## The Spirit and form of our Gurukulam

## Swamini Srividyananda

The year 2011 marks the advent of twenty-five momentous years since the inception of Pujya Sri Swami Dayananda's vision of Arsha Vidya Gurukulam. Today the vision has unfolded in all its profundity and stands tall as an unparalleled blend of spirit and form. It is a unique place that exudes a magnetism that is hard to resist. Protected by a fifty-acre woodland in the rugged beauty of the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania, the gurukulam is an ideal setting for contemplative and spiritual retreats.

Over the past two-and-a-half decades, to keep pace with ever-increasing requestsz, the form of the gurukulam has undergone tremendous growth and transformation. Aging buildings have given place to new, course offerings expanded, and resources and accommodations have been refined. Yet throughout all the changes in form, the spirit has remained pristine. The vision of Pujya Swamiji continues to touch the hearts of seekers of knowledge. By gracing the podium over and over again, scholars of Vedanta, Sanskrit and leading exponents in the myriad related disciplines (including yoga, meditation, *jyotisam*, and *ayurveda*) continue to enrich and inspire the lives of the thousands who flock to this sanctuary each year. Freed from the fetters of mundane trappings, cared for and nurtured in every possible way, these seekers are guided into the realms of spiritual growth and physical health.

The glorious unfolding of spirit in the form of Arsha Vidya Gurukulam is an affirmation of the ceaseless commitment and magnanimity of scores of dedicated hearts. Their devoted offerings are sustenance for the light of the tradition to continue to blaze unhindered. Our gratitude has no bounds.

The magic created by the spirit cannot be qualified or quantified. Mere words about the gurukulam do it no justice, and any such attempt falls short of its mark. So we invite you to come and be part of and experience the magic of spirit and form that is Arsha Vidya Gurukulam.