

Chapter 14

Memories of Nenpur

The construction of the Nenpur mandir had just been completed, and the local devotees had organized a *parayan* on the occasion of the upcoming *murti-pratishtha* ceremony. They had invited Shastriji Maharaj to grace the *parayan*, but due to his ill health, Shastriji Maharaj had instructed Yogi Maharaj and Nirgundas Swami to go from Anand to Nenpur, especially for the conclusion of the *parayan*. Shastriji Maharaj also instructed the senior devotees of Ahmedabad to accompany them.

On February 24, 1948, the *parayan* was concluded with great enthusiasm. Yogi Maharaj granted the devotees the benefit of his extraordinary discourses. The devotees and well-wishers of the village could not contain their enthusiasm. A feast of *dudhpak* and *puri* had been prepared, and Yogi Maharaj served everyone with his patented loving insistence.

After lunch, everyone went to the ashram of Indulal Yagnik. Here, a group of children sang the kirtan, “*Vaishnav jan to...*,” and Yogi Maharaj spoke to them in his captivating style about developing good character.

That night, Yogi Maharaj and his entourage reached Ahmedabad. At Shastriji Maharaj’s request, the devotees accompanying Yogi Maharaj shared a detailed account of the festival in Nenpur. Then, Yogi Maharaj told Shastriji Maharaj with great enthusiasm, “By your grace, a grand *yagna* was celebrated in Nenpur. They had prepared a feast of *dudhpak* and puri.”

The devotees added, “Yogi Maharaj lovingly served everyone *dudhpak* to their satisfaction.”

After a while, Shastriji Maharaj asked a devotee, “Why don’t you ask Yogi Maharaj how much *dudhpak* he had?”

The devotee asked Yogi Maharaj, “How much *dudhpak* did you have today?”

Laughing, Yogi Maharaj said, “I’m fasting today!”

The devotees were stunned. One way or another, Shastriji Maharaj always made sure to uncover Yogi Maharaj’s greatness.