

Chapter 15

“Jogi! You Are the Manifest Form of Gunatit”

Shastriji Maharaj was supposed to stay in Sarangpur and take complete rest. On 8 August 1949 (Shravan *sud* Punam, V.S. 2005), Shastriji Maharaj went to Gadhada and performed the *bhumi pujan* ceremony of the new mandir with great enthusiasm.

From Gadhada, Shastriji Maharaj returned to Sarangpur and stayed there for two days before traveling to Ahmedabad to stay in Ambli Vali Pol. On one quiet afternoon, Yogi Maharaj was sitting in the loft in Ambli Vali Pol doing his daily reading. At the time, Ramchandrabhai was attending to Shastriji Maharaj. Shastriji Maharaj told him, “Call Yogi Maharaj.”

Ramchandrabhai climbed to the loft and conveyed the message. Yogi Maharaj immediately came down and stood before Shastriji Maharaj with folded hands. Shastriji

Maharaj was sitting up in his cot, and he took Yogi Maharaj’s right hand in his own, gazed into Yogi Maharaj’s eyes, and said in a soft, clear voice, “Jogi! You are the manifest form of Gunatit!” Then, after talking about several other things, he motioned with his eyes for Yogi Maharaj to leave.

After he left, Shastriji Maharaj looked at Ramchandrabhai, standing next to him, and said, “Ramchandra!”

Ramchandrabhai was lost in thought at the scene he had just witnessed as the words “Yogi Maharaj Gunatit Purush” were reverberating in his mind. Shastriji Maharaj’s call jolted him out of his reverie, and he immediately said, “Yes, Swami!”

Shastriji Maharaj said, “I don’t have to tell Jogi Maharaj, ‘Go out.’ He understands from my smallest gesture. For others, if we tell them to go, they are hurt, and if we don’t tell them to go, they are hurt. Whereas Jogi understands our wishes.”

Then, Shastriji Maharaj lay down on his cot, and Ramchandrabhai left the room.

Devotees had begun to arrive at Ambli Vali Pol. Outside, Ashabhai, Babubhai Kothari, Champakbhai Sheth, and others were seated with Yogi Maharaj. Ramchandrabhai went straight there and announced, “Listen, listen... I have some good news.”

Then, he looked at Yogi Maharaj and said, “Just now, Shastriji Maharaj told you, ‘You are the manifest form of Gunatit.’ Is that true?”

Yogi Maharaj didn’t say a word. When Ramchandrabhai continued to demand an answer, Yogi Maharaj got up to leave. However, Ramchandrabhai grabbed his hand and said, “You can’t leave like that. First, answer, is this true?”

Yogi Maharaj gave the briefest nod before retreating to the loft. The devotees present were convinced that “Yogi Maharaj is at the highest Gunatit state!”

Once, Babubhai Kothari told Shastriji Maharaj, “This Jogi is naïve and innocent. Please prepare a sadhu who can manage this institution after you.”

Shastriji Maharaj glared at Babubhai and sharply said, “Babubhai! Who do you think Yogi Maharaj is? He is capable of managing infinite universes. He is a complete personality, exemplifying the phrase, ‘*Kāmil-kābil sab hunnar tere hāthme.*’”²

Soon, Shastriji Maharaj became gravely ill. A sense of dread spread over the entire Satsang fellowship. Devotees from all around Gujarat began arriving at Ambli Vali Pol to inquire about Shastriji Maharaj’s health. At the time, a large group of devotees from Anand, including Manibhai Jivabhai, had come for Shastriji Maharaj’s darshan and to inquire about his health.

Shastriji Maharaj called Manibhai in private and said, “There is no one in this entire universe like Jogi Maharaj. So make sure you maintain love for him.” Then Shastriji Maharaj

said, “Make sure you come to Gadhada for the *murti-pratishtha* ceremony.”

Manibhai had experienced Yogi Maharaj’s spiritual prowess on innumerable occasions. Manibhai’s wife had been suffering from goiter. When he had informed Yogi Maharaj of this, Yogi Maharaj replied, “She won’t need surgery. Take this holy water.” Yogi Maharaj had given him some sanctified water from Harikrishna Maharaj’s puja. Upon applying it to his wife’s neck, her goiter had been cured.

So, Manibhai resolved to follow Shastriji Maharaj’s command implicitly.

² In this quote from Swamini Vato 6/172, Gunatitanand Swami refers to the Aksharbrahma Satpurush as, “The perfect, expert guru, who possesses all abilities.” Gunatitanand Swami has taken this phrase from a line in Premanand Swami’s kirtan, “Jāntā kyo nahi ve hamāri pir...”