

Antpur Incident on 24 December 1886

After the passing away of Sri Ramakrishna, the dilapidated, haunted house at Baranagore would become the fulcrum around which these young men continued their spiritual sadhana guided, and inspired by the love and fire of Narendranath. At that time Matangini Devi sent an invitation to the group to her home at Antpur around 50 kms from Kolkata in the end of December. One night, while meditating around a fire lit under the open, bright, and starlit sky Narendranath had a rare inspiration and started pouring his eloquence about the life of penance and sacrifice. His words were so eloquent and so full of humility that everyone vowed to embrace the monastic life for the good of many for the welfare of many. Unbeknownst to them, it turned out to be the night of 24th December 1886; the Christmas Eve.

The nine disciples later embraced Sannyasa formally by performing “Biraja Hom” at Baranagar Math in January 1887. Thus, the Ramakrishna monastic order was born and with the passage of time is now a household word.

