



MATILDA

EFFECT



Pionierinnen der Forschung Female Pioneers of Research

Pt. 63

Rahel Straus



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Rahel Straus (1880-1963)

Physician

Born in Karlsruhe as the daughter of a rabbi, she received educational support from an early age. She attended the *Karlsruhe Girls' Gymnasium* and was one of the first four female students to graduate with the Abitur. As the first woman in Germany to give an Abitur speech, she addressed the lack of educational opportunities for women in her talk.



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Her uncle supported her in beginning her medical studies at the *University of Heidelberg*, where she was the first woman to enroll.

She passed her state examination in 1905 and earned her doctorate in 1907 at the *University of Munich*.



In 1908, she opened a gynecological practice in Munich – becoming the first female physician with a German university education to establish a private practice.

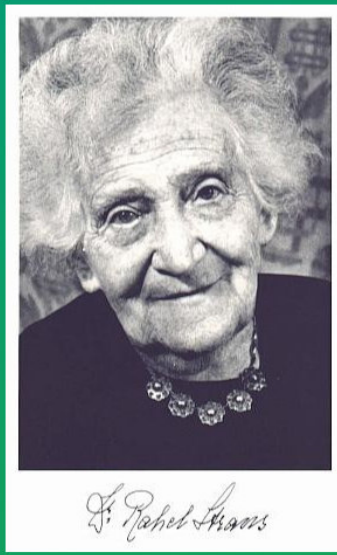


In Munich, she was active in the *Association of Jewish Women for Cultural Work in Palestine, WIZO*, and the *League of Jewish Women*.



After the death of her husband, she emigrated to Palestine in 1932 with her children, established a medical practice in Jerusalem, and co-founded *AKIM* – an organization supporting people with disabilities, which remains active today, including in Germany.

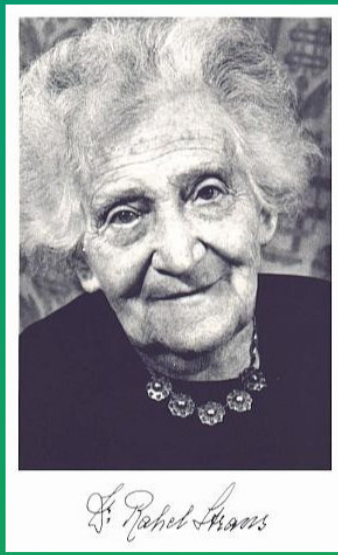




Rahel Straus passed away in Jerusalem in 1963. Several streets in Germany have been named in her honor.

The Medical Faculty of *Heidelberg University* supports early-career female researchers in their postdoctoral work through the *Rahel Goitein-Straus-Fellowship-Program*.





„Wir wollen einen Beruf haben,
wir wollen einen Platz im Leben
ausfüllen.“

"We want to have a profession,
we want to take our place in life."

