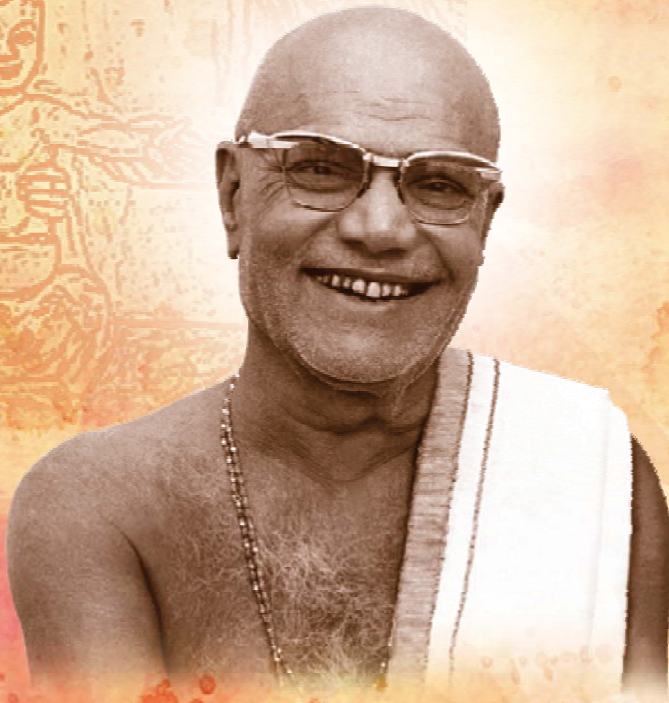


॥ Hari Om ॥

# PUJYA SHRI MOTA GLIMPSES OF A DIVINE LIFE



**I WANT TO UPLIFT THE SOCIETY.  
THE SOCIETY IS MY GOD.**

**- SHRI MOTA**



**Hariom Ashram Publication, Surat**



॥ Hari Om ॥



Shri Balyogiji

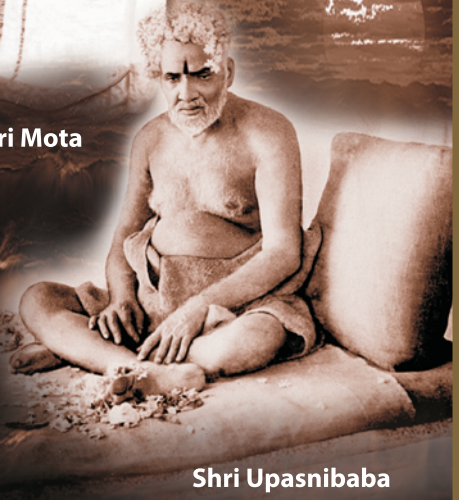


Shri Keshvanandji  
(Dhuniwala Dada)



Shri Saibaba

Pujya Shri Mota



Shri Upas nibaba

**"He who was incapable of moving even a blade of grass,  
Him hast thou made and crowned the most potent  
greatest among The Great."**

**- Shri Mota**

*Book Ref. : "Jeevan Smaran Sadhna" Page - 226, Ed. 2.*



॥ Hari Om ॥

# **PUJYA SHRI MOTA GLIMPSES OF A DIVINE LIFE**



**Authors in Gujarati Mukul Kalarthi - Indukumar Desai  
English Translation by the Devotee of Shri Mota**



**Hari Om Ashram Publication, Surat**



**Publishers: Board of Trustees**

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## DEDICATION

PUJYA SHRI MOTA-GLIMPSES OF A DIVINE LIFE is dedicated to **‘Children of present and future generations.’** May the children of God get inspiration from Shri Mota’s life struggles and his services to society. May the children imbibe positive virtues and emotions in their lives. May each Soul glorify his life and surroundings with responsible social behavior. May Shri Sadguru Mota shower love, affections and peace in every one’s life, With these prayers we offer his picture book at the Lotus feet of society.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We express our heartfelt thanks to Shri Rambhai P. Patel and Shri Ramesbhai P. Patel family of village : Palana, Dist. Nadiad, Gujarat, India for their generous contribution and support for publication of Pujya Shri Mota’s life story picture book in English. Their strong will has always encouraged us to move ahead with this publication. We thank them from the bottom of our heart and wish their family all around well being in life.

Gurupurnima Samvat year 2076  
Date : 05-07-2020

**Board of Trustees**  
Hari Om Ashram, Surat.



## Preface

The pictorial story book of Pujya Shri Mota was first published in Gujarati in 1987 as Shri Mota Chitrakatha. In 2009, the trustees of Hari Om Ashram, Surat thought of getting it reprinted with new pictures. Shri Bharatbhai Borse introduced Shri Chandrashekhar Joshi of Pune who is an extra ordinary painter by profession and a man from a spiritual family devoted to Shri RamaKrishna Paramhansa, extremely polite by nature with pious vibrations. He came to Surat and stayed at the ashram for four nights, studied books of Shri Mota and visited few places connected with his life and clicked several pictures. Then he drew beautiful graphic pictures of events in Mota's life giving vivid explicit details. Dr. Shri Niranjanbhai Rangunwala and Dr. Shri Mansukhbhai Patel helped us with the selection of pictures. Shri Minakshiben Rangunwala contributed for publication of Gujarati Chitrakatha.

We thank all of those above mentioned pious people for their whole hearted contribution. We also acknowledge the contribution of the translator, proof reader and language editor of this English publication. They have expressed their desire not to publish their name and have choosen to remain silent devotee of Pujya Shri Mota. Hence trustee mandal take the responsibility for publication of this English translation. May Almighty God shower his Grace upon them. The Arti-Prayer written by Pujya Shri Mota is composed and sung by Shri Bhavik Patel group and is availbale in QR Code on title page-4. Readers can enjoy a devotional prayer by using the modern technology.

Shri Shreyashbhai Vishnuprasad Pandya of Sahitya Mudranalaya has printed this book with his love and devotion for Pujya Shri Mota. His generous, unfailing and constant support is helping us to offer literature of Pujya Shri Mota at a very reasonable price to the society. We are highly indebted to him for printing this book with the same spirit as always and thank him from the bottom of our heart.

Gurupurnima Samvat year 2076

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## Foreword

Ancient Indian Vedic civilization is a universal beacon for human being to live peaceful, harmonious life. Time to time great masters have been born here, and have guided the globe with enlightening teachings and knowledge. Again in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries India was credited with a birth of great leaders and spiritual icons. Their contribution have made massive social and political renaissance in the history of India. They are Shri Ram Krishna Paramhansa, Swami Vivekananda, Mahatma Gandhiji, Raja Ram Mohan Roy and many more who spent their lives in the service to society and all round upliftment of human beings. Even today in the twenty first century, they continue to cast their influence on millions world over.

One such saint Pujya Shri Mota was born in Gujarat in the year 1898.

This picture story will give an insight into the life and karmas of Pujya Shri Mota. Here is a depiction of how an average life is transformed into the highest peak of spirituality. A child of a simple ordinary family led a life sublime by the sheer power of his indomitable will and profound faith in God.

While reading Mota's life story, it will be a natural feeling of sceptical minds and Google fed modern generation to question the authenticity of events narrated. Today's children need convincing logic for everything that happens in life. By going through the glimpses questions of intellect may rise. Is it possible for such miraculous incidents to happen ? Such doubts may crisscross an average mind.

It is very common phenomena of our life to accept certain facts for which we do not have any knowledge or experience. For example - we accept that  $H_2O$  is water. It is two parts of Hydrogen and one part of Oxygen. Neither is seen nor have we experienced. But it is proved scientifically. Pujya Shri Mota has preached in his discourses, "spiritual science exists." Impressed with his deep understanding of spirituality, Mahatma Gandhiji in his letter, wrote him - "Boy, one day you will become sceintist of spiritual science." Narration of

this picture book is based on his talks. Pujya Shri Mota always said, "I have narrated only such incidents of my life where there was a witness."

Here is a real story of an ordinary human being like us. The story is all about the spiritual journey and transformation of an atheist, a teacher, a rationalist to an ardent devotee, spiritual seeker, Realized Soul, a man in action for upliftment of the society till his last breath.

He worked incessantly day and night to uplift our society steeped in illiteracy, poverty, fear and orthodoxy. Lived very simple life and explained what he did in his life. His philosophy is transparent.

1) Jap Chanting and Atma nivedan - Chant God's name as per your faith and talk to God as if HE is our friend. Both are our handy tools to achieve complete peace and tranquillity of mind.

2) Like various sciences, spiritual science is in existence. Realization of Almighty God is the sole and supreme goal of human life.

3) The poorest of the poor are close to my heart. The service to the mankind is service to God.

His literature is all about the transformation of Mind and Soul in upward direction. Our faith intuitively prompts a reader to study more about Pujya Shri Mota. His literature will ignite inquisitiveness, develop piety, execute virtuous deeds and find purpose of human birth in a reader.

