

**MEETING BETWEEN MAXWELL AND HARLINAH
FEBRUARY 24, 2012**

NOTES

HISTORY INTERVIEWS DIGITIZING PROJECT

1: There are some 500 hours of interviews, mostly done by Harlinah, with about 10% either made by small groups of members for the History Project, or made by other interviewers.

2: Many of these interviews are with people who have now passed away.

3: The earliest interviews done by Harlinah were in 1983, and **she concentrated on "Subud pioneers"**.

4: These interviews are on cassette tapes. Because the air conditioning in the archive room in Cilandak was turned off to save electricity, without telling Harlinah, many of the original tapes developed mould. They were remastered in about 1990 by Daniela and her staff. **These tapes are some of the tapes now being digitised, and they are now some 22 years old.**

5: Not all these recordings are of a uniform quality. **Some** have background noise, and some, for one reason or another, are faint. They **are too faint to be transcribed**, and too faint for Harlinah to use. When these are digitised, they are easy to hear. The digitizer is making a wave copy of the tape, and also an MP3 version. The wave (WAV) copy is exactly as the original, (with sound volume adjustable), and the MP3 copy has had some of the background noise or hiss removed. They are easier to hear.

6: Cassette tapes last for a long time, but they do eventually deteriorate. **These recordings are a unique collection that describes for future generations the earliest period of Subud. The speakers come from all over the world, many of them people who were famous in their day. The digitising project not only saves this time capsule for future generations, but is also of considerable value to Harlinah, who can now access material that was, before, too faint to hear. She has already been making use of the digitised copies.**

BOOKS OF THE HISTORY OF SUBUD.

1: Harlinah is in the middle of Book 3. It tells the story of the start of Subud in the Americas, South Africa, Germany and Austria and other European countries, India, Australia and New Zealand. Each of these

countries has different source material. The work in bringing this book together is far greater than for the two previous books combined.

2: After having started work on Book 3, Harlinah stopped to produce the second edition of Book 1. At Ascot in 2007, Harlinah with ISC decided that a second edition should be prepared by her as it was thought, at that time, that the second printing of Book 1 was nearly out of print. Subsequently some more were discovered. When Harlinah met with ISC she was under the impression that a disk of this book existed in the archives.

When she returned to Australia, Amalijah gave her this disk, but it was quickly apparent that it was not a true copy. It appeared to be a secretary's copy, with typing errors throughout, and someone had then changed all the Indonesian Muslim terms into Arabic in the text. They had also "corrected" dates, ignoring the fact that dates based on Muslim Feast days must allow for the day to start at sunset, not at midnight. So now all these dates were wrong. Furthermore, there were alterations to the text in at least two different styles, which did not fit in with the original.

It took Harlinah just over a year to work through the whole text checking it line by line with the original, and correcting it and then entering the small amount of additional material.

Then another problem emerged. The text for all quotations used in this book came from the original formal translations, and the Indonesian text used was from the original Indonesian transcriptions. Both transcriptions and translations have, of course, now been redone by Sharif and Tuti. It seemed best to use the revised text in the second edition of Book 1. Harlinah sent Sharif and Tuti the original Indonesian for each extract/quote, and Sharif retranslated, and checked the Indonesian for the first six chapters of HOS Book 1. (There are 16 chapters in that book, as well as the Chapter Notes). Then this work by Sharif dried up. As most of these quotes came from talks given later than the volumes of Bapak's talks now published, Harlinah could not use what clearly would have been an easy solution to this problem.

So what to do? The only thing to do now seemed to be to find similar quotes from talks already in the published Volumes of Bapak's talks. But this is easier said than done, because Bapak tended to talk about very different subjects at different periods in his life. Of course Harlinah wanted the text of the published volumes on disk so that she could use a subject search engine. She now has this for most, but not all, the books, and also the updated Indonesian text.

Working on the second edition of Book 1, stopped work on Book 3, and will do so again while Harlinah is trying to find suitable

alternative quotes as mentioned above. However, as more copies of the second printing of Book 1 were found, the urgency to finish this work is now less immediate, so Harlinah has put it to one side while she again works on Book 3.

LEGAL ISSUES REGARDING QUOTES FROM INTERVIEWS

Harlinah will look into this – it should not be difficult to do so. However, she thinks the laws are probably similar to copy right for text, in which case there may be a cut off period after which copy right no longer applies, and we may find that most of the interviews she is using in Book 3 come into this category.

FUNDRAISING FOR ARCHIVES OR HISTORY PROJECT.

Harlinah reminded Maxwell that Lorenzo Music and his wife, fundraised in the United States for these projects at the end of the 1980s. (IAFT - International Archive Fundraising Team). The support was stunning!

Harlinah Longcroft,
Canberra, 24.02.12