



A família ALiB (*Workshop 2012*)

This issue of *Signum* was programmed to be only a space to discuss the methodological difficulties of field research, especially those we faced during the on-site interviews for the Brazilian Linguistic Atlas. It would be an accountability that each interviewer would do about their work.

However, Divine Providence wanted to suddenly call upon Suzana Cardoso for her living on the Spiritual Plane. We were left without ground, all hugely shocked, with this abrupt departure. How could we immediately accept the physical disappearance of a friend and colleague who made so many plans, traced directives, attentive to everything and everyone, hours before leaving? Little by little, we gathered what we had left of energy to recover of the blow and to return to the work that she loved so much.

Her example and her courage began to guide us. Today, faith is giving us the strength to carry on according to her desires and plans. Thus, we have changed the objective of this issue to dedicate it to this strength that has supported us during these 21 years of ALiB; to this loving and caring friend with whom we shared personal sorrows and anxieties; to this wise researcher who feared no obstacles; to this Director President, whom we affectionately called Mother Superior, because she knew how to ally, like anyone else, the energetic pulse with the mildness of the nun that she was.

I hereby transcribe the ACKNOWLEDGMENT you left us in Document 7 on pages 16 and 17, published in 2017:

In concluding these opening words in these 20 years of our Project, I would like to express my gratitude to the entire ALiB Family who have given me the title of Director-President and a very generous epithet of Mother Superior, to tell you that the burden has been light because each one of the members of our great Family directs and presides with competence and self-denial, what is their duty to administer and because in this ecumenical monastery - which is our Alibian family - where God of the Universe is present in its different manifestations, there is harmony, work, seriousness, fraternal spirit and joy in doing. I am grateful to all of you and, particularly, for having given me the joy of seeing our Atlas de Linguistic de Brazil implanted, started, with results already circulating in the first two volumes already published and in full development, an academic dream that I fed since I fell in love with Geolinguistics.

Dear Suzana, we are grateful to you, you fulfilled, brilliantly, your mission on Earth. Be at peace with your family and friends that preceded you. Here we will be, in the transience of earthly life, seeking to give continuity to the ALiB with the same passion with which you conceived and executed it until the last day of your stay on Earth.

Receive the affectionate embrace of all the staff you have hosted in your home and in the rooms of the Institute of Letters of UFBA. We will always be vibrating for your happiness and spiritual progress.