

Chapter 7

Adept in Brahmavidya

The sadhus and devotees attending the festival were deeply impressed by Yogi Maharaj's tireless enthusiasm, heartfelt devotion, and extraordinary ability to recite from memory Swamini Vatos, Vachanamruts, and chapters from the Bhaktachintamani.

Part of the daily assemblies included the recitation and explanation of the Sanskrit text, the *Satsangijivan*. On that occasion, the sadhus and devotees of Gujarat requested Shastriji Maharaj, "It would be good if Yogiji Maharaj learns Sanskrit. The Akshar Purushottam Sanstha requires learned sadhus. Thus, please command him to learn Sanskrit."

When this point had come up earlier in Krishnaji Ada's presence in Rajkot, Yogiji Maharaj had told Krishnaji Ada, "I have come to worship and serve God. I don't have the slightest desire to become a scholar."

At that time, having heard the clear and considered decision of his favorite young sadhu, Krishnaji Ada did not support the others' points of view and stopped the conversation from going any further. However, Ada was now unsure how he should respond to everyone's demands.

Previously, Yogi Maharaj had written Ada a letter regarding his studies on 21 August 1911. Recognizing Yogi Maharaj's spiritual brilliance, Ada had responded by writing, "[Gunatitanand] Swami says that *brahmavidya* is the only knowledge worthy of attaining. And today, Shastriji Maharaj is the only source of this *brahmavidya*. So, you should learn *brahmavidya* from him. For that, you have my heartfelt blessings."

Now, Yogi Maharaj offered this letter to Shastriji Maharaj. Shastriji Maharaj was pleased with the letter and said, "You possess complete spiritual knowledge, and you have already learned *brahmavidya*. Many great works will happen in Satsang through you. It is

also my wish not to have you bogged down in the hassle of Sanskrit studies.”