

Chapter 9

“The Guru’s Seat Is Worthy of Obeisance.”

Once, Shastriji Maharaj and Yogi Maharaj were in Sankarda. After lunch, Shastriji Maharaj had gone for a nap. The visiting devotees also stretched out for a nap wherever they could find space.

After cleaning up in the kitchen, Yogi Maharaj searched for some solitude so that he could peacefully meditate. However, as devotees were asleep in all the main rooms, he continued looking.

At the time, a young man who would later be ordained as Shastrī Shwetvaikunthdasji of Vartal quipped, “The guru’s seat is empty. You can sleep there.”

Yogi Maharaj folded his hands and said, “The guru’s seat is worthy of obeisance. One cannot sleep on it.”

The future Shastri said, “In the future, you will have to occupy that seat!” Every devotee in Sankarda had immense reverence for Yogi Maharaj, and thus these words emerged naturally from Shastri Shwetvaikunthdasji’s mouth.

Yogi Maharaj covered his ears with both hands and said, “I am his humble servant. Shastriji Maharaj is the guru and master.”

What Shastri Shwetvaikunthdasji had predicted would eventually come true. But Yogi Maharaj had forever offered his humble devotion to Shastriji Maharaj, following his every command meticulously. Moreover, Yogi Maharaj had a profound love for Shastriji Maharaj, and to help advance his mission, he had traveled from village to village tolerating insults, abuses, and beatings. In this way, without being made a guru, he possessed the countless virtues of a true guru, which led him to be revered amongst the followers of Akshar Purushottam *upasana*.