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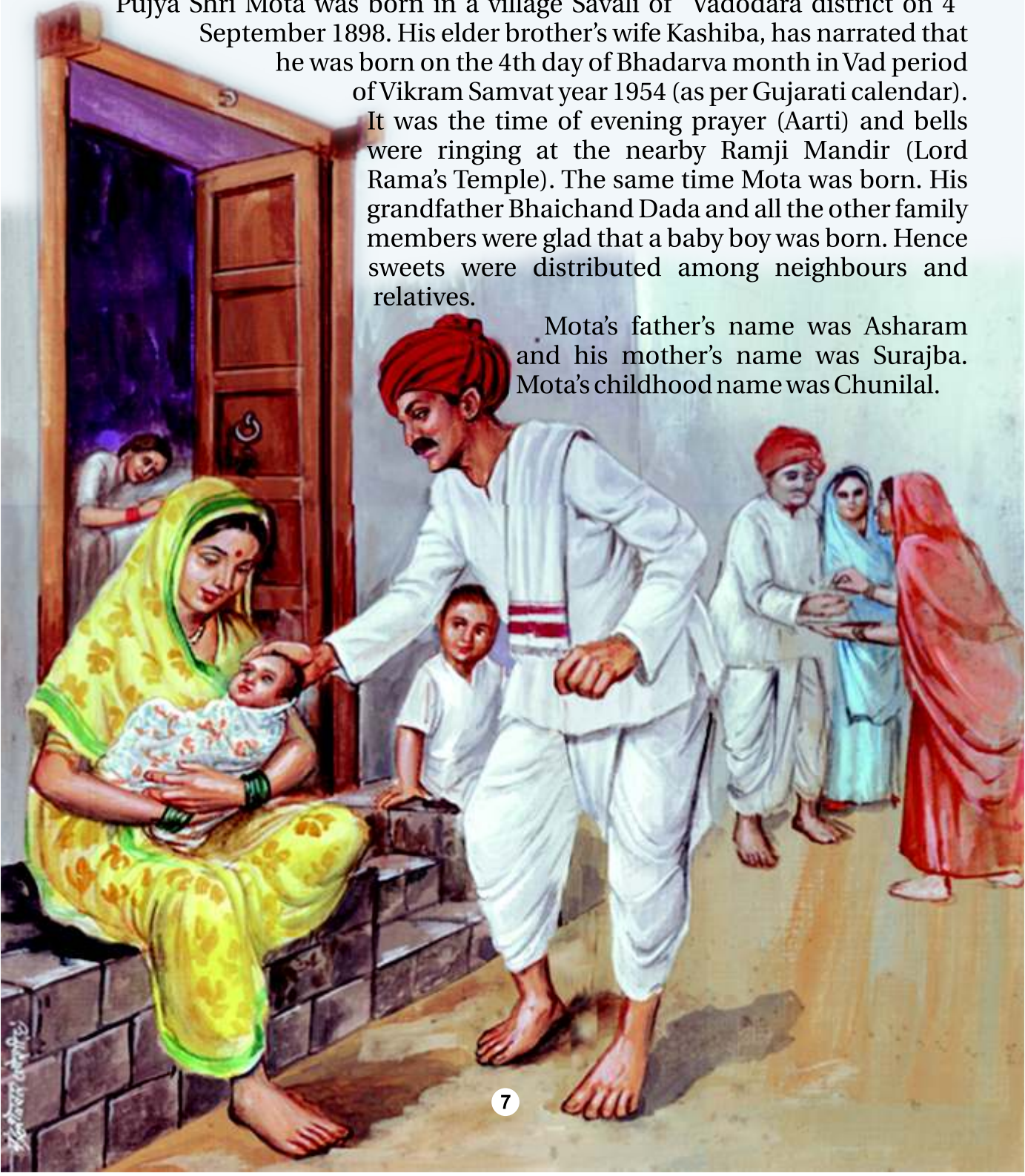
## BIRTH OF SHRI MOTA

Bharatvarsh - our motherland has gifted us divine Souls over thousands of years. Today we will know about a Great Saint of Gujarat. His name is Pujya Shri Mota.

Pujya Shri Mota was born in a village Savali of Vadodara district on 4<sup>th</sup> September 1898. His elder brother's wife Kashiba, has narrated that he was born on the 4th day of Bhadarva month in Vad period of Vikram Samvat year 1954 (as per Gujarati calendar).

It was the time of evening prayer (Aarti) and bells were ringing at the nearby Ramji Mandir (Lord Rama's Temple). The same time Mota was born. His grandfather Bhaichand Dada and all the other family members were glad that a baby boy was born. Hence sweets were distributed among neighbours and relatives.

Mota's father's name was Asharam and his mother's name was Surajba. Mota's childhood name was Chunilal.





## A MONK'S FORECAST

One day a monk dressed in saffron clothes was passing by. He saw the child sitting in the lap of Surajba. The child had a big black freckle spot on the left hand and a sign of trident in his palm. Mota was staring intently at the monk with an extended hand. "O mother, your child has a very bright future", said the monk to Surajba. "What makes you to say so, O holy man !" asked Surajba. "Please explain to me."

The monk showed her the black freckle and the trident and said that these signs indicate that your son will become either a great man or a great saint one day in future.

The mother was overjoyed to hear her son's future. She gave lots of food items and a silver coin of quarter of a rupee to the monk.

The monk's forecast came true in later years as the little boy became a great spiritual saint known as Pujya Shri Mota.







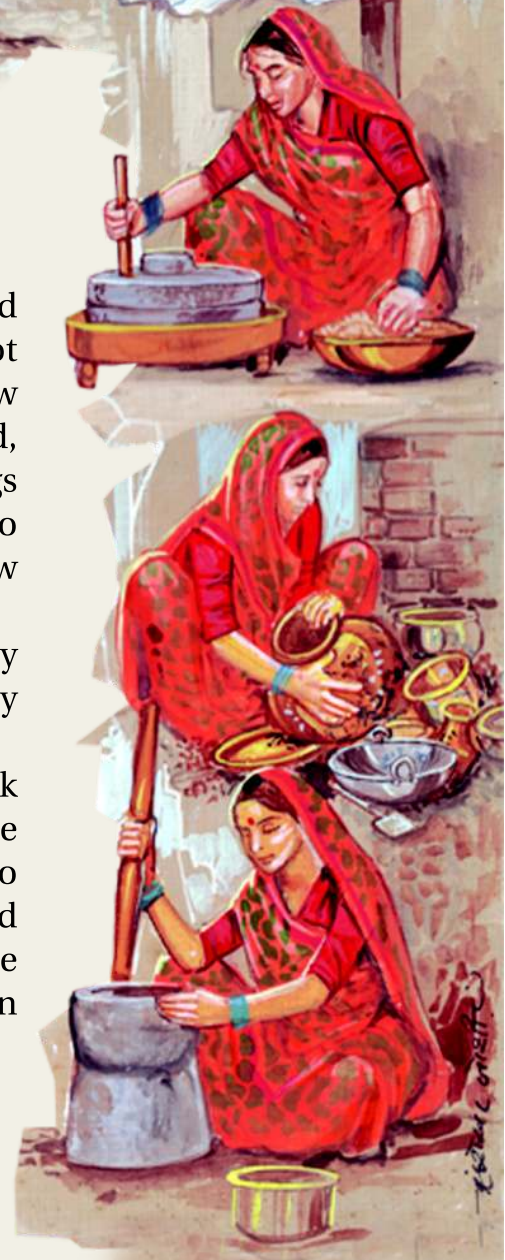
## FAMILY'S CONDITION WORSENS

Years went by Mota's grandfather Bhaichand Dada expired. Also the work of dyeing of clothes got greatly reduced. His father Asharam had to borrow money to maintain the family. When debt increased, he sold off his house and other precious belongings and paid off to creditors. He left Savali and migrated to the village Kalol of Panchmahal district, a few kilometers away from Savali.

He knew only the job of dyeing which did not pay enough to maintain a big family of six. Soon the family could not afford two square meals a day.

But Surajba was very industrious. She undertook house hold works of well to do families of the town. She would grind grains to produce flour, pound paddy to prepare rice, wash clothes, clean utensils, sweep and mop house floors and do other such chores. Thus she earned little extra money and a very good reputation which helped the family to survive.

However the family was barely maintaining itself.





## MOTA WORKED AT A BRICK KILN

Mota was of tender age but his sense of understanding was at par with grown ups. He observed that his mother was toiling at other's homes. "Then is it fair that I sit at home just idle ? I must work and help my family by earning a little." At the spur of the moment this thought came to his mind.

He came to know that a job was available at the brick kiln on the outskirts of the town. He went there and asked the kiln owner for some work. The owner

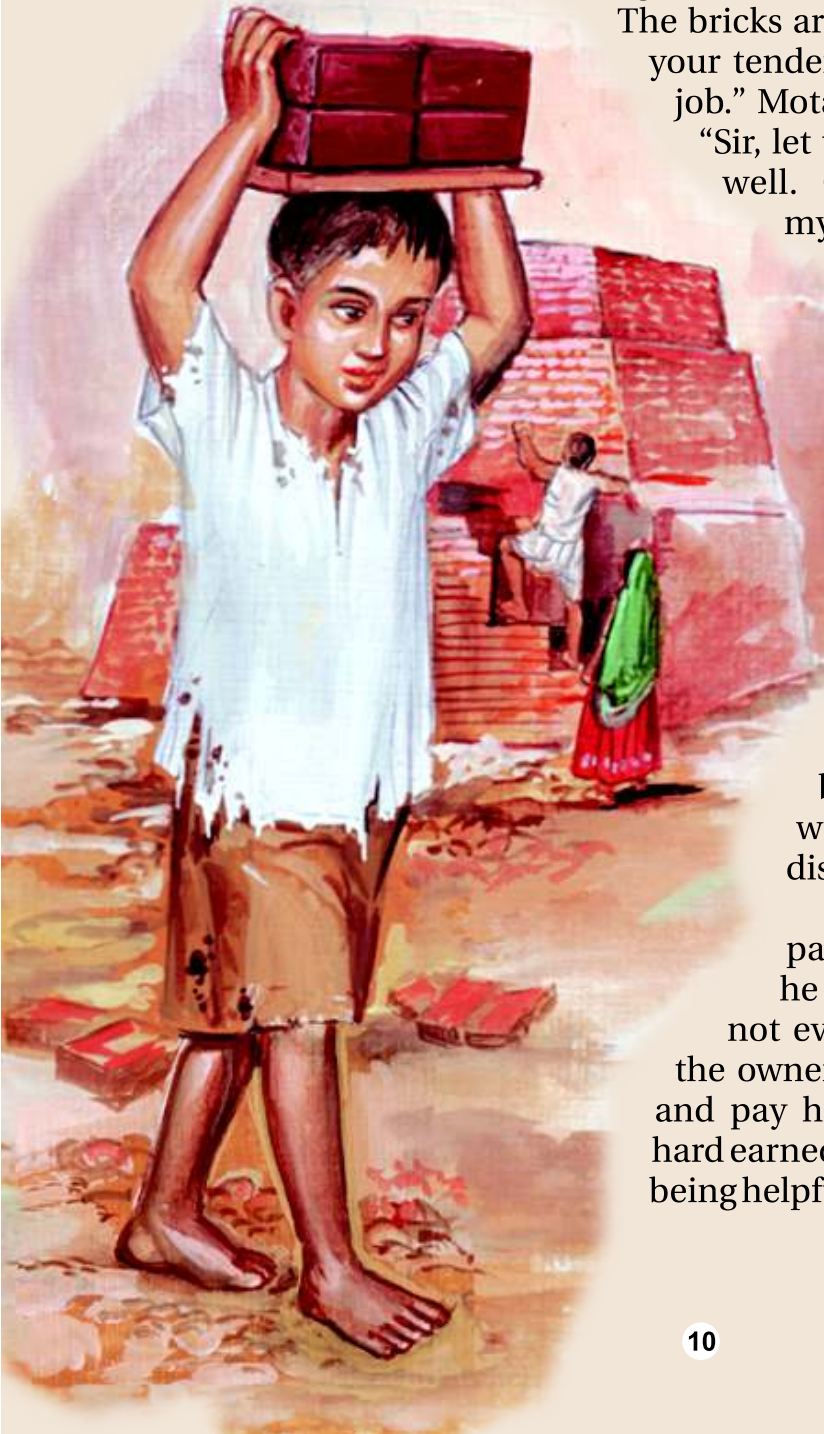
laughed and said, "You are too young for this job. The bricks are very hot and they would burn your tender fingers. This is not a playtime job." Mota replied with a self confidence.

