

Chapter 16

Devoted to the Guru's Wishes

The devotees who were delighted to remain in Jogi's presence and enjoy the benefits of his *seva* and *samagam*, felt that the Diwali and Annakut holidays they spent with him passed by in the blink of an eye. But, during that short span, the inner thoughts and principles that Swamishri revealed on occasion became like beacons to guide spiritual aspirants on the path to liberation.

In one spiritual assembly, Arjunbhai Chavda took the opportunity to extol Swamishri's greatness in his presence, saying, "The way you had followed each and every wish of Shastriji Maharaj is impossible for anyone else. Just as Bhagatji Maharaj's entire being would turn upon every turn of Swamishri's speech, in the same way you also..."

Swamishri interjected, "Bhagatji was very great. No one can compare to him. I haven't

done anything. I've only done what Shastriji Maharaj said. I have never given him cause to feel obliged to follow my wishes. If I were eating and a note came from Swamishri stating, 'Jogi! Come here.' I would instantly get up from my meal and take the next train... I had such enthusiasm..."

Arjunbhai was skilled at eliciting such divine revelations. Moreover, Swamishri was unstinting in granting his faithful devotees the bliss of his spiritual discourses.

Once, during the recitation of Vachanamrut Gadhada II 4, Swamishri explained, "I have mastered this Vachanamrut. The very first time I read this Vachanamrut, I thought to myself that as long as the mind is tempted by attractive sense pleasures, one has not properly understood God's true glory. From that instant, I absolutely forsook all such sense pleasures..."

Realizing the spiritual level of the eternally realized "Jogi" prompted many to introspect on their own relationship with sense pleasures. When a being like him, who has no need to

forsake anything, maintains such renunciation, he establishes an ideal for others. Thus, everyone thought, “We must also reach this spiritual state.”

From Gondal, Swamishri traveled on a *panchtirthi* pilgrimage and then arrived in Ahmedabad for the Kartik *sud* Ekadashi festival. Swamishri then went to Bochasan for the Kartik Punam festival of V.S. 2008. The devotees from the villages of central Gujarat flocked to Bochasan to avail of Swamishri's blessings in the new year. All the devotees offered their puja to Swamishri and the sadhus.

From here, Swamishri, Pramukh Swami, Mota Swami, and the sadhus traveled to Ahmedabad on 17 November 1951. Nandaji had been appointed the Union Planning Minister in New Delhi, and he had come to Ahmedabad specially to receive Swamishri's blessings. He stayed for about four days and enjoyed the benefit of Swamishri's darshan and association, while receiving Swamishri's hearty blessings.