

Chapter 13

“When Jogi Eats, Maharaj Will Be Pleased”

Everyone celebrated the Poshi Punam festival with Shastriji Maharaj in Sarangpur. Shastriji Maharaj stayed here for several days and granted the devotees the bliss of his discourses. Yogi Maharaj would always recite and explain the Swamini Vato.

Due to a bumper crop of sugarcane this year, a “sugarcane festival” was organized in Sarangpur. During the spiritual discourses, Yogi Maharaj expounded on the Swamini Vat 1.163, which states, “We have received the central (soft and juicy) portion of the sugarcane.” Shastriji Maharaj also delivered engaging spiritual discourses.

Yogi Maharaj had planned to go to Gondal the following day. Thus, Shastriji Maharaj called Kothari Dharmavallabhdas and asked, “Do you still have sugarcane left over?”

Dharmavallabhdas Swami replied, “Yes, Swami, we do.”

Shastriji Maharaj said, “In that case, get it ready for Jogiraj. Tomorrow morning, he is going to Gondal. I want to send it with him.”

At Shastriji Maharaj’s behest, that very night, Dharmavallabhdas Swami went with Kothari Ishwar Bhagat to the farm and brought back the remaining sugarcane. Shastriji Maharaj was very pleased with Dharmavallabhdas Swami and said, “You accomplished the task in a timely fashion. Great effort! You didn’t leave it for tomorrow. Now, when Jogiraj eats it, Maharaj will be pleased.”

Shastriji Maharaj’s affection for Yogi Maharaj touched everyone’s hearts.

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This year, for the first time, the Vasant Panchami festival was going to be celebrated in Atladara instead of Bochasan. Yogi Maharaj had come from Gondal to Atladara to celebrate

Shastriji Maharaj’s 82nd birthday. Thousands of devotees had thronged there on this occasion.

After the festival, Shastriji Maharaj and Yogi Maharaj traveled by bullock cart to Bajva and Karachiya before returning to Atladara. The infirmities of age were now showing in every part of Shastriji Maharaj’s body, yet he continued his ceaseless travels like he still wanted to trek through every village.