

Extract from Minutes of 13th Subud World Congress

13. OTHER RESOLUTIONS

13.1 Norway: Subud Norway had submitted a proposal to change the wording that appears at the beginning of Bapak's volumes. Garrett reported that ISC/WSA Executive was in favor of the proposed change and would recommend it to the next team. As a consequence, Norway withdrew its proposal (attachment 14).

Subud Norway's proposal to the 13th Subud World Congress

The WSA executive translations and media coordinator has ordered that all (translations of) Bapak's talks shall be preceded by (a translation of):

The Talks in this book (or on this recording /video), or the following talk was given for people practicing the spiritual exercise known as Subud Latihan. For those not practicing this exercise, reading the following talk(s) is not recommended as they could be misunderstood. For more information please contact the World Subud Association at wsa@subud.org.

The passage:

"For those not practicing this exercise, reading the following talk(s) is not recommended as they could be misunderstood"

must appear somewhat weird to non-Subud members. If one should advise against the reading of any publication that could be misunderstood, there would not be much left of the world literature that could be recommended for reading.

The reason given is probably not the real reason for advising against reading the talks. The real reason(s) are probably one or both of the following:

- One may be, without knowing or wishing it, be spiritually affected by reading the talks
- If one has not experienced the latihan, it is easy to perceive the talks as a teaching

Subud Norway proposes that the passage should be altered. The following variant could be used, but Subud Norway does not wish to be dogmatic and leaves it to the World Congress to arrive at an improved version:

"The following talk(s) can thus easily be misunderstood to be a teaching by readers who have not had the experience of practicing the Subud Latihan."

To emphasize that the talks do not represent a teaching, the following quote from Bapak's very first talk at Coombe Springs (57 CSP 1) could also be used:

"You should never believe what Bapak tells you if you have not yet experienced it for your self; that would be very harmful to you."