

Smt. Abantika Shah (Jan 1, 1939 - Feb 7, 2024)

Abantikabahen (wife of Sri. Piyush bhai) was born and raised in Calcutta and therefore, was influenced by the Bengali culture and had a great respect for it. She was much attached to her father who played an important role in her growth.

Then she came in contact with Pujya Swamiji and saw a father in him. Pujya Swamiji also fulfilled that role. Abantikabahen developed a great love and reverence for Pujya Swamiji and was inspired by Pujya Swamiji's teaching and later on by what Pujya Swamiji was doing for the Hindu Dharma and the society, particularly for the underprivileged children.

During the first residential Vedanta Course at Saylorburg, she used to drive 50 minutes every morning to attend the Vedanta classes beginning at 7 am. In that process, she developed a great love for Upanishads and Shankara Bhashya. She also loved to participate in the Gita Vichara group which she hosted in her home.

Abantikabahen was a big donor and with Piyush bhai, they supported the Gurukulam and its staff members who needed help. They have also been supporting many of Pujya Swamiji's projects.

Gurukulam has been a second home for both of them. Her departure is a big loss personally to me, to the Gurukulam, their friends and relatives and countless others who received her love and affection. I have no doubt that the Lord has received her in His lap and she enjoys eternal peace and happiness .

- Suddhatma Chaitanya, General Manager, AVG Saylorburg



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