"Sir, let them be hot, I can handle them well. Give me a chance to prove myself." Impressed by the reply, the owner let him work.

He warned Mota not to run away halfway and informed him that he would be paid considering the number of bricks he picked up from the kiln. Less bricks meant less money and more bricks meant more money. Picking bricks from the kiln is a hell of a job. The kiln is extremely hot.

A worker has to pick very hot bricks one by one, stack them on wooden plank on head, go to some distance and make his own pile.

Child Mota's fingers and palms would get burnt every time he touched the bricks. But Mota did not ever lose courage. In the evening the owner would count bricks of his pile and pay him. He would rush home with hard earned little money feeling satisfied for being helpful to his family.





## WORKED AS MASON'S AID

There was construction work going on at some places in the village so Mota went there and asked the mason for helper's job. The mason agreed to give him work if he did not waste time in playing around. Mota agreed and started working. He mixed cement and sand in exact proportions and added just enough water to make an ideal mortar. Also he would bring bricks and stack them around so that it was easier for the mason to pick them up.

The mason naturally got pleased with such neat and speedy work from a young boy. At the end of the day, the mason said "Little boy, I like your work, do come tomorrow. It is difficult to get dedicated workers like you these days. You have a flair for work, no dilly-dallying but only sticking to work."

Mota nodded his head indicating that he would come to work next day. He would go home happily with hard earned money, as if he was returning after playing games! He enjoyed his work so much and never felt it as drudgery.





## COTTON PLUCKING IN FARMS



Farmers grew cotton plants in their farms. When the crop was ready for reaping, Mota would go to farms on the outskirts of village. The farmer would employ him along with other adult workers. Mota would work with great ardour and sharp agile. He would pluck more pods than even adults.

The senior workers normally wasted their time. They worked little, took breaks for smoking, gossiping and worked slowly.

Child Mota was enthusiastic as he firmly believed that - **If we perform our duties, properly and sincerely then only God is pleased with us.** Mota worked with great zeal and would make a big heap of cotton pods by evening. The farmer would be very happy and while paying him, would gently pat his back and say, "Well done boy, well done."



## RICE PLANTATION WORK

When it rains, the farms are filled with water and farmers start planting rice saplings in their farms. Mota went to a farm and requested for a job. Seeing a young boy the farmer would say “Listen little boy, this work is for adults only. You have to remain as quick as others. You have to be at work even when it rains heavily. I don’t think a little boy like you can do such an arduous work.”

Mota would reply politely “Sir, you are right. But give me a chance to prove myself. Pay me after seeing my work.” He would be given job with the condition that he will have to remain in line with elder planters.

Planting rice saplings is really a tough job. One has to bend while planting and wade through knee deep waters and that too for the whole day till evening. It was very very tough and tiring work. Often your feet may get stuck in the mud and you have to pull them out with a jerk. The work also continued in heavy rains. Mota would plant perfectly but would get exhausted at the end of the day. But he would not mind that. His great solace was that he became a helping hand to mother to arrange two square meals a day for the family.

Besides working as seasonal labour, Mota also went to school regularly.





## YOU CAN'T EAT STOLEN SWEETS

Mota knew that the Baniya people of his village hosted community dinners twice a year. His classmates from the Baniya community would discuss in school of their previous day's meal at the community dinner. Once Mota rebuked his friends "Hey, you all enjoy various sweet dishes daily. I am your friend but nothing for me?"

So they devised a plot. "Chunilal you come to our community place tonight. Today's menu has laddoos as sweets and we are volunteers to serve the dinner. In the darkness we will give you a basketful of laddoos and nobody will even know about it."

The plot was executed as planned and Mota got basketful of sweet smelling laddoos. His first impulse was to eat couple of them there and then. But he remembered his mother and brothers. So he dashed home and placed the basket in mother's hands. Seeing a basketful of laddoos, mother got enraged and shouted



“Chuniya, you fool, from where have you brought so many laddoos ?” Mota realized that he had done something wrong and told the truth. Mother was red hot. “You fool ! How did it not occur to you that we cannot eat stolen laddoos ? Where was your sense when you plotted such a mean act ? Now if you ever bring stolen food or any other item in the house, I will expel you from the house.”

Mota could see that his mother was really very angry. After listening to her he realized that it was his mistake and was wrong on his part to bring any stolen item in the house.

Mota did not even touch those laddoos. Next day morning, as directed by his mother, he gave away that basket to the street sweeper. Resultantly, his mother made wheat flour pudding (Shiro) as sweets for children.



## UNEXPECTED DISASTER INVOLVING FATHER

Mota's father Asharamji was habituated to smoking tobacco in hookah, for which he needed fire. To ignite fire, burning cow pats were kept in front of the house. Asharmji used to sing devotional songs (Bhajans) by heart. So people called him "Bhagat." One night two policemen on night petrol came and sat with Bhagatji to have couple of puffs of hookah. One of them asked "Bhagat who is sleeping over there in the patio?"

"A guest" Bhagat replied. "Have you informed about him at the police station?" the policeman asked. It was a custom in those days for certain tribes-communities which were infamous and notorious for petty thefts, to inform about their guests at the local police station. "But we do not belong to those tribes and so we do not have to inform." replied Bhagat. This reply irritated the policeman. He started thrashing Bhagat and dragged him to the police station still thrashing him on the way and locked him up.



