



The arrow that pierced my heart

Across the centuries in different cultures and religions three people share a similar spiritual experience...

In her autobiography, the 16th century Spanish Catholic saint, Teresa of Avila, writes...

Beside me on the left appeared an angel in bodily form . . . He was not tall but short, and very beautiful; and his face was so aflame that he appeared to be one of the highest ranks of angels, who seem to be all on fire . . . In his hands I saw a great golden spear, and at the iron tip there appeared to be a point of fire.

This he plunged into my heart several times so that it penetrated my entrails. When he pulled it out I felt that he took them with it, and left me utterly consumed by the great love of God. The pain was so severe that it made me utter several moans.

The sweetness caused by this intense pain is so extreme that one can not possibly wish it to cease, nor is one's soul content with anything but God. This is not a physical but a spiritual pain, though the body has some share in it — even a considerable share. [from Teresa of Avila, *Autobiography, Chapter 29*]

More than four centuries later, Bapak Muhammad Subuh, the founder of Subud, a Muslim from Java, had a similar experience...

Another time, when Bapak was receiving and practising the latihan as usual, he suddenly felt as though he were not in the room, and in front of himself Bapak saw someone coming towards him. This man was wearing garments like those of olden days; that is, he wore a robe and turban and carried a spear. Bapak felt calm at that time and surrendered to the Power of Almighty God, and so he did not pay heed to what was going to be done to him by this man.

The man ordered Bapak to open the pyjama jacket which Bapak wore, and when Bapak had done this, the man immediately thrust his spear into Bapak's chest. Bapak felt stab, which hurt very much, but he was not able to avoid it or even scream. Then the spear was pulled out and Bapak saw a clot of blood as large as a matchbox at the spear point. The man threw the cloth of blood far away and took something out of the pocket of his robe.

Bapak saw that in his hand he held something *continued* >



ST TERESA. Sculpture by Bernini of St Teresa of Avila pierced with an arrow by an angel. This amazing sculpture is in Santa Maria della Vittoria, in Rome, Italy. Bernini was inspired by St Teresa's writings to create this massive work (11 1/2 feet high) in stone.

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bright and sparkling, as large as a duck's egg. He quickly put this into the hole in Bapak's chest, and after closing it up, he immediately vanished from Bapak's sight. Strangely, as soon as he had gone Bapak's chest felt clear and wide and his inner feeling felt very sensitive, clean and calm; and Bapak's faith in the presence of the Power of Almighty God grew stronger. ("Bapak and the Coming of the Latihan", Subud Publications International, 1975)

And Rozak Tatebe, a Japanese Subud member, writes in his memoirs of spiritual experience...

There are events in people's lives that even though rare, can radically transform a person's destiny in an instant. The event I am about to relate to you now was one of those. It was indeed a once-in-a-lifetime experience in that it literally changed my life's direction from that moment on.

That morning was a normal summer's day for me. I had gone to the office as usual and started my work. At ten o'clock, I finished the first lot of work and paused to smoke a cigarette.

It was just when I was about to start on my next task that, completely without warning, the right side of my chest was pierced by an arrow from the spiritual world that came straight towards me. It penetrated my heart, exited from the left side of my chest, and then disappeared into empty space.

It was over in an instant. I felt a sharp pain in my heart and at the same time, the wound poured not blood, but a liquid that was filled with a sweetness that permeated my entire body. My consciousness was filled with a sudden, instinctive understanding. This too lasted only an instant but in this case it revealed to me the eternal purpose of my soul.

I am not in the habit of keeping a diary. But because the revelation that had filled my consciousness was so unexpected, I wrote it down in English in a memo. (The reason I wrote it in English is because the content seemed so far removed from reality that I did not want anyone who came across it to understand it.) It was in the form of a prose poem that expressed the shock and emotion that I had experienced. It went something like this:

Finally I understand! From the very beginning, my soul has been continually searching for its supreme goal.

This supreme goal will remain unchanged whether it is in this world or the next. For as long as God allows my existence to continue, this goal will remain unchanged until the end of time.

Now, it is revealed to me: I am to become the lowly - lowliest - servant of God.

Until then, the thought of aspiring to be God's servant had never entered my head. To my mind, the concept was strongly related to Christianity and the thoughts of a priest or minister – not something that had a connection to me personally.

Not only that, but the method of this revelation had been so extraordinary: the thought of an invisible arrow reminded me of the Greek legend of Cupid whose arrows cause their targets to fall in love. That is a legend of course; but I came to realize that there was such a spiritual reality, that it did exist and that it was no mere fancy. It was clear from the pain I had felt in my heart and the liquid sweetness that had filled my body, that this was not a delusion.

Later, I found out that St. Theresa of Avila in the 16th century had described being pierced in the heart by an invisible arrow and of entering a state of ecstasy; but I was not aware of this at that time. It is not my intention to compare my experience with hers' but only to show that such an experience has a reality to it.

I was overwhelmed for a while. But then the pain in my chest began to ease leaving only a feeling of bliss. This lasted all day and on the following morning it still reverberated faintly within me.

The understanding I had been given from this experience had an immeasurable effect on me. I was shown with absolute clarity, the reason for my existence. To become the servant of God had been until then, an unfamiliar concept but now it became the whole purpose of my life.

From then on, my chief preoccupation was how I could become God's servant. This was because while I had been shown my soul's purpose, I had not been shown how to go about realising it. All I knew then was that it was no good just calling myself, 'the servant of God.'

