

Im Memoriam Hermina Rütz

Hermina was born in Aachen on 17th January 1937 and grew up in Wolfsburg. She met Richard Engels at an early age and joined the Youth movement he had founded in the quest of opening new perspectives to young people in Germany after the disaster of the Nazi era and World War II. Together with Richard and several others of his group, she was opened in Coombe Springs on July, 23rd 1958 and was thereafter instrumental in establishing the Wolfsburg Subud Group, which became both model and inspiration to Subud Members worldwide for a long period of time. Residing in the famous "Forsthaus", she was amongst the first Helpers of Subud Germany and served as National Secretary for many years. In 1970 Bapak appointed her as Subud Germany's first Woman National Helper (together with Henriette Aulig) and in 1971 as First Secretary of ISC (International Subud Committee) under the chairmanship of Richard Engels. In 1975, she withdrew from the international platform together with Richard, with whom she had also been privately bonded.

In 1978 she moved to Indonesia and worked for the "German-Indonesian Chamber of Industry and Commerce" (EKONID), led by Subud member Valentin Willecke, and later for an international company organising trade fairs and congresses in Jakarta. With her husband Ridwan Dobson she developed one of Indonesia's first company for dairy-products which became so successful that it provided her with income for the rest of her life.

Stricken with cancer since the early nineties, Hermine moved back to Wolfsburg in 2007, but returned to Indonesia frequently to get treatment in the Griya Balur method, which benefitted her greatly and allowed her to enjoy life for a number of more years, after conventional medicine had virtually given up on her. Hermina was a most dedicated Subud member, a strong personality, courageous, communicative, culturally interested, with wide international experience and an uncompromising loyalty to both the Latihan and Bapak's words. Her death marks the end of an era.

Hermina died at 4.45 am on Monday, April 29th 2013 in Pondok Inda Hospital, Jakarta, in the presence of Subud sisters and accompanied by the Latihan. She will be buried according to Muslim rite in Suka Mulyia, Java, near Bapak and his family. May she rest in peace.

Leonard Regnier