



## Reconnecting with our Mining *an interview with Tony Manini*

*Harris Smart writes...*

Like many other Subud members, I was surprised, and even shocked, when I heard earlier this year that Kalimantan Gold Corporation (KGC), our mining venture in Kalimantan, had changed its name to Asiamet Resources, and the CEO was not a Subud member. I thought, this signals quite a big change in my Subud world and it raises quite a few questions for me.

What is the relationship between Asiamet Resources and KGC? Is there continuity or is this a break with the past? Does the “Subud story” continue in this new vehicle?

As we all know, our mineral exploration in Kalimantan, inspired by Bapak, has had a long and complex history and has survived many difficult times. Over its more than 30 years, \$55 million has been spent, including \$36m from Freeport who withdrew from the project in January 2014, due to government policy related to the export of minerals.

I have been trying to ascertain for myself what has happened recently and why. I have spoken to a number of people who have played an important part in the mining. (Mansur Geiger, Bardolf Paul, Ridwan Lowther, Rahman Connelly.) I did this for my own understanding but also to cast some light

on the subject to Subud members generally. In recent issues we have published a number of articles on this subject.



*Mansur Geiger and Tony Manini.*

### What happened?

The departure of Freeport left our mining in a parlous condition. KGC needed to seek alternative funding, a very difficult task when one of the world’s largest copper producers has just walked away, compounded by the downturn in the resources industry world-wide and the perceived country risk of Indonesia.

There were very few options open to the company. Thus Tigers Realm, aware of the potential for small /medium sized mine development, made a timely approach to Kalimantan. The consensus amongst the people I talked to seemed to be that either we did this deal with Tigers Realm, an Australian-based resources company, or we disappeared. There was no other option.

The “deal” can be understood in different ways. Some speak of a takeover; others prefer business combination or asset acquisition. As I understand it, essentially Kalimantan acquired Tigers Beutong copper project (in Aceh, Indonesia) in exchange for a 50% interest in Kalimantan. Tigers through their various networks and contacts raised sufficient funding to support Kalimantan through this chal-

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lenging period and as part of this transaction Tony Manini, founder and CEO of Tigers Realm joined the board and management of Kalimantan. The company name was recently changed to Asiamet Resources Pty. Ltd, reflecting a change in commodity and geographical focus (not just gold and Kalimantan but copper-gold and other metals more broadly in Indonesia and greater Asia) and, most importantly, that the company is moving towards developing a producing mine in Kalimantan over the next 3 years. For further information on the strategy, take a look at an interview with CEO Tony Manini <<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1DtCcAgf5Rw>>.”

In a document entitled “Next Chapter in Kalimantan” former CEO, Faldi Ismail and others involved in the mining summed up the situation as:

“They (Tigers Realm) are people who sympathize with our Subud goals of establishing a project that is not only profitable but also benefits the local communities in Kalimantan. While this merger and the recent associated C\$1,193,000 fundraising has obviously decreased the collective Subud interest in the project, it still gives Subud members the opportunity to both participate and contribute in the future.

“As a result of the recent merger and fundraising, the level of Subud ownership has dropped and Subud no longer has much of an influential position from a shareholding perspective. The Subud association needs to take this into account in charting initiatives to achieve Bapak’s vision in Kalimantan.”

*(This article was published in Subud Voice, September 2015. Please note that Subud members Faldi Ismail & Raynard von Hahn continue as directors of Asiamet.)*

### [Interview with Tony Manini](#)

Recently I had the opportunity to talk to Tony Manini, who is the CEO of Asiamet Resources. We met in the offices of Tigers Realm in the Melbourne CBD on Wednesday, October 7. Mansur Geiger (Vice President, Indonesia, of Asiamet) was also present at the interview and made some comments..

Tigers Realm is a private holding company owned by Tony and others which incubates and develops businesses in the resources sector. Currently Tiger Realm is the largest shareholder in Asiamet Resources at 11.8%. Tigers Realm also provides some services to Asiamet Resources.

Tony is of Italian descent; his father came to Australia in the 1950s and married an Australian woman. Tony grew up in the Victorian country town of Orbost. As a boy he became interested in prospecting for gold and this led him to become a geologist.

He has worked in the mining industry for more than 30 years, 25 of which have been spent in Southeast Asian countries such as Indonesia, Thailand and Laos. More recently, his interests have spread to other parts of the world and he has now worked in 20 countries.

He mentions his family as an example of the multiculturalism of today's world. He was brought up a Catholic, part Italian and part Australian. His wife is a Buddhist from Laos and so his children (a boy age 12 and a girl 10) carry the heritage of many cultures. “We are a globalised family,” he remarked.

I asked Tony what was his particular strength in the mining industry?

TONY: My experience in the mining industry has been unusual in that it has covered almost every aspect of mining from early-stage exploration to the development and operation of mines across a wide range of commodities and countries. I've had broad exposure to every facet of the business and been involved in multiple mineral deposit discoveries and the successful development of six mines.

What has been your contact with the Subud mining venture?

I have known Mansur for more than 20 years. I knew Murray Clapham, and the other Subud members who have been involved, such as Rahman Connelly, I'm always on the lookout for opportunities and we had previously been involved in a joint venture with KGC through another company, Oxiana, with which I was associated.

In 2014 I heard that Freeport had dropped out and I began to talk to KGC. It is an extremely difficult time to raise money for mining projects, so we discussed a strategy for combining our assets and developing a regional copper-gold Company, initially focussed on utilizing our experience to develop a medium size copper operation on the KSK property with Beutong to follow as a large scale growth option for the business.

#### *Why the change of name?*

The name “Kalimantan Gold” said two things very clearly to potential investors. It was about Kalimantan and it was about gold, whereas we are interested not just in Kalimantan, but in other parts of Indonesia as well, and even other countries.

Also we are not just looking for gold, we are also involved in copper and other metals. The change of name reflects our interest in building a large Asia-Pacific resource effort. The name is a reflection of what the company is currently doing and plans to do. We aimed to refresh and rebrand the company for the marketplace and it has worked in terms of raising investor interest in the Company.

MANSUR: Ten years ago even we ourselves in KGC had talked about the need for a change of name. This name had been around for a long time, which was good in one way in that it had a good reputation within Indonesia; it spoke of perseverance. But outside Indonesia it was starting to look rather worn-out.

#### *What is your essential vision for Asiamet?*

TONY: We have three assets. The Beutong Project is a very large copper-gold project on the northern end of Sumatra, the Jelai Gold project is a quality small-medium gold project in North Kalimantan, and the KSK project which is a medium-scale copper development opportunity in Central Kalimantan. KSK is where we are concentrating most of our efforts at the moment

We have this vision of being a large Asia-Pacific operation working in gold, copper and other resources. The Beutong Project has enormous potential but requires a large amount of capital, so we are looking for something small that we can develop in the meantime. This is why we are focussing on the KSK Project. Once that is up and running with a cash flow, we could develop Beutong and other opportunities on the KSK property.

Fifteen years ago I would not have looked at this project because there was not the infrastructure. Everything had to be done by helicopter, flying people and equipment into the mine, and if it had been successful, there was the problem of how to get the material out. There is no way this small mine could have supported the building of the infrastructure involved. But now the KSK site can be



*The Beruang Kanan camp site that accommodates 130 field employees,*



*The drilling crew setting up one of the company owned and operated drill rigs.*



*This year to date 71 drill holes have been completed, all of which have involved moving heavy equipment by hand, in mountainous terrain.*



*We have developed and operated mines before...*



reached by a good road, and that has opened up the opportunity to look at these smaller projects.

The KSK project will enable us to get some traction in a very tough market. That has already been working. We have investor interest and appeal because of our track record and the fact that we've done well for investors over a long period of time. While the market backdrop for junior exploration and mining companies remains extremely challenging, Asiamet has managed to raise approximately \$5 million for the continued development of its projects over the past 12 months.

In Indonesia under the Contract of Work (COW) you have to develop the mine or you lose the contract. It's been a miracle that KGC has been able to continue this long.

It could be said that the major achievements of our mining work in Kalimantan have been on the social side. That is, the creation of YTS (Yayasan Tambuhak Sinta) and the international respect accorded to it in the mining industry.

**Is that still on the agenda?**

Our social licence to operate is inherent in the way we do business. The welfare of the surrounding population, their employment, education, health and so on. While we need to do that commercially, it's also something we really believe is the right thing to be doing. The mine is going to have a big impact on local people and we want those impacts to be positive. That's been our past experience with mines elsewhere and it will be the same with this one.

The change in relationship to YTS is that some people who were previously employed within KGC are now placed within YTS. YTS developed from the mining company, but is now doing many other things as well, seven projects in all. YTS has developed the capacity to raise funds separately from the mining initiatives, as with the funding from the Canadian government to support the mercury project. YTS will however still provide the community engagement interface to the KSK mining project. Currently the funding we are able to provide YTS to support this community engagement work reflects the stage of the mine's development and our financial resources.



