



PRINCE KUM'A NDUMBE III

Résidence Prince Bele Bele, ancienne route de Bonabéri, BP 9234, Douala IVè, Cameroun

Mail : prince@africavenir-international.org

Tribute

Martha Margarethe Ndumbe

Martha Margarethe Ndumbe, born in Berlin in 1902, yes, what an existence on this planet Earth. Deep within, you carried so much, had to endure so much. Slavery was barely officially ended, with huge compensation for the slave owners. The commodity of Black people from Africa was no longer profitable enough, and whole territories of Africa were locked into a new, productive system called Colonialism. Militarily, politically, economically, socially, and culturally. And the citizens of the colonial states needed "Völkerschauen" (People's Shows) and human zoos from Africa to more closely feel the urgency of the mission to civilize the "savages".

Your father, Njo'a Ndumbe, Christianly baptized as Jakob, arrived in Germany as if with a caravan. Just to show what a wild colonized person looks like and acts like. People's Shows in Berlin, Paris, London, Brussels. Popular, exotic, great enthusiasm. Europe demonstrates its superiority to itself with accomplished artistry. Minor peoples dance and offer a great spectacle. And yet, a fragile relationship develops between the Black Njo'a Ndumbe from Bonabedi and the white German woman Dorothea Elisabeth Grunwaldt. And you, Martha, come into the world. A "Mischling" (mixed-race person)! they say, and they constantly point you out. "The white person is God's, the Black person is God's, but the Mischling is the Devil's," even the race theorist F. Zumpt¹ wrote.

¹L. Kühne, Grundfragen des nationalsozialistischen Kolonialrechts, Berlin, 1941, S. 51 ff

The **Colonial Blood Protection Law** (*Kolonialblutschutzgesetz*) drafted in 1940 imposed an unambiguous penalty : "Natives, members of the colored indigenous population, ... *Mischlinge* (mixed-race people), who have sexual intercourse with a white woman in the German colonies, shall be punished with **death**²".

How were you, as a dignified human being, supposed to live and survive in this Germany, and even worse, as a Black woman? This wandering aimlessly in hopelessness, during the long hours of the day and the dark night, how does one get a piece of bread, how does one get a tablet to ease the maddening pain? Do you have a penny for me? Don't jump in front of the arriving train. Still holding out, persevering, with small thefts, still wanting to breathe, unless as an exotic whore. Martha, you were too much for the German lawmakers, an offense against the *Herrenmenschen* (master race). Where were you supposed to go? The **NS concentration camp** was supposed to show you where you belonged. Until death. Due to **tuberculosis**, they wrote in the files. Not murder. "Away with the vermin," You heard that so often.

Martha Margarethe Ndumbe, we call on you, we, who were able to survive, we, who are helping to shape a different, decolonized Germany, a Germany, a Europe, a world away from this poisonous racism. We call on you and ask for forgiveness, for liberating forbearance. We tell the world of your silent crusade.

Today You are honored, as a woman, as a Black person, as a human being.

Martha Ndumbe Platz, in Berlin Wedding.

We, too, from Bonabedi in Cameroon, bless you: rest in a deep peace. Be embedded in the radiant light of the Creator. We surround You with love.

Prince Kum'a Ndumbe III.

Bonabedi, Cameroon, October 18th, 2025

² BA, R 22/2365, Kolonialblutschutzgesetz, Entwurf 1940, ausführlicher, siehe; Kum'a Ndumbe III, Was wollte Hitler in Afrika? NS-Planungen für eine faschistische Neugestaltung Afrikas, IKO-Verlag, 1993