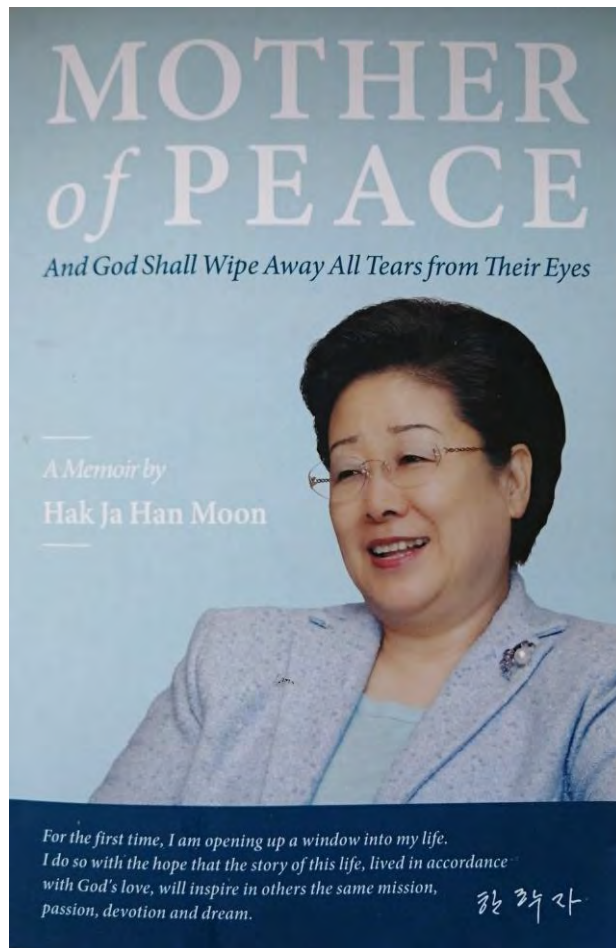


## WFWP Stuttgart, Germany: Celebrating World Book Day With Meaningful Books

Ute Lemme  
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On Monday, 26 April 2021, Gabriele Schickert organised a small Zoom event on the topic of "Women and the books that they read." Invited were several women who presented a book that is meaningful to them.

After welcoming the eight participants and providing some background to World Book Day (declared by the UN 1995 and observed on 23 April), Gabriele presented the book "Elisabeth Schmitz" by Sibylle Biermann-Rau. This book describes the life of Dr. Elisabeth Schmitz, a teacher in Berlin who warned early on about the discrimination and extermination of the Jews, and helped them at the risk of her life.

Gisela Galiasatos chose the book "It Can't Always be Caviar" by Johann Mario Simmel. This novel relates the adventurous story of German banker Thomas Lieven who had to work simultaneously for many countries as a secret agent during and after WWII. He was actually a pacifist and by doing this work was pursuing his own goals. He was able to make a special impression through his cooking abilities.

Eminko Raffin chose the book "The Bhudda in the Attic" by Julie Otsuka. In this book, Japanese girls

and women relate how they, recruited by marriage brokers, travelled to the USA to meet their unknown Japanese immigrants. This book, in which the women's stories are written in the "we" form, has received several literary prizes.

Adelheid Wodtke described the book "Look up for Yes" by Julia Tavalaro and Richard Tayson. It is full of suspense and tells the story of a woman who lay paralysed for years in a locked-in syndrome until a therapist succeeded in bringing her to communicate by using her eye movements. What this woman has made of her life under extremely difficult conditions, is most impressive.

Lastly Ute Lemme presented the book "Mother of Peace," the memoirs of the founder of the Women's Federation for Peace, Dr. Hak Ja Han Moon. Since her childhood in war-torn Korea, she has longed to fulfil God's dream of world peace and to bring salvation to mankind. Her path led her to holy marriage with Rev. Sun Myung Moon and a life of unimaginable sacrifice, persistence and devotion for the sake of God and mankind. She has succeeded in continuing her husband's work.

We ended with thanks to Gabriele Schickert for a stimulating event.

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