

Chapter 17

The Astonishment of Mahuva’s Devotees

From Rajula, Swamishri sent a telegram to Mahuva informing them, “Thirty of us are coming, so please have a meal ready for us.”

The devotees of Mahuva were troubled because their number was very small, and their financial condition was weak. They were concerned with how they would be able to bear the expense of serving Swamishri and the devotees. Two days later, Swamishri and his group arrived. Together with him, many devotees from the surrounding villages also arrived. Seeing the flustered state of Mahuva’s devotees, Popatbhai Dani’s wife said, “What are you all worried about? Give them whatever dal, rice, and vegetables we have already prepared, and let’s go get some extra sweets from the sweetshop.”

When news of the food shortage reached Swamishri, he softly said, “Thakorji is with us. Let us put this on his head. Bring us a cloth... Cover the laddus with it. Light a ghee lamp...” Then he said, “Chant the *dhun*...”

With that, Swamishri himself began to serve food to the lines of seated devotees. Soon, everyone had finished eating and gotten up, and there were still five laddus left over. The devotees of the Vartal diocese mandir were very impressed by this incident. 110 devotees had eaten their fill from food prepared for 30.

Swamishri had planned to go to Vadal from here, but Jaykunvarben, with loving insistence, had told her husband, Popatbhai Dani, to tell Swamishri, “You cannot leave without coming to Bhadra and having breakfast there.”

Mohanbhai said, “Bapa, we will have to go to Bhadra. Otherwise, the old lady will not let us go. She is like the old lady of Ghanla.”

Swamishri laughed and agreed.

So, after visiting Vadal, everyone went to Bhadra in the evening and fulfilled the devotee's wishes.

After having darshan of Bhagatji Maharaj's birthplace in Mahuva, Swamishri traveled through Talaja, Gopnath, Bhavnagar, Gadhada, and Adval before arriving in Atladara on 28 March 1952 (Chaitra sud 3, V.S. 2008). On the following day, Swamishri began his travels in Kanam.