Also, while it is possible that without being aware of it someone is used by God as an instrument for His purpose, to be a servant of God should be different from such cases. First, God Himself had to acknowledge me as such and then if He did so, I had to be in such a state that I could correctly receive His will and instruction. *continued >*

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It lasted only an instant, but revealed to me the eternal purpose of my soul

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Looking back now, I can see that I had absolutely no idea at the time just how nigh impossible a task this was. To become a servant of God is the highest goal a human being can pursue. While of course, I did not think that its achievement was an easy task, I was secretly hoping for the next sign from God. But instead I had to wait a long, long time. Thirty years later, I finally had an experience related to this goal, which I will elaborate on later.

Pertinent to the experience was the fact that the memo I had written had not simply stated that my goal was to become a servant of God, but that I had to become the lowliest servant of God – and this word ‘lowly’ was repeated in order to stress that to become the lowliest servant of God would be my supreme goal.

I understood just how small I was before God and simultaneously, was painfully aware that no matter how much time passed, I would remain this microscopic existence for all eternity.

This was a valuable realisation as it helped me to suppress any arrogance in my life. I also discovered that the feeling of utter humility – as though one is nothing - is always present when one is given a glimpse of God’s existence.

This feeling is like a litmus test that lets you know if you have actually had an experience of God, or not. If you do not feel that emotion, I think it can be said that you have not had a true experience of Him.

Several months later, I discovered that on the day I had that experience, the 9th July 1963, the second World Congress of Subud had opened in Briarcliff, a suburb of New York.

I had not been able to attend and so had forgotten all about it. But it was interesting to me that on the evening of the 8th July, Bapak had given his first talk. I had received this experience some time in the middle of his talk – despite the fact that he was thousands of miles away.

Of course, this could be dismissed as coincidence, but the experience had come to me like a bolt from the blue and the fact that it happened at the same time as the World Congress suggested there was some significance in this.

Rozak’s complete story, *Subud - A Spiritual Journey*, is available from www.amazon.com

Kalimantan Gold’s Activities in 2012

Edited extracts from KGC’s newsletter...

We (KGC) had an excellent year and we are confident 2013 will be even better.

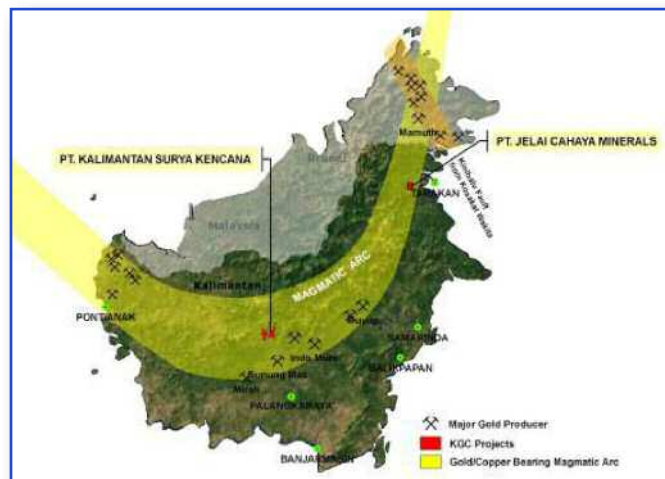
While we were waiting for our Forestry Permit, the beginning of 2012 was spent building our supply base and core sheds near Palangka.

We also had to negotiate the use of land for the base camp owned by indigenous landholders. The camp area is completely uninhabited and very remote. From Marinyoi to the Beruang Drill camps is a distance of 30 km, and only accessible by helicopter. Rather than cutting down trees in this area we purchased legal timber from government certified timber suppliers and trucked it to site.

We also started recruiting labourers from the surrounding villages. Before starting they are provided with a medical check-up. About 25% are found to be unfit largely due to Hepatitis or TBC. About 60% have never worked for a company before ~ some encounter difficulties because of having spent their lives moving freely through the forests barefoot. We started training some of them for skilled roles such as Helicopter Load Supervisors and Fire Crews.

We also established our Emergency Medical facilities. All our staff are covered by Medical and Life insurance. We also carried out customary Dayak religious ceremonies for our safety and success.

After lengthy prayers and anointings we asked the priest and priestess what they prayed for? *continued >*



Kalimantan Gold Corporation Limited is a junior exploration company listed on both the TSX Venture Exchange in Canada and on AIM in London.

The Company has two exploration projects in Kalimantan: the Jelai epithermal gold project in East Kalimantan and the KSK Contract of Work in Central Kalimantan with potential for multiple porphyry copper and gold prospects. For further information please visit www.kalimantan.com

“Higher wages!” they replied grinning.

July brought the Islamic month of fasting ~ Ramadan ~ but it didn't slow us down. By now our Palangka Raya offices had become too small for the new scale of operations so we found new offices and began to prepare them.

The Bupati (Regent) of Gunung Mas visited our site by helicopter in August to inspect our field operations. He was extremely pleased that we were employing and providing opportunities for 300 local villagers. He was also pleased with the very high quality of camp facilities and food.

August also brought huge forest fires, it is the time of year that Dayaks burn land to clear the forest for planting. We lost several days flying because of the dense smoke and reduced visibility.

In addition, during August we had a workshop with 14 NGO's to explain in detail what we were doing and to see how we could work together with them in Central Kalimantan. The move into our new offices was marked with a small celebration and we invited a local orphanage to come and eat there.

Around this time an SOS medic went missing for 24 hours after walking away from a drill camp and deliberately leaving a walkway. The medic was eventually found in a river gully. He had become disorientated and lost direction. After walking for a long time he followed his training and found a river, where he could drink and stay in one place till he was rescued.

We had a 3-day workshop to train our eight Community Relations staff. Our field employees peaked at 267 on site.

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Program

Yayasan Tambuhak Sinta (YTS) is working in 21 Dayak villages, located along the Kahayan River, just outside of the KSK (Kalimantan Surya Kencana) concession area. YTS's program is helping communities take greater responsibility for their own development through participatory planning, institution strengthening and economic development. This initiative helps communities to engage better with local government services and programs.

