



Book of Subak

*A Trilogy of Past Wisdom,
Present Challenges, and Future Possibilities*

Forgotten Harmony

*From Harmony to
Fragmentation*

volume 2

Julia S. Dahlan | 5219086 | Part of P5 Report

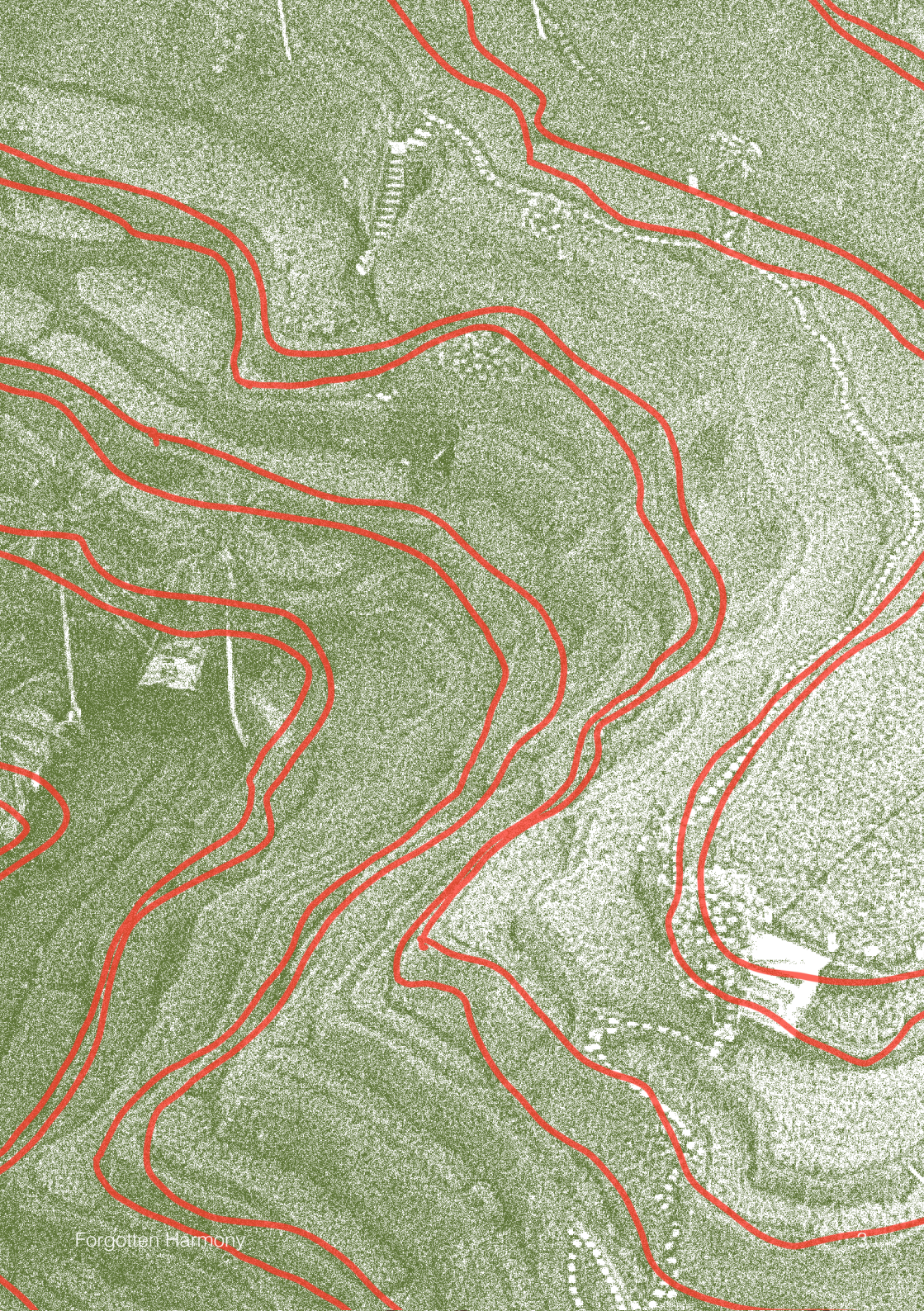
How to Read The Book?

This booklet is part of a three-part journey through Subak the living water system that has shaped Bali's landscapes, livelihoods, and beliefs for centuries.

You can read each book on its own, or follow them in order to understand the full story: from its sacred roots, to its fragile present, and toward the futures we can imagine and create.

Each booklet invites you to reflect, observe, and listen — not only to the words, but to the voices of the land, the water, and the people who still live by it. At the end of each book, you'll find a path leading you to the next.

