

Ecuador's President Visits Cuba

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Ecuador's outgoing President Rafael Correa is today in the eastern city of Santiago de Cuba where he starts a two-day visit to the island during which he'll pay tribute to late Fidel Castro and be conferred the Order Jose Marti, the country's highest distinction.

In Santiago, the Ecuadorian Head of State, who arrived last night, is scheduled to visit Thursday Santa Ifigenia cemetery to pay homage to the historical leader of the Cuban Revolution; then, he'll be declared Illustrious Son of the City.

He is also visiting the Moncada Garrison, where the armed struggle against the Fulgencio Batista dictatorship sparked in 1953.

Correa's also scheduled to meet with local neighbors whose houses were uplifted or rebuilt by Ecuador's solidarity aid in the wake of Sandy hurricane in 2012, and talk with Ecuadorian students who are studying medicine there.

He'll be on Friday in Havana where he'll be hosted by President Raul Castro who will confer on him the Order Jose Marti, Cuba's highest award, after laying a wreath at the Memorial Jose Marti at the Revolution Square.

Rafael Correa who came to power in Ecuador in 2007 at the helm of the PAIS Alliance and led what he called the Citizens's Revolution will be honored as Doctor Honoris Causa of the University of Havana.

The outgoing leader will pass on the Presidency of Ecuador to Lenin Moreno next May 24.