

# Chapter 5

## A State of Yogic Consciousness

From the time of Gunatitanand Swami, the barber of Ramod used to walk to Junagadh once a month to shave the heads of the swamis in Junagadh mandir. His descendant, Naranbhai Valand, currently lived in Ramod. Although he would spend every night in the mandir, due to old age, he found it hard to fall asleep, and most of the night, he lay awake on his bedding.

After the sadhus sang *cheshta* and the devotees went home, Krishnacharandas Swami would go to sleep around 11:30 p.m. Gnanjivan Swami would sleep atop a single strip of sackcloth and use only his upper garment as a blanket. After about an hour, Gnanjivan Swami would sit up, and looking around to make sure everyone was asleep, he would sit in the lotus position and do dhyan. Sometimes, he would remain in dhyan throughout the night until

dawn. Then, at 4 a.m., he would go for a bath with the other sadhus. Due to his insomnia, Naranbhai Valand would lay in his bed and witness Gnanjivan Swami's dhyan. After seeing this for two nights in a row, he informed Krishnacharandas Swami and the other sadhus and devotees.

Krishnacharandas Swami said, "Gnanji is a spiritual adept. He is constantly in a state of yogic consciousness."

Everyone was astonished to hear of the spiritual greatness of Gnanjivan Swami from the mouth of their guru.

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