Baracat, Maria Deuz (1904–2004)

THE BRAZILIAN WHITE CENTER – UNASP

The Brazilian White Center – UNASP is a team of teachers and students at the Brazilian Ellen G. White Research Center – UNASP at the Brazilian Adventist University, Campus Engenheiro, Coelho, SP. The team was supervised by Drs. Adolfo Semo Suárez, Renato Stencil, and Carlos Flávio Teixeira. Bruno Sales Gomes Ferreira provided technical support. The following names are of team members: Adriane Ferrari Silva, Alan Grazioto Alexandre, Allen Jair Urcia Santa Cruz, Camila Chede Amaral Lucena, Camilla Rodrigues Seixas, Daniel Fernandes Teodoro, Danillo Alfredo Rios Junior, Danilo Fauster de Souza, Débora Meyer Rosa, Elvis Eli Martins Filho, Felipe Cardoso do Nascimento, Fernanda Nascimento Oliveira, Gabriel Pilon Galvani, Giovana de Castro Vaz, Guilherme Cardoso Ricardo Martins, Gustavo Costa Vieira Novaes, Ingrid Stéfane Santos Andrade, Isabela Pimenta Gravina, Ivo Ribeiro de Carvalho, Jhoseyr Davison Voos dos Santos, João Lucas Moraes Pereira, Kalline...
Maria Deuz Baracat, nurse and Bible worker, was born around 1904. She graduated in nursing and theology from the former Brazil College (now UNASP-SP). She was married to Pastor José Baracat, who contributed greatly to the Adventist Church. Maria and José had two children, Paulo (1939-1993) and Silas.

Maria Baracat was a loyal partner and collaborator in her husband's ministry. She supported her husband's public evangelistic series as a Bible worker and nurse. She used her knowledge to promote and teach health classes and help the community. Maria aimed to remove prejudice against the Seventh-day Adventists and captivate the sympathy of those that attended the preaching series. By doing so, she opened the way for people to listen to the gospel. Among the places she worked are the city of Salvador, the capital of the state of Bahia in 1935, and the city of Caruaru in the State of Pernambuco in 1955, where the evangelistic series were successful.

Maria's work was not restricted to the evangelistic field. When requested, she provided first-aid training sessions in meetings promoted by the church. In 1954, she was a summer school teacher for the teachers of the Northeast Mission and Bahia and Sergipe Mission's Adventist primary schools. In July 1956, she participated teaching first aid in the canvassing program of the Bahia and Sergipe Mission. In 1959, she went through the difficult experience of losing her husband. José died on October 27 due to complications of hepatitis. Even after this arduous loss, Maria kept contributing to the church. In recognition of her dedicated work in Rio de Janeiro, on November 17, 1985, she was awarded a medal of honor by the Rio de Janeiro Central Church, where she worked for 40 years.

Maria was a committed Adventist evangelist who utilized her knowledge in nursing to promote humanitarian aid alongside her husband's evangelistic efforts. Besides spreading the Word of God, Maria brought courage and comfort to the needy. Maria Deuz Baracat died at the end of 2004 in Belo Horizonte, State of Minas Gerais. She was 100 years old.

SOURCES


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