

Meeting of the German Foreign Missionaries of 1975

Where Do We Go from Here?

Neumühle, Camberg 23rd - 26th June, 2022



It was the fourth reunion for some of us Foreign Missionaries who went as pioneers to Africa, Asia, Central and South America, and the Middle East 47 years.

Our first meeting, inspired by Wolfgang Schawaller and Thea Lepercq, is forever engraved in our memories by the deep, heartfelt sharing of our experiences. Thus, during that meeting in 2017, the idea was born to publish our extraordinary experiences in the form of an anthology, which appeared in 2021 as *1975 Von Deutschland in die Welt*. We then dedicated ourselves to thoroughly revise the contributions of 31 missionaries for the English edition. This volume appeared in April 2022 as *Dawn of a New Era - Young Unificationists Respond to God's Call* and is the basis for all further editions.

For our fourth reunion in June 2022, some missionaries travelled even from the United States to attend the meeting. Led by Thea, we wanted to jointly prepare the presentation and distribution of the English edition and initiate further projects. In addition, speakers and other missionaries joined in via Zoom.

Our guest of honour, Christel Werner, gave important stimulus through her moving description of how she and Paul came to know the movement in the United States in the 1960s, started the mission in Austria in 1965 and continued the mission in Germany in 1969. On behalf of True Parents, Paul and Christel sent the German Foreign Missionaries to their pioneering countries in 1975.

Christel's current project of writing her autobiography – and at the same time documenting important stages in the development of the German movement – is supported by us, the editorial team of the Foreign Missionaries.

Hanna Lotterie mentioned the importance of not losing the opportunity to record the beginnings of the mission in all countries, for the sake of coming generations. This is what True Parents have urged us to do, time and again. In the course of editing the testimonies, we had become aware of how enormously important it is to document the experiences of the pioneer missions not only in faraway countries but also here in Germany and to preserve them for posterity. Our testimonies, as well as the letters, reports and photos that we sent from our mission countries to Germany, are part of these historical records. The documents from the early days of the German movement, which have been digitised by Hans-Juergen Hutzfeld, also serve this purpose.

Furthermore, Margret Orr and Annegret Landwehr had invited the chairpersons of the *International Relief Friendship Foundation* of Germany and Great Britain to join us via Zoom. IRFF, founded by True Parents in 1976, is involved in projects of education, health, agriculture and disaster relief, mainly in Africa but also in the Middle East, Asia and Central and South America. We heard reports on the development on the development of ongoing projects and discussed possibilities for future projects in individual countries – in line with True Mother's wish.

We are planning online readings of our testimonies in English for our international family. It is our heart's desire to pass on our wealth of experiences and our encounters with the living God to the coming generations, and we hope to give them inspiration on their own path.

The Editorial Team:

Thea Lepercq, Marianne Irwin, Mechthild Kölbener, Annegret Landwehr,
Hanna Lotterie, Margret Orr, Wolf Osterheld, Wolfgang Schawaller

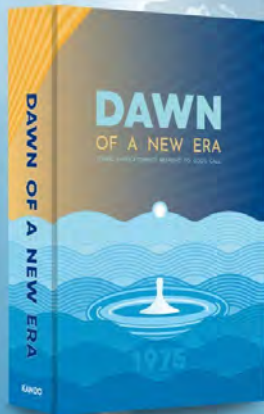


DAWN OF A NEW ERA

NEW PUBLICATION

kando-verlag.de

Young Unificationists Respond to God's Call



31 stories of faith,
joy, struggle and
perseverance.

590 pages, hard cover

€ 25,-

from 5 copies 22 €,
from 10 copies 19 €



Greetings from Kando Publishers,

we are very happy to announce the publication of a very valuable historic document: the intense testimonies of 31 members of the Unification Movement, who, in 1975, volunteered to follow True Parents' call to go to foreign countries as pioneers of our movement. Many of them stayed abroad for years and even decades, often in more than just one country.

On the last page of the book they write:

May our testimonies build bridges into the future and contribute
to the reconciliation of all cultures and religions
to realise a peaceful world family
in harmony with all creation.

The book can be ordered online from KANDO: Go to order page
https://www.kando-verlag.de/product_info.php?info=p181_dawn-of-a-new-era.html
or order by email: orders@kando-verlag.de

Extract pages of the book can be viewed here:
<https://de.calameo.com/read/00428027252b633cb5fb9>

On behalf of the 31 authors, we wish you much inspiration with this new publication.

Sincerely,
KANDO

**May our testimonies build bridges into the future and contribute
to the reconciliation of all cultures and religions
to realise a peaceful world family
in harmony with all creation.**

The testimonies of those 31 brothers and sisters show the complexity between the human weakness and the power of our Heavenly Parent. They bear witness to a historic endeavour that laid the worldwide foundation for the development and dissemination of God's message for our time to establish a peaceful world.

"These stories are not solely our own, but those of our mission countries and their first Unificationist members. For the benefit of our worldwide membership and the general public, we saw the need to present our testimonies in the English language. We formed a small working team and revised each story with the author. It is our deep-felt desire to let readers from different backgrounds 'see through our eyes' the world we experienced many years ago, as we struggled to share God's Heart of love for His children. Consequently, the testimonies articulate our experiences in an individual way – as each of us is unique and walked a unique path."

The book can be ordered online from KANDO: [Go to order page](#)
or order by email: orders@kando-verlag.de

Extract pages of the book can be viewed here:
[Extract pages *Dawn of a New Era*](#)

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