

Chapter 14

In Shastriji Maharaj's Court, a Judgment Favoring Yogi Maharaj

Shastriji Maharaj's 85th birthday, which would be celebrated as a Golden Jubilee, was only two months away. The devotees had pledged donations beyond their capacity. Nirgundas Swami was traveling from village to village in central Gujarat, and Yogi Maharaj was traveling in Kathiawad. On 2 February 1949, Yogi Maharaj had left Atladara together with Hakabhai Khachar and Arjunbhai Chavda to travel in the villages of Saurashtra to raise awareness and funds for the Golden Jubilee Festival.

In his travels, Yogi Maharaj visited the home of Ramji Lakshman Mavadiya, a carpenter in Jamnagar. Panchasara, the native village of Porbandar's Hiraba Saheb was nearby. She nourished a desire that if Yogi Maharaj's divine footsteps fell in her native village, then Satsang

would grow there. She expressed her wish to Hakabhai, and accordingly, Yogi Maharaj traveled from Jamnagar to Panchasara.

With Yogi Maharaj's entry into Panchasara, a sense of divinity permeated the atmosphere. Many Darbars accepted *vartman* from Yogi Maharaj and became *satsangis*. After lunch, devotees performed puja and *arti* of Thakorji. Hiraba Saheb had previously given Hakabhai a gold coin to offer to Thakorji on this occasion. Hakabhai had put the gold coin in the breast pocket of his coat, but due to his hasty nature, the gold coin had fallen out of his pocket at some point. Upon completing *arti* and puja, when Hakabhai reached into his pocket to offer the gold coin to Thakorji, he was stunned to find his pocket empty. Mortified, he informed Hiraba Saheb what had happened. She was large-hearted and did not get upset but instead immediately removed the golden bangles from her wrists and asked Hakabhai to place them before Thakorji as her offering. Moreover, she

told Hakabhai, “Don’t be upset. There is no need to worry about the loss of the gold coin.”

However, the turn of events made life very difficult for Hakabhai. Everyone began to mock him, saying, “Just like this, the Darbars lost their fiefdoms.”

Thereafter, Hakabhai informed Yogi Maharaj about what had happened. Yogi Maharaj said, “Jabareshwar (God) is all-powerful. Pledge to offer five *mahapujas* in Akshar Deri, and the gold coin will be found. We are headed to Gondal, so we will pray to Swami there.”

Thus, Yogi Maharaj spoke of the glory of Akshar Deri to alleviate Hakabhai’s distress.

After several days, news arrived in Gondal that the gold coin had been found next to the kitchen. Hakabhai was pleased that the *mahapujas* sponsored by Yogi Maharaj’s command had been yielded the desired outcome. Hearing about this, Shastriji Maharaj said, “Yogi Maharaj encourages people to

sponsor *mahapujas* of Akshar Deri whereby devotees’ wishes are fulfilled, and everyone is pleased.”

Nirgundas Swami retorted, “But some of their wishes remain unfulfilled. Thus, he shouldn’t insist so strongly for the devotees to sponsor *mahapujas*.”

Yogi Maharaj replied, “Swami fulfills all the wishes of everyone who sponsors *mahapujas*. Ask Hakabhai whether the gold coin from Panchasara was found?”

Hakabhai confirmed, “Yes, it was found only due to the sponsorship of the *mahapujas*.”

Shastriji Maharaj laughed, and Nirgundas Swami said, “Well, it appears that Yogi Maharaj has kept a witness ready whereby he wins the case. Clearly, the devotees’ desired tasks are accomplished when they follow Jogi’s command to offer *mahapujas* to Akshar Deri. This is self-evident.” Shastriji Maharaj confirmed the glory of Yogi Maharaj and Akshar Deri.