

Michael Idvorsky Pupin
„BRILLIANT MIND“
Documentary film, lasting: 90 minutes

SOUTH SLAV MONUMENTS

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SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

EDITED BY

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HILENDAR. On Mount Athos, the "Holy Mountain." This is the last Foundation of Nemanja. The mountain of Athos is well known throughout the entire Orthodox world as the centre of a great monastic republic.

In 1196 Nemanja left the throne to his younger son Stephen, and retired to Mount Athos, where his youngest son Sava had lived some years before as a simple monk. They found in a beautiful olive wood the ruins of a small chapel, and Nemanja, who now had the monastic name of Simon, decided to build a new church on the site of these ruins. Such was the beginning of the afterwards famous religious and theological centre—outside of Serbia. During a period of 200 years the Kings of Serbia without distinction added to the buildings and endowments of this ancient foundation of their fathers with devotion and delight. The most liberal of all the royal benefactors was King Milutin, the great grandson of Nemanja. He built the new church of Hilendar, providing it with immense property and treasures.

The Monastery of Hilendar is often mentioned in Serbian song as the pride of their religious and natural institutions. Sometimes it is called Vilindar (*i.e.*, gift of the fairies) on account of its beauty.