*I would like to reconnect with the Subud shareholders.*



I believe that our intentions are in line with what has always been the Subud vision in terms of our relationships with the local community and the environment. It is a normal part of our business. It is what we are required to do and what we believe in. One of the unusual aspects of this project is that there are not very many people living close by, which is most unusual particularly in densely inhabited areas like Indonesia.

MANSUR: I was one of the founders of YTS and it was always our vision that it be separate from the mining company, because in that way it could apply for funding which would not have been available if the applicant was a mining company. That is why YTS was set up as a foundation or yayasan.

**What is your vision for the future?**

Well, without the flow of funding you don't really have anything. All the things that someone might want to do are dependent on an ability to fund those initiatives, and that is the thing that has not happened in this mining venture in Kalimantan. It has not yet fulfilled its potential.

Mining is a capital intensive business and while we have already been able to attract some investment, but a lot more is still required. Of course, there are hurdles, technical hurdles, financial hurdles, permitting hurdles. So sure there are risks and nothing is for certain, but all of the risks associated with these projects and the Company are very normal for a junior company in the mining sector. But we can show that we have done it before. We are one of the few groups that take the whole process

from early exploration through to development and operation. In this way we will be able to produce a return for shareholders and continue the high standard of



*Our intentions are in line with what has been the Subud vision.*



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community relations established by KGC.

I would like the existing shareholders to reconnect with the company. I would like to preserve the company's continuity with its origins. What has happened is a process of evolution taking into account current realities. And if you're seeking investment, the first people you need to go back to are the people who have already invested in, and supported the Company. So I would like to connect with that Subud shareholding. We have around 1200 shareholders and 900 of them are people with investments of less than \$1000. If you wish to stay informed on the Asiamet's projects and progress please sign up via the Contacts section of the website [www.asiametresources.com](http://www.asiametresources.com) or email us on [info@asiametresources.com](mailto:info@asiametresources.com)



MANSUR: I believe that if it were not for this deal, our mining would not still be alive. It is typical for junior exploration companies to move in, spend some money, and if they don't get a result, move on pretty quickly. On average they stay for four years. Now we have a company with the capacity to develop and operate the mine. I believe we are in a very, very good situation. We have a new life. Re-engage with us. Nothing has changed from our original vision. This is the reality. We have to adapt to the reality as it is. There has always been an open book. Everyone could participate and there is still that opportunity.

If you wish to stay informed on the Asiamet's projects and progress please sign up via the Contacts section of the website [www.asiametresources.com](http://www.asiametresources.com) or email [info@asiametresources.com](mailto:info@asiametresources.com) ●

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## MY KALIMANTAN STORY

*Sumali Agrawal writes about the YTS Mercury Project...*

I remember when Mansur first told me about how he had set up a foundation with the local villagers in the Upper Kahayan. It was during the drought and the fires of 97-98, when the El Nino brought the mighty rivers to a standstill.

He told me that they were sending in sacks of rice by canoe, as relief for the upriver villagers that were nearly starving. It seemed a worthy endeavor, and I would have joined in the effort, except that I was preoccupied with trying to launch an ecotourism and conservation project in the same area, and was thus stuck in Jakarta explaining to the Ministry of Forestry how the value of keeping the forests standing might be worth more than cutting them down. Those same forests in which I had been happily lost for months, during a short stint working for KIC on the gold exploration team, back in 1995.

He told me that the local Dayak community had named the foundation Yayasan Tambuhak Sinta (YTS) a name that I have only recently come to know the meaning of, when our guide, Pak Sumbin, at the age of ninety, made us a drawing of a huge pole with canoes tethered to it, together with people's belongings.

Pak Sumbin said it was a symbol of strength and unity for the community, something they could rely on that would not be swept away in a flood. The people living further downstream say that a Tambuhak is a natural spring, but then again, they don't speak quite the same language as the upriver people. Either way, at least the upriver and the downriver peoples both agree that the Sinta part means Love.

I liked the sound of the foundation, so when YTS asked me to run its first mercury project in Central Kalimantan, I took the offer, despite the poor salary. That was in 2006. It was called the Global Mer- >

cury Project and it was sponsored by the UNDP. I was in charge of implementing the fieldwork in Kalimantan, and it was from there that I started working with artisanal gold miners in Indonesia.

Mercury is a persistent global contaminant, a top-priority concern for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the cause of Minamata Disease: a terrible affliction caused by eating seafood contaminated with methyl-mercury. We are seeing this disease manifest itself now, in gold mining communities across Indonesia. It is directly related to the open burning of gold amalgam. When this happens, the mercury in the amalgam escapes into the air, affecting women and children living nearby without them knowing it.

The YTS mercury project has been trying to mitigate the harm that arises from this practice, by delivering mercury-recycling equipment to artisanal miners and their associated gold shops. We have done this at hundreds of locations in all of the main gold mining areas in our home province of Central Kalimantan. We have also been working with UNEP, the Blacksmith Institute, and others, to address the usage of the mercury during the primary processing of the ore.

As a result of our efforts, YTS was successively contacted by the Australian, Danish, American and Canadian embassies - wanting to know more about our mercury program. The Canadian embassy has shown by far the strongest support for our work, and the Canadian ambassador has visited our office in Palangkaraya twice this year. In August, the Canadian Deputy Minister of Trade also came to visit us and travelled with us to the Kereng Panggi field site.

It is interesting to watch these high-profile people when they first come to Kalimantan, as they seem to relax when they get here. They like to walk the ground where the forest is being converted into wasteland, and see what the miners are digging first-hand. Soon, we all become the same small figures, trudging through an empty desert.

The Government of Canada, through its Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade, may soon launch a five-year development project based on improving artisanal gold mining practices in Indonesia. Certainly, this will partially be due to the efforts that YTS has made to promote the issue to them.

Thus, we are part of a global network of agencies working on this issue: but once the dignified meetings in Jakarta are over, we must stretch ourselves, and head all the way back to the shanty towns and gold mining villages along the river; then into the forests, and the wastelands within them, where the blue tarpaulins of makeshift mining camps are pitched beside the pits where the miners work.

This week, I am in a small village in East Java for a change. I am here at the behest of the Ministry of Environment, as it is one of only a handful of legal community mining areas in the country. Here, we are working to demonstrate alternatives to the use of mercury. It is not easy. It is far easier for the miners to throw quicksilver into the ore-grinding drum and let it do the work; not realizing the far-reaching health consequences for their families and others. It is also not easy to make them aware of the dire health risk, or to convince them it is worth spending the extra effort to process their ore in



*Retorts are popular with miners as they can recycle their mercury.*



*Sumali Agrawal, with Bardolf Paul, explain the alluvial gold mining process to the Canadian Ambassador in the Kereng Panggi goldfields near Rungan Sari.*

an environmentally-responsible manner. Such are the trials and tribulations of this work.

You may have heard of the Minamata Convention. It is a global convention that the UN will put into effect very soon. Like the Kyoto protocol, it was signed in Japan by many countries. It lays down guidelines for countries like Indonesia to follow, in order to prevent the release of mercury into the environment. The existence of this convention is now attracting affluent countries to also examine how they can help Indonesia to address the scourge of mercury pollution.

Thus, our current UNEP-funded project involves working with the Government of Indonesia both at a policy level, as well as by assisting them with technical information from the fieldwork we perform.

In truth, I don't know where all of this project activity will lead; but for me it is a living proof that if one sticks to one's convictions and does what one believes to be right, then eventually people will take you seriously.

For more detailed information on the YTS mercury project, please visit the Chemistry World UK's website at the following link:

[www.rsc.org/chemistryworld/2015/08/chemistry-saves-thousands-gold-miners-mercury-poisoning](http://www.rsc.org/chemistryworld/2015/08/chemistry-saves-thousands-gold-miners-mercury-poisoning)



*A woman scoops up mercury-contaminated tailings by hand.*



*YTS recently organized a national workshop on mercury in Jakarta, bringing together various ministries, NGO's, donors, and the press*

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*With thanks from the Subud Voice team.*

*Cartoon with apologies to Frank Cotham and The New Yorker*



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# WSC MEETING IN SANTIAGO

In September the World Subud Council (WSC) held its annual meeting in Santiago, Chile.

Perhaps the most spectacular thing that happened during this meeting was an earthquake. In our last issue we published an article about how the earthquake affected our meeting. Most people seem to have been very calm about it and some only felt at first that it was "a rather strong latihan".

I talked to Hadrian Fraval, who is in charge of Subud Enterprise Services International (SESI), after he returned from the meeting. I asked him to give me his general impressions of it all....

First of all, I was very impressed by Santiago as a city. It is a beautiful, clean and prosperous looking city.

Our meetings were actually held in the Subud House which has recently been refurbished by the group with a loan from the Muhammad Subuh Foundation (MSF). The house is in a very pleasant part of the city and is very solid, made of brick and two storeys high.

