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LETTER TO AN UNKNOWN HERO OF KIEV

Sarajevo, March 11, 2022

I THINK OF YOU IN SARAJEVO,
MY DEAR FRIEND OF KIEV.

I don't know you by personal name.

I know you only by the name of the hero of Kiev.

My personal name means nothing to you either. Thus, I would like that you remember me by the name of my Sarajevo as well.

Because you are without the name of Kiev, and I am without the name of Sarajevo. We are nameless. Nobodies.

I didn't ask, "How are you?"

The reason is that I used to get a fever when an outsider asked me how I felt,
in Sarajevo,
under the siege,
which lasted 1425 days and nights.

I know, my friend, how you feel in Kiev today; helpless but defiant. You feel that your truthful cause is the first victim of the Russian invasion, while the promised support of the world is the last illusion, which (does not) die.

You know well that one can't live on an illusion, but, again, one can't survive without any illusion.

The illusion, my friend, is our mutual friend.

Do not burn the Kiev illusion. It is your only salvation in war ... and ... after the war in peace.

For us, the illusion was the straw of salvation that we clung to in Sarajevo; in the war ... and... now in peace--the illusion that we are safe from genocide in Europe by slogan: "Never Again!"

You are hearing many promises for your salvation in Kiev, but remember, my friend of Kiev, nothing is certain except the beating of your heart. So, take care of your heart not to fall into despair and not to lose the love of God and love of your neighbor.

Some friends are silent, but the enemies of peace empower us anyway if they don't kill us. That is why Martin Luther King used to say: In the end we will not remember the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends.

Surely, you will remember the inability of friends to stop Putin now, just as we remember the inability of friends to stop Milošević then.

Putin's criminal campaign is not only against Ukraine, just as Milošević's criminal campaign was not only against Bosnia, but also against peace and security in Europe and the world.

Today is the eleventh day since the siege of Kiev. That is a fatal number in my memory - New York's 11th of September and Srebrenica's 11th of July.

It probably means nothing to you, but it means a lot to me because the New York terrorism is attributed to my faith, and the Srebrenica genocide was committed against my faith and my people in Bosnia.

My friend,

I am writing this letter not for you, but for myself. I literally see the Russian invasion of Ukraine as an invasion of Bosnia.

What is happening to you today in the city of Kiev on the eleventh day of the Russian invasion is exactly the same, exactly what was happening to the city of Sarajevo in 1425 days and nights.

I am afraid if you do not survive the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

The next invasion would be of my country in the Balkans.

For Serbian (Russian) politics, Bosnia is neither a nation nor a state, just as Ukraine to them is neither a nation nor a state.

Ukraine was invented by Lenin, and Bosnia was made by America. That is why neither Ukraine nor Bosnia has the right to exist. Both these European nations and states must disappear from the face of the earth. That is the Russian-Serbian logic of crime against humanity.

That's what I wanted to tell you, my friend of Kiev, we are on the same line of defense.

Therefore, as long as you are alive and well in Kiev, I am also alive and well in Sarajevo;

as long as the brave defenders of Kiev resist Russian shelling, Sarajevo is safe from shelling as well;

as long as I hear your voice in Kiev, my voice in Sarajevo is heard as well;

as long as you are free in Kiev, I am free in Sarajevo as well;

as long as you are not afraid of 5,977 Russian nuclear warheads in Moscow, I am not afraid of the Russian S-400 missile system and the Pancir S-1 missile system in Belgrade either.

Of course, there is something stronger than Russian nuclear warheads and missile systems, and that is the brave heart of the Sarajevo and Kiev defenders.

Of all things, both in Heaven and on Earth, the greatest is God's power, which neither Hitler, nor Stalin, nor Putin, nor Vučić, nor Dodik ... nor any other tyrant can pass ("non passé").

In the hope that one day we will drink coffee in Sarajevo and Kiev, please accept my deep respect and love with the greetings: "Long live Bosnia" and "Glory to Ukraine."

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