

Chapter 12

Jogi Is a Godadiya Sadhu

In May 1941 (Vaishakh, V.S. 1997), Shastriji Maharaj, Yogi Maharaj, and other sadhus traveled to Gadhada, celebrated the *patotsav* in Gondal, and traveled via Ahmedabad to Mumbai, arriving on Monday, 19 May 1941 (Vaishakh *vad* 9, V.S. 1997). For fifteen days, the Satsang community in Mumbai immensely benefited from the sadhus' spiritual discourses, bhajans, and kirtans. After pleasing all the devotees, Shastriji Maharaj traveled to Surat, and then Atladara.

On that occasion, Harshadbhai Dave accompanied Shastriji Maharaj until he reached Atladara. From here, he was returning to Mumbai, so Nirgundas Swami and his companion sadhu went with him to the bus stand to see him off. There was still some time before the bus would arrive, so all three of them sat on the edge of a nearby culvert. In their

conversation, the topic veered to Yogi Maharaj. Nirgundas Swami emphatically told Harshadbhai, “Yogi Maharaj has traveled with me for a long time, but I have not seen the faintest trace of anger in him. No one can observe *nishkam dharma* the way he does. Moreover, he is just as exceptional in serving and caring for the sadhus and devotees and carefully looking after all their needs. Even Shastriji Maharaj says that in this entire universe, one cannot find a sadhu like Jogi. Jogi Maharaj possesses such innate saintliness. So, you should recognize Jogi Maharaj for who he is. He is a Gunatit Sant, a *godadiya*¹ sadhu.”

In this way, Nirgundas Swami spoke extensively to Harshadbhai Dave about Shastriji Maharaj and Yogi Maharaj’s greatness. Nirgundas Swami always endeavored to help people strengthen their connection with Shastriji Maharaj.

¹ Literally, a sadhu wrapped in a tattered, coarse blanket, the phrase is used to indicate a sadhu with an ascetic lifestyle, absence of worldly desires, and complete focus on spirituality.