It provided an excellent meeting venue, with spaces for simultaneous latihan. A marquee had been erected in the garden where we had our meals. The catering was excellent.

We all stayed at a hotel nearby so there was a continuous feeling of being surrounded by the Subud bubble of the meeting. So all of the ingredients for a good meeting were there, which is half the battle.

There were about 80 people at the meeting. A good translation service between the various languages was provided by our own members.

This was of course the first WSC meeting of the new team and so there was a process of getting used to each other. There were reports from the Executive and the various Subud entities like SICA and Susila Dharma, about what has happened since Congress.

A big item on the agenda was of course the Archives, and the archives team was present at the meeting.

A second big item on the agenda was Amanecer, how to make it self-sustaining. It is now a very complicated situation with many stakeholders including residents, MSF, Subud Colombia, the local group and so on.

Two of the Youth (SYAI) coordinators were present and there was a strong commitment for all the wings working together to create an event called BASARA in Rungan Sari in December 2016. The YES Quest will be very much involved with this.

In regard to SES, here is what I think was finally proposed and passed. I still need to check with everyone on wording etc...

Proposal: In accordance with the Subud World Congress approved recommendation number 2 for SESI that Council recognizes and appreciates the work Hadrian has made Progressing the Subud World Congress resolution #2 under SESI.

That SESI explore the formation of a financial institution and if feasible proceed to implement it with the approval of WSC. (see recommendations and resolutions of World Congress 2014 in Puebla).



*Davina Flynn and Rhyana Blakely from SYAI.  
(Photo Viktor Boehm)*



*Group shot from the WSC Meeting.  
(Photo Hadrian Fraval)*



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The council encourages and supports Hadrian to continue the work on finessing Usaha Mulia proposal and to execute the formation of a financial institution to continue the work of helping enterprises.

Proposed by Fernando Fatah Nieva

Seconded by Suryadi Haryono Sumuhadiwidjojo

Unanimously approved - Consensus taken

We should wait for the final minutes of the meeting for the final wording of this and the other items discussed.

Finally, I asked Hadrian how he had experienced the earthquake.

“It was a strange sensation. It was as if standing on a waterbed. As if the ground had gone wobbly. It was an 8.2 earthquake and there were aftershocks. Fortunately the epicentre was very deep – way off in the ocean. As far as I know, no buildings were destroyed in Santiago or people killed or injured. The Subud House was not damaged in any way.”

## OUR TIME TOGETHER

*International Helper, Isti Jenkins, writes about the WSC meetings in Santiago, Chile, which were successfully conducted in the Santiago Subud house...*

I marvel at the ability of us all to use our latihan to stay so much in harmony with each other. I believe that the experiment of taking the time to listen to each other with care and patience really did bring us to a point of love and acceptance.

Our cultures are so mixed and yet we are able to communicate our feelings without speaking each other's language through the latihan experience. I am always amazed at the energy we are each given by Almighty God when given a task to fulfil, and I am touched by the unity that is experienced by being together.

On arrival at the Hotel in Santiago my first invitation was to join the MSF team for a latihan and testing session. This helped to raise my awareness of the tremendously important and significant role MSF has within Subud.

On reflection I see this role as the basic foundation for the future...When every Subud house becomes the home for the content of Bapak's message to manifest as reality. A place where a mixed group of members can worship One Creator and One humanity providing the nutrition needed for our souls.

Where all the words from Bapak and Ibu Rahayu are available, providing that nutrition for our understanding. Where, as a community, we can discover our own inner culture, providing each of us with the ability to work together while developing a focus and love for those who are less fortunate. Where guidance can come from effort and courage and attract prosperity. Where fear of pain and death can be overcome through constant “surrender”.

I see every Subud house as a place that integrates the work of the wings of Subud so that our interface with the world reflects the essence of Susila Budhi Dharma and the best of human qualities that humankind has to offer.

A place also, where members can successfully use their talents in an enterprising way as Bapak hoped, so that wealth results from following our “capital” from within, and from an intention to make this planet a better and more peaceful place.

Thanks to Almighty God that the spirit of Bapak and Ibu remained so close to us all, and thanks to all those who contributed to making this WSC meeting a beautiful and memorable event.



*Santiago Subud House.  
(Photo Viktor Boehm)*

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## VIBRATIONS FROM THE DEPTH OF MY INNER *WSA Treasure Hilaria Dette writes...*

The recent World Subud Council Meeting took place at the Subud house in Santiago de Chile (photo), from September 14 to 24, 2015.

“How do I feel the vibrations of my truly deep Latihan when the Budhi is in its right place?” It felt strong, deeply connected and shaking the ground under my feet. In other words – it felt like an earthquake. ... And it turned out that AN EARTHQUAKE HAPPENED right at that moment (8.4 on the Richter scale).

This occurred in the evening of Day 3 of our World Subud Council meeting. We had scheduled a joint meeting with the trustees of the Muhammad Subuh Foundation. Before this a few women went to prepare by Latihan and some testing. Was this earthquake meant to underline the importance of working together in harmony, with love and respect? To read Hilaria’s full report, go to:

<http://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Hilaria-wsc-meeting-receiving-vibrations.pdf> ●

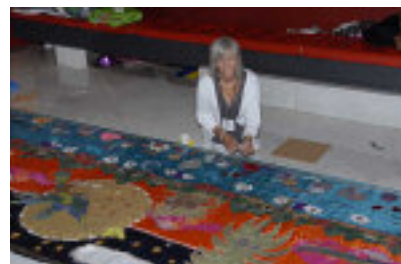
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## IN MEMORIAM

*International Helper, Isti Jenkins, writes about a Subud Project for WORLD CONGRESS 2018...*

Dear Subud members from around the world,

Several of us are developing a concept to HONOR those members who have passed away and whom we wish to remember in some special way. Our vision is to have an INSTALLATION displayed during the next World Congress in 2018, in BONN GERMANY.



*Isti with banner from one of her previous World Congress projects.*

We would like to share our idea and encourage participation towards making this wonderful event happen.

What we see is a gigantic Subud Family TREE. The TRUNK and BRANCHES designed along a covered wall outside or inside along a hallway depending on the space and approval allocated to us at the next World Congress Venue. It would possibly make sense to allocate LARGER branches to each ZONE of the Subud World and allocate the SMALLER branches to each COUNTRY. With a setup that allows many of these leaves and flowers to be designed, created and assembled in BONN during Congress time.

PLEASE contribute to the success of this by having a WORKSHOP during your own National Congress where LEAVES and FLOWERS native to your country can be collected and designed and taken by the representative attending the World Congress to BONN, 2018.

You are each invited to bring NAMES, SMALL PASSPORT PHOTOS, and a brief PROFILE of every Subud member you wish to remember.

A PILOT PROJECT will be run during the Australian National Congress and to provide follow up with examples and PHOTOS of the result achieved. The IDEA is open to evolve, change or develop according to the love, care and enthusiasm it is given.

The INTERNATIONAL SICA board hopes that this project will inspire others to participate or develop the concept of IN MEMORIAM in other PROJECTS... such as collecting the stories of members who have passed but left a LEGACY; and those older Subud members who still have valuable stories to tell!

Collections such as these can LEAD to the possibility of a travelling EXHIBITION which showcases the CULTURAL ENDEAVORS and diversity of those who have been touched by the gift of the LATIHAN KEDJIWAAN of SUBUD.

The idea came during our IH visit to Indonesia in February, and received a positive response.

What I request from everyone is that the SEED is planted in as many Subud groups and as many countries as possible. This could probably be done during your NATIONAL CONGRESS, collected and then brought to the next ZONE meeting or next WSC meeting next year.

I hope that the project might be inspiring and meaningful to many members and result in being a good contribution to the SUBUD ARCHIVES. Thank you for your attention,

Love from, Isti Jenkins and Irmana Bryson-Haynes.

Email: [istijenkins@gmail.com](mailto:istijenkins@gmail.com)

Email: [irmanagh@gmail.com](mailto:irmanagh@gmail.com)

*(With the approval of SICA International Rep, Sebastian Flynn)* ●

## MAVERICK AWARDS

On October 3rd, within the framework of the 2015 Woodstock Film Festival, Roberta Petzoldt received the Maverick Award for Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role for *Meet me in Venice*.

Roberta plays the role of Liza, a young woman who travels to Venice to meet her father, Mauro, whom she has not seen since she was three years old when her parents split up. Mauro has been travelling the world as a musician, and hopes the meeting in Venice will give him a chance to get to know his daughter.

The Woodstock Film Festival is a not-for-profit organization with a mission to present an annual program and year-round schedule of film, music, and art-related activities that promote artists, culture, inspired learning, and diversity. The Woodstock Film Festival is made possible in part with public funds from the New York State Council on the Arts, a State Agency.