YTS provides training and technical assistance to the villagers, in order to improve their knowledge about growing crops, raising animals, and managing local resources. In 2012, this support concentrated on vegetables, fish, pigs and rubber.

In collaboration with the local credit union, YTS also provided training in savings, credit, and small business development. By joining the credit union, people can establish savings accounts and access credit for their household or business.

YTS has a two-year program to enable district staff to improve their annual planning and budgeting. This will result in better support programs and services to communities.

YTS Community Development Program

The YTS Community Development Program accounted for 4% of expenditure and includes:

- Village Development Planning
- Village Development Fund & Technical Support for Economic Livelihoods
- Village Institutional Development
- Kalimantan Kids Club -- a scholarship program
- Information & Communication Media and Events

The YTS CSR budget for KSK CoW has been increased to a total of \$521,000 for 2013.

Recycling: the Mercury Capture Program

The benefits of distributing recycling equipment to small scale gold mining communities are immediate and wide-reaching: providing economic, health, and environmental benefits for the mercury users as well as the surrounding communities. Each piece of equipment we provide can improve the well-being of hundreds of people.

YTS is also demonstrating mercury-free processing techniques to miners, and spreading awareness about the dangers of mercury pollution through a widespread health-awareness campaign.

Our equipment is now recycling more than one thousand kilograms of mercury each month. ●

ENVIRONMENTAL FILM ABOUT KALIMANTAN

See an excellent movie narrated by Mansur Geiger (with Indonesian subtitles) about how we address environmental issues affecting our mining activities in Kalimantan.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=QHR1vVV1dds&feature=youtu.be

About Bjorn Vaughn

Extracts from the Kalimantan Newsletter, June 2013...

Recently we interviewed Bjorn Vaughn, film producer at PT.Borneo Productions International. (BPI) who make all of the Kalimantan Surya Kencana (KSK)'s movies. Their website is www.bpi-pt.com and www.Youtube.com/user/bpichannel. We asked him:

How did you first come to be involved with KSK?

We started making films for Kalimantan Surya Kencana (KSK) in early 2012. It was around the time of the new joint venture and there was a growing need for films that showed the work that KSK is doing in Kalimantan and for safety training.

When was Borneo Productions International (known as BPI) established and why are you based in Central Kalimantan?

BPI was founded in 2010 by Istiatun da Silva, Indonesian wife of Portuguese entrepreneur and philanthropist, Hamid Luciano da Silva. Together with my partners, Immanuel Bryson-Haynes and Pierce Vaughn, who were there from the start, we shared this vision of creating a film industry in Kalimantan. We love the environment and the culture of Kalimantan and we want to make films that reflect this love. How many people can say they have a colony of orangutans for neighbors? We are also a strategic partner for companies looking to shoot here. We provide film services for large corporations, NGOs, government... we have a budding relationship with the BBC.

Paint a picture of your company in 5 years.

All of us at BPI dream big. So far, the company has proved to be a great vehicle for exploring the film medium, be it corporate, documentary, fiction, TVCs, TV shows. Over three years we have seen our portfolio grow to include clients such as the Indonesian Conservation Department (BKSDA), Care International, Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation (BOSF), United Nations, the BBC and, of course, KSK – to name a few. We are expanding our capacities as film service providers and as creators of original film content. We are creating “Kaliwood”!

Where and how did you learn to do this... making movie magic?

As for Immanuel, his Dad trained him in business from a young age. This makes him the fear-inspiring entrepreneur that he is today. Immanuel develops projects, writes scripts and gravitates in front of the camera. Pierce studied film.

He has vast creative powers. He has directed the majority of our productions and finds himself almost always slugging it out in the editing suite well into the early hours. I have a long and exciting history with travel, writing and cameras. Our films are the result of our diverse backgrounds and our passion for the art.

What is your most amazing experience in Indonesia so far?

It was that time we were nearly stampeded by a Komodo Dragon... or, wait, it was when we went diving with the manta rays... or when we went flying across the rainforest canopy in a tiny water plane. Or trekking to the heart of Borneo with the Punan Dayak? Wading through the crocodile swamps headed for the magical white heron lake... that time we all got to hug a baby orangutan and snuggle with a sun bear? I don't know. Maybe walking my dog at the back of my house in the jungle, or listening to music with my feet on the desk. Getting married, having a baby. Holy mother we've done a lot in three years.

What has astonished you about the KSK project?

I see the KSK project as a world leading experiment. The question many of us are asking, I think, is “Can we evolve from the mostly profit driven business model to a more inclusive approach to business and development – one that takes to heart the interests of all stakeholders in a balanced way?” Nothing in this world is perfect. But my observation of the people in KSK is that they are genuine to the core.

What else are you and have you been working on recently?

Most recently we completed a documentary film and some public *continued* >



Bjorn Vaughn.

“
A long and
exciting history
with travel,
writing and
cameras
”

service announcements for United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Our second project with the BBC starts in late May. In June we are making a short film about bullying in Indonesia. We have a number of scripts in development. We have also been making big strides developing our company structure and training staff.

[What are you working on now for KSK?](#)

Amongst others we are currently making two films for KSK. The first one documents the lifecycle of a core sample from initial drilling through handling and transportation all the way to pulverization and lab analysis. The film's primary objective is to make this process transparent for all stakeholders to see. The second film focuses on Yayasan Tambuhak Sinta (YTS), which is KSK's community development foundation.

[Favorite film?](#)

Big Boys Gone Bananas by Swedish filmmaker Fredrik Gertten.

[Who do you want to be like?](#)

The Blair Brothers who made "Ring of Fire" following in the footsteps of Alfred Russel Wallace.

[What do you care about and want to change in the world?](#)

We are in a position where we can make films that create awareness for important issues, especially social and environmental ones. We are passionate about this opportunity.

