

PUBLIC MEETING AND PRE-WORLD CONFERENCE

8TH AND 9TH MAY 2004

BUENOS AIRES- ARGENTINA

The Latin American Public Meeting was held on 8th May 2004 at the Gran Rex Theatre in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

People began lining up outside the theatre two hours before the start of the meeting, with the queue extending almost two blocks surrounding the theatre. The theatre was filled to capacity with over 3200 people. The Ambassadors of Chile, Ukraine, Croatia and Vietnam and prominent personalities from public and private institutions were in attendance. Photographic exhibits depicting the service activities undertaken by the Sathya Sai Organisation throughout Latin America were also on display, with the public followed with much interest.

After some melodious devotional songs in Spanish, the august gathering was addressed by Dr. Michael Goldstein, Chairman of the Prashanti Council, and Leonardo Gutter, Member of the Prashanti Council. The speeches were greeted with very moving and sustained applause from the public. At the end of the screening of the special film "His Work", hundreds of faces were covered with tears with the love it had aroused in their hearts. Dr. Goldstein concluded the meeting by reading a message of Sri Sathya Sai Baba given to the Western devotees. After the meeting came to a close, hundreds stayed back in the theatre lobby for more than 45 minutes, as if mesmerised by our Beloved Lord.

The Pre- Word Conference for devotees was held on 9th May 2004 at the Plaza Salguero Centre. Nearly 1200 devotees from 20 countries of Latin America attended this meeting. The speeches by Dr. Michel Goldstein and Leonardo Gutter were simultaneously translated into Portuguese, as there were more than 100 devotees from Brazil among the attendees. Three workshops on Service, Devotion and Education were held and the summaries of these discussions were placed before the general assembly. The presentations of the Central Councils, Sathya Sai Institutes and Sri Sathya Sai Trusts of Latin America enriched and enthused all present with the grand scope and vision of the Sai Mission. Following the screening of a movie on the Argentine Sathya Sai Institute and its activities, the meeting concluded with an uplifting session of devotional singings in Spanish and Portuguese, transporting one and all to the Divine Lotus Feet of Sri Sathya Sai Baba who is enshrined in all hearts