Roberta is not just an actress but also an artist. She does everything and anything from making music, to writing poetry, to drawing. For her no one medium stands above the other. As she said during an interview with Dutch Culture USA, "I think it's about telling a story and depending on the story I choose a medium. Combining different things also allows me to create a more dynamic artwork I think." ●



## LOVE'S EMBRACE AND THE TOUCH OF GRACE

*The editor of Subud Voice put on three plays in the Melbourne Fringe Festival. Here Harris reflects on this experience...*

If you want to be rich, then hang out with rich people. This was Bapak's advice.

I am sure that in the same spirit, we can say, if you want to stay young, hang out with young people.

This is one of my main motivations for pursuing my work in film and theatre. I like hanging out with young people. Young, vibrant, hopeful, smart, attractive young people. Especially the women.

I like staying connected to this world of youth. This world of youth which is full of hope for the future. It is a very bright world, full of sparkle. Is also a very intense world. People live with great emotional tension intensity in this world of youth. Old age is a time of fading away. It is good to stay in touch with this world which is so bright and coming into being.

Otherwise I wouldn't have much contact with young people. There is only a limited supply of them in Subud and rather thinly spread out. At World Congresses and such times, you can really get in touch with them, but other times they are a rather rare species. (All the same, I make a note to myself, make more of an effort to connect with Subud young people.)

Unlike other much wiser people, I have not surrounded myself with a world of youth, my children and grandchildren. There is only one of each and they are living far away. So I seek for youth in the world of theatre and film.



*The cast of *The Debt Collector*, one of the three plays Harris put on in the Melbourne Fringe Festival this year. The play tells the story of a debt collector who falls in love with a woman who loves to run up debts. Another of Harris's "unlikely romances"...*

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## The Main Reason I Do It

But that is not my main reason for doing it. The main reason I do it is to use my talent, such as it is.

My primary talent is writing. The talent of writing can of course be broken down into various component parts such as: the need or wish to be self expressive (often a compensation for an inability to be expressive in other ways): another component part is the deep need or wish to try and interpret and understand the world.

On the slender foundation stone of this talent (a professor to whom I once showed some of my poems said I had "a slender lyric talent"). So, on the basis of my "slender lyric talent", I have built various other nodules of talent such as some ability to produce and direct films and plays and so on, and this has been where my "talent" has been focused for the last few years.

(On the subject of talent, in SICA and Subud generally, there is much discussion of talent. People talk about developing their talent, and test about it, and have workshops about it and so on. But we never look at the "dark side" of talent. We never look at how talent can be a misleading icon like anything else, just as much of a temptation as money or sex or power or anything else you like to think of. Also artists are not pure. They can be corrupted like anyone else. Yes, we should give some consideration to the "dark side" of talent. Talent as neurosis. Talent as compensation. There are interesting things to be discussed here.)

## Producing and Directing

Moving on, moving on... So I decided to do three plays in the Melbourne Fringe Festival. Write, produce and direct. I had just finished writing, producing and directing a play and at the end of that I had said, "Never again. Never, never, never again will I do this!"

And now I find I am not only doing it again, but I'm going to do it three times in three weeks. Am I mad? Am I totally insane? Have I lost all reason?

Well, there have often been people who have thought that. Wives mostly. All artists hope that their wives will appreciate them endlessly. And no doubt this happens from time to time. But just as often, the wife can be madly jealous of the Muse. She hates your Muse. This Muse who takes up so much of your time and adoration which should be devoted to your wife! This Muse does not amuse. This Muse is the hateful "other woman", sucking up all the affection and attention.

Anyway, I decided I was going to do it. Get the three plays out there. How much longer do I have on the planet? It seems very necessary that I should get things done. So my thought was, "Let's get them out. This may be the last chance."

So, of course, began the interesting process of producing and directing plays which has so many pleasant aspects to it, as well as some stressful ones.

## Anxiety

Naturally, there is a lot of anxiety involved. Anxiety in many forms.

Anxiety is, of course, a form of fear. A fear that things will go wrong. Fears that you are courting a disaster. Fears that you have gone mad, as so many predicted. Fears that you will make a fool of yourself yet again. Fears that you will waste a whole lot of money that could've been much better devoted to other much more worthwhile purposes.

So, from the Subud point of view, I decided to make this an exercise in anxiety reduction. I decided to use this high stress anxious moment to explore and expand my ability to surrender. My ability to not be oppressed and made fearful by events, or even my own foolishness. I wanted to see if I could become more peaceful. I wanted to see if I could reduce my anxiety levels. Not to be worried about things. I'm a terrible worrier. I know I inherited this from my mother who was a very worried, depressed, anxious person.

I must say that to a very large degree it worked. That is one of the reasons this can be considered a success story. I was able to handle stress in a fairly good way during this period which was fraught with opportunities for stress. I became more relaxed. I was able to stand back a bit more and get out of the way. I didn't live in a constant state of tension.

In what other ways can the event be considered a success? Well, the actual plays themselves were pretty good. To read more, go to <http://www.subudvoice.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Fringe-Plays-SV.pdf>

# NINA KONSTANTINOVNA ZAITSOVA ZHDANOVA

*Sylvia Kuiper des Tombe writes with this portrayal of the life of a Russian Subud member...*

Nina Zhdanova was born on the 25th of July, 1925, in Moscow. She had a sister, Elena, who was one year older. When the Second World War started in Russia, in 1941, Nina's father went to the front, on the very first day. Actually, he was the only male in a family with three women, so he wasn't obliged to go, but he went; he volunteered.

Starting in 1941, Nina had a job working in the construction department of a big hangar belonging to the aviation department of the government. It was very cold work and very noisy. Her hearing suffered. Nina's sister also worked, and her mother worked in the kindergarten of an orphanage.

Nina and her mother and sister had originally lived in a three-bedroom apartment, but, during the war, to save on heating and since there simply wasn't enough space for people to live, two other families came to live in their house, one family per bedroom.

In one of the rooms lived a man with his two daughters: Nadyezhda and Lyubov (Hope and Love). They were fifteen and six years old. Their mother had died in childbirth. At first the father, Boris, was not going to go to the front as he had to look after his two daughters, but later he went.

Boris was a motorcycle expert and racer. When I was talking to Nina and her daughter, Oksana (formerly Irina), they showed me clippings from newspapers from 1938, in which he was featured as the champion of a 300-kilometer race, and a newspaper from 1937, in which he was also a winner. He had used a Harley-Davidson, and the company was so pleased they wanted to present him with another bike. The local police advised him not to accept, and so, when asked, Boris answered, "I have everything I need."

## Marriage

Nina came to Boris's attention as follows. He had a huge motorcycle which his older daughter helped him put in the corridor of the shared flat when he came home. One day, they simply couldn't manage, and Nina came to their rescue. With her help, they moved the bike easily. The man was amazed.

In 1943, he came home from the front to see his daughters and decided that Nina, now 18, was the woman he wanted to marry. She had doubts, especially because of their age difference: he was 39. He said, "If you don't marry me, I'll never come back from the front." She relented. They were married. He came back in 1945, when the war was over, and Irina was conceived. She was born in 1946.

Nina had been going to night school while working at the factory, starting her studies for what would be a five-year program (1948-1951) to become a higher engineer in hydraulics. When Irina was born, she got paid leave and could stay at home for two years while her daughter was small. After that, her parents helped out. Nina and her husband moved to a new flat with two bedrooms and a garden. Nina's two young step-daughters lived with them as well.

Boris worked in the "Institute of Physical Culture." He was the leader of a workshop in a big factory, a technical expert on motorcycles, a mechanic. He was so good that, just from listening to an engine, he could tell what was wrong with it. They made motorcycles, and he continued to race them and earn prizes.

When Nina completed her degree, she was asked to travel to many places where there were hydro-projects. In all, she worked forty years in various capacities. Her last post was in Siberia, in Ust'-Ilimsk, where she was for two months. It was winter and it was terribly cold.

## Two Anecdotes

Two anecdotes come to mind when Nina remembers her years in far-away locations. One took place in Tselinograd, now Astana, the capital of Kazakhstan. Near to where she lived, the snow had been packed



*Nina Konstantinovna.*

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down, so it was safe to walk on it. However, when she first went to the out-house, instead of making a right turn, she turned left and sank deep into the snow. She somehow managed to get out,

““ We need to do what is God’s will ””

but later, when someone walked by where she had been, they asked, “Who’s been plowing here???”

A more serious incident happened one summer when she was working near Stalingrad, now called Volgograd. A big machine was moving silt out of the river. It was in a very swampy region. It was not at all clear where one could walk and where not, and, when Nina first arrived, she made a mistake and stepped on some freshly-dredged silt. She was not thin at the time.

The silt was eight meters deep, and she started to sink into it! She called for help and somehow managed to crawl out, wiggling like a snake. She was very, very dirty, but, luckily, there was a river nearby, so she could wash it off!

Over the years, Nina helped construct many dams. She was in charge of making calculations to determine where to build them, how they should be placed and what materials should be used.

