



Rev. Sister Karin Lelyveld
(1935-2015)

A TRIBUTE

During one of my intra-European flights in the late 1990's, I noticed a group of nuns travelling in the same flight. When we were about to disembark the plane, I greeted and asked about them. The senior nun came forward and briefly told me about their work. I realised that theirs was a peace mission.

In those days I was working on an ambitious project "World Festival of Sacred Music" on behalf of His Holiness Dalai Lama to usher in a peaceful 21st century. After giving a brief background introduction on the project, I asked the senior nun directly, "Will you come?" She said, "Yes, we will all come." I was pleasantly surprised and happy with her spontaneous response. That senior nun was none other than Rev. Sister Karin.

She and sister Emmanuele lead a large group of Benedictine sisters and brothers all the way to Bangalore, now called Bengaluru, to join the six hundred and fifty artists from 15 different countries gathered to take part in the Global Event of World Festival of Sacred Music in April 2000 stretched over 8 days. They presented a beautiful Hebrew music of the *Song of Songs* and sister Karin spoke about School of Peace project in the presence of His Holiness the Dalai Lama and other eminent delegates at the "Meeting of Mind" session of the festival. Sister Karin also came with a group of 16 nuns and monks from Benedictine monastic community to participate in the event I organized in Delhi called "Festival of Sacred Chanting" in 2003. I still have a vivid memory of their participations and feel grateful.

For me Saint Lioba monastery in Egmond (the Netherlands) and peace have been synonymous all these years. The message of peace that comes from this monastery and the peace activities that it engages in are the need of the hours in this world of conflict and violence.

I am grateful to the community of Saint Lioba Monastery and particularly to sister Karin and sister Emmanuele for opening a welcoming door to me to their beautiful monastery. This place is not merely a living shelter nor is it a place meant for self seeking people. It is a place for right thinking, right action and right livelihood; an ideal situation!

Over the years of my friendship with sister Karin, I found her to be a sweet, kind and very soft-spoken person. I am glad to have known her and the Lioba Community. I will always cherish her friendship.

I have no doubt that the monastic community as a team will continue to carry forward the sacred mission.

With my sincere prayers.

Lama Doboomb Tulku