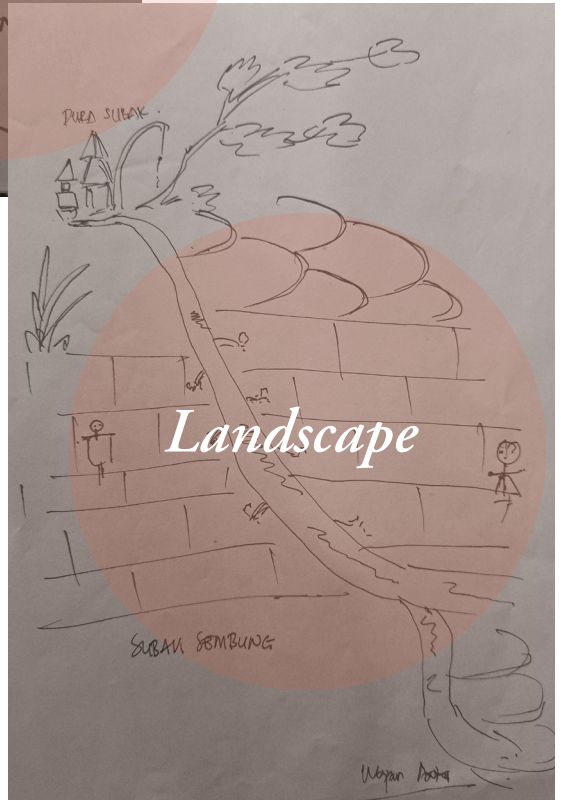
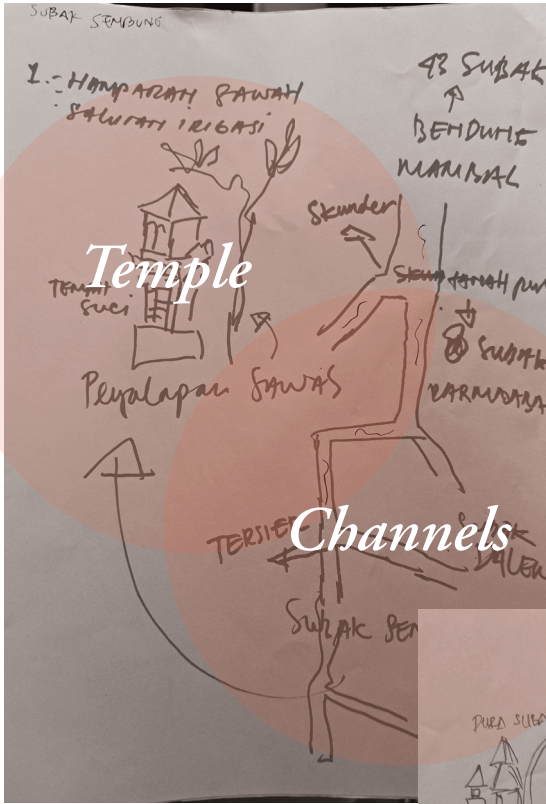
We invite you to follow the flow.



The Remains of Memory



“What elements and spaces do you associate with the Subak landscape, especially in relation to its water systems?”





Subak Reality

2005

An aerial photograph of a coastal town, likely in Japan, showing a dense urban area with a complex grid of streets and buildings. The town is surrounded by a patchwork of green fields and forests. The coastline is visible in the bottom left corner, with a dark blue sea and a sandy beach. The year '2024' is written in a large, white, serif font in the center of the image.

2024

The Voice of the Field

The voice of Subak is fading, but not yet lost. Let's hear them.



Pekaseh Subak Uma Desa, Canggu, Badung



Head of Subak Sembung Eco-Tourism Management, Denpasar



Pekaseh Subak Sembung, Denpasar

watch here



Memories

"Subak on a system of mutual cooperation. But now experiencing a decline."

Subak dahulu dapat
di minum dan banyak
ikan yang hidup dan
mudah cari makanan
dari air karena di kali
itu lele bisa mandiri
kalah sekarang subak
nya banyak di kali
sampah; mudah
mudahan kedepan
yang muda mau
tuku jadi petani

- Subak dulu sistem
gotong royong musil
Bulek.
- Sekarang sistem gotong
royong sangat berkurang
- Dulu gotong di
- lahan sawah hulu
berkurang.
- Air sudah tercemar.
- Subak di pertahankan

Dulu masih bisa minum
dari air langsung
di subak

Memories

"The subak's water used to be drinkable, but not anymore."

