienced what he called 'integration'. Mine had not been a particularly eruptive revelation, but it did convince me that there were, indeed, other states worthy of investigation. Yet it was also evident that investigation in a scientific sense was likely to be less than useful.

Getting out of the Way

Jiddu Krishnamurti once suggested that '...there is only one thing between you and God, and that is you; get out of the way.' That is probably the coolest thing any mystic has ever uttered. But how? He didn't say how!

Getting out of the way seems to be of the essence and I would be more than happy to comply. I'd be forever running across a meadow, picking up lots of forget-me-nots. I would also appreciate some sort of Nobel Award for research for several months on an accommodating island.

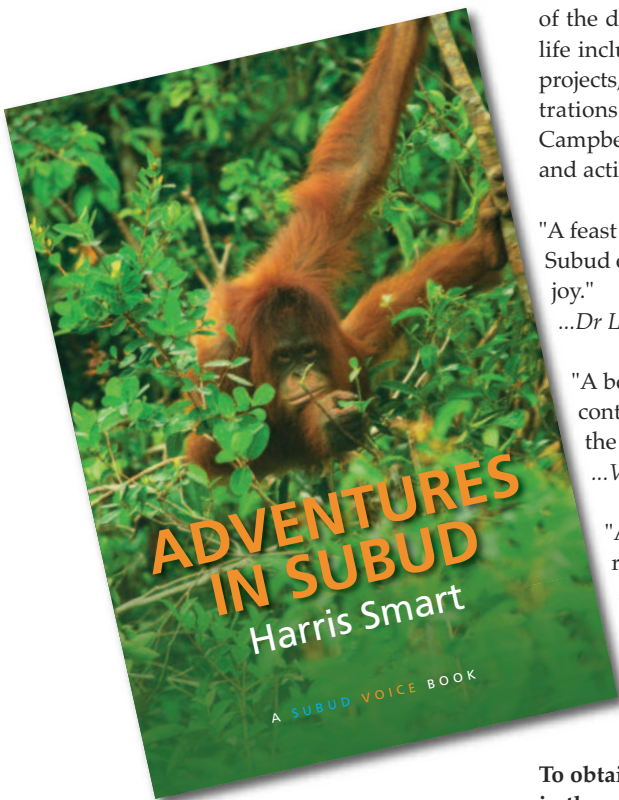
You know, palms and white sand, and stuff. Probably a lagoon standing by and girls with exag-geratingly swaying hips. I would be otherwise safe from the vagaries of nature and the rest of hu-manity. My days would, however, be punctuated by an occasional visit by my lady wife, who would have a garland of flowers hung around her neck after being washed ashore. I may affect a flower cradled behind an ear, just to show willing.

Still, one's research continues despite a little diversion (there's a thought) into humour. Diversion, of course! Any diversion, any undertaking outside of oneself effects release. Here, mind, read this and leave me in peace. Diversion must be the clue to how He did it. Serving others and forgetting Himself is echoed every day by doctors all over the world.

Many of this journal's readers will possibly miss a lack of gravitas, but I am not talking alternatives here. No hocus pocus. No proclamations of anti-school medicine. But one day, oh yes, I am con-vinced that one day it will happen. That something special will be an everyday occurrence.

Right now, the lady wife is running around with a deodorant spray. It could mean anything, but one way or another everything is coming up roses. ●

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Adventures in Subud is a new book by Harris Smart. It presents an overview of the development of Subud covering practically every aspect of Subud life including spiritual experiences, enterprises, welfare projects, cultural projects, health and healing and youth. It is 360 pages long with 120 illustrations including photographs and cartoons by Marcus Bolt and Dirk Campbell. It shows Subud as a dynamic movement combining spirituality and action in the world.

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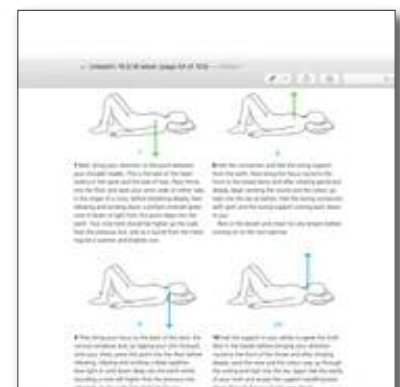
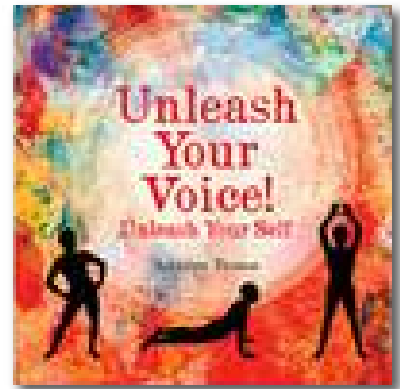
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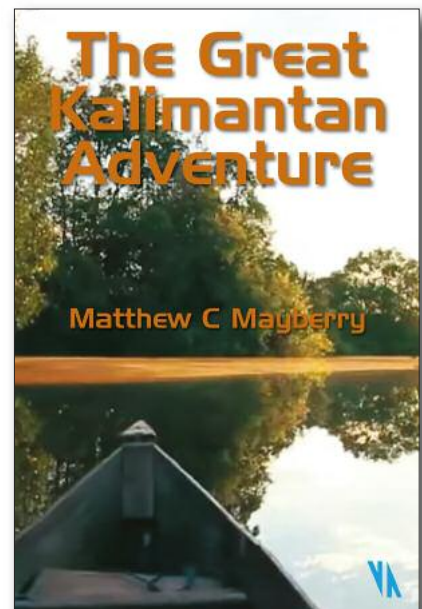
The Great Kalimantan Adventure Matthew C Mayberry

“Bapak can tell you that there is gold, there is silver, there are diamonds, there are many precious stones, there are other things like oil and so on. Bapak went to Kalimantan and met people in authority like the Governor of Central Kalimantan, who was stunned, he couldn't believe it. He said: ‘How does Bapak know that in this place there is that and in this place there is this and so on?’ And Bapak said ‘Oh. I didn't learn it anywhere, I know it from myself’.”
Talk at Slough, UK, 4 April 1981

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