PUBLIC MEETINGS in COLOMBIA

August 2004

It is the result of a tirelessly task of devotees working harmoniously through multiple committees, considering obstacles as a learning opportunity. Resources came from devotees’ donations and a determined Fundasai’s support.

Posters and leaflets were distributed all along the cities and in the near by towns, also with a beautiful printed invitation to be delivered personally and a virtual invitation sent by e-mail. General information on the meeting and on Swamis’ life was giving my means of a web site. Newspaper advertisements and press releases in the most important radio and TV news bulletin complemented the diffusion.

Public meetings took place on Bogotá, Bucaramanga and Medellín, on the 8th, 9th and 10th of August respectively. Each meeting opened either with a choir or with an infantile dance with local music and words on human values.

Expositors were Leonardo Gutter and Billy Escalante introduction made by Carlos Cuéllar president of the Sri Sathya Sai Organization in Colombia. The presentations were filled with love, based on Swami’s teachings and miracle experiences. Finally a short presentation of the Colombian Institute on Human Values and close with the movie His work.

The receptivity of the public and all the sessions were involved in a magic experience of union, fraternity and open mind to the message of Sai.

On the way out we gave every participant with a bulletin as a souvenir with generalities on the life and work of Swami, as well as the address of Sai Centers and Groups in Colombia. It was sold a big quantity of books by Fundasai. The television network, RCN covered in Bogotá the event; in Bucaramanga it was broadcasted completely by radio and in Medellín it was presented in closed circuit, at the University cafeteria.

In Bogota there where approximately 1000 attendings, in Bucaramanga 600 and in Medellín almost 900 and many couldn’t get it.

Many people dreamed or saw Swami in the City during these days. But for shure the presence of Swami was permanent by different manifestations specially facilitating at the last minute things that seem impossible or
with the presence of the number 23 everytime. After the public meeting there
has been many telephone calls and visitors even some wanting to become a
Group of the Organization. In one week there where 180 phone calls. We have
around 2 to ten new visitors to Centers every week.

In medellín it was recognized the labor for nine years of a group of
devotees who adopted poor children (70), and became a Sai Center. Some days
after, the book Universal Heart for the message of every day reading started
producing vibhuty from the cover. First from the heart in the background,
then from the hands of Swami in the photograph.

The effect has been traduced by a reactivation of energy, interest,
enthusiasm, devotion and compromise on the devotees, the Centers and Groups
as well as on the Organization itself.

After these edited movie was released, there has been Public Meetings in
Barranquilla (500 attendings) and Cúcuta (150 attendings) by September.
Next comes meetings in Cali, Villavicencio and in some cities dedicated to
coffee business.

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