Apakah sekarang atau
masa depan, Petani
masih ada dan generasi
muda karena lebih bade
pershasilan dari petani

Petani
Harapan kami ke depan. mo
air kami bisa di pertahankan
dan harapan kami yg ke II
mungkin mungkin petani
modern di bidang peternakan

Fears

*"Is there a future for farmers?
Is there any young generation
will continue to be farmers?
Farmer income today is
lower than a Janitor"*

Then and Now

Spatio Temporal in Watershed between 2005 & 2024

2024

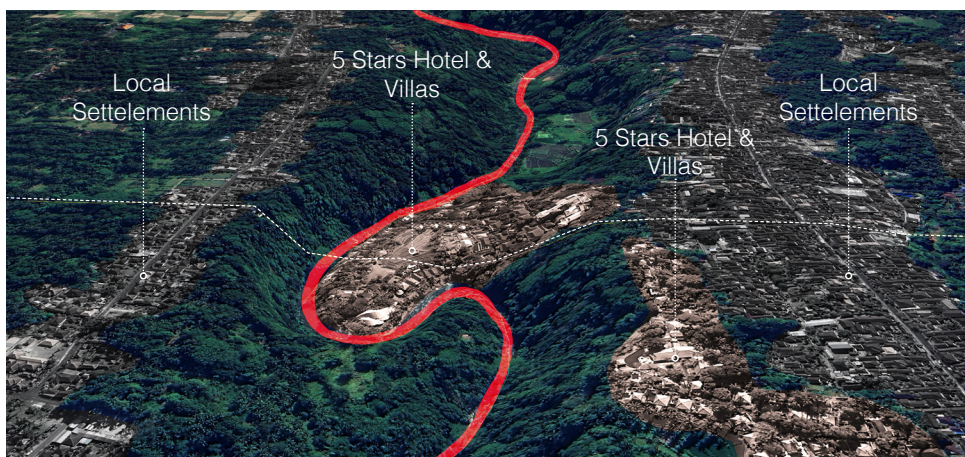
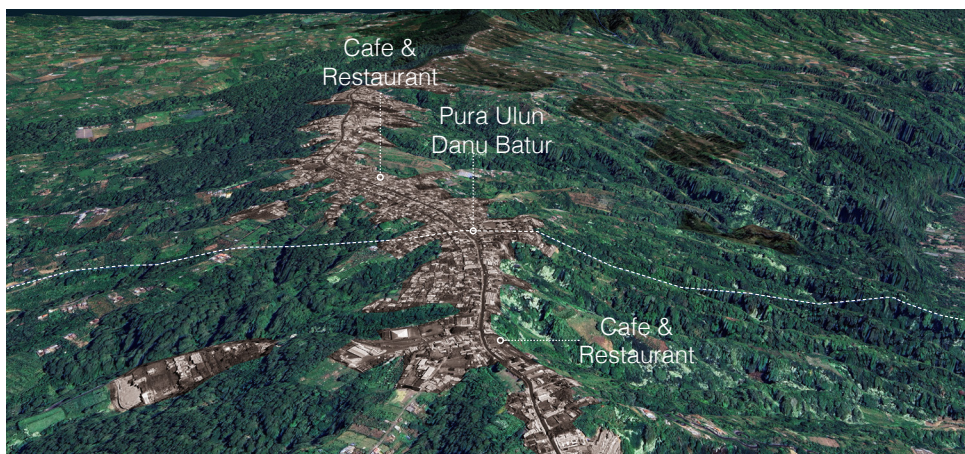


