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"I have, for a very long time, had the very deeply-held conviction that, when a crisis comes, leaders arise. So Bolívar arose when Napoleon occupied Spain and the imposition of a foreign king created the conditions that facilitated the independence of the Spanish colonies in this hemisphere. So Martí arose when the right moment came for the independence revolution in Cuba. So arose Chávez when the dreadful social and human situation in Venezuela and Latin America determined that the time to fight for the second, real independence had come".

References to the original: [Remarks by at a ceremony to present the Order of "Carlos Manuel de Céspedes" to Hugo Rafael Chavez Frias, President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, on the 10th anniversary of his first visit to Cuba, at the Karl Marx theater](#)

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