

> **PUBLIC MEETINGS in COLOMBIA**

> **August 2004**

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

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> *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 Swami's 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.*

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> *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.*

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> *In Bogotá there were 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*

> *sure 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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