Nina Konstantinovna retired at 55, in 1980. Her husband died shortly thereafter, in 1981. Nina lived with her grandchildren: Fyodor had been born at the beginning of 1968 and Konstantin at the end of 1987.

### Finding Subud

Nina’s family were of the Orthodox faith. Fyodor, in 1998, had read the book Reporter in Subud, about a spiritual group, and thought, “I want to join that!” Irina joined in 1999, on her birthday in March, with Mirella Rodyakova, Adeliya Raevich and Françoise Ivanoff in attendance. Then, Nina herself heard Konstantin Trifonov talk and decided she wanted to keep her daughter company in Subud, so she joined as well.

Nina now is 89. She is considered a “Veteran in the Rear” for the war work she did in Moscow, and, as such, has received a letter honoring her from the president of the Russian Federation: Vladimir Putin.

Nina Konstantinovna, after her busy life travelling and managing big projects, decided she wanted to live out her years not in Moscow, but in their dacha in the village of Teterinki, a site from where Napoleon’s armies first saw Moscow and where the German advance on Moscow was stopped.

She could not live alone, so Oksana, her daughter, has given up her career and has moved out to be with her. When I myself needed to make a big decision in my life and was invited to the dacha to get away from it all and think, I asked Oksana how she had made up her mind, how she came to give up so much. She answered, “Well, we need to do what is God’s will. It was clear. It was God’s will that I look after my mother.”

And so Nina Konstantinovna is happily spending her time in the country, petting the family cat, thinking about her grandsons’ futures, and watching the garden grow. ●

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## THE DAWNING – A GRACE UNTOLD

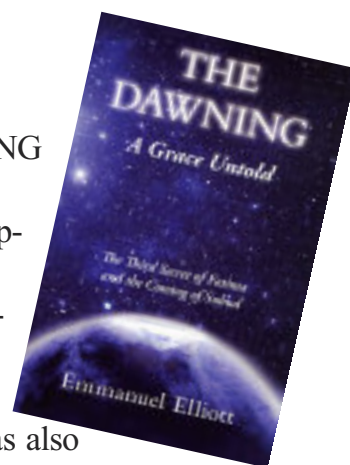
*Ilaina Lennard writes that this book is a page-turner...*

Although it has been available for some time, I want to bring THE DAWNING to your attention again, because it is a real page-turner. Why?

Well - because the author, Emmanuel Elliott, has such a sure instinct for keeping one on tenterhooks while he unfolds the narrative.

The first part is his own story – although few Subud members will have experienced the kind of things that happened to him just a few years after he was opened. With unemotional candour he describes his journey, telling of how he was given many clear dreams, visions, and out of body episodes. He was also made to face up to his own failings.

I doubt if many of us Subud members could accept with such submission, the deep and powerful experiences he underwent. But as we know, with any kind of spiritual development there is always a price. For Emmanuel there were, for instance, times when he suffered almost unbearable sensitivity, or underwent



states of crisis and for long periods needed great patience and faith. Sometimes he was also afraid. Who would not be?

“ Deeply aware of the unique significance of the latihan ”

The second part of the book is a fascinating and very well researched account of happenings connected with Fatima. Emmanuel tells, for instance, of several past Popes who seemed to be withholding the real 3rd secret of Fatima, although they all had access to it. Why could that be?

Is it because the real 3rd secret is too strange, too unacceptable to them? Is there even a link with the advent of Subud? (Editor's Note. The Catholic Church has since published what it says is the 3rd secret of Fatima. It does not contain any reference to Subud.)

Emmanuel is deeply aware of the unique significance of the latihan, and has the feeling – linked to Fatima and based on his own many extraordinary experiences - that it may not be long now before its spiritual action is known to many more people in our world.

In an Appendix B there is also an excellent description of the origin of Subud and how it affects each person differently - and only according to their own nature and capacity. For applicants this could be very important and helpful.

You just have to read it! It is available from Emmanuel at [emmanuelelliott@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:emmanuelelliott@blueyonder.co.uk)

Or you can write to him at 27 Birchall Avenue, Gloucester, GL4 6LP, United Kingdom. Price £12.50 (with postage) in the U.K. Please enquire for cost overseas.

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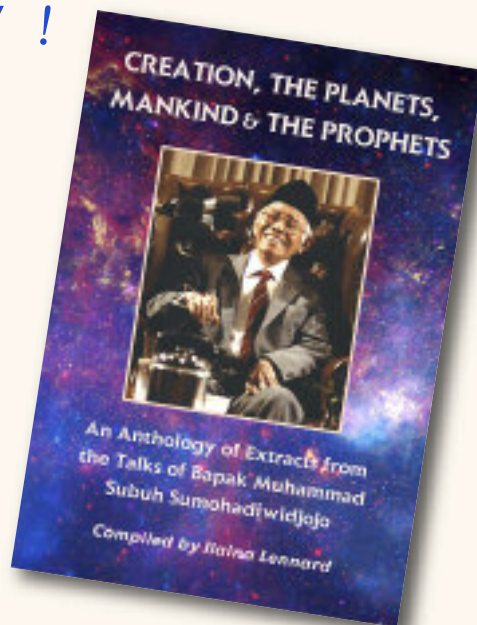
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## CREATION, THE PLANETS – AND BAPAK'S INSIGHTS

*Iaina Lennard writes...*

I wonder if you, like me, just love TV programmes about Creation, or the Planets or any of the other awesome things going on in our Universe? This is a TV subject that frequently has my eyes on stalks as I watch, both with amazement and incredulity.

What did Bapak say about these things, I wondered. Would he have had special insights - perhaps beyond what we at present know? Yes, sometimes I am sure he does, and this of course makes what he says even more fascinating. But I noticed that although in the early talks he says quite a lot, later it is not very often. Did he stop because he found that what he had said was not always correct, according to our latest scientific research?

That's as maybe, and perhaps you will not have the time to look for these pas-



*Iaina Lennard at the British Congress in Great Malvern.*

sages yourself, so in this little book I have made a selection, which also includes Mankind and the Prophets. I have to say that each time I read it (checking many times!) I could drop to my knees. There was always so much majesty in Bapak's words.

You may want to read this little book again and again. All the profit will go to MSF. ●

## Mas Haryono – a tribute to a Noble Soul

*Anthony Bright-Paul writes about Mas Haryono who passed away recently...*

Several people have asked me to write about Mas Haryono, I don't really know why. There must be many others who lived out in Indonesia, who spoke Bahasa Indonesia and yet others who spoke Javanese, who knew him at work and in Subud enterprises, who knew him much better than I.

I first met Haryono in the full flush of Subud, when we were truly expecting Subud to take the world by storm, when hundreds were being opened by the day, when England fell so to speak in a day, when Holland welcomed Bapak, and then the United States, followed by frantic scenes in Australia – it seemed at that time that there was a great domino effect, that the Golden Age was truly upon us.

Bapak and Ibu had come to Coombe Springs and the whole place was instantly transformed from a serious set of people determined to work on themselves in order – as Mr Gurdjieff put it - not to 'die like a dog', to something entirely different. It is difficult for those who were not in the Work to understand the command structure – nobody at Coombe did anything without the approval of Mr Bennett himself.

Nobody had reckoned on Icksan Ahmed who happily kicked a ball about on the sacred lawns, and furthermore invited people up to the top kitchen and even to come and sit in Bapak's sitting room with Bapak and Ibu themselves. In those days such a thing was unheard of – say if Madame de Salzman had arrived we would have scuttled about like frightened rabbits.

It was in the top kitchen, which was a tiny little space really between floors, that I first met Haryono; where Icksan explained to me, Haryono simply reflected back to me my own state. Good will! In those days it was so tangible you could feel it emanating from Bapak's helpers and indeed from Bapak's son.

### Subud Was Expanding

Subud was expanding at a breathtaking rate, as Bapak travelled the world and even his Helpers, and his new Helpers, with hardly any experience, opened new countries. So Icksan was sent to Ceylon, which is well chronicled in the books of Varindra Vittachi. When Bapak went to Ceylon later, quite suddenly we heard that Icksan had died and that Ismana was left as a widow, displaying a serene attitude and example of acceptance in her moments of grief.

It was only much later – I am not good on dates – that Haryono and Ismana got married and came to England. In those days I was working as a Rep. for Golden Valley Colours, living in Manchester, covering the whole of the north of England, but travelling every second weekend to Coombe.

So it happened that I took Haryono and Ismana shopping in Bentalls, Kingston-on-Thames. Later, we in Manchester, had Haryono and Ismana up to the Manchester Group and I have still a photo of him sitting with us in the Seven Circles Café. By this time I had got to know him well enough to appreciate his gentle humour. >



*Mas Haryono with Ismana in the background.*



*Mas Haryono with Hameed da Silva.*



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At that time there was a rash of testing – almost an epidemic – as people began to use ‘testing’ for all sorts of forecasting, and Haryono would turn to me and say: ‘Shall we test this, Tonny?’ Yeah, he called me Tonny not Tony, but I found it difficult to pronounce Haryono without the diphthong.

