

Navarathri Celebrations at AVP, Rishikesh

श्री गुरुभ्यो नमः

We are truly fortunate to receive the Darshan of Ma Ganga every day. This October, however, has brought extra blessings from the Divine Mother in the form of Navratri. The ashram has been alive with devotional pujas and traditional ceremonies aimed at invoking Her grace and facilitating the uninterrupted transfer of knowledge. Among the beautiful events we experienced was the Sarasvati Avahanam Puja, where all ashram dwellers gathered and left their books for Sarasvati's blessings. This was followed by a Nitya Puja for Saraswati held twice daily. The six-month course students also participated in Pushpa arcana and chanting Sarasvati mantras. On the ninth auspicious day of Navratri, we honored the practical aspect of Sarasvati with an Ayudha Puja, where all instruments, gadgets, and vehicles were worshipped. In the evening, Ma was invoked through Garba, a joyful community dance, was beautifully celebrated with the Pustaka Udvasanam Puja, during which all blessed books were distributed to their rightful owners, and classes has resumed after a few days meant for assimilation, japa and chanting. May Ma protect all beings, and bless them with the light of knowledge. Om Tat Sat - **Report by Ms. Shambavi**