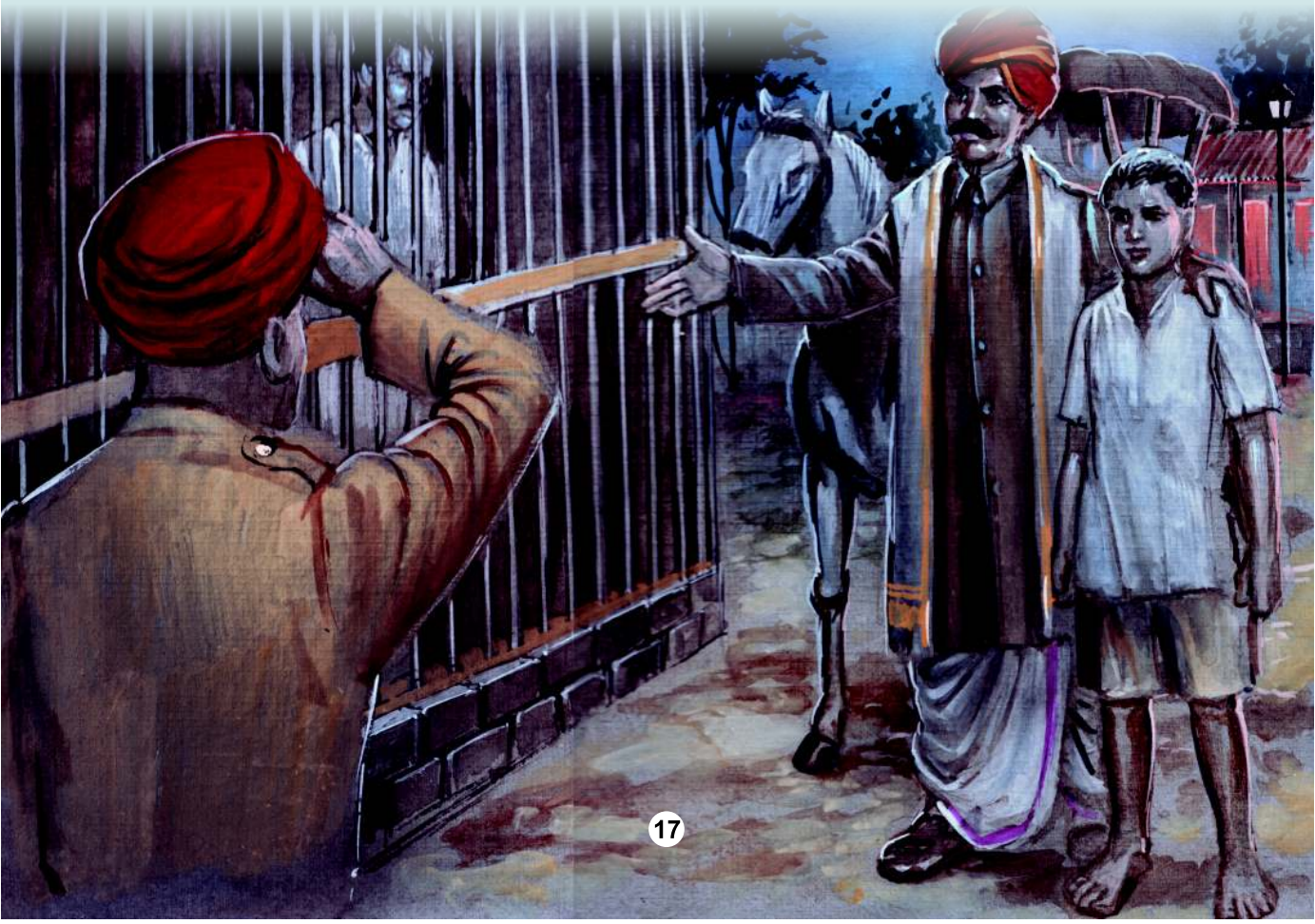


## MOTA FOUND THE WAY OUT

Mota was stunned to see such a ghastly act and could not bear his father's pathetic condition. His mind blinked instantly and he ran to Nagarwada. Rao Saheb Manubhai Subedar lived there. Surajba did petty jobs like grinding of grains and pounding of spices at his house, so he knew the whole family and had soft corner for them. Mota woke him up even though it was past midnight and told him crying profusely "Sir, the policemen have thrashed my father for no reason and have dragged him to the police station."

Immediately Rao Saheb took Mota with him to the police station in his horse driven buggy. Seeing him there, the policemen got afraid. Rao Saheb asked them in stern language. "Bhagat has not committed any offence. Even then why did you thrash him and put him in the lock up ? Call the Superintendent. I would like to lodge a complaint against you." The Policemen realized their mistake. They apologized and immediately released Bhagatji.

Mota had witnessed the whole drama which made him ponder over the whole episode. He felt that in this world the poor are degraded by all. We should become such that no one dares to insult us. He thought further. "Look at the Mamlatdar of our taluka. Young and old, everyone salutes him and gives him great respect. I will also become such a big person. But how can I become a big man ? Of course, by studying a lot."





## QUIT THE JOB OF TRICKERY

Mota finished studies up to fourth standard in Kalol. There was neither schooling facility in village nor he had money to move out for higher studies. Again to support the family his father arranged a job for him at a grain merchant's shop in the neighbouring town of Godhra.

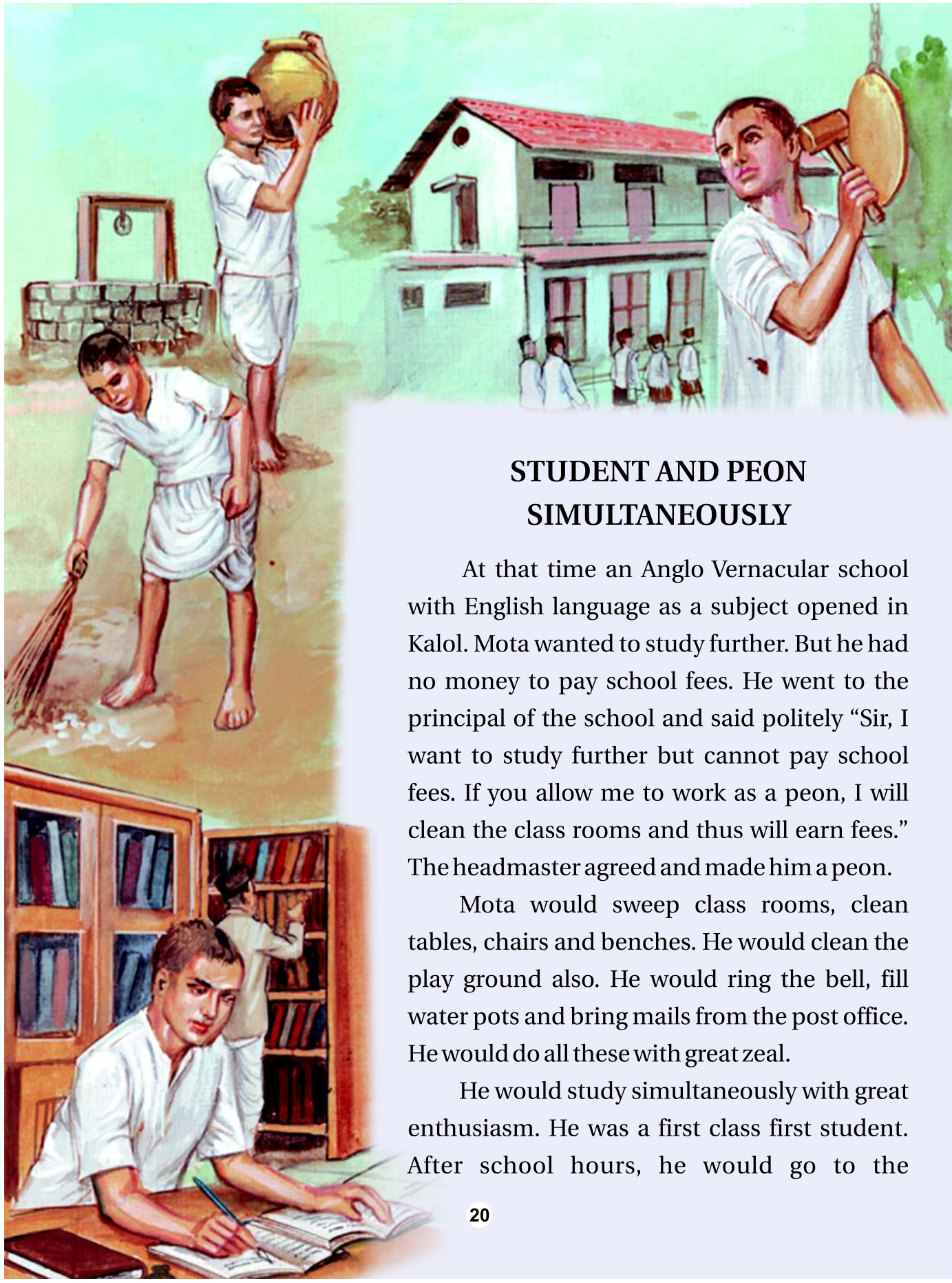


The grain merchant gave him the job of weighing grains and some general work too. The farmers brought grains from nearby villages for selling. He taught Mota a trick by which a couple of kilograms of extra grains could be taken by trickery. But Mota continued weighing honestly and gave correct weight to farmers. One day one farmer complained to the merchant that the young boy (Mota) has cheated him and taken more grain by showing less weight. He insisted on getting his grain reweighed by a third person.

The merchant feared exposure. However the merchant had to agree for reweighing under the pressure of the farmer. The third person confirmed the correct weight as what Mota had shown.

Thus the farmer was satisfied. But the merchant realized that the boy was not cheating as taught. So he rebuked Mota in private. Mota replied “Boss, I cannot be dishonest in business and life. Keep your job, I quit.” And Mota quit the job even though he was in dire need of money for family.





## STUDENT AND PEON SIMULTANEOUSLY

At that time an Anglo Vernacular school with English language as a subject opened in Kalol. Mota wanted to study further. But he had no money to pay school fees. He went to the principal of the school and said politely “Sir, I want to study further but cannot pay school fees. If you allow me to work as a peon, I will clean the class rooms and thus will earn fees.” The headmaster agreed and made him a peon.

Mota would sweep class rooms, clean tables, chairs and benches. He would clean the play ground also. He would ring the bell, fill water pots and bring mails from the post office. He would do all these with great zeal.

He would study simultaneously with great enthusiasm. He was a first class first student. After school hours, he would go to the

headmaster's residence. He would bring vegetables from the market, help in house hold works and take care of little children. Due to all this Mota was dear to the headmaster's wife. She would treat him as her own son.

One day Mota opened his heart in front of headmaster and said "Sir, the condition of my family is not good. I would like to complete four years course in short period. Thus I can save years, complete my studies and be helpful to my father by getting a better job." The Headmaster agreed and taught him well. Mota studied sincerely and completed four years study course in just one and a half year!





## WON THE HEART OF THE EDUCATION INSPECTOR

Mota completed four years course in just one and a half years but what about exams? Permission from the education department was necessary.

One day the education inspector was on a visit to school. Mota went to him and said politely "Sir the colour of your turban has faded. Give it to me, I will dye it excellently as original."

The inspector gave him the turban. Mota dyed it carefully.

The inspector was very glad and offered him money for the job. Mota refused to accept the money and requested politely "Sir, I have completed the course of four years and I must give exams. You have the authority to give me permission to give exams. Sir, please help me out, I will never forget your obligation." The inspector assured Mota "Do not worry. Your wish will be fulfilled." Inspector approved the exams. Mota passed all the exams with very good marks.

