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Cuban vice-president lays a wreath in honor to Jose Marti in Ecuador

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The First Vice-president of the Council of States and Ministers, Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez, laid a wreath at the monument of Cuba's National Hero Jose Marti.

This is my third visit to this land and we have experienced the same emotions thanks to the friendships of our people, said the Cuban vice-president while greeting those who attended the ceremony in Pichincha.

Diaz-Canel Bermudez arrived in Ecuador yesterday morning accompanied by deputy minister of Foreign Affairs Ana Teresita Gonzalez in order to attend the presidential inauguration of Lenin Moreno.

I want to salute Lenin Moreno and the *Alianza Pais* Movement. Both are the leading figures of a victory that transcends Ecuador to become a triumph for Latin America.

The also member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Cuba confirmed Cuba's support to the Ecuadorian people and their Citizens' Revolution, their achievements, "in the spirit of moving forward in our relationship."

He also recalled patriot Eloy Alfaro and his relation with Cuba. He fondly addressed to that great man, son of Ecuador.

Likewise, Miguel Diaz-Canel recalled how the province of Pichincha was the first in Ecuador to declare itself free of illiteracy thanks to the Cuban educational method *Yo, si Puedo*.

In that sense, he affirmed that it was paramount “that our people learn how to read and write to understand the possibility of a better world,” as our historical leader, Fidel, noted.

On the other hand, Gustavo Baroja, prefect of Pichincha, said that Marti, along with Simon Bolivar and Jose de San Martin, is one of the main figures in the emancipation process of America.

Baroja also stated that Ecuador is influenced by Marti since the country, in its educational system, has lots of Marti’s thoughts.

“Today, 122 years after his death, Marti’s fundamentals, ethic and human principles are still valid.”

Cuban ambassador in Ecuador Rafael Dausa, as well as officials from the Cuban embassy, attended the ceremony.

After the end of the activity, Diaz-Canel and the accompanying delegation toured the Equatorial and Ethnography Museum of the Middle of the World City where specialists answered all of his questions.

**Translated by Sergio A. Paneque Diaz / Cubasi Translation Staff**

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