*What was it like to have Bapak as a father?*

He was immensely proud of Ismana. What did I think? Was she not really pretty? He also called me Petruk after a character in the Wayang plays.

Shortly after my daughter Alex had elected by herself to get opened I held a pot-luck party in our garden. This was quite an extraordinary event, as I invited old friends from far and wide.

It was great to have Marie King come up from the Isle of Wight, Melissa Marsden from Godalming, Kieron O’Byrne from Liverpool, Andrew Collingwood from Scotland, Simon Penseney, Vivien Elliott and others from all over England and Scotland. When I invited Bob Prestie from California he came like a shot; Peter Norman Kermode bewailed his lack of funds but still came also from California, and as for Luqman (Patrick) Wynne in Brisbane it was out of the question.

Imagine my surprise as I welcomed my guests, about to turn away a person I no longer recognised, to find that Luqman had travelled via Japan and then across the Siberian and Russian steppes to attend a pot-luck party where the guests were even supplying their own food and drink – well at least some of it. So what did Haryono write to me? Laughter and tears! There must have been laughter and tears. Now I saw what Icksan had meant when he said that Haryono reflected back one’s joys and sorrows.

### Visiting Haryono In Indonesia

The truth is that I did not see Haryono again for some many years, but I have been looking through the emails I had from him. One time after my daughter Alex was opened he and Ismana came to stay with us in our house in Farnborough and I ferried both of them about. In ’95 when I had just retired from work and took half my pension as a lump sum I had the wherewithal to accept his invitation to stay with him and Ismana at their home in Jalan Berlian.

I had to spring it on my wife, Eileen, that we were going to Indonesia in time to coincide with a Subud Congress in 1995. We were in the Isle of Man at that time visiting her family, and once she had got over her astonishment at a sort of fait accompli, I instantly went and bought a 7 Iron and took my first golf lesson that next morning. While I was a tennis nut and a coach in the USPTR, I was absolutely new to golf and had to learn enough in a few weeks to be able to play with Haryono who was famed for his love of this game.

So it was that Eileen and I arrived in Jakarta on a steaming hot wet night, and fortunately for us Haryono was there to meet us at the Airport and drive us out to his home. The very next day Haryono drove Eileen and me to the golf course, since there was only one day before the Congress proper was to begin. Owing to the heat I had put on a pair of shorts – in ‘95 shorts were short as one can see in any tennis film of that period – and Haryono took one look at my skinny white legs and said shortly: ‘Not shorts’. In the event we drove to the golf course and to my surprise walked straight to the first tee, without visiting the Pro-Shop as is normal in England, and also without any golf clubs. Suddenly two caddies appeared carrying two sets of clubs and I made to tee off with a 3 wood. ‘Driver’, said my caddy to me sternly, and he continued to advise me on the correct club on every hole. I held my own for three holes before Haryono’s superior expertise came into play.

We were soon transferred into Wisma Subud proper to the house of Maryam Kibble, who together with Margaret Wickman, while still in England had travelled to Leyton, E10, in order to open my 90-year-old Aunt Belle, my father’s elder sister.

However while still with Haryono and Ismana, Pak Muninjaya came to stay from Bali, and invited us to stay at his house, which we did quite soon after. Muninjaya was the son of a Raja, since Bali was divided into 8 kingdoms, and so I quickly got into calling

*Outwardly, he was a quiet, self-effacing man...*

him Raja. The only time that Haryono ever reproved me was when he quietly said, 'He not like that' and I realised that my teasing was out of order – I had gone too far. Nevertheless Muninjaya and his family proved outstanding hosts on our subsequent visit to Bali.

One time in an email Haryono said I was his best friend. I replied quickly to correct his obvious error of language. You mean, I wrote, one of your best friends. No, he replied, I mean that. What could I say? Just a few days ago I was on the phone to one of my oldest friends, Rachman Mitchell, Doctor Abdurrahman Mitchell. When I told him this, he said to me, 'You see, Tony, you never criticised him outwardly or inwardly.' Why, I replied, did others do that?

*'I have Ismana.'*

When I was at that Congress in Cilandak in '95, Rachman and I often sat with Haryono having lunch. I was appalled that Haryono was apparently invisible to everyone else as they rushed about from meeting to meeting. He was so utterly self-effacing that he was almost ignored, or so it seemed to me. I volunteered that I would have to stick up for him, to which he replied, 'I have Ismana'.

'I have Ismana.' Such a simple statement, that sums him up. A lot of people simply did not see Haryono because he was transparent. He was never confrontational, like me, never argumentative, like me. He was very gentle, very Javanese; he did not have to win an argument. Nor could I cajole him to enter into the fray. Very often, as indeed happened with Bapak himself, there were things of which the Indonesian family did not approve, but they would say nothing.

You see now my difficulty in writing about Haryono. Outwardly he was a normal, quiet, self-effacing man. Biasa, Biasa, (be normal) as Bapak used to say. When we took him and Ismana out to a restaurant he wanted Eileen to join in the karaoke. Later when we were watching a Wayang play Haryono pointed out to me the comic character Petruk.

Eileen and I questioned him about his early life with Bapak, what it was like to have Bapak as a father. Much later I heard that Haryono was busy writing a book. In due course he sent me a copy – it was all in Bahasa Indonesian, and despite my best attempts it was impossible for me to translate.

So I had recourse to our old friend Wilbert Verheyen, whom later I visited several times when he knew he was dying. I only hope that I can be as cheerful and encouraging, as was Wilbert in those circumstances, as again and again he said to me, You are Subud – meaning of course that all of us are representative.

When later I went to the cemetery for Wilbert's funeral on a bright sunny day, as he was put into the grave suddenly the heavens opened, the rain came down in sheets, more like an Indonesian banjir, before clearing once again as quickly as it had come. Sharif Horthy opened his car widow to say Hullo and that was all.

It is curious that Sharif also phoned me to tell me that Haryono had died only a few minutes previously, and again later the heavens opened in my garden as a large apple tree laden with fruit was uprooted and fell on its side. I had already known that Haryono was ill, as indeed was Pak Asikin with whom I had spoken several times and to his wife Latifah.

So last night I dug out from my chaotic filing system the folder containing Haryono's book. If ever anyone doubted his absolute devotion to Bapak and to Subud in general they should read this book. There is a wonderful picture of his early life with Bapak, and also how the children of Bapak started the Latihan Kejiwaan. There was no formal opening, no need.

There is the story of the very first Subud Congress in Jogjakarta, before Subud was officially and legally



*. Haryono keeps his eye on the ball attempting to chip over our apple trees.*

to sit right and talk as Swedes, this has meant a very considerable effort and sacrifice on the part of them. The reason already is very good and the effect is good at least-time with university, work and hospital students and staff, who particularly favour the subtle and sophisticated. The atmosphere is such that many of the students probably regard this as their own club society.

In November 1957 when Bapak first came to Manchester, he was accompanied by Ismana and John Moore, both of whom immediately saw a special place in the hearts of all who met them. It was signified when Ismana came into the room, we were related to her of her marriage to Ismana. Bapak's son, especially when we understood that both were coming to England.

Ismana was the first to arrive at George Spinks. He immediately inspired feelings of confidence in all who met him, as well as delight in such his special brand of humour. Ismana arrived a lot after—say 10.30—so a typical Indonesian supper ensued.

Most of our delight they accepted an invitation to stay a weekend with the Mellows in Manchester. They arrived on the Thursday night and on the Friday three more from the Ismana as George. A number of Manchester went, too. After the morning Mass breakfast had a tremendous spread, and someone the happy conjunction of this occasion and the presence of Bapak and Ismana as once produced those feelings of quiet and brotherliness which make the best of parties.

On the Saturday Bapak and Ismana came to the lecture of the Manchester group. Apparently they had a meal in the new cafeteria, seven very different occasions of the very much in many spots. On the Sunday, at mid-day, they left for London after a visit that was all too short.

So much for the early years that have taken place in Manchester during the last eight years. It has not everything in fact, because there comes a time when we are looking for the whole picture in talking or writing of Subud in that are



Above: Haryono and Ismana have supper in Haryono's private hotel, Manchester.

Above: A group of the staff.



*From Subud Chronicle July 1960.*

*Here is a photo going back to 1959-60 when Haryono first visited England with Ismana. I can't find the original but have tracked down the Subud Chronicle containing these photos.*

Subud, before anyone had any idea how to run a Congress. There were a host of conflicting opinions voiced, before Bapak spoke and everything and everybody was reconciled. Here it was for the first time that Bapak made clear the separation of the kejiwaan from organisational matters. During that battlefield atmosphere, are the words that Haryono used – and that was in 1954 before Bapak travelled to England in 1957.

### Haryono Comes To England

You may imagine Haryono's feelings, when having a job in management in a factory for the Smelting and Purifying of Silver and Gold to be asked by Bapak to give up his job and to live in England for some 2 years, at a time when he had not been much involved in Subud activities.

