

Chapter 13

Jogi Is Jogi

After the Kartik Punam festival, Shastriji Maharaj visited Dabhoi, Malataj, and Purushottampura, while Yogi Maharaj and Premvatidas Swami went to Sankarda. Yogi Maharaj was suffering from a constant low-grade fever, but despite his delicate constitution, he completely disregarded such ailments. A few days later, Shastriji Maharaj arrived in Sankarda. While inquiring about everyone, Shastriji Maharaj said, “Jogi, how are you?”

Yogi Maharaj folded his hands and said, “I am very well, by your grace!”

This accommodating, flawless sadhu had not whispered even a single syllable of complaint in the thirty-six years he had been with Shastriji Maharaj. Shastriji Maharaj would only find out about any health challenges Yogi Maharaj faced if others told him about it. “When he does not

disclose the hardships that he is facing, how can he even think of complaining about others?” Thinking such thoughts about Yogi Maharaj, Shastriji Maharaj would smile and shower a torrent of affection upon his “Jogi.”

Yogi Maharaj still had his hands folded. With a sudden effusion of affection, Shastriji Maharaj took a flower garland from nearby, placed it around Yogi Maharaj’s neck, and declared, “Jogi is Jogi!”

After two days, Shastriji Maharaj went to Atladara while Yogi Maharaj remained in Sankarda.

Around this time, between 30 November and 10 December 1945, Chaturbhuji Swami had become a sadhu. Shastriji Maharaj had instructed him to travel as Yogi Maharaj’s companion sadhu.

In the frigid winter weather, for the past fifteen days, Yogi Maharaj had been suffering from a fever. And for the last eight days, the fever had been constant. The new sadhu,

Chaturbhuj Swami, became concerned. He spoke to Madhavbhai Purushottambhai, Muljibhai Jhaverbhai, and others about his concern. The devotees summoned a physician from Vadodara who treated Yogi Maharaj with an injection and other medication, and his fever slowly abated. During these days, Yogi Maharaj ate nothing but moong soup. Yogi Maharaj remained forever anxious that no devotee should be inconvenienced by him. Thus, during his illness, he requested the bare minimum needed to get by.

After a few days, Yogi Maharaj went to Atladara. As his health had improved slightly, he immediately joined Shastriji Maharaj in his travels through Palej, Thikariya, Adol, Itola, Por, Ankhi, Bil, and other villages before returning to Atladara. Here, on 15 December 1945, a decision was made that “Every year, the Vasant Panchami festival is celebrated in Bochasan, but henceforth, this festival will always be celebrated in Atladara.”