

Chapter 14

Adval's Water Allocation for Thakorji's Service

The devotees of Jhalavad had immense love for Satsang and the sadhus. Thus, Shastriji Maharaj and Yogi Maharaj celebrated the new moon festival in Mojidad and fulfilled the wishes of the devotees in the surrounding villages.

In 1935, during the British Raj, the towns of Adval and Dhandhuka entered a 50-50 water-sharing agreement over the Bhadar River. In 1948, a Congress party activist filed a motion with the Congress government that Dhandhuka should get 67% of the water while Adval should get only 33% of it. Consequently, the government passed the motion restricting Adval's allocation of the Bhadar River water to 33%. Then, the government spent `1.4 million constructing a large dam on the Bhadar River near the village of Kotada to ensure that the

river water would be split according to this decision.

During that period, Shastriji Maharaj was in Ahmedabad while Yogi Maharaj was traveling through the villages before reaching Adval. The devotees of Adval walked a mile out from their village towards Dhandhuka and planned to receive Yogi Maharaj near the small shrine of Mahadev. Yogi Maharaj arrived in the evening and immediately told the devotees, “Let’s go into the village and get some water from the river to offer to Thakorji.”

Jambha Bapu took this opportunity to inform Yogi Maharaj about the government’s restriction of water to Adval. Yogi Maharaj asked, “How will this affect us?”

Jambha Bapu said, “Our main crop in Adval is wheat. Only the fields reached by the river water will yield a good crop. Moreover, the restriction will also cause water-related hardships in the villagers’ daily lives.”

Yogi Maharaj said, “A decrease in the wheat yields will decrease the donations to Akshar Deri. So, let us chant the *dhun* that this obstacle may be removed.”

So saying, Yogi Maharaj led everyone in the chanting of the Swaminarayan *mahamantra*. Then, he bathed Thakorji in the waters of the Bhadar river and prayed, “O Maharaj! Please grant the village of Adval an abundance of water.”

Yogi Maharaj’s heartfelt prayer had such a ring of truth that everyone felt assured their problems would be overcome.

During that monsoon season, the rains caused such flooding in the Bhadar River that a mile upstream from the Kotada dam, the river naturally broke through its embankment and made a new stream that joined with the branch of the river flowing to Adval! It brought more water to Adval than anyone had seen in the last 50 years. Even today, Adval receives ample water from the Bhadar River. Thus, the `1.4 million Kotada dam built by the government

proved futile for the sake of restricting Adval's water.

Who can understand the limitless power of the Satpurush?