“At the time I was asking if I could get a job given by Bapak, who answered ‘Why Not? You, together with Ismana are going to do your job. The job of you both is to help when asked for it. It is important for you to behave as you usually do here, as naturally (wajar) as possible. For the rest you are only waiting for the guidance of the One and Only God via your deeper feelings.’”

So in May 1972 Haryono came to England with Ismana, 5 children and the younger sister of Ismana. His job was to visit Group Latihans not only in England, but also in Europe. In all he visited some 42 groups both in England, Austria, Switzerland, France, Denmark, Norway, Holland, Portugal and Spain. In March 1973 he was called back to Jakarta as Bapak had fallen ill.

Only once did I see Haryono stand his ground and that was when a certain person in Holland was trying to form a breakaway group and had had dreams of Bapak with a golden sword. So Haryono said he did not know about his dreams, but what he was doing was wrong. How come that Haryono was so blunt? Only because this Dutchman had asked him first, and came with loads of recording equipment in order to justify his stance.

In 2007 Haryono opened the Congress at a school near Ascot to celebrate 50 years of Subud in the West. The school was a warren and not very suitable for people to meet one another. The weather was miserable and cold. I played a very small bit part on the sidelines trying to gather in the oldies and some who had apparently left Subud.



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Towards the end of the Congress I managed to entice Haryono and Ismana, Mardiyah Tarantino and several others including Raymond van Sommers and Pak Asikin to tea in our garden some half an hour away. The weather changed abruptly from cold to blazing hot, so that everyone sought to sit in the shade or under our magnolia tree. It was sometimes said that Bapak carried the Sun in a bag. It seemed that Haryono did so that day. Even the younger Penseny arrived, bounding about, making himself at home as was his wont! Ha! Ha!

On his return to Jakarta, in reply to a long email from me, Haryono replied: -

Dear Tony,

We were back savely and tiredly in Jakarta on Friday.

Today, Monday, I read copy of your email to Bustami. Sorry I misquote the name as Benjamin. I really getting old now. That was my impression with the 50 years commemoration.

I misquote names and no longer amaze to the pretty girls.

Thank you for your hospitality and company. Ismana joins me sending our love to you and Eileen.

Regards, Haryono

I did not correct the spelling, as it adds to the character and humour of the text.

Anyone who has the good fortune to read Haryono's book cannot fail but be impressed by his complete devotion to Bapak. When he brought out his Back to Basics he also had an inner struggle. 'A product of thinking is not always bad, the badness is the influence of its passions'.

### Again

Several times in its course of life, Subud had experienced attacks and threats. And every time I was apprehensive about it and asked Bapak, and Bapak answered: "Subud came by the power of God, so Subud can only disappear by the Power of God. We are surrendering everything to God Almighty".

We are surrendering everything to God Almighty – there is Subud in a nutshell.

When I wrote to Ismana on hearing of Haryono's death, Ismana replied immediately to say that Haryono from the Hospital sent his forgiveness to all in Subud. I also must ask the forgiveness of Ismana and Ibu Rahayu and all members of the family if I have said anything insensitive or amiss, and of course to all my Brothers and Sisters in Subud who might read this.

*Text and photos by Anthony Bright-Paul.*

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## THE PASSING OF MAS ASIKIN

From Viktor Boehm...

I have just learned that Asikin died this morning.

He was 80 years of age and was Bapak's helper in England in the 50s. He was, in the 60s, in Wolfsburg and Planegg and at my opening in May 1962 at the Forest Path 22 here. Asikin lived with Latifah in Wisma Subud.

God bless him.

*Viktor sent photographs of Asikin which have been used to illustrate this article.*

*Matthew Mayberry remembers Asikin in Kalimantan...*

Dear Latifah and Family,

We were saddened to hear of Mas Asikin's passing today, but we know he is with Bapak and God in a world far better than here. He was a good man and I always remember his many kindnesses and patience



*(From left to right) Mas Asikin, Syafrudin, Bapak, John Bennett and Icksan at Coombe Springs.  
(Photo Viktor Boehm)*



*In Kalimantan. Asikin (centre) with Matthew Mayberry (on the right in blue T-shirt) and Mansur Geiger (at the back on the left) (Photo Viktor Boehm)*



*Mas Asikin in 2014 in his house in Wisma Subud with Viktor Boehm.*

with me. I further remember the time he was able to get papers processed in a day that normally required 3 or 4 days, to get us on a plane to Singapore for the American Hospital when I had Leptospirosis Fever. He probably saved my life for which I am very thankful.

The three of us, Mas Asikin, Mansur and I were a major part of the beginnings of the Kalimantan mineral exploration. I have so many good memories of our work there, including Data Hotap, which was unexplored and unknown except for a few Dayaks. This was the greatest adventure of my life and I could not think of more perfect companions to share it with.

The work in Kalimantan created a special bond between the three of us and the Dayaks, without whom we could have done nothing. The initial expeditions created a certain 'Oneness', a kind of unity, with the pristine tropical rainforest ecology and environment.

This work was the highlight of my life and it gives me happiness and joy for the three of us to have shared everything. While it was an honor to have shared it all with Bapak Haryono, Pak Kuswanda, Pak Siregar, Murray, Wayne, Isaac and many others, the three of us actually lived the Kalimantan experience, which deepened everything. We owe all of this to the grace of God as received by Bapak.

I always remember too, your kindness in typing my reports and other communication, so you were also a part of the team. In addition the children that you and Mas Asikin parented were the most beautiful that I had ever seen. I don't know if you remember me telling you that when we still lived at Wisma Subud, but it is true.

Through the grace of God, we know that the spirit of Bapak is with you and you are all a help to each other. You all are certainly in our prayers. May Almighty God always bless and keep us in this world and in the world of the spirit and may the spirit of Mas Asikin be forever blessed in God's Heaven.

With much love, Melanie sends her love and prayers as well...

#### *Anthony Bright-Paul recalls Asikin as Haji Asikin Alwi...*

Some time late in 2010 I had a strange dream, so strange and vivid that I phoned Latifah, and subsequently emailed Haryono and Ismana with a copy to Latifah, enquiring about the health of Pak Asikin.

Dear Haryono and Ismana (Copied to Latifah 21.11.2010)

A few days ago I rang to speak with Asikin, and Latifah answered and told me that he had already departed for Mecca. Now the reason that I rang is because I had this dream about him and I thought that he might be dead!

In my dream he was sitting right in the cockpit of an aeroplane absolutely ice-still, while all around there was a noisy crowd. In fact Asikin was so still that it was that that prompted me to email both him and yourself to enquire after his health.

Much Love to all, Tony BP. >

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A few days later on his return from Mecca, Asikin sent me the following email...

Dear Tony, Yesterday, I arrived back in Jakarta after a very interesting stay in Mecca and Medina. I am now officially called Haji Asikin Alwi, but I am still the old Asikin.

Thank you for your concern and your phone call earlier this week. I am still a bit tired and have a bad cold, but I don't feel ice-still, like in your dream. I am very much alive.

Latifah and I wish Eileen a full recovery from her illness. With much love, Asikin

I am still the old Asikin, he assured me. I am very much alive. Oh yes, Asikin, say that again.

My good friend Hussein Rawlings of New Zealand is a dab hand at interpreting dreams, but in this case I will venture my own possible interpretation. When I saw Asikin in a cockpit it meant that he was flying far above the tumult. When he seemed frozen, ice-cold, I take it that he was unwavering and absolutely steadfast in his devotion to Subud and to Bapak personally.

In the years '57 to '60 I got to know him pretty well, as he and Sjafruddin often came north to stay in the house of Eric and Maria Bradford at Garstang, where I was also a frequent visitor. Sjafr and Asikin engaged in many a game of croquet there, which Sjafr mostly won. Asikin was very much the younger partner and Sjafr used to tease him gently. Somehow Asikin was so sensitive that he always seemed to me to be ill equipped for the rough and tumble of this world.

As I left for California shortly after this time I did not see Asikin again for 35 years, until 1995, at the Congress in Wisma Mulia, Cilandak.

'Where have you been all this time?' he greeted me. Where indeed? ●

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## GET IN THE SWIM

SWIM – Subud Writers International Magazine... Issue 1 is now available.

Here's the link: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/284249220/SWIM-Fall-2015>

Contents include:

Excellent poetry by Charles Whitt, Rasunah Katz, Colin Oliver, Mardijah Simpson, Hadrian Pollard and me...

Rich non-fiction by Latifah Taormina and Melinda Pleshe...

Spell-binding fiction by Emily Congyham, Leo Horthy and Stefan Freedman...

