

TRANSLATION

THE SELF-ASSERTION OF THE GERMAN UNIVERSITY:
ADDRESS, DELIVERED ON THE SOLEMN ASSUMPTION
OF THE RECTORATE OF THE UNIVERSITY FREIBURG
THE RECTORATE 1933/34: FACTS AND THOUGHTS

MARTIN HEIDEGGER

TRANSLATED WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY
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THE following is a translation of Martin Heidegger, *Die Selbstbehauptung der deutschen Universität. Rede, gehalten bei der feierlichen Übernahme des Rektorats der Universität Freiburg i. Br. am 27. 5. 1933* and *Das Rektorat 1933/34. Tatsachen und Gedanken*. The former was first published by Korn Verlag, Breslau, in 1933. It was republished in 1983, together with Heidegger's later remarks on his rectorate, by Vittorio Klostermann in Frankfurt am Main.

Martin Heidegger wanted his writings to speak for themselves. His son, Hermann Heidegger, and his publisher have reaffirmed this wish. Such reaffirmation seems particularly important in this case, which by its nature invites emotional responses and demands thoughtful discussion.

Heidegger's thinking is a thinking "on the way." To understand this way we have to understand its stages. The texts that have here been translated help to illuminate a particularly crucial stage, which decisively shaped the subsequent development of Heidegger's thought.

To help the reader, I have added a number of footnotes. Some of these call attention to places where my translation left me dissatisfied; others explain references to persons and events that without such explanation are likely to mean little to readers unfamiliar with the situation to which Heidegger's rectorate responded; still others locate works referred to in these texts.

Gratitude is expressed to Hermann Heidegger and the publisher, Vittorio Klostermann, who gave their permission to publish these translations and to preface them with a translation of Hermann Heidegger's brief *Vorwort* to the German edition.—K. H.

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