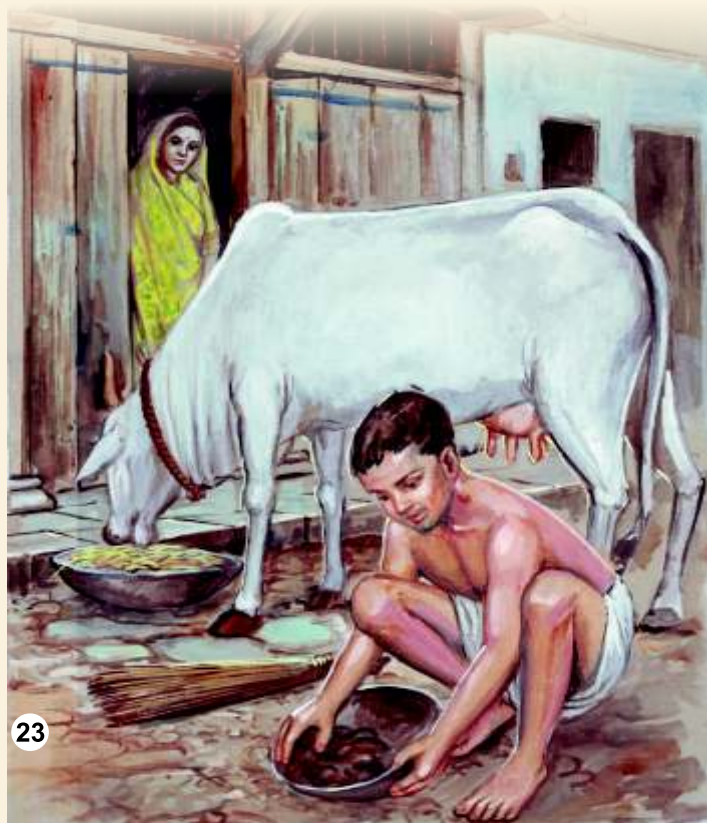
## MOTA KEPT HIS PROMISE

Mota's family had a cow. They tied her in front of the house in the street. One day Surajba said to the family members "We barely make our two ends meet. How can we feed a cow with our meager income? Besides I have no time to take care of her. We better sell her off." Young Mota was pained to hear such words. He asked "Mother, would you have sold her off if she was your own child?" Mother got annoyed and retorted "Silly boy, you have a bad habit of speaking nonsense. It is not an easy job to take care of a cow. Have you thought of problems I am facing? In the first place we do not have a place of our own to keep her. We are unable to buy grass for her. So we keep her on the road. She passes urine and dung which spoils the street. So I have to hear taunts of passers by."

Mota said peacefully "Mother you are totally right. Now onwards I will clean all the filth, bring the fodder and bathe her every day. Would you now drop the idea of selling her?" Mother laughed at him "Chuniya, I will only believe you, unless you deliver what you speak." Next morning Mota got up early, collected dung in a basket, cleaned the place and sprayed dry soil. The area became quite clean and humming flies flying around reduced a lot.

He had to arrange fodder for the cow. Kalol was a main town of sub district. Farmers from nearby villages would bring grains and vegetables in bullock carts for selling in Kalol. They would unyoke their bullocks at the outskirts of the town, tie them to carts and place fodder in front of them to eat. They would then go to market-bazaar, finish their work and in the evening return to their villages. Mota would go to the outskirts of the town to collect all uneaten grass. He would prepare a big bundle, place it on his head, bring it home and serve the cow.

Mother kept an eye on her son and was pleased to see that Chuniya had kept his promise. Mota's childhood name was Chunilal so lovingly mother used to call him Chuniyo.







## MINGLED WITH STRANGERS

Mota completed another four years of studies at the Anglo Vernacular English School in Kalol and passed up to eight standard. The school had only four standards of English medium facilities. So the head master of his school Shri Ghanubhai made arrangements for Mota to stay with his mother's sister's (Masiba) house at Petlad near Anand. Her name was Prabhaba. She used to come to Kalol often at Ghanubhai's house so she knew this student. Prabhaba agreed to keep Mota at her house for further studies.

At Petlad Mota would do all types of household works. He would clean utensils, wash clothes and even help in the kitchen. He would play with the children of the house, tell them funny stories, make them laugh and often teach them too.

Mota was friendly and affectionate by nature. He mingled with everyone and became a family member. Prabhaba would shower love on him as if he was her own son. Over the years she became Mota's spiritual Mother.

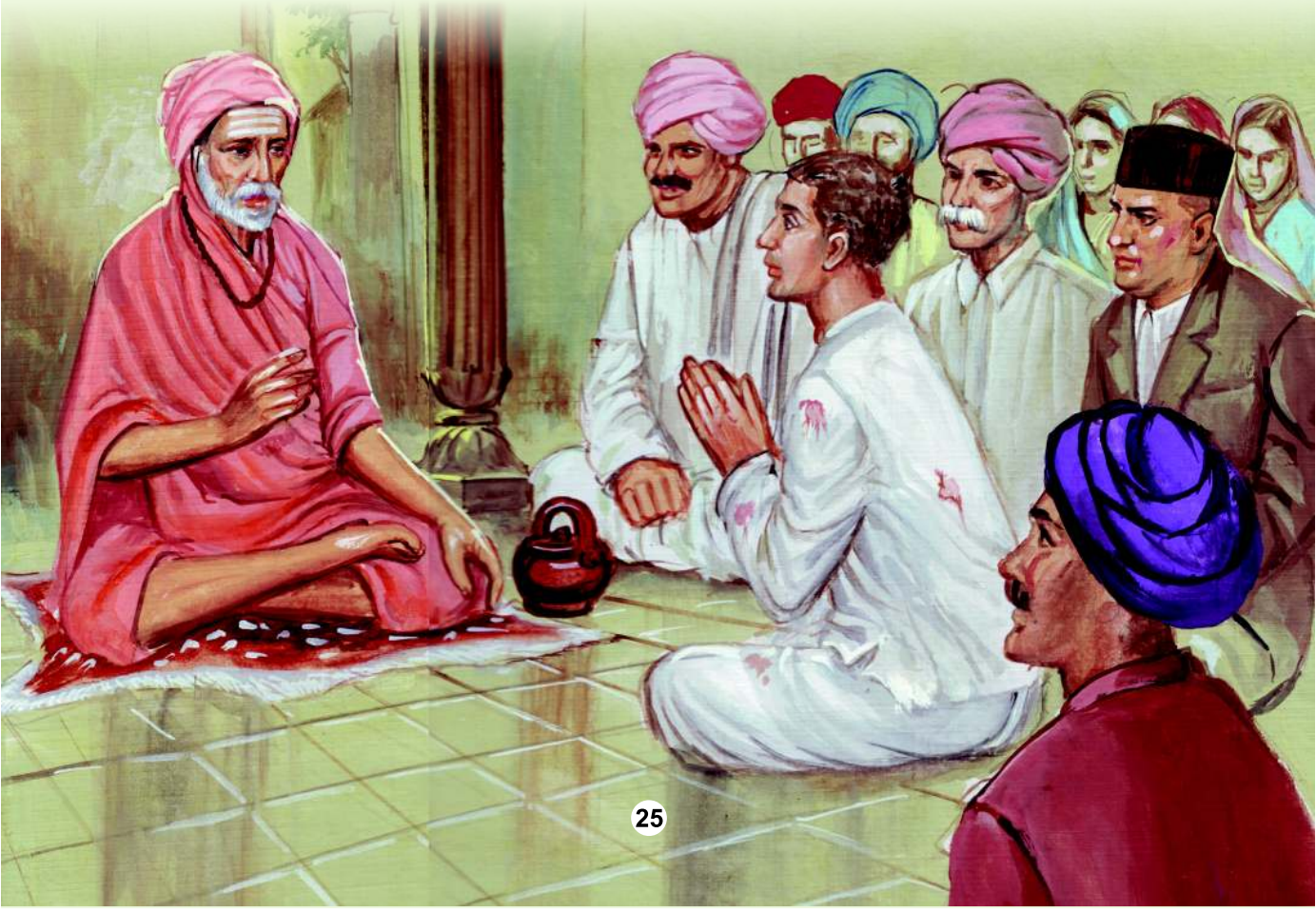


## A SAINT CAME TO HIS HELP

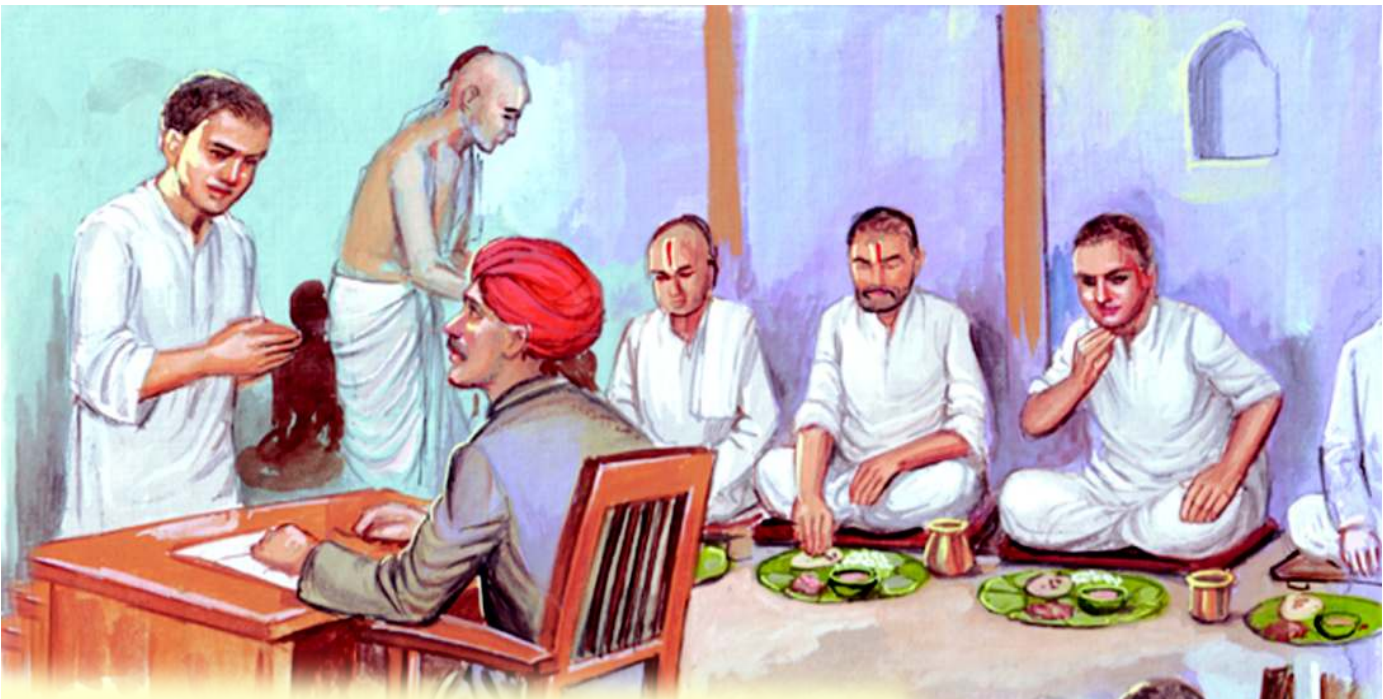
The revered and renowned Saint Shri Jankidasji Maharaj frequently visited Petlad in those years and stayed at Ramji Mandir. His admirers would come for his darshan and listen to spiritual discourses. Mota would also visit the temple for his darshan. But he would never sit idle. He would wipe and clean the saint's room carefully, fold his clothes neatly and place them at a proper place. Jankidasji Maharaj, of course observed all this.

