



Speaking Tour of Heny Yudea / Lessan in Germany **JAMU –Natural Medicine on Java & Human Rights 12.-24. Mai 2008**

We were very happy to welcome Heny Yudea on May 12th to the Planet Diversity Festival in Bonn. Heny Yudea is a human rights activist and expert in medicinal plants from Indonesia. She is also the founder of the NGO, *Lessan*, where she has been active on the outskirts of Yogyakarta/Central Java for the past 20 years cultivating and administering medicinal plants among low-income populations.



Lessan works closely with 500 families from the farming cooperative *Sepejam*, which is active in seed conservation, farmers' rights and herb cultivation for children and adults.

The SATU organization for art, youth and culture organized a speaking tour for Heny after the Planet Diversity World Congress on the Future of Food and Agriculture. Her first engagement was on May 17th in Karlsruhe where Heny met many young people from who came to learn about her activism.



Heny then travelled to Lustenau Vorarlberg in Austria to meet *Lessan* supporters from *Baumraum*, an importer of traditional coffees and spices cultivated by small farmers from Java. Heny gave a stunning presentation on Jamu-medicinal plants and all enjoyed a theatrical performance from Wayang Rajakaya, a German/Javanese shadow theater project.

On May 20th Heny continued to Bremen and gave a presentation on the threat of patents for medicinal plants at the Bremer Information Center for Human Rights and Development organized by *MATA-Asien im Blick*.

Frankfurt was the last stop on Heny's tour. There she visited the Senckenberg Garden for Medicinal Plants with hosts from the group *IMBAS*.

Reports on the work of Heny and *Lessan* were broadcast by WDR and Deutsche Welle. Heny's expenses were funded by Planet Diversity and the Kath. Fonds.

Dorle Ferber / **SATU Verein für Kunst, Jugend & Kultur e.V.**
Hirtengärten 13 88696 Taiserdorf info@satu-ev.de www.satu-ev.de

