

Preface

In September 2007 the conference “*Forgiving and Reconciliation: Towards an Enlightened World Culture*” took place in Freiburg, Germany on radiant late summer weather.

At first sight the theme of the conference was a difficult and challenging one – forgiving for many people in the West is seen as something not authentic and does not belong in a psycho-therapeutic context. For others it is related to guilt. This generated resistance; nobody, particularly in Germany, wants to be guilty.

In spite of all these difficulties, the 9th EUROTAS conference was able to happen. It was a conference of high scientific quality; the character of this science was an expression of devoted hearts – devoted to truth and love. The conference was a deep source of information and a place of “*enlightened communications*”. Besides lectures and workshops, rituals and other performances were offered. I particularly will mention the cleansing ritual of a Siberian shaman (Vera Sazhina), and the *Jewish-German* prayer for forgiving. The conference took place at the holiest Jewish holiday Jom Kippur which is the Jewish day for reconciliation. Another heart-moving contribution unfortunately cannot be presented here which was the report of the South African Truth and Reconciliation Commission presented by *Miep Turken*. It will come out as separate book.

Nevertheless, this volume contains an impressive selection of different contributions of the conference. It delivers essential information and psycho-spiritual contexts for this topic; you may enjoy its diversity, and connect yourself to the spirit of an *Enlightened World Culture*.

Freiburg, 6. Mai 2008.

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