



Condolence Letter from NCKK for Dorothea Schweizer (So, Hye-ja), mission worker from Evangelical Mission in Solidarity

**We mourn the passing of Rev. Dorothea Schweizer(So, Hyeja) who served as
a mission co-worker for Deutsche Ostasienmission (DOAM),
Evangelical Mission in Solidarity (EMS)**

The National Council of Churches in Korea (NCKK) expresses our deep condolences for Rev. Dorothea Schweizer, who served here as a mission worker for Evangelical Mission in Solidarity (EMS), and the German East Asia Missionary Association (DOAM), and we share our sorrow and comfort with the members of the ecumenical community around the world who have joined her on her journey.

Rev. Dorothea Schweizer received the call to mission from DOAM and EMS in 1975 during an authoritarian regime in Korea, and she dedicated herself deeply to democratization and human rights in Korea as a mission co-worker of the Korea Research Institute of Theology and the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea(PROK).

Rev. Schweizer, before her ordination in 1989, had a deep interest in the Diaconia movement as a laywoman leader, and since 1975 she worked on the dream of establishing the 'Diaconia Sisterhood' with Dr. An Byeong-moo. She conducted research on female Diaconia activities in Germany, Switzerland, Hong Kong, and Korea, organizing international seminars, and she greatly contributed to discovering female leadership in East Asian ecumenism and promoting the prophetic Diaconia movement.

Moreover, during the oppressive authoritarian regime that deprived citizens of their freedom, Rev. Schweizer actively participated in sharing the burden of suffering with her Korean friends and engaging in the struggle for democratization and the restoration of human rights. She actively participated in the NCKK Human Rights Committee's 'Thursday Prayer Meeting,' providing German translations of the stories about the lives and realities of the Korean people (Minjung) who had been deprived of human dignity, sharing these stories about our situation with the international ecumenical communities and world citizens.

Even after returning to Germany in 1978, her passion and affection for the Korean
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people continued. After being ordained in 1989, she returned to Korea and actively worked as a mission co-worker in the ecumenical relations dep. at the General Assembly of the PROK and leading official international conferences to inform the ecumenical communities around the world and global citizens about the numerous heartbreaking events occurring in Korea's democratization process. Rev. Schweizer embodied international ecumenical solidarity as a laywoman leader and pastor bridging the ecumenical friendship between Germany and Korea, living and practicing among the lives of the Korean people (Minjung) on the frontline.

Once again, we express our condolences to the late Rev. Dorothea Schweizer and extend deep respect and condolences to all of our dear companions of faith walking in the ecumenical tradition and history of the Korean Church together with you. We will long remember your clear, fine spirit toward the just and peaceful journey of ecumenical pilgrimage filled with love and solidarity for a Just Peace in Korea and East Asia. We offer our deep respect and condolences with hands folded together, earnestly praying that the deceased may enjoy eternal rest in God's embrace.

"But let justice and fairness flow like a river that never runs dry." (Amos 5:24)

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National Council of Churches in Korea (NCCCK)
Rev. Kim, Jong Seng, General Secretary