

Rotschild, Friedrich Salomon

Born in Giessen, Germany, on December 17, 1899. He completed his medical studies at the Giessen and Munich Universities in 1923.

1924-1926 he began to work with Frieda Fromm-Reichman in Heidelberg and at the same time he underwent the training psychoanalysis with Erich Fromm. From 1926 to 1928 he worked with Kurt Goldstein at the Neurologisches Institut in Frankfurt, and from 1928 -- at the Nervenheilanstalt there, until, in 1933, he was dismissed for being a Jew.

Throughout those years he continued also with psychoanalytic patients and, besides, was greatly influenced by the German philosopher Ludwig Klages. This became the starting point for his growing involvement in philosophy, over the years.

In 1936 he emigrated to (then) Palestine and there married Dr. Margot Hellmuth. Here he joined the Psychoanalytic Society at the Institute in Jerusalem, his work supervised at the beginning by Dr. Max Eitingon. He remained in private practice until 1948, when he began as consultant at the Department of Neurology and later Psychiatry at the Hebrew University-Hadassah Hospital. In 1955 he was appointed Clinical Professor, and in 1956-1958 he became Director of the Department of Psychiatry, a position he held until his retirement in 1966, at the age of 67. In 1961 he was Visiting Professor at the Albert Einstein Medical College in New York, and continued as corresponding member of the American Psychiatric Association. In 1981 he was awarded the Gold Medal of the Deutsche Akademie für Psychoanalyse and in 1982 he was nominated Honorary President of the World Association of Dynamic Psychiatry.

Besides his extensive teaching to medical students and to hospital staff, Rotschild developed the field of biosaemiotics, the science of psychophysical relationships. He published almost 40 articles and books. The latter, his main texts, are the following:

- Symbolik des Hirnbaus. Erscheinungswissenschaftliche Untersuchungen über den Bau und die Funktion des Zentralnervensystems der Wirbeltiere und des Menschen. Berlin, Karger, 1935. vi+357 pp.
- Das Ich und die Regulationen des Erlebnsvorgangs. Basel, Karger, 1950, xi+388 pp.
- Das Zentralnervensystem als Symbol des Erlebens. Basel - New York, Karger, 1958, viii+139 pp.
- Die Evolution als innere Anpassung an Gott. Bouvier, Bonn, 1986, 455 pp.

Prof. Rotschild is 88 years old, has stopped psychoanalytic practice and is writing a new volume on the biosemiotic relationship between physics and parapsychology.

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