

True Culture

This is why it is really necessary for us to awaken culture, or that culture should awaken again within us, the culture which truly originates in the human nature and represents humankind's worship of Almighty God.

Later Bapak will show you... that in all sorts of movements that you do, if you are dancing or something like that, these movements can also be worship of Almighty God, exactly the same as if you move like this. (Bapak raised his hands for prayers and bowed.) So within us there is a way – there is a guide with us; there is the guidance of Almighty God – which makes it possible for us to act in this world according to the will of Almighty God.

We have to learn always to be in touch, always to be close to our jiwa, and to act because of our jiwa, so that what we do is God's will for us in this world; that is, that we return once again to Almighty God. Because God has not created us in this world just like that and then left us to our own devices. God has given us the way to return to Him, and the way to return to Him is to act rightly and not to act wrongly in this world. This is made possible by the latihan kejiwaan which we have received.

The latihan moves those who follow it in the direction of integration – the integration of outer and inner, of culture and religion. True culture and worship are one, not in any limited sectarian or formal sense, but essentially. True culture is the expression of an inner feeling that has been brought to life, and is closely related to self-knowledge and the realization of a person's true talent, made possible by the practice of the latihan:

.... You will soon become adept at doing work that is in tune with your jiwa, and this will certainly make your life happy, for this skill will stem or grow from your human jiwa, which will have brought to life your whole inner-feeling....

It is that which is truly called culture, for its source is the human jiwa, and it is received in an inner feeling that has risen free of the sway of the ancillary forces. It is a culture filled continuously with the life force. That is why the work you do will be a means for your worship of the Almighty.

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