But I think the idea of changing the world out there is a little old. All too often we try to fix the world out there at the expense of fixing the world in here. One of the coolest things about working at BPI is our company culture. We regularly go through challenges but in the end always make the time to work it out. That's how we create a relaxed working environment and general well-being. Maybe this is how we change the world. ●

Amanecer Update



Amanecer (Dawn).

Strengthening the bond between Man and Nature

Lodging Conventions Restaurant Nature

Amanecer is a Subud International Centre, one with a beautiful history and a Subud style. It is to be found in The Quindio, Colombia, a 15 minutes drive from El Eden, an International Airport, and 10 and 30 minutes respectively from the Colombian cities of La Tebaida and Armenia.

Amanecer is a unique space surrounded by a natural, harmony-inviting environment, appropriate for the resting of the spirit and the body. A place where you may meet and talk with Subud brothers and sisters from all over the world, who choose Amanecer as their spiritual spa, as well as the Colombian Subud members who live there as a community. A place where the latihan is harmoniously combined with healthy and unique food, and the majestic view of Los Andes.

Besides its importance as a place full of spiritual energy, its location makes it a strategic place to visit the main attractions of The Quindio, such as The Butterfly Sanctuary, The Coffee Park, Panaca and the river La Vieja (The Old Lady), where canoeing and rafting activities can be enjoyed.

[What We Offer](#)

Amanecer is a lodging free of noise and electromagnetic pollution, ideal for a high quality rest. *continued >*

You will enjoy the dawn like a symphony of nature and beautiful scenery.

- Capacity for 100 visitors
- Rooms with independent bathroom
- Double accommodation and Triple accommodation
- Multiple accommodation (up to 8 persons)
- Laundry service

Here we offer a wide variety of menus, with healthy recipes, made from selected and natural ingredients, ready to satisfy the most demanding taste. We have the qualified staff, ready to prepare any kind of dish, local or international.

- Dining room with capacity for 100 persons
- Industrial kitchen with capacity to cook for 1000 persons
- Menu for events according with the requirements of the client
- Coffee shop
- Conventions Hall
- Wide scenarios with a unique architecture, integrated to a natural environment, far away from the city noise.

Amanecer is the appropriate place to organize all types of events, entrepreneurial, social, educational, cultural and spiritual, as well as workshops, talks, diplomats, seminaries, gatherings, meetings, courses, festivals, expositions, camps, congresses and retreats.

Hall Amanecer

- Area 1200 m²
- Capacity 1000 persons
- 7 auxiliaries halls of 40 m²
- 3 auxiliaries halls of 20 m²
- Amplification of audio and video projection services is optional.



Hall Quindio

- Area of 150 m²
- Capacity for 100 persons
- Amplification of audio and video projection services is optional



Natural Environment

Scenery with luxuriant fauna and flora, appropriate to feed the spirit, the harmony, quietness and to strengthen the bond with The Earth.

- Birds watching of more than 70 species
- Ecological walks
- Template weather with temperatures between 17 and 28 degrees Celsius
- Privileged astronomical position

Information and Booking

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EMAIL: amanecercea@gmail.com

FACEBOOK: Amanecer Centro de Estudios Ambientales

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Vereda La Popa,
La Tebaida, Quindio



Two quotations from Bapak

Ilaina Lennard has been reading Bapak's talks and was particularly struck by this quotation...

Human beings will automatically become able to feel and to receive how God works on them. They'll eventually become able to receive this in the feelings. They'll become able to receive this in their understanding too. They'll also become able to receive this as their knowledge. Therefore, although it's still in the beginning stages - and at the present time doesn't yet show any signs of the order that it's supposed to have - the training (latihan) that all of you have received will finally reach the stage where all of you will be able, ladies and gentlemen, with the awareness of your soul really to feel the power of God, really to understand it, really to know it, and also to follow in the footsteps of God's power. And then humankind will be able, with the consciousness of the soul, to know things that are beyond the scope of human knowledge.

(March 4th 1958 London, 58 LON 1)

And this quotation appeared in the most recent issue of the Subud USA Newsletter..

A human being will only be able to receive guidance from God if he can paralyze his own cleverness, master his own passions, master his own anger and greed, and overcome his own human pride. So the Prophet Jesus, a child born on the lowest level of society, who didn't go to school, who had no standing, who had absolutely nothing, was willed by God to be the one who could receive words and revelations from God. And now he is believed by over half the world. Why was the Prophet Jesus - or a boy like Jesus - able to receive revelations from God? Because the main conditions, within the Prophet Jesus's inner feeling, were none other than faith, obedience, patience, surrender, and entrusting himself to God with sincere submission.

(Coombe Springs, England 8/19/57, 57 CSP 10)



One of many excellent photos of Bapak taken by Mikhail David.

A Subud World Bank – Can we begin again?

Rashad Pollard (SESI Coordinator) writes...

As requested to by Ilaina Lennard I would like to say that my article below, concerning the issue of our Subud Bank, is entirely based on my own knowledge and experience and is not endorsed by SESI or WSA, and I hope and pray that the information in it is correct. Any additional information that anyone would like to add may be sent to Ilaina – ilaine.l@blueyonder.co.uk or myself at Pollardr@aol.com and would be welcome.

The most memorable thing that comes to my mind concerning our Subud world bank was something that Raymond Lee had reported. It seems that not long before Bapak passed away he had said that one thing he most regretted was that we were unable to sustain the operations of our world bank.

What then was this world bank?

The first personal reference I have for it was at the Third World Congress in Tokyo in 1967 when it was agreed to establish the Subud Brotherhood International Foundation (SBIF). The purpose mentioned for SBIF was to administer Subud funds on a *continued >*



The S. Widjojo Centre in Jakarta where Bank Susila Bakti was located

professional basis and that Bapak had said that it could form a nucleus for a Subud World Bank.

