

## **Pregó (Preach)**

The Mayor of the City  
and the district of *Castelló*<sup>1</sup>

is glad today

to tell the residents:

the day of our *Magdalena*<sup>2</sup> has come,

we wish it be full

of pure and true joy

and gather the citizens

to replace their melancholy with love.

As the inhabitants are aware

that the City has the honor

of coming from the past

through bright paths,

now, coming back to the origins,

they will proudly see

the Magdalena festivity,

which deserves to be well recognized.

Being part of the pilgrimage

is not only about party,

though it is an obligation to show

the proudness of genealogy.

Which son would ever

forget the maternal roots?

This day we all must

ratify the promise

to keep the light of filial love

always on.

And to make the festivity be worthy,

of its success, achievements and name,

we don't want narrow limits to blame

of too modest ambitions.

And here they are,  
clearly because of traditional reasons,  
the festivities that Castelló  
holds following the ancient light  
so that the *gaiata*<sup>3</sup>, bright,  
becomes our best *pregó*<sup>4</sup>.  
*Víto!*<sup>5</sup>

1. *Castelló (or Castellón de la Plana) is the capital city of the province of Castelló, in the Valencian Community, Spain.*
2. *Magdalena is the name of the main festivity of Castelló. It commemorates the origins of the city, the move to the city from the Hill of Magdalena to the fertile coastal plain in 1251.*
3. *The gaiatas are the lighting monuments created and placed in the city during the Magdalena festival, symbolizing the lights the people of Castelló used during their move that night in 1251.*
4. *The Pregó is the poem that the author Bernat Artola wrote with devotion to his local festivities. It is also the name of the main parade that takes place in the city during these festivities.*
5. *It is the popular cry that symbolizes the culmination of the Magdalena festivities.*