

Chapter 10

Such Hardship for a Sadhu Like Jogi?

For the duration of this *parayan*, Shastriji Maharaj stayed in the small loft of Babubhai's house. However, it was difficult for the sadhus to climb up and down the narrow staircase to the loft.

Once, Yogi Maharaj's foot slipped on the steps, and Shastriji Maharaj grabbed onto his arm, saving him from falling. When they reached the bottom, Shastriji Maharaj remarked, "Oh! Such hardship for a sadhu like Jogi! Now, it would be good if we can get some better accommodations." But Yogi Maharaj looked at Shastriji Maharaj as if nothing had happened and remained absorbed in the remembrance of God. He had a habit of remembering God in all his activities.

Although it was the month of Bhadharva, which typically marks the end of the monsoon

season, the monsoon rains had not arrived this year. As the devotees repeatedly prayed to Swamishri for rains, Swamishri would tell them, “Speak to Jogi. He is compassionate. He will request Maharaj, and there will definitely be rain.”

Although Yogi Maharaj held an esteemed place in Shastriji Maharaj’s heart, Yogi Maharaj wished that no one should have even an inkling of his own glory. So, he would sit in the *parayan* with unbroken focus on Bhagwan Swaminarayan and guru Shastriji Maharaj and chant the *dhun* (Swaminarayan mantra) that Maharaj may make it rain. One day, while the *dhun* was being chanted, to everyone’s astonishment, many people had a vision of Indra entering the assembly atop his elephant mount, Airavat. Immediately after this, the entire region experienced torrential rains.

As the divine, month-long *parayan* in Ahmedabad came to a conclusion, a holy *yagna* was organized. Following the *yagna* rituals, the holy text of the *Satsangijivan* was taken in a

procession of honor around the city. Shastriji Maharaj and Nirgundas Swami presided on a two-horse carriage in the procession. Throughout the procession, Yogi Maharaj sat next to Shastriji Maharaj, fanning him with a fly whisk. Upon witnessing Yogi Maharaj's humility, the gathered devotees bowed their heads in veneration of this humble sadhu and his powerful guru.