Eventually Mota came to the Metric (Std-10th) class. Shri Jankidasji Maharaj told him "My Son, you are heading for serious illness. So complete your Metric course in two months. I will arrange for your studies." He, then called teachers of various subjects and asked them to teach Mota and complete their courses in two months. Out of deep respect for the saint, each teacher worked diligently and finished their courses in two months.

Just before the preliminary examination Mota went to Ahmedabad to see his elder brother. There he fell seriously ill. It took him long time to recover just before the final exam. He returned to Petlad, weak of health. The principal allowed him to fill the examination form. Thereby he took the matriculation exam and passed it with distinction marks.







## PROBLEMS OF COLLEGE DAYS

Mota took admission in the college of Arts faculty at Maharaja Sayajirao University, Vadodara. But where to stay ? He could not afford hostel fees. A young man from Kalol, Nagar Brahmin by caste was awarded a fellowship by college and had a separate room for him in the student hostel. Mota requested him for stay; as he knew Mota, allowed joyfully to share his room.

Now where to eat ? Hostel meals were costly. An idea blinked in his mind. He remembered Vaishnav Haveli (Temple) in Vadodara. There he met the head priest. He bowed with great respect and requested “Maharaj, I am studying in Vadodara college. I want to eat prasad (lunch) offered to God every day. Kindly allow me one plate a day. I will be highly obliged.”

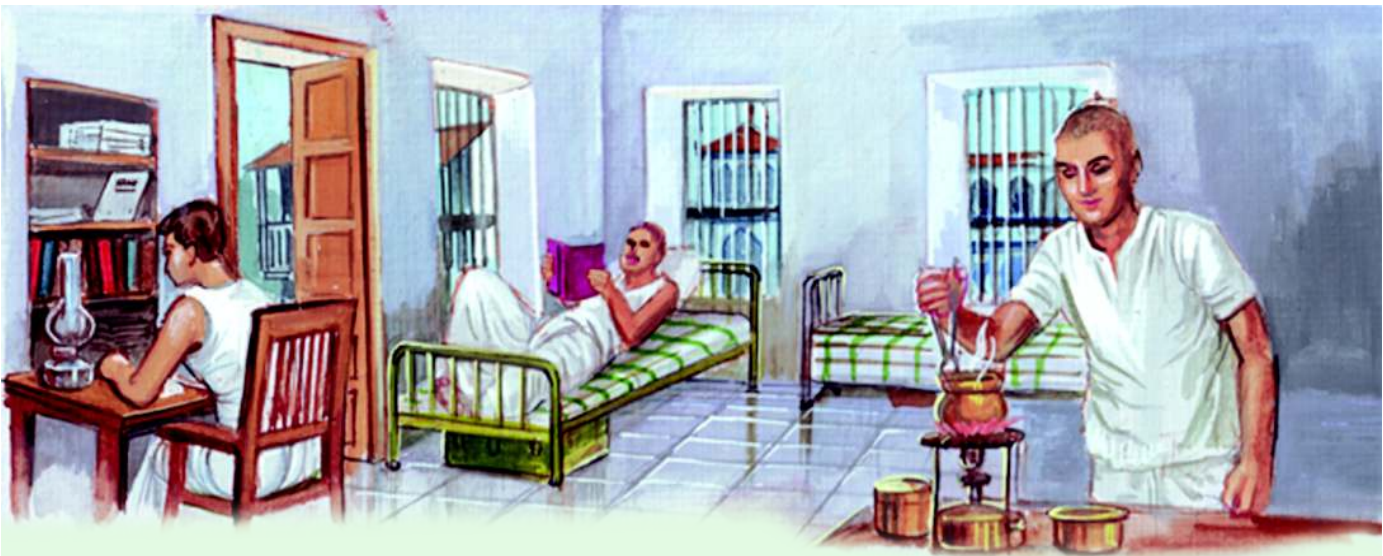


The head priest agreed joyfully. What must be the price of one plate of prasad ? One and a half Anna. (In those days Anna was the mode of currency. 16 Anna = 1 Rupee. In today's value 1.5 Anna means 12.50 Paisa only). The Prasada was holy and pious food made of pure ghee.

Mota would start from hostel early morning. Daily he would walk 2.5 miles to the Haveli and 2.5 miles back to hostel. He would read while walking on footpath. Upon reaching Haveli he would take bath, change clothes and take prasada then return.

This routine went on for six months. Then Prabhava came to know about it. She scolded Mota and arranged for his meals at the hostel canteen.





## CANNOT AFFORD SUCH LUXURIOUS HABITS

Some students of the hostel had formed a Tea Club. Each member paid his share. Mota would prepare tea for them twice or thrice a day. Mota would lovingly serve them tea, clean utensils, fill the pot of drinking water, wash their clothes etc. In return he would get his tea free.

All students maintained good relations with Mota. They would help him occasionally too. Some time they would go to watch a movie or a play, take Mota along with them and also pay for his ticket.

One day a desire rose in the mind of Mota to watch a movie all alone. In that case he would have to pay for the ticket himself. He knew he could not afford such an unnecessary expense. This desire set his mind churning and finally he made a firm resolution.

“Henceforth I will not go to see a movie even if friends pay for it. Free tickets would form a habit to watch movies which could drive me one day to spend. The best way is to stop seeing movies altogether. I cannot afford such luxurious habits.”



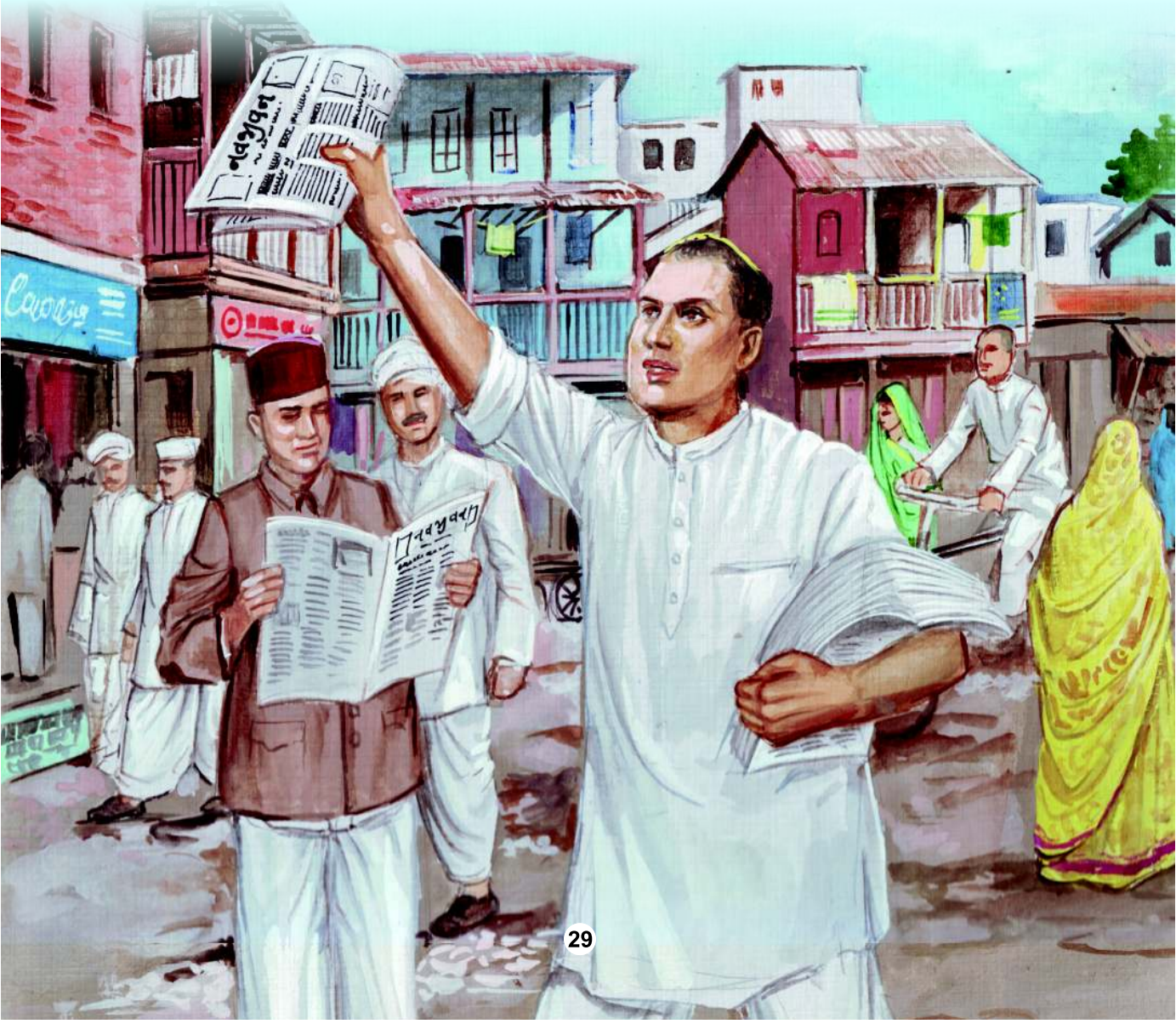


## SOLD NEWS PAPERS TO MEET VIDHYAPITH EXPENSES

Now Mota was studying in the final year of B.A. (Bachelor of Arts) college. Final exams were just a few months for graduation. He was enthusiastic to bring happiness to his family and specially to relieve his mother from hard work.

