

Preface

The 12th International Congress of Hypnosis took place on July 26 - 31, 1992 in Jerusalem. It was co-sponsored by the Israeli Society of Hypnosis (IsSH) and the International Society of Hypnosis (ISH). These two societies, together with the Milton Erickson Society for Clinical Hypnosis, Germany (M.E.G.), also co-sponsored the preceding Joint Conference: *Ericksonian Hypnosis and Psychotherapy*, July 22 - 24, 1992. Both meetings were planned to take place in 1991, having been moved to Rome because of the political tensions in the Gulf region and the outbreak of the Gulf War in January 1991. As this war didn't last long the two conferences were moved back to Jerusalem but had to be postponed for one year to 1992.

The present volume contains a small selection of the papers given at both meetings. Other contributions are published already, e.g., in the *International Journal of Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis*, in the *American Journal of Clinical Hypnosis*, in *Hypnos - Journal of the European Society of Hypnosis*, or in *Hypnose und Kognition*.

To the participants, these meetings of Jerusalem were unique in several respects. This volume is also designed to bring back memories to those who participated, and to stimulate the imaginations of those who, for various reasons, couldn't come.

Munich and Jerusalem, September 1995

The Editors

Foreword

As the newly elected President of the Israeli Society of Hypnosis (IsSH), I am especially thrilled and excited to add the finishing touches to this work, which in its extremely long „incubation“ seems to have reflected the original tribulations around the very holding of this historic Conference. I would simply like to share with the readers a bit of „insider“ background information:

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Late one night, during the *First European Congress of Ericksonian Hypnosis and Psychotherapy* in Heidelberg in 1989, a fateful meeting took place between Burkhard Peter, one of the Organizers of the Congress as well as the Founding President of the *Milton Erickson Society for Clinical Hypnosis*, Germany (M.E.G.), and Moris Kleinhaus, Organizing Chair of the *12th International Congress of Hypnosis* and the Founding President of the *IsSH*. As the two got to know each other in a jovial atmosphere, an unmistakable chemistry began to evolve. Though outwardly, the two seemed like totally different types, they found a common language (between German and Hebrew). This meeting one fall night became the basis of a dream: to bring together the burgeoning interest in Ericksonian Hypnosis and Psychotherapy in Europe as well as the whole world, with the more „traditional“ circles of hypnosis as represented by the *International Society of Hypnosis (ISH)*. Thus, the idea was born to hold a joint Conference during the next International Congress of Hypnosis, the planning of which was already in high gear for August of 1991 in Jerusalem.

This book is the result of the fruition of the early dream. Though the Joint Conference underwent many trials and tribulations, both the process of persuading all sides to contribute to such a joint venture, as well as the Gulf War, which led to many changes (move to Rome, and then back to Jerusalem in 1992), the two persevered. Their qualities and traits (organization, steadfastness, sensitivity, creativity, originality) complemented each other to result in what had never been attempted, nor achieved before them.

You, the reader, will find a wide diversity of articles in this book, which reflects some of the very special atmosphere which was created during the ten last days of July, 1992, as the many contributors to the Conferences met and discussed the many joint issues. The highlight came during a dinner in a small hotel overlooking the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem. In the awesome shadows of the echoes of common heritage and history, the leading contributors in the field of hypnosis met to discuss the „State of the Art“. The discussion developed to the kernel issues involved with that intimate situation between practitioner and client. What are the parameters of intuition? How do we „know“ the patient? Kleinhaus and Peter brought them all together. You now have the opportunity, and are invited forthwith to decide the results.

Shaul Livnat, Ph.D.
President, IsSH, 12th Congress Workshop Program Chair

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