Four years later, at the World Congress in Cilandak Bapak moved this idea to fruition through getting us all to line up and pledge funds to start this World Bank. Ultimately about \$1.4 million was raised. At the last talk given at the Congress Bapak stated: "So our aim and purpose is to establish enterprises and a bank. For if we merely wait for contributions and donations from members, maybe there will be only ten rupiahs in the treasury ten years from now. Only that little. But it will be otherwise with enterprises. Perhaps contributions will be eliminated eventually, will not be needed, because the Subud treasury will have become strong as a result of running the enterprises and the bank. Who knows, brothers and sisters, if the Subud Bank will not eventually become like those in New York, a Wall Street Bank - but a Subud Wall Street Bank, a Wall Street Bank Kedjiwaan!" Library reference 71 TJD 18.

The original team that worked to set up the bank expected to locate it in Germany but this proved difficult to accomplish owing to cost factors and regulations in that country so, eventually, it was agreed to establish it in Indonesia through purchasing the license of an existing bank there. In this way Bank Susila Bakti (BSB) was born.

BSB certainly assisted many enterprises in Indonesia -- even including a hand weaving enterprise that my wife and I started -- but its most important contribution was to help launch the second major enterprise that Bapak initiated -- the S.Widjojo Centre office building in Jakarta. BSB pre-purchased the mezzanine floor of the building and it was these funds that allowed S.Widjojo to acquire the land so that construction could start. BSB also provided short-term loans to support the development of the project.

[One Wonderful Day](#)

One wonderful day - certainly for me as the Marketing Manager of S.Widjojo -- was the day in 1977 when the bank moved into its space even though the building was still being constructed around them! It was from that day onwards that tenants became confident about our ability to complete the building and began to sign leases themselves! Bapak's interesting talk at the "selamatan" that day is at 77 JKT 1.

The S.Widjojo Centre was eventually completed at the end of 1980 and the company started sending over \$800,000 back to its Subud investors every year of which \$200,000 was contributed to Subud (WSA and SBIF). In this way Bapak's hopes for establishing a world bank and enterprises had certainly been accomplished as a model for us to follow.

BSB did suffer from some constraints, however. It could not, legally, allow its non-Indonesian Executive Directors to act as such and so management conflicts developed between these two groups of "de facto" Directors that had been established, and it was not easy for the bank to support enterprises outside of Indonesia.

These issues came to a head at an Extraordinary General Meeting of the bank held in 1984 when the shareholders voted to expand the Board of BSB to help strengthen the bank's future development. I supported this motion as did Bapak -- his comments are at 84 JKT 5. But this step was never taken, and was overtaken by other events at S.Widjojo.

S.Widjojo had committed itself to build a major hotel project in Jakarta and had borrowed about \$8 million to purchase the land for it. However this project was never realized and S.Widjojo became unable to service this loan. Efforts to sell the land resulted in an offer to purchase not only the hotel land but also our bank.

My own understanding is that it was felt by the Board members of our bank and S.Widjojo that it would make sense to keep the S.Widjojo building, rather than liquidate it and keep the bank! So it was agreed and the funds obtained from these sales allowed S.Widjojo to repay the loan it had and remain in business. The shareholders of BSB received the funds from that sale.

[The Banks Was Sold](#)

In this way, in 1986, our world bank was sold and this became a first step in a range of events that eventually led to the demise of all our major enterprises, including S.Widjojo, excepting the mining exploration work in Kalimantan that still proceeded.

Not a few members have tried to rekindle the concept of our experts coming together to launch new, major enterprises supported by a new world bank or financial institution. But since Bapak's passing our Association has preferred to put such activities on hold and our World Congresses barely touched on the subject that had become such a core emphasis on all our Congresses while Bapak was with us. *continued >*

At the New Zealand World Congress the first steps were taken to explore the prospects for starting again. SESI was resurrected and tasked with this mandate. SESI, itself, cannot start a new world bank or world financial institution or even an enterprise. Our task is to motivate our experts to undertake these tasks and to provide whatever support we can to help this happen.

A new world bank or financial institution could only be initiated by a dedicated team of banking and financial experts. We can help to bring that team together however and so we can proceed if a truly competent group can be formed to explore this option and raise the initial funding needed to produce a comprehensive feasibility study. If there is real interest in this please let me know pollardrr@aol.com

Young and youth within Subud

Almut Zieher, Subud USA Youth and Families Co-Coordinator, writes...

Julia Hurd wrote to say that she had enjoyed recent articles in Subud Voice discussing sometimes controversial aspects of Subud Life. She sent me an article which she felt was in the same spirit, examining an aspect of our collective life in a positive way to bring clarification and improvement.

Almut Zieher was tested and elected as one of two youth (and now families) co-coordinators for Subud USA last July. Here is a paper she wrote for Subud USA News

I have had thoughts around the words youth and young within Subud for many years now. Maybe this curiosity is related to whatever it is in me that had me test to be Subud Youth (and Family) Activities Co-coordinator last summer.

Either way, I have decided to share some of my musings with the hope that in doing so, fresh thoughts, ideas, and reflections are stimulated in my Subud Sisters and Brothers. I ask that, before you continue on, you get quiet and open, so that you will hear my voice and will be moved with compassion and understanding. Thank you.

Over the 15 years I have been part of Subud, I have been called Youth or a young person many, many a time. Ironically, both my internal response at being identified with these words as well as the use of this identification have not changed much over the years, although my age has.

I recall, in my early twenties, being called young by both people within and outside of Subud. My response: annoyance because I identified the word young with lacking life experience and wisdom, frustration because it was true, I didn't have a clue. I also identified it with a strong body, a quick mind, a fresh outlook, and a whole life to create in front of me.