Suddenly, circumstances changed. Mahatma Gandhiji called on all youths to boycott government colleges and serve countrymen. Mota thought “If youngsters will not serve our country then who else will do?” So he decided to leave college for the service of Mother India.

Mota left Vadodara college and joined Gujarat Vidhyapith\* at Ahmedabad. As now financial help was not available, he found out a way for survival.





He started selling 'Navjivan' a weekly published by Gandhiji every Sunday. Every Sunday early morning he would roam around streets and loudly proclaim "Gandhiji's Navjivan, Gandhiji's Navjivan." In those days Gandhiji's Navjivan was widely read. One copy of Navjivan was sold for five paisa and he got one paisa as commission. He would earn as much paisa, as much copies he could sell. One Sunday he could earn only fifty paisa. To survive for seven days in just fifty paisa ! Seven paisa per day ! Mota had a great virtue of self-respect. He survived in those days just having grams & rice puffs. (chana and mamra) There were relatives in Ahmedabad who would have fed him meals any time if he would have visited their houses. But this was below his self esteem. Mota thought - **'If I will live my life with self- respect then Almighty God will help me.'** Very soon he got tuition to help a student to balance his expenses.

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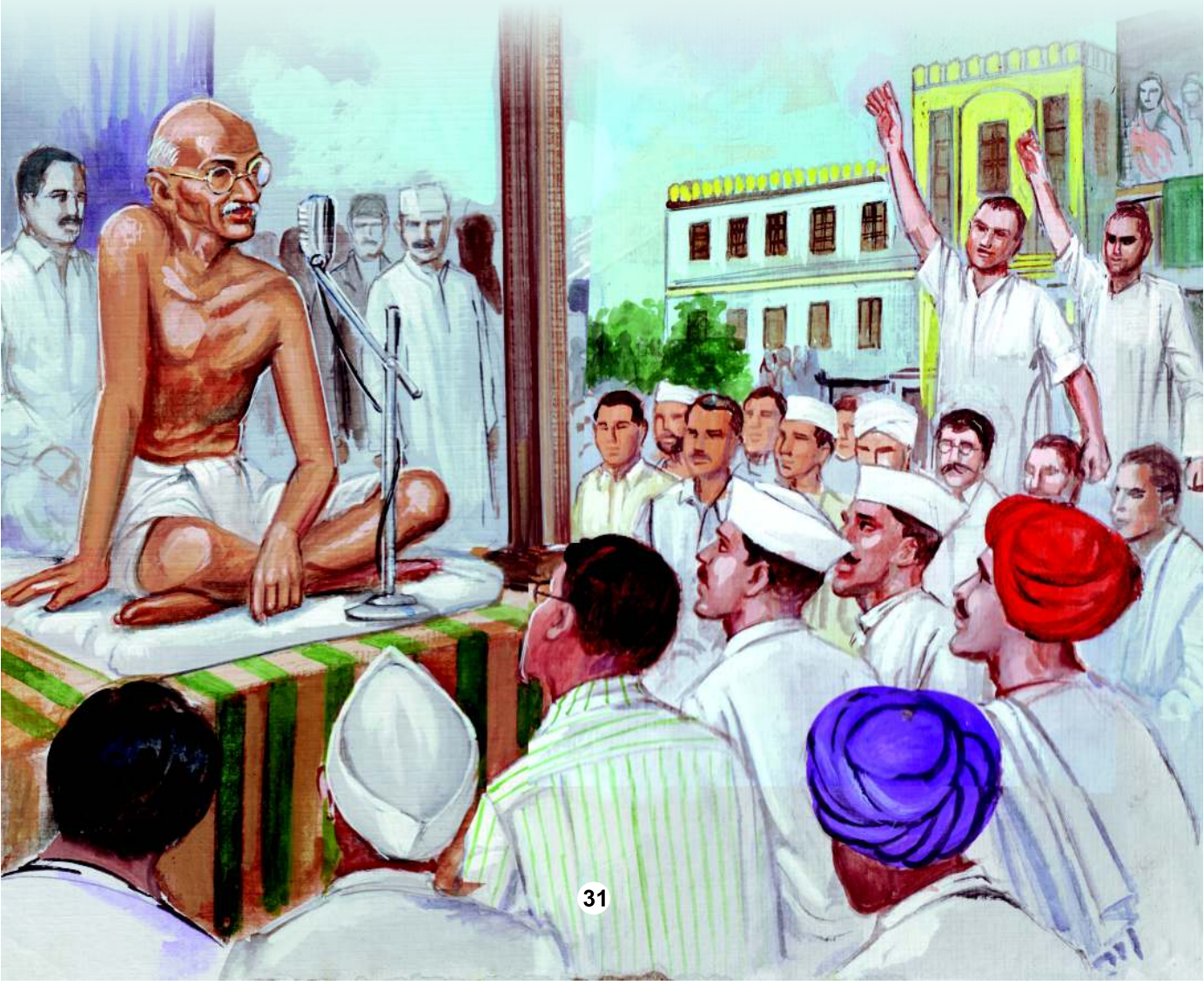
\*In those days and even today Gujarat Vidhyapith (founded by Mahatma Gandhiji on 18<sup>th</sup> October 1920) has a degree course for social workers, known as Gram Sevak.

## LEFT VIDHYAPITH AT THE CALL OF MAHATMA GANDHI

Gandhiji was founder of 'Gujarat Vidhyapith' (university) at Ahmedabad for national awareness and systematic learning of social work. The motto was to educate youngsters to serve Mother India. Vidyapith was educating variety of degree courses for the service of villages and society at large. Mota left Vadodara College and got admission at Gujarat Vidhyapith. But how to support education expenses at Ahmedabad?

Mota requested principal Gidvaniji and took up cleaning job at Gujarat Vidhyapith to meet expenses. Meanwhile he was also selling Gandhiji's weekly 'Navjivan' to support his expenses.

Then there was an explosion again. Gandhiji visited Gujarat Vidhyapith and addressed students "I thought after quitting college you will start doing service to the nation. There are innumerable villages in our poor country. You have no idea





as how illiterate people living there get cheated. Go to them with torch of knowledge. Spread the message of awareness and reality to them. With this purpose I had prompted you to leave collage. But you left infatuation of one degree and again got infatuation to another degree.” Mota’s heart was moved by emotional and touching words of Gandhiji.

Again he resolved “Whatever may happen, respecting Gandhiji’s words I will leave Vidhyapith and serve Mother India.” He decided to leave Gujarat Vidhyapith at the call of Mahatma Gandhiji and worked for Harijan seva. Another student Pandurang Valame also left Vidhyapith. Thus two bright students left studies to serve Mother India.

Later on both of them were guided by their respective Guru Maharaj to perform hardest penance and attain Realization of God. Attaining Almighty God Chunilal Bhavsar became **Shri Mota** and Pandurang Valame became **Shri Rang Avdhoot Maharaj**.

