

Ārādhana Celebrations report

With the blessings of Lord Sri Gaṅgādhareśvara and Goddess Haimavati, the 7th Ārādhana celebrations of Pujya Sri Swami Dayananda Saraswatiji was held at Swami Dayananda Ashram in Rishikesh from 21st to 23rd September, 2022.

The celebrations took place over three days and included a number of traditional and cultural programs and was attended by over two hundred disciples, students and devotees of Pujya Swamiji.

The first two days included a number of events; a bhāṣya pārayāṇa was held, in which the introductory commentary (upodghāta bhaāṣyams) by Sri Adi Śaṅkarācārya on the Upaniṣads, Bhagavadgītā and Brahmasūtra were recited. An Arsha Vidya Meet was held over two days, which was attended by a number of Ācāryas, disciples and teachers of the Arsha Vidya Sampradaya (*Photo in the cover page #31*).

The cultural programs included a Bharatanāṭyam performance by Kum. Ishwarya Chaitanya from Bangalore, a Carnatic vocal concert by Smt. Srividya Ganesan from Chennai, and a play 'Ma Durga' by students of Swami Dayananda School. All the programs were well appreciated by the audience.

The main Puja for the Ārādhana was held on the 23rd morning at Pujya Swamiji's adhiṣṭhānam. A large number of people participated in the puja and were able to offer their respects and gratitude to Pujya Swamiji. All the disciples had an opportunity to offer milk abhishekam to Sri Swami Dayānandeśvara. A live telecast of the event was made available through the ashram website, which further enabled thousands of devotees of Pujya Swamiji to witness and be part of the puja.

The celebrations were concluded with a 'sādhu ārādhana', in which Sri Swami Sudhanandaji was honoured for his unwavering and unquantifiable seva to Pujya Swamiji and the ashram for over fifty years. Swamiji then honoured all the visiting Arsha Vidya Teachers with rudrākṣamālās, vastram and dakṣiṇa along with biography volumes of Pujya Sri Swamiji. Mahāprasāda was distributed to all those present for the celebrations. Sri Krishnan of Krishna Sweets generously sent 500 packets of Sweets for distribution on Ārādhana Day.

A sādhu bhandara was given after the celebrations for 300 sādhus by Sri R.Kannan of Chennai and Sri Swami Satprakashananda Saraswati of Malaysia.

Photos in the cover page #31 and #32