

## Rakhi retreat “Purity, the Foundation of Brahmin's Life”

September 1 – 3, 2023

Sangam retreat center, Mshanets village, Ukraine



On September 1, the Sangam retreat center welcomed spiritual students. Although the construction of the center's facilities is still far from complete, the premises of the retreat center were able to accommodate 26 Brahmins from Bila Tserkva, Vinnytsia, Kyiv, Lviv, Mariupil, Mykolayiv, Odesa and Uzhgorod. In the evening, retreat participants gathered on the terrace for meditation. They also listened to Didi Jayanti's greetings on the occasion of the Rakhi holiday.



The next day of the retreat was the busiest one. After the morning murli, the Baba's flag was hoisted in the auditorium. At the "Deep Understanding of Purity" seminar, sisters and brothers splitted into small groups and discussed the signs of a state of purity in thoughts, words and actions, as well as practical methods for achieving this state. In the evening, everyone celebrated Raksha Bandhan with great enthusiasm to strengthen the sacred bond of purity. A special gift for the holiday was an online meeting with our dear seniors - Didi Sudha and Brother Vijay. After the ceremony of tying the rakhi, a large bonfire was lit under the starry sky, in which all weaknesses and old sanskars were burned without leaving a smallest trace.



During the retreat, the bhog was offered to Baba every day. In between classes, the sisters and brothers practiced karma yoga; they looked after the orchard and vegetable garden, and improved their living quarters.



In the morning of September 3, we listened to a video of Sister Shivani's Raksha Bandhan class to even more immerse ourselves in the spiritual significance of all aspects of this festival. And in the evening, the retreat participants began to gradually leave for their places of service.



**\*\*\* Om Shanti \*\*\***