

## Gurupoornima Festival Celebrated in Chicago on July 5, 2001



On the day of Gurupoornima, the sincere disciple offers his love and gratitude to his beloved Guru. Read Amma's message for Her children on the Amritapuri web site.



On July 4, after the late night darshan, with hearts brimming with love and devotion, the devotees started preparing for the Gurupoornima festival in Chicago.

The stage in the hall was decorated with bouquets of flowers around Amma's chair. Amma arrived and a short meditation followed. Several swamis sat close to Amma and chanted the Guru stotram (chant in praise of the Guru.)

Swami Amritaswarupananda performed the traditional pada puja (traditional worship of the Guru's feet.) The hall was filled with devotional fervor. Being in this atmosphere and watching

this extraordinary spectacle, tears welled up in the eyes of many devotees.



After the pada puja, Amma's disciples garlanded Amma. Then, the 108 names of Amma were chanted by Swami Amritaswarupananda, and the devotees responded with enthusiasm and love. The swamis performed arati.

Swamiji talked about the nature of the Guru-disciple relationship. Read <u>Swamiji's</u> <u>message.</u>

The prasad was blessed by Amma, and distributed to all the devotees.