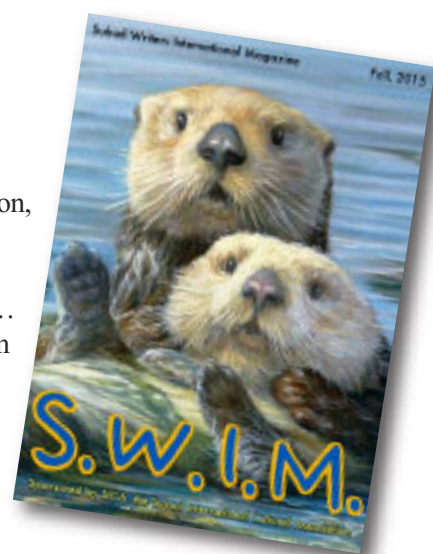
AND Wonderful visuals by Anthony LoSchiavo, Jonathan Bray, Sanderson Topham and Adrienne Thomas

Issue 2 is already taking shape... it will feature Daphne Alexopoulou, Rasunah Marsden, Salamah Pope, Emmanuel Elliot, Damon Hyldreth and many more...

SWIM is created by Emmanuel Williams and Benjamin Boyce

Emmanuel says, "Send me some of your stuff if you feel moved to."

[emmanuelriddlemaker@gmail.com](mailto:emmanuelriddlemaker@gmail.com) ●



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## MUHAMMAD SUBUH FOUNDATION

To: National Chairpersons: Cc: Zonal Reps

Fr: Elias Dumit, Chairperson of WSA

**Re: Call for nominations for MSF Trustee (to fill a vacated term) Date: 10/10/2015**

MSF is seeking nominees for the position of trustee(s) to its board to fill a vacancy. Nominations may be submitted through a National Chairperson, a Zonal Representative, an MSF trustee or by a member of the Subud World Council. No salary or compensation is paid to trustees, with the exception of airfares and accommodation to its annual meeting.

MSF is searching for a member that has been active in our Subud Association and has worked harmoniously on other boards. MSF has an 'active' board, which means that a trustee is expected to work on standing committees and perform other tasks that match one's background and experience. The terms of office are staggered and this position would complete the term of the existing trustee.

Along with the member you are nominating please ask him/her for a letter of interest describing the skills and experience that the nominee can bring to MSF as a trustee, the nominee must provide a copy of his/her Curriculum Vitae or Resume describing their professional experience as well as positions held in Subud (preferred qualifications are attached.)

It is expected that a nominee would pretest with a helper "Is it correct for \_\_\_\_\_ to put my name forward as a trustee for the Muhammad Subuh Foundation at this time?"

Final selection will be based on the information received, personal interviews, MSF and WSA Board recommendations, and guidance from the International Helpers with the candidates. The Chairperson of the WSA appoints the trustee.

The deadline for nominations is 11/15/2015. Please email your nomination, with accompanying material to: Lucian Parshall, Executive Director [lucian.parshall@mac.com](mailto:lucian.parshall@mac.com) ●

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## HELP FOR THE REFUGEES – SOME NEWS FROM GERMANY

*Roswitha Jahn writes...*

As you know every day the media is full of reports about the dramatic situation of the refugees. At our Subud Congress in Nordhelle we had an SD workshop where several Subud members talked about their steps to help.

There are various different activities going on in my hometown of Wolfenbüttel, in which the Protestant and Catholic churches, the Red Cross, and the Diakonie are all working together.

I am engaged now in the project “Learning German”. On the first day there were 10 women and 8 men, aged between 20 and 40. The refugees came from Syria, Albania, Africa, Montenegro and Iraq. For all of them it is their first attempt to learn the German language.

At the meeting everyone got a student book “German for foreigners” incl. CD and writing material. Some of them can speak a little English or French and that is very helpful. But the young woman from Syria sitting beside me has no knowledge of either and can write only in Arabic.

A teacher is leading these lessons and 3 volunteers – like me – are helping those who can either speak French or English and need some extra help. We started with very easy phrases like : I bin (I am ), ich komme aus ( I come from ) Ich bin eine Mutter (I am a mother) and so on ..

The teacher writes the words on a blackboard and the ‘students’ copy them. Then we all repeat the words/sentences and listen to the CD. At the beginning some were very shy of course, but after we got to know them a bit there was much laughter and all of them are very eager and keen to learn, full of enthusiasm and actually we all had lots of fun. Those who learn quite quickly can go to classes in the adult college in Wolfenbüttel without paying.

So far we have about 300 refugees in Wolfenbüttel, who now live in flats and about 300 more will come. Some shelters to accommodate them have been built on a football field.

There are also many activities, such as collecting blankets, toys, books for children etc – whatever is needed. And there is great willingness among the residents.



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## IS GOD FORCING THE ISSUE?

*Emmanuel Elliott forwards this message sent to him by a friend in Austria about the current refugee crisis...*

The refugees arrive in an endless flood. Sometimes 2,000 crossing borders daily. Hundreds of Austrian families are taking people in. It is a massive challenge to Europe. The damning truth is that without volunteer help nothing would be possible or get done. The Red Cross, Caritas and many other aid groups work beyond the call of duty. It is possible that one day the governments involved will become aware of just how much they rely on volunteers.

Most of the refugees are determined to reach Germany. The borders are kept open but there is the fear that an already stretched capacity has been exceeded. But still they head for Germany, although many are still in camps here in Austria.

Parents and kids are sleeping on the ground. The weather is turning. We now have autumn and winter is only just around the corner. The first frost has been seen and above all felt. The influx is from Syria, Afghanistan and Asia in general, and Africa. We hear that they are now coming in via Russia, incredibly on bicycles. Lord knows how it will all turn out.

The lack of language is a huge issue. But they must learn if they wish for permanent residence. Christian Europe is now immensely challenged. But love is somehow inadequate.

Help, pure and simple, is required. There is the raw reality of people being massacred. One feels like smearing the word in blood across every media outlet so that the message really hits home. The awful fact is that everyone really knows...!

A three-year-old child was found wandering alone but not simply abandoned. The masses of refugees, sometimes an unbelievable 10,000 over a weekend, means confusion, chaos, and loss of contact. A twelve-year old Afghani boy got separated from his parents and was taken care of by another Afghani. Endless telephone calls finally traced the parents, after a full month. One man got lost in Iran and was sent back and he had to start again. The stories are endless.

It would be so easy to find someone or something to blame. The evidence looms large. But the volunteers have no time for the luxury of pointing a finger. The matter is all about raw reality. Politics and philosophy fall away. There is simply no time to discuss and ponder. Expertise has become redundant.

We are being moved from our comfortable existence. If assimilation and integration works it will be a tremendous step forward for humanity. Could it be that God is forcing the issue in no uncertain terms to start living together, irre-

spective of all of our differences? This writer believes that God is behind everything that would be positive. There is no way out, we must meet the challenge. It is possible that the West will stand or fall on this issue. Perhaps spirituality begins right here. There is only one way left. Let's hope we go that way. ●

## FROM SUSILA DHARMA INTERNATIONAL

### Leader of Anisha Foundation wins international award

SDIA is proud to announce that one of our project leaders, Valli Krishnaswamy (Anisha Foundation) has just been awarded an international prize that we nominated her for!

Valli, leader of the Anisha Foundation in India, is one of ten laureates of this year's Women's World Summit Foundation Prize for Women's Creativity in Rural Life! Valli has won this prize for her work with marginalized farmers in Karnataka, where she has supported them to convert to organic farming, improve degraded soils, create women's self-help groups, establish organic kitchen gardens and set up seed banks. Well done, Valli and your team on this well-deserved award. And thanks to everyone who contributed – what a great team effort!



*Valli Krishnaswamy wins award.*

#### SDIA Network meets in Great Malvern

In August, SDIA held its annual general meeting (AGM) and networking conference in Great Malvern, England, alongside the Subud Britain Congress and Family Holiday.

The meeting was preceded by the Subud Educator's Conference, sponsored by the Blond Trust, which brought together teachers, project leaders and other Subud members interested in education for an intensive two-day workshop. The goal was to investigate how projects could be supported to truly reflect a human quality in their work and to internalise the importance of high educational standards.

With input from Susila Dharma project leaders and guided by interventions from different experts, the conference produced a recommendation to draft a framework for quality based on four pillars:

- Physical wellbeing and connected social factors
- Emotional and inner wellbeing (and how we infuse the spiritual dimensions of Susila Dharma in our projects)
- Content (teaching, instruction, care giving)
- Governance (decision-making, structure, resources)

During the AGM the importance of carrying this initiative forward was recognised and a small working group has been set up to create a first draft of the framework.

Another important outcome of the AGM was the appointment to the board of two new Directors, Olvia Reksodipoetro from Indonesia, and Viktor Boehm from Germany. Welcome on board Olvia and Viktor!

We also said goodbye to two outgoing board members: Rosali Meebaipul (Thailand/Indonesia), and Kumari Beck (Canada) who is stepping down as past Chair, having supported our new Chairman Kohar Parra in his transition period over the last year. Thank you Rosali and Kumari for your commitment and hard work! ●

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