

Chapter 15

“Jogi Is Eternal and Without Equal”

Several devotees, including Tulsibhai of Radhu, Revashankar Trivedi, Maganbhai Narsinhbhai Patel, Jagjivandas, and others, were seated before Shastriji Maharaj doing his darshan. Tulsibhai asked, “Swami, when you appear to be turning your back on this world and resolving to go to Akshardham, what will become of us? In whom should we keep unconditional faith? Moreover, the followers of the Vartal diocese are proclaiming, ‘Once Shastri departs, everything will fall apart; so, everything ultimately belongs to Vartal, doesn’t it?’ What should we understand of this?”

Shastriji Maharaj’s eyes flashed with a divine light, and he spoke in a strong and clear voice, “This is Shriji Maharaj’s *sanstha*, so he is looking after it. Moreover, afterward, Yogi Maharaj is here, is he not! You should maintain

absolute fidelity to Yogi Maharaj. I am Jogi, and Jogi is me. In the Bhagvat, Vyasji has enumerated a list of virtues possessed by the Sant in whom God eternally resides. I can see even more virtues than that in Yogi Maharaj.”

These words filled the devotees with awe as they reflected upon Yogi Maharaj’s virtues.

Once, someone had told Shastriji Maharaj, “Swami, the devotees of Kathiawad treat Yogi Maharaj as if they have an exclusive right to him, and they are unwilling to share him. So, why don’t you make another Jogi for Gujarat!”

Shastriji Maharaj looked at the devotee with a piercing gaze and said, “He is a Jogi from eternity. In the fourteen realms of the Brahmanand, he has no equal. So, from where can I create another Jogi?”

When such words of Jogi Maharaj’s limitless glory overflowed from Shastriji Maharaj’s heart, every devotee experienced a deep inner conviction about Yogi Maharaj’s greatness. Within this spiritual luminary of Akshar Deri,

everyone could experience the living embodiment of Gunatit adorned with his countless redemptive virtues traveling on this Earth.

Soon, Shastriji Maharaj would be entering his 87th year. The devotees were eager to celebrate their guru’s birthday, but their concern for Shastriji Maharaj’s health was boring into their souls. In Atladara, everyone offered their devotional sentiments to Shastriji Maharaj. Remembering their infinite debt to him, everyone experienced profound fulfillment in resolving to sacrifice their body, mind, and wealth to support and practice satsang steadfastly.

On this occasion, Shastriji Maharaj seemed to have decided that he would stay in Atladara indefinitely.