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BEFORE THE SECRET OF TIME**

Dear friends,

In Montenegrin culture, there is a book written by a famous Montenegrin whose name was Marko Miljanov Popović. The title of the book is *The Examples of Humanity and Bravery*. He distinguished two virtues in it. Under bravery, he understood the virtue of defending oneself from the other. Under humanity, he understood the virtue of defending others from oneself. However, the author of this significant book missed to give an answer to the name of the virtue in which a human defends himself from himself.

That question may be asked not only by a man but by whole mankind. Can we save ourselves from ourselves?

Events in contemporary world prove that man upset his balance with nature, other people and himself. The solution may be in restoring of what we call humanism.

I believe that conferences like this one, gathering wise and well-recognised people are a step forward in that direction. Opening this meeting, I hope that at the end of it we will all have more optimism that humane life is possible.

Thank you.

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** Opening section.