

Bolivian University Praises SGI President

In a ceremony Oct. 1 in Tokyo, SGI President Ikeda was honored by Bolivia's Del Valle University for his untiring efforts for peace, culture and scholarship. University founder and rector Gonzalo Ruiz Martínez also spoke with President Ikeda on education, the ancient civilizations of Bolivia, and Simón Bolívar, the great leader of South American independence (after whom Bolivia is named). Bolívar was constantly plagued by the ingratitude, corruption and betrayal of his former comrades-in-arms. Unlike Bolívar, his comrades succumbed to the temptations of power, President Ikeda said. Bolívar challenged their abuses, but they maligned him in the press, thus leading to his famous words, 'There is no greater offense a human being can commit than ingratitude.' President Ikeda praised Bolívar for placing the highest trust in the people and the youth, and for making the education of both the focus of all his efforts.

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