

Chapter 16

The Glory of Junagadh

On 14 October 1951, Swamishri celebrated Sharad Punam in Gondal followed by the Annakut festival fifteen days later. On this occasion, Bhanubhai Gadhia brought his brothers, Natubhai and Pravinbhai, who had recently migrated from Kolkata to Junagadh, to Gondal for Swamishri's darshan. Due to their affection for Swamishri, the devotees would ask him for advice on their worldly matters. Natubhai and Pravinbhai informed Swamishri of their wish to move from Junagadh to Rajkot to improve their financial situation. Swamishri slowly began to explain, "See, Pravinbhai, Junagadh is a great place of pilgrimage sanctified by Gunatitanand Swami. Bhagatji Maharaj, Jaga Bhakta Swami, Balmukunddas Swami, Krishnacharandas Swami, and other liberated souls have spent large portions of their lives there. Thus, the glory of Junagadh is

very great. So, you should remain there. You should feed and serve any sadhus or devotees who come to Junagadh. Maharaj and Swami will improve your financial situation. They will forever protect you from all types of worldly suffering.”

Swamishri expressed the glory of Junagadh in an unbroken stream. Pravinbhai understood Swamishri’s wish, and he accepted the advice to stay in Junagadh. Over time, his financial situation improved. Moreover, by making arrangements for the food and housing for devotees coming to Junagadh for darshan, he became closer to Satsang. Thus, by following Swamishri’s wish, he experienced a double benefit.