2005

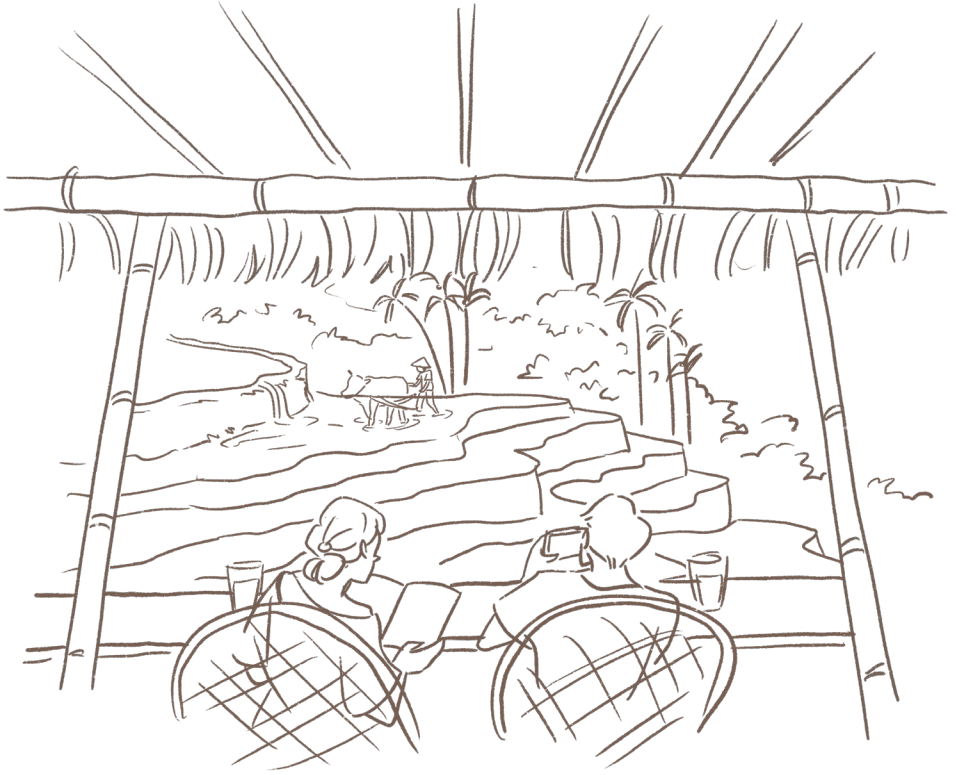




Tourism Activities Near the Water



A System Disconnected



*“Subak, once a living soul of the land, now lies
objectified, its grace quarried, its essence drained,
a stage set only for the eyes of wandering strangers,
who **see beauty but not the life beneath.**”*

Vanishing Subak

Massive Hotel Development, 2,000 Hectares of Rice Fields in Bali Disappear per Year

Rizki Setyo Samudra - [detikBali](#)

Tuesday, 10 Sep 2024 14:16 WIB



Illustration - Several foreign tourists walk through the rice fields while visiting the Jatiluwih Tourist Attraction (DTW), Tabanan, Bali, Saturday (3/8/2024). (Photo: ANTARA FOTO/Nyoman Hendra Wilbowo)

Denpasar -The Indonesian Environmental Forum (Walhi) Bali urged the government to immediately impose a moratorium on the construction of hotels and villas on the Island of the Gods. The massive development and conversion of agricultural land has resulted in around 2,000 hectares of rice fields in Bali disappearing per year.

CNA Insider

Not quite the Bali it used to be? This is what overtourism is doing to the island



Bali's landscape is changing. The question is, how sustainable is its urban development?

"Next, they must empower the local communities to be involved in controlling what happens in their areas," he said. "The problem is the communities are ... involved only when problems arise."

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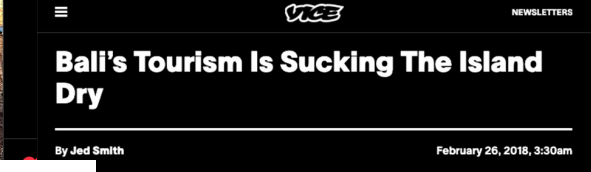
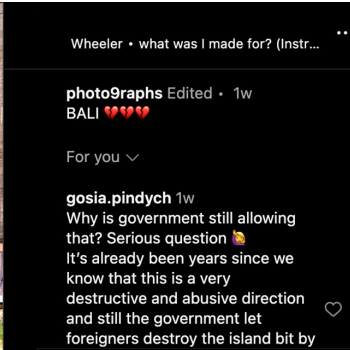
Travel > Worldwide > Asia

Q Explore city breaks, activities...