In my late twenties, mother of three small children, a pair of wild twin boys no less, my response was very similar, with a slight shift. By now I was able to look at the little bit of life I had lived and realize that many of my decisions, although 'right' in my receiving, could be viewed as quite 'stupid.'

Nonetheless, it was my life. I embraced it. I had used my young body to have three lively children full of potential, and I threw myself into the task of raising them.

Taking Responsibility

I took responsibility for my life. I went back to school to become a teacher. I bought a house. I co-founded a school. I used my mind and my heart to give my children what I had not been able to when they were small. I experienced my first big loss, the death of my older sister and my niece. I began to understand the complexities of life.

By now, in my non-Subud life, I wasn't being identified as youth any more. I had grown into a woman. However, within Subud I was still termed youth or a young person.

The term was used by different people with different flavor-- sometimes with longing, sometimes with frustration and a 'where are they' sentiment, and sometimes in a way I just didn't understand. My feeling of annoyance was now overlaid with confusion.

How could I still be seen as youth in my thirties? With four children, two houses, a master's degree, in addition to all the life experience and over 10 years of the latihan. When would I be able to be embraced as grown up? *continued >*



Almut Ziehe.

I figured there must be some explanation. Somewhere I thought I had read, or heard maybe, that Bapak had identified youth within Subud as those opened members under 30. Okay, I can still accept this, I told myself, and it is all with good intentions. However, I continued to feel very uncomfortable. It was bad enough to often be one of a handful of members under 50 at a Subud event, but it was straight out embarrassing to be pointed out and then identified as youth or a young person.

“ How could I still be seen as youth in my thirties? ”

Definitely not Young

I am in my late thirties now. I acknowledge I look young; it is a compliment to be told that. However, I am definitely not young. I have a teenage daughter and twins soon to be. Within the next 2 to 5 years, they could be a part of Subud Youth.

I have seen my mother die in old age and have become the matriarch of my family. I have learned that my body isn't as 'young as it once was,' that I have to take care of it. I look at young people when I go to the gym for yoga.

I remember how I was once more flexible, how my muscle tone was great even though I exercised once in a while. I look at people older than I am and realize that, although I am not there yet, life will keep coming at me and I will continue to have to adjust.

I am no longer the youth I once was who lived in the feeling of eternity or invincibility with a whole life in front of me. No, it is pretty clear to me, that my life is not the life of someone who is young or youth. My life is that of an adult, what some may call the prime time of life.

However, within Subud, people not just in their 30's, like I am, but also in their 40's continue to be called young people. I believe, that as we have grown up within Subud, we have kept this identifying term even though it is not really applicable anymore.

We have families including adult children, careers, and are starting to think about what we'll do when the little ones leave the nest. I suspect that we have kept this strange identity, because those in the 30 and 40 something age within Subud are the age of people who were the first to be 'born' into Subud.

A Young Organization?

Subud within the USA could be seen as a young organization, at least in practical terms. It is the first time in Subud USA that there are members, their children, and grandchildren spanning the human life span.

However, this organizational immaturity is reflected by the imbalance of members across this span. Most active Subud members are over the age of 50. There are many explanations for this. An obvious one is that those of us in our 30's and 40's are raising kids and pursuing careers and thus don't have time.

However, wasn't Subud 'run' by people in this age group just 20 or so years ago? One might argue that times have gotten harder. I'm sure there are many possible explanations. I posit, that among these explanations should be that youth have not been given the opportunity to grow up within the minds of those a generation ahead of them.

This tendency is a common phenomenon in developed nations like the US, where there are no rights of passage. However, the extreme expression of this, I believe, is somewhat unique to Subud.

What's the Big deal?

Well, what's the big deal, you might ask. Why don't you 'young people' just get involved so we 'old people' can let go of the reins? Well there are interesting implications of this phenomenon, in my mind.

The first implication is that being called young or youth elicits in me a strong emotional response. For some, it is what is sometimes called a 'loaded' word. When I hear myself being called youth or a young person, the neural pathways I developed in my brain as a youth are reactivated and I feel the way I did back then.

This is a natural response, but it takes a lot of mindfulness to refrain from reacting automatically. I know I really dislike the feeling I have inside when this happens and it takes energy away from the task at hand as I refocus my attention.

Additionally, using that term likely results in the speaker reverting to the emotional state they were in when originally using the term. Think of speaking to a young and inexperienced person and trying to *continued >*

“ When would I be embraced as grown up? ”

get them to understand your perspective.

The long and short of it: when we use or hear these terms, we all likely respond from the 'youth don't know what they are doing' paradigm. For me, the 30 or 40 something-year-old, it is especially difficult. I don't have any control over what I am called by others. The only choices I have are to suppress my reaction or conscientiously respond, both of which utilize a significant amount of my cognitive capacity in any given moment.

The consequences? I can imagine this phenomenon leaves people my age reluctant to participate. I know it has taken a lot of perseverance on my part to participate despite these experiences. Also, it has become a negatively reinforcing cycle: there are not very many people my age involved in Subud and because of this the paradigm is more easily maintained and then there is more reluctance to participate.

There is another consequence I see, and it is not really about me or people my age, but about the real youth of Subud. If people in my age range are being called young people or youth where will those who are under 30 fit into Subud? I imagine it may be strange for them to be termed youth along with their parents or people their parents' age. By keeping those of us in our 30's and 40's as young there isn't much room for those who really are young.