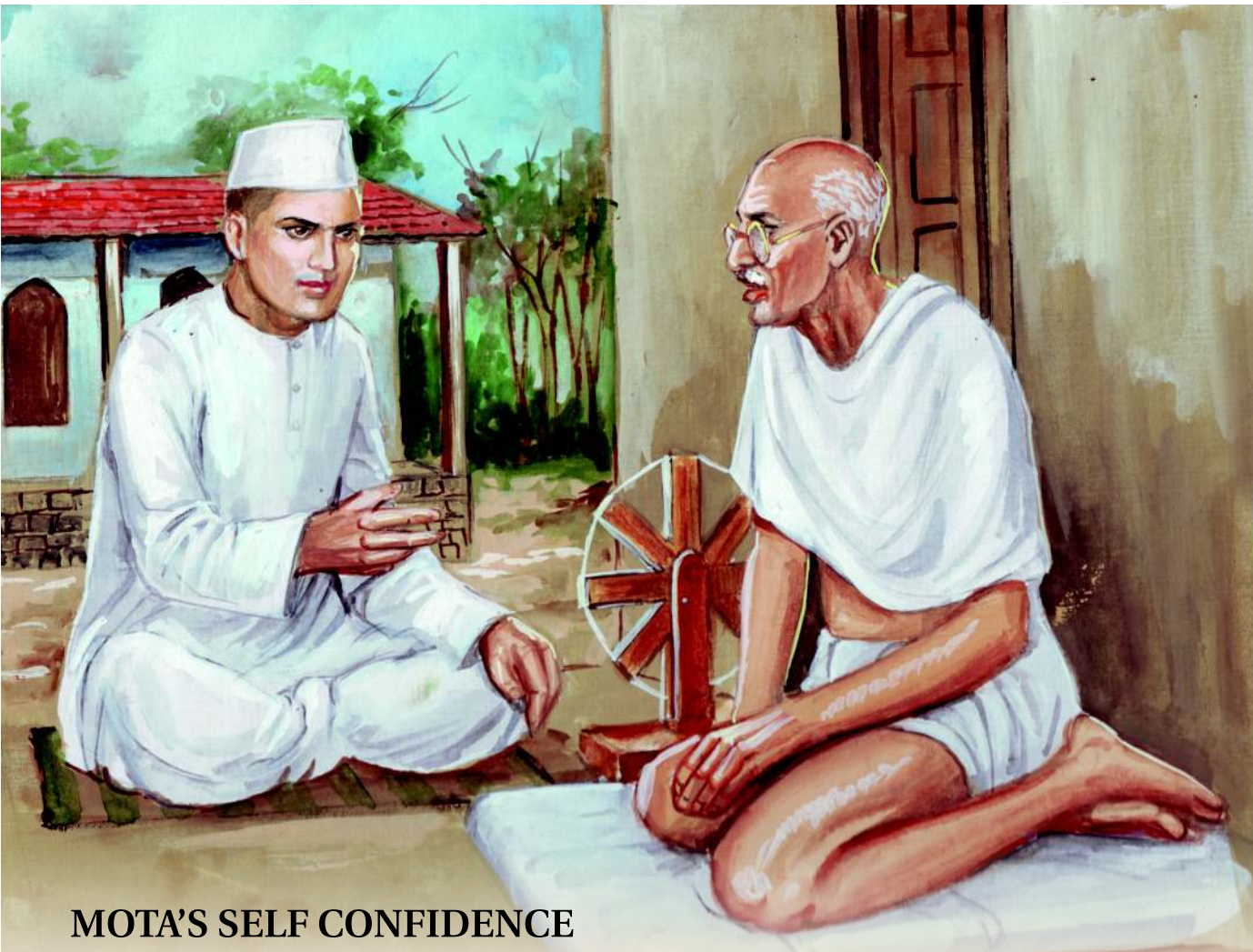
## HARIJAN SEVA AT NADIAD

Mahatma Gandhi used to say repeatedly that “the system of untouchables (caste wise differences in society) is a blot on Hinduism.” He had started a nationwide campaign - drive to wipe out that blot. Mota also undertook that work. He joined the Harijan Ashram - a hostel started by Indulal Yagnik at Nadiad. The purpose was to provide accommodation to children of untouchables. Gujarat Vidhyapith had also started a school and hostel to educate these children at the same place. Mota was looking after both, the hostel and the school.

So he was heavily loaded by this dual responsibility. Children had to be taught as how to behave, how to maintain cleanliness etc. He himself had to bring water from some distance away, had to cook himself as ashram could not afford a cook. He would go to the Harijan locality, talk to them. He would mingle with families, solve their problems and teach them to live life with cleanliness, narrate episodes from Ramayan, Mahabharat and our other religious texts, sing devotional songs and prompt them to sing along with him. He would also arrange picnics at solitary places. He would sometimes sleep in their locality and arrange story telling and talks with Harijan children. He would take students to rivers and big ponds and teach them swimming. Mota would teach them how to clean pot, brass utensils, cauldrons (big vessel of cooking) to make them glittering. Thus Mota served the Harijan community with dedication, love and enthusiasm for several years.







## MOTA'S SELF CONFIDENCE

Indulal Yagnik paid Rs.65 per month to Mota for running the hostel. Gujarat Vidhyapith paid him Rs.50 per month for running the school. Some envious co-workers objected to this double salary, not taking into account that Mota was performing two different responsibilities at the same time.

The objection was conveyed to Gandhiji. He called Mota and pointed out his drawing double salary from two institutions of a poor country. Mota explained him politely that the circumstances of his house were forcing him to take up double responsibilities and salary. He had to pay for treatment of his elder brother suffering from T.B. (Tuberculosis - a fatal disease at that time). He was the lone earning male member in a family of six persons. His mother and brother's wife (Bhabhi) were also working as house maids, just to match both ends meet.

Gandhiji asked "How can you look after two institutions at such a young age of twenty three?" Mota promptly replied with confidence "Sir, William Pitt (Junior) became Prime Minister of England at the young age of twenty four only." Hearing Mota's spontaneous reply Gandhiji laughed heartily, but said nothing.

But a few days later he received communication asking him to choose any one of the two institutions. Mota selected school job to teach Harijan children.





## HARI OM MANTRA TO CURE A DISEASE

We have seen earlier, Mota was looking after two institutions of Harijan children at Nadiad. The Harijan children fetched water from a common well of the area. The upper caste people of the village had severe prejudice and hatred for Harijans. They threatened to beat the children if they came to the well to fetch water. So Mota had a tension all the time about their safety. Moreover his brother was suffering from T.B. and lots of money was needed for his treatment. The family of six persons was to be maintained. Due to all these worries Mota was under constant mental stress. As a result, he became victim of a disease called fit of epilepsy. Suddenly he would fall down on ground and lose consciousness.

Once he had gone and stayed at Ranchhodrai Mandir (Shri Krishna Temple) at Mokhadi Ghat\* on the banks of river Narmada. At that time a saint was also living in the temple. Mota would serve him. Seeing that Mota had fits of epilepsy, four to five times a day the saint said "Son, I will give you a medicine which will cure your disease. Would you accept it? Also after one year your Sadguru will meet you and elevate your life." The saint whispered "Hari Om" mantra in Mota's ear.

\* Mokhadi Ghat = Now submerged in the reservoir Narmada Dam.

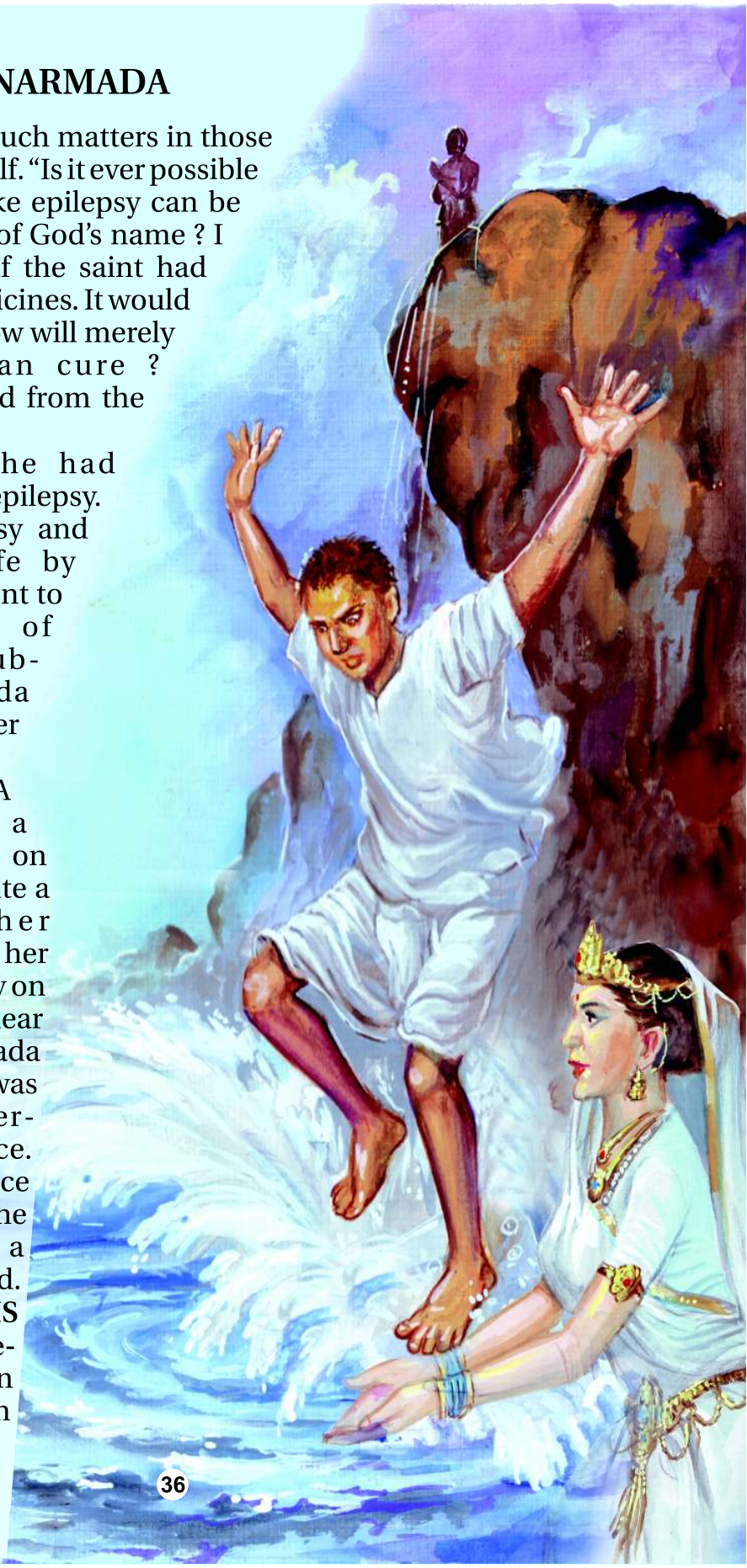


## SAVED BY MOTHER NARMADA

Mota had no faith in such matters in those days. He argued with himself. "Is it ever possible that a stubborn disease like epilepsy can be cured by merely chanting of God's name ? I would have been happy if the saint had given me some herbal medicines. It would have cured me for sure. How will merely chanting Hari Om can cure ? Unbelievable." He returned from the temple unconvinced.

There after also he had frequent attacks of fits of epilepsy. He was fed up of epilepsy and decided to end his life by committing suicide. He went to a cliff a little ahead of Garudeshwar (Now submerged in the Narmada Dam) and jumped into river Narmada.

But what a miracle ! A column of water rose like a hurricane and threw him on the bank of the river at quite a safe distance. Mother Narmada dangled him in her arms and placed him gently on the shore. Mota had a clear vision of a Goddess Narmada in the column of water. It was an extraordinary, super-human divine experience. Mota was saved by the grace of God. He did not die as he had planned. As a result a conviction rose in his mind. He said to himself "**By HIS Grace I am meant for something.**" This conviction kindled faith in God within his heart.