Bali's worsening drought is blamed on tourists using more than half its water

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News | Drought

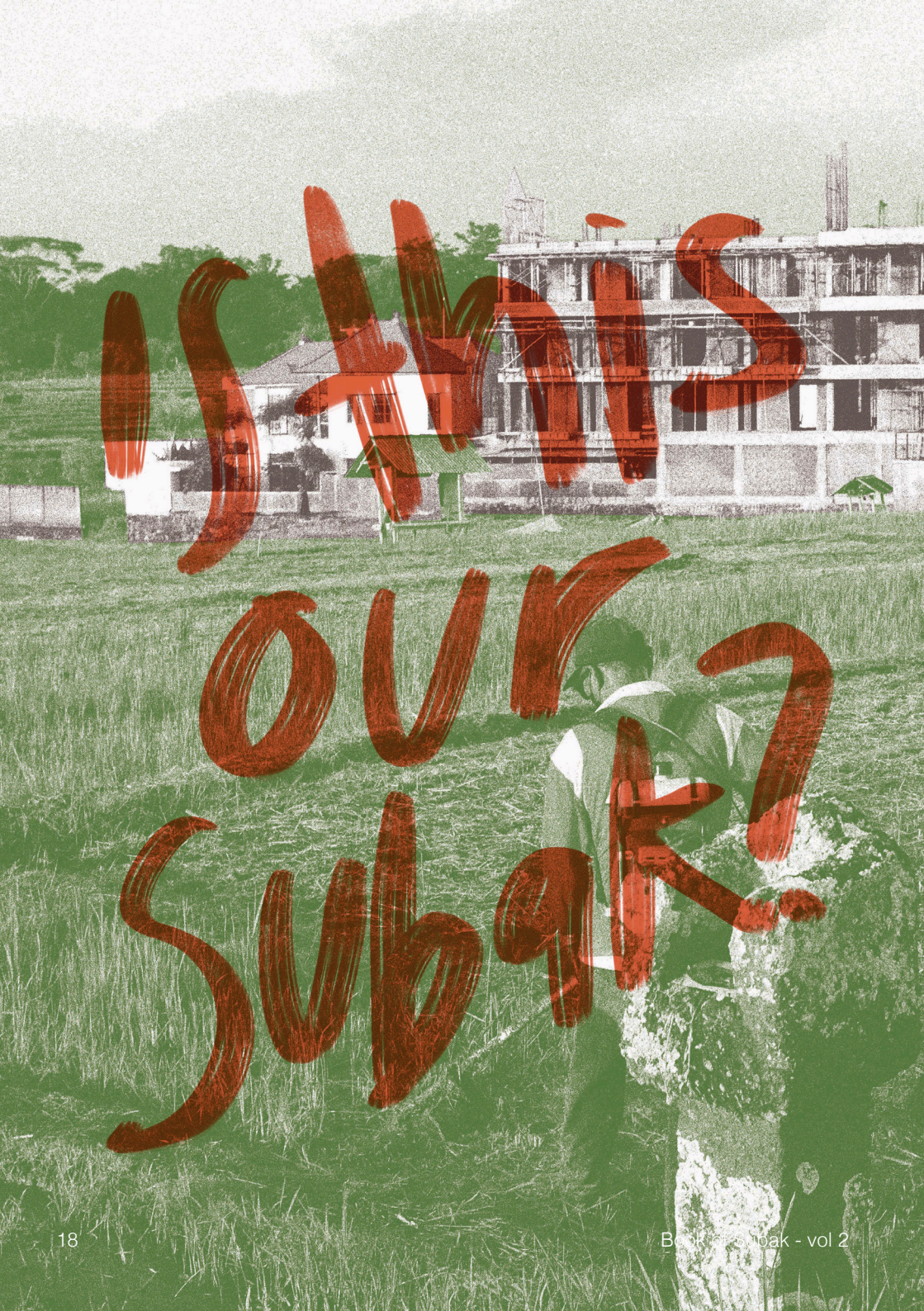
Bali: The tropical Indonesian island that is running out of water

Indonesia's fabled island is running out of water, with monsoon rains delayed and the tourist industry expanding.



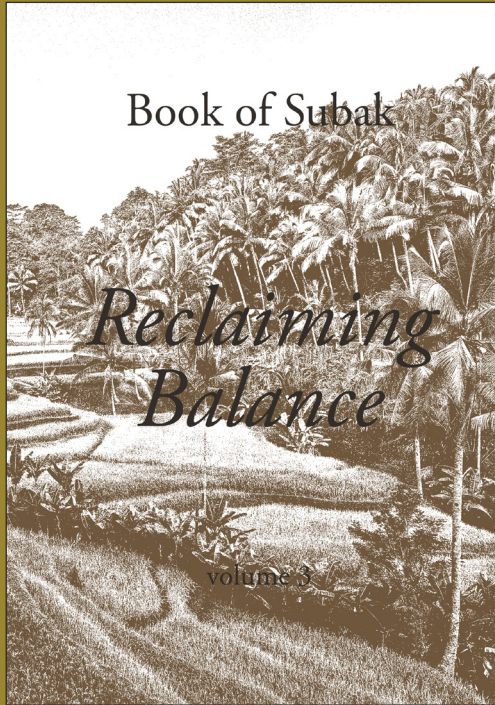
Bali's tourist brochures showcase lush green valleys and rice fields, but the Indonesian island is suffering from a prolonged drought [Ian Neubauer/Al Jazeera]





If balance has been forgotten

*How might we
reclaim it?*



*Read Book 3
Reclaiming Balance*

