

Chapter 12

Encouraging Children to Learn about Satsang

Satsang was growing throughout the villages of Gujarat. Students and young people were also becoming more interested in satsang; however, proper planning was needed to ensure they were taught satsang knowledge and values according to their needs. Inspired by Yogi Maharaj, Sarangpur's Hakabhai Khachar drew out a plan for a “satsang development group” through which children and students were provided knowledge of the Vachanamrut, Swamini Vato, Shikshapatri, and kirtans and encouraged to memorize them. To help them incorporate these principles into their lives, they received guidance and inspiration through various incidents of the Sampradaya's history and talks of Shastriji Maharaj's glory.

This group gradually took shape as a training center in which Yogi Maharaj took a

deep interest. He offered his constant guidance as youth activities were a particular focus of his. Indeed, children's and youth activities were like a mission that had become an integral part of his life.

For the handful of students from Sarangpur who were involved in this training center, in March 1941, Yogi Maharaj tested them on the satsang concepts they had learned and gave the top three scorers a prize to encourage them. In this way, proper training of children and youth had started from then. It was as if Yogi Maharaj had planted the seeds of the satsang exam curriculum. What profound insight and foresight!