

## 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Aradhana Celebrations of Pujya Sri Swamiji at Arsha Vidya Pitham, Rishikesh

Paramapujya Sri Swamiji's 5<sup>th</sup> Aradhana Celebrations started on 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2020 with Bhashya parayanam of Bhagavad Gita. Sri Swami Sakshatkrtanandaji led the parayanam which was held in two sessions, morning and evening. Parayanam of the first five chapters was completed.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2020, Pujya Sri Swamiji's adhishtanam was decorated with abundant flowers sent from Chennai by Sri Ganesh, brother of Sri Suresh Ramamoorthy. A very extensive adhishtana puja was performed by Sri Swami Sakshatkrtanandaji himself, which included ekadashadrvaya abhishekam, Rudra trishati and Gurveda archana, caturveda seva including rendering of Pujya Sri Swamiji's favourite Setu sama. This was followed by the release of Pujya Swamiji's book on Sri Dakshinamurthi Stotram by Sri Swami Suddhanandaji. Speaking on the occasion, Sri Swami Sakshatkrtanandaji said that there could not have been a better place to release the book than Pujya Sri Swamiji's adhishtanam and there could not be a better person to release the book than Sri Swami Suddhanandaji who had been associated with Pujya Sri Swamiji for more than 50 years. He also said that Sri Swami Sankaranandaji had done an excellent job in editing the book and that Pujya Sri Swamiji flowed through the book. Swamiji also praised the designing of the book cover and said that it bore the stamp of Smt Sheela Balaji.

When Pujya Sri Swamiji first came to Rishikesh in the 50s-60s, he lived in a grass hut which stood exactly at the same place where the satsang hall stands today. With a desire to immortalize the place, a photo gallery consisting of Pujya Sri Swamiji's old photos has been put together and the same was also inaugurated by Sri Swami Suddhanandaji.

A bhandara was offered to the sadhus after which all the devotees partook the mahaprasadam. A ten-minute video, covering the entire session on 23<sup>rd</sup> was made part of the final day's webcast of the 5-day virtual program for Pujya Sri Swamiji's Fifth Aradhana Celebrations organised by AIM for Seva.