

Chapter 12

A True Guide on the Road to Brahman

Whenever Shastriji Maharaj and the sadhus were in Atladara, they would always stay at the home of Motibhai Nathabhai. At that time, Harshadbhai Dave had also come to Atladara. So, the following morning, after bathing, doing his puja, and completing his other morning rituals, Harshadbhai approached Yogi Maharaj, who was doing his puja. Harshadbhai offered *dandvat pranams*, and Yogi Maharaj responded by smiling and blessing him. Then, Harshadbhai sat down and prayed, “Swami, please give me this *mala* sanctified by you.”

“I can’t give that, but I can have Shastriji Maharaj give you his sanctified *mala*.”

Harshadbhai folded his hands and said, “No, Swami. I want only your *mala*. So please give it to me.”

Yogi Maharaj lovingly said, “Only Swami Shastriji Maharaj can give sanctified objects. Only he is our master and our all. So, I will definitely have him give you his sanctified *mala*.”

However, Harshadbhai continued to insist, so Yogi Maharaj gave in and said, “I will make you happy. I will give you this *mala*, but take a vow to turn twenty-five *malas* a day!”

Harshadbhai agreed. Yogi Maharaj rubbed the *mala* in both hands, touched it to his chest, and gave it to Harshadbhai. Harshadbhai experienced a sense of fulfillment. “Jogiraj” had immeasurable devotion for and constant oneness with the Guru, and therefore he was able to be a true guide on the road to Brahman. Whoever is conscious of Brahman’s manifest sense of “I-ness” cannot be said to be pure Brahman.

From here, everyone went to Sarangpur via Ahmedabad as per their plan.