

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### KIRSTEN STOFFREGEN PEDERSEN (Sr. Abraham)

- 26.02.1932** Born at Frederiksberg (Copenhagen).
- 1948-1951** Educated at the Nathalie Zahles Skole (1937-1948) and Østersøgades Gymnasium (1948-51) in Copenhagen. *Examen artium* (=Abitur, matric, baccalaureat) with specialization in Latin and Greek received from the latter school June 1951.
- 1951-1962** Roman Catholic nun (Brigittine) at Vadstena, Sweden from July 1951-May 1962.
- 1956-1962** Novice mistress at Vadstena.
- 1962-1965** Moved back to Copenhagen with three other nuns from Vadstena May 1962 and engaged in studies at the University of Copenhagen 1962-1965. Judaica within the framework of Semitic Philology. Passed exams of philosophy (Philosophicum) and Biblical Hebrew (Hebraicum) at the University of Copenhagen in 1963.
- July-Sept 1964** Made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land arranged by the Terra Sancta Franciscans with an Italian group and former superior from Vadstena, by bus from Venezia through Jugoslavia, Bulgaria, Turkey, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan to Israel. She worked at Kibbutz *Neoth Mordekhay* in Upper Galilee.
- 1965-1969** Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem: "Sacred Scripture and Hebrew Literature." B.A. Degree received in 1969.
- 1970-1980** Having joined the Ethiopian monastic community in Jerusalem in October 1970, staying at the Ethiopian Archbishop's Residence in the Old City, she was engaged in teaching, office work and social work.
- 1975-1981** Studies at the Hebrew University reassumed in 1975: African Studies. M.A. Degree received in 1981. (Specialization: The History of Christianity in Ethiopia, Modern African Literature). M.A. thesis: "The History of the Ethiopian Community in the Holy Land from the Time of Emperor Tewodros II till 1974" published by the Tantar Ecumenical Institute (Jerusalem 1983).
- 1984-1991** Ph.D. courses at the Hebrew University 1984-85. Thesis finished and presented summer 1989: "Traditional Ethiopian Exegesis of the Book of Psalms." Accepted in 1990 and published by the Otto Harrassowitz Verlag at Wiesbaden, Germany (1995). Ph.D. Degree received in 1991.

1990-1992                      Studies of the Russian language (Hebrew University).

### **Religious Background**

Family background: Lutheran.

Frequented Catholic Church daily alone from the age of 12.

### **Language Proficiencies**

- Danish
- English
- Swedish
- German
- French
- Hebrew
- Aramaic
- Syriac
- Arabic
- 10<sup>th</sup> century Scandinavian (oldnordisk)
- Italian
- Ge'ez (classical Ethiopic)
- Amharic
- Coptic
- Russian

### **Professional Activities**

Conferences. Participation in international conferences of Ethiopian Studies in 1980, 1984, 1988, 1990, 1993 and 2000.

Teaching. Learned iconography from Sr. Maura Mary Fewtrell, O.S.B., on the Mount of Olives, Jerusalem, in 1973 and has since been teaching the subject in Jerusalem, Denmark and Germany.

Exhibitions. Exhibitions (with other iconographers) in Jerusalem, France and Denmark, (alone) in Denmark, Germany and Sweden.