I suspect, by writing this, I have rocked the boat a bit. I suspect that this will insult some. It isn't intended to insult. I hope if you feel insulted you will be able to come back to viewing these musings as I have intended; to bring awareness to the possible impact of using the words 'young' or 'youth' and what it elicits in others. Maybe we can all do some testing about how to use these terms so that their use strengthens Subud.

almutzieher@comcast.net

Editor's note: Thank you to Almut for this article which provokes debate. Personally, you can call me young anytime (I am 70). And it is also interesting that the current "youth co-coordinator" in Australia is Isti Jenkins, aged, I believe, in her 60s who is doing a great job. Youth love her and she is really galvanizing the youth scene in Australia. So many things are possible; there are many colours in the spectrum. Sounds to me like an interesting innovation from the USA to have an inclusive "youth and families" initiative. Would be interested to know more about the rationale for this and how it's working.

Anugraha lives on

Abdus Salam Molla (Hussain) (Bangladesh) has sent us the following from Luqman Leckie...

Dear Hussain, On 28th April I had to jump on a plane to England, as my sisters informed me that my 96 year old mother may not have long to live due to acute kidney failure and pneumonia. To cut a long story short, she miraculously recovered from several life-threatening conditions (not just the kidneys), and is back in her house on her way back to good health.

One night when she was still in a critical condition, I did latihan beside her bed, and found myself saying the words that she was being opened, quite surprising myself as I had no intention of opening her when the latihan started. I went to sleep feeling very happy and "re-stored" in myself.

In the morning I could see my mother's condition had changed and suddenly she asked me "What is the meaning of Anugraha?" She said she had been dreaming about Anugraha all night long, and had had such a beautiful sleep, being able to sleep and breathe properly for the first time in weeks.

The thing that amazed me is that many Subud members don't know or have forgotten about Anugraha the Subud project, but it seemed mother was just given an "unexpected blessing", so there needed to be some symbol in her dream to capture that meaning.

That night marked a rapid turn around in her recuperation and healing, and I think it with God's Grace that she has been opened. Like my sisters, my mother has known about Subud and my Subud friends ever since I was opened, and I know that many things have changed in them all due to the latihan, although [continued >](#)



Abdus Salam Molla (Hussain).

none of them ever asked to be opened.

However, once I had a dream that Bapak was giving a talk in some theatre in England; I was sitting in one of the very back row seats rather high up, physically quite far from the stage. Then I saw Bapak and his party coming into the theatre and onto the stage to give the talk.

To my surprise, my mother was one of the guests in Bapak's party with the rest of his family. So although she had not been opened, I always somehow knew that my mother was more Subud than I in reality. After she became old, I never thought about opening her, but suddenly this experience happened.

I realised I have recounted this experience to you unasked for, so please forgive me if it is an imposition - somehow I felt to share it with you as a long standing Subud helper with family in Subud, as well as explaining why I have been away.

I hope you and your family are all well. God Bless, Luqman

Dear Lukman, Thank you for sharing with me about your mother's illness and the miracle. So the story bears the proof that with the person who is doing latihan regularly, it is not only he or she but his/her parents as well as children are being purified.

The word "Anugraha" means blessing, showing kindness or giving precious gift. So far as I know, it is a Sanskrit word which is available in Javanese /Indonesian, Hindi and also in Bangla languages. So, as your mother came back to life, it is also an Anugraha. But I think she got enough time to live and meet you again for the Anugraha of being opened to latihan. So let her to live in peace.

Hussain adds...

I have one more thing to share.

The book named THE PROPHET by Kahlil Gibran, Translated by me (Abdus Salam Molla), from English to Bengali was published in the month of February this year.

The book has been dedicated to Muhammad Subuh Sumohadiwidjojo, Founder of the spiritual movement SUBUD. All sale proceeds of this book will be used for poor and distressed people.

I have already donated the sale proceeds of this book so far received and books have been given to people engaged in social welfare works to sell and to use the money for their works (mainly education of Street Children or the bringing up unwanted children).



Meeting at Anugraha. It seems the spirit still lives on.

• NEW ISSUE OF THE ENTREPRENEUR •

The NEW issue is just out.

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Don't miss this 19-page issue of The Entrepreneur. Go to (click) <http://www.sesusa.biz/Newsletters.html> then click the link for The Entrepreneur Vol 5 No 4.pdf (or paste the above link into your browser).

The YES Quest says “Goodbye Kalimantan. Hello Mexico”

Young people are telling us they can't afford to go to the Quest in Kalimantan this year AND go to the World Congress next year.

We hear you! We have seen the light!

And so... we have decided to move the Quest from Kalimantan in 2013 to Puebla, Mexico in 2014.

That way young people can enjoy two fabulous events with a single airfare.

This new YES Quest will involve a classic YES Quest experience before Congress, involvement in the Youth Program at Congress and an exciting ‘let your hair down’ adventure after Congress (think mountains and waterfalls). There are other advantages too:

- Instead of the International Youth Travel Fund dealing with applications for assistance with airfares to Kalimantan and to Mexico, they will be able to help more young people to get Puebla for both events.
- The Quest will be much more accessible to the many enthusiastic young members in South America, who usually miss out.
- Going to Mexico for the Yes Quest AND World Congress should be a fantastic experience.

We will be announcing more information soon on actual dates, program and venues. But you can get in now by emailing us for an application form. For more information contact marlena@yesquest.org
peterjenkins4@gmail.com (personal) oznationalcc@gmail.com (Committee Councillor) 0414 616 174 ●



Passing of David Likas

Rasunah Marsden writes...

I am forwarding the news from Micheline Likas that her dear sweet husband David Likas passed away yesterday, Sunday June 9, 2013 of a massive heart attack.

I am very sorry as well to see him go, he will be greatly missed. I had worked with him as editor on his writings, much of which had been published in Subud Voice & elsewhere, since 2004.

Below is the last email I received from him on some writing he was working on, exactly 100 days ago:

Harris Smart writes...I will indeed miss David, a regular contributor to Subud Voice and always a most friendly correspondent. The following comes from the writing that Rasunah mentions above...

Lest We Forget

It was John Bennett, a man of remarkable spiritual knowledge who said: "Bapak is capable of sitting in the Chair of any University in the World!" Because of his vast spiritual experience and practices, John may be the only one who really understood Bapak's mission in those early days.

In fact, in 1994 I was invited to an astrophysicist meeting at an Ohio University by my astronomer cousin Alex Panzer. One of them was a Spanish priest who taught Astrophysics at the Vatican Observatory. Alex died in 2012 and has a telescope installed beside his gravestone that he built himself – "just in case", he said.

There were leading University Phd's, Physicists and mathematicians looking for new ideas to replace the Big Bang theory that was falling into disrepute in higher scientific circles. They were willing to listen to anything – 'No matter how crazy!', said the Chairman. So I told them all the details and clues that Bapak had explained about his ascension.

There was a long stunned silence with wide eyed expressions on some faces, and some had scowls.

The Chairman later replied, "No, we don't think you are crazy, and we would like to invite you for more discussions very soon." Varindra, who did not believe in the 'Big Bang' as others did, knew that scientists have already adopted Bapak's words like energy as 'clumps of matter'. ("Varindra, you are just a clump of matter!" – Bapak).

continued >

So there are serious persons working quietly in high levels of science, who know that Bapak's revelations about 'Time & Space' have already weakened the old pillars and foundations of proud Academic Institutions. There has been a sudden surge of new theories about the Origin of the Universe, as being an 'implosion' from far higher levels than this Universe. An 'implosion' would explain about an 'expanding Universe' known as the "Hubble red shift"- which is long known as expanding condensed matter.

Yet in Subud we know this expanding matter is 'returning to the Origin'. Science is finally able to come out of its mind-imposed 'thinking in a box' – compliments of Bapak's revelations, received from Almighty God. Are there some Subud people with superior ideas, who still want to get rid of Bapak's explanations? ●

Sheila Clarke

Rohana Fraval writes... Sheila Clarke was a dynamic and very active helper when The Grange was our group Latihan hall in 1968 before we found Loudwater Farm.

I had arrived in the UK a year prior to my first meeting with the helpers. Sheila was very intimidating but very thorough in her questioning about whether I needed to be opened again. (I had a very unconventional opening in 1964).

Sheila was a Quaker and passionate in her belief in Christian charity. She visited members who could not come to the hall for Latihan, even when it meant miles and miles of walking.

Helpers were Bapak's helpers/assistants and not God's and as such followed the advice of Bapak. She understood that the most important job was that the helper facilitated members to be able to worship Almighty God. She frequently took the Monday morning latihans that were held for people who could not attend the evening sessions.

A lot of water has flowed under the bridge. She had devoted her entire life to caring for her sick husband Malcolm, who passed away over a decade ago. Sheila was getting frail to the point where her memory was failing her. She lived in an aged care home in Rickmansworth, close to Loudwater Farm.

The funeral was held on June 18 at Jordans, the Quaker village in Buckinghamshire, England. Sheila leaves behind two adult children, and many friends who loved her and will remember her.

Rest in peace dear Sheila. ●



*Sheila Clarke.
(photo: Iaina Lennard)*

Subud Australia National Congress 2014

You are invited to the Subud Australia National Congress in 2014, located on Palm Beach at South East Queensland's iconic Gold Coast!

This will be a week-long congress from Sunday 12th to Saturday 18th January, during the warm Australian summer.

This is a fantastic, family-friendly site, with the beautiful river and surf beach at our doorstep, secure child-friendly boundaries, sports field at our disposal and large latihan spaces.

Check out the website for more information:
www.subudozcongress.weebly.com

*Join us on the beach for the next Oz Congress.
Bring a sarong.*



Lost music of the Holocaust

Dahlan Foah writes...

On June 18, 2013, Honora and I had the honor of being invited guests at the US State Department where I sat on a Panel discussing “Lost Music of the Holocaust.” I focused on the collection of Professor Francesco Lotoro, a collection of music written by those interned in concentration camps and other prisons during World War II entitled, “Musica Concentrazionaria.”

This collection of almost 5,000 pieces includes music not only written by Jewish prisoners, but by Gypsies, Catholic monks, political prisoners and even German and Italian prisoners of war.

The event commenced with Special Envoy Ira Forman giving the opening remarks. This was followed by Bret Werb’s presentation and then a montage of video from our Creativity in Captivity® concert and a message of support from Dr. Judea Pearl of the Daniel Pearl Foundation.

Ambassador Douglas Davidson then moderated a panel on which I was a guest, followed by a question-and-answer session with the audience.

The event concluded with a performance of piano music by Polish POW Leon Kaczmarek. The music was composed in the Dachau concentration camp and was played by Nicholas Biniacz-Harris, a young prize-winning pianist.



Dahlan Foah (right).

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Perhaps there are many Subud members nowadays – especially those who are new to Subud - who don’t know very much about its early days in the West, so it is hoped that THEY WERE THERE will help to bring alive for them some of the things that happened at that time. Its chapters include:

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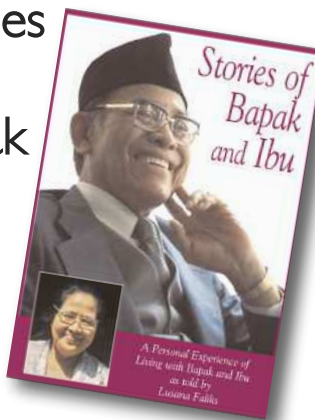
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www.subudvoice.net

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Send articles, photos, cartoons etc. to Harris Smart, Editor Subud Voice,
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Articles should be written in such a way that they are intelligible and interesting to both Subud members and the general public. Sometimes this may mean providing an explanatory introduction or notes for the non-Subud reader

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