

## **Jorge Luis Batlle Ibáñez**

### **President of Uruguay**

Jorge Luis Batlle Ibáñez was born on Oct. 25, 1927. He graduated with a doctorate from the faculty of law and social sciences of the University of the Republic in 1956. From 1943 to 1976, he was active in journalism and politics.

Mr. Batlle was first elected to the Senate in 1985 and served until 1990. In 1995, he was re-elected to the Senate but left his seat in 1999 after becoming the Colorado Party's candidate for the presidency. Mr. Batlle was elected President of Uruguay in March 2000. He is married and has two children.

## **Hugo Chávez Frías**

### **President of Venezuela**

Hugo Chávez Frías was born on July 28, 1954 in Sabaneta, in the state of Barinas. He embarked on a military career at an early age and complemented his training with studies in history and social sciences.

In December 1998, Mr. Chávez was elected President of Venezuela. He took office on Feb. 3, 1999.