

First Brief Report of the Domach General Members 'Meeting of March 19, 2005

The Society Founded at the Christmas Conference Has Been Preserved!

**The Board of Directors of the General Anthroposophical Society
is not Taking Its Case to the Supreme Court.**

This Board decision not to appeal means that the judgments of the Dorneck-Thierstein District Court and the Solothurn High Court are now in effect. Thus, the Board's attempted "reactivation" of the alleged second society and the November 15, 2003 member vote to dissolve the General Anthroposophical Society are null and void.

At the March 19th, 2005, General Members 'Meeting, Paul Mackay announced the decision: The Board accepts the judgment of the Solothurn High Court of January 12, 2005 and will not appeal to the Supreme Court in Lausanne.

Through this decision, the two judgments of the Dorneck-Thierstein District Court of February 3, 2004 and the Solothurn High Court of January 12, 2005 are now **legally in full force**. Both courts decree that the Board's theoretical society, the General Anthroposophical Society (Christmas Conference) is legally nonexistent and state that **the society founded during the Christmas Conference of December 1923 lives on in its entirety in today's General Anthroposophical Society** -- the only society in existence. This gives members **the assurance that our existing society is in full succession of the Christmas Conference impulse**.

Since the Board's theoretical society, the General Anthroposophical Society (Christmas Conference) has now been ruled nonexistent, all resolutions made in connection with this theoretical society are invalid -- among them the December 2002 resolutions to alter the Principles. The plan was to cancel the members' right (given by Rudolf Steiner) to present their own free motions, which would mean the end of their ability to participate in shaping the society, and to concentrate more power in the hands of the Society leadership. The November 15, 2003 resolution to dissolve the existing society has now become invalid, as well. The member lawsuits and the resulting judgments by two courts have now proved legally that **the General Anthroposophical Society is none other than the society founded during the Christmas Conference**, and have prevented the society from dissolving itself. The Board's plans, which would have led to a destruction of our society, have come to nothing.

This is great cause for rejoicing. Yet anyone who attended the recent general members' meeting could plainly see that the Board is still pursuing the same troubling plans which stand in strong opposition to the nature of Anthroposophy. The first indication of this was that, even while Paul Mackay was accepting the judgment, he downplayed its importance and completely falsified its substance. He continued the falsification he had already been spreading prior to the meeting, stating once more that the court had declared "*that the society founded during the 1923 Christmas Conference no longer has any legal existence,*" adding that this was "*regrettable*". In reality neither of the two courts had decreed the nonexistence of the society, but only the nonexistence of the Board's claimed theoretical society. Quite to the contrary, the court found that the society founded during the Christmas Conference **lives on completely** in our society. Yet one more time, the matter was deliberately misrepresented: Paul Mackay claims that he accepts the judgment of the high court, which decreed that the society founded during the Christmas Conference lives on in the General Anthroposophical Society -- yet at the same time totally denies that it lives on!

Paul Mackay's further words left no doubt about the fact that the Board intends to go on pursuing the resolutions of the December 2002 meeting now rendered null and void by the court judgment. Professor Andreas Furrer and Dr. Jürgen Erdmenger supported Paul Mackay's statements with statements of their own. Paul Mackay will unfailingly pursue his original course -- that of giving more and more authority to the Board and taking away the members' ability to help shape their society or even to speak their minds.

This, then, is our situation after the latest general members' meeting: The General Anthroposophical Society has, thank God, been saved. But now we must save the anthroposophical character of this society. The society must again allow for the free development of individual members, for each member's contribution, in word and deed, to shaping the Society, and for democratic open and free discussions of Society affairs. The plans that the Board obviously intends to go on pursuing endanger the anthroposophical character of the Society more than ever.

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