

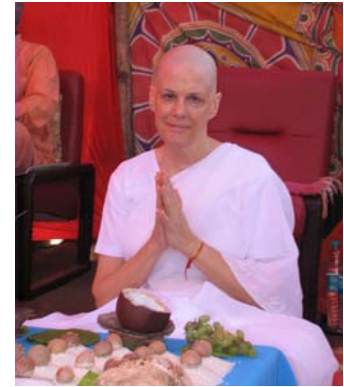
The beginning – honoring  
God and asking for  
blessings



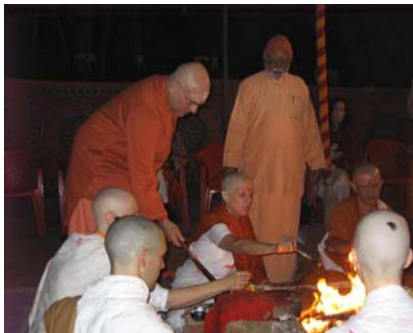
Head shaving!



Rama returns to the ceremony



Second morning – swamis  
pouring ghee on the  
4:00 a.m. yajña fire



After the dip in the river –  
coming back to save the world



Under the shawl – the sacred  
mantra is whispered  
to the new Swami



Swami Nirmalananda Saraswati

