

Chapter 15

“Go Take Jogi’s Photograph!”

On 8 October 1949 (Aso *vad* 1, V.S. 2005), Shastriji Maharaj was in Sarangpur. As the centenary celebrations of Sarangpur’s Hanuman mandir were to be held in two days, many devotees had already arrived in Sarangpur. Today, Shastriji Maharaj was seated in the assembly hall speaking to some devotees when Gopinathbhai of Bhavnagar arrived. He bowed to Shastriji Maharaj and said, “Swami, I want to take your photograph.”

Shastriji Maharaj immediately commanded him, “Go take Jogi’s photograph.”

Gopinathbhai went straight to the kitchen where Yogi Maharaj was preparing Thakorji’s *thal*. Gopinathbhai told him, “Swami, I want to take your picture.”

Yogi Maharaj said, “No, you can’t photograph me. Take a picture of Swami (Shastriji Maharaj).”

Gopinathbhai explained, “But Swami, just now, Shastriji Maharaj told me, ‘Go take Yogi Maharaj’s photograph.’”

As soon as he said those words, Yogi Maharaj dropped everything, came outside, and said, “In that case, let’s go.”

Gopinathbhai witnessed Yogiraj’s zeal to follow Shastriji Maharaj’s commands overflowing from every pore of his body. Gopinathbhai took Yogi Maharaj out through the assembly hall and took a picture of him standing in front of the Akshar electric powerhouse building.

Following Shastriji Maharaj’s commands was Yogiraj’s life mission. As a witness to this truth, this photograph provides us with eternal inspiration to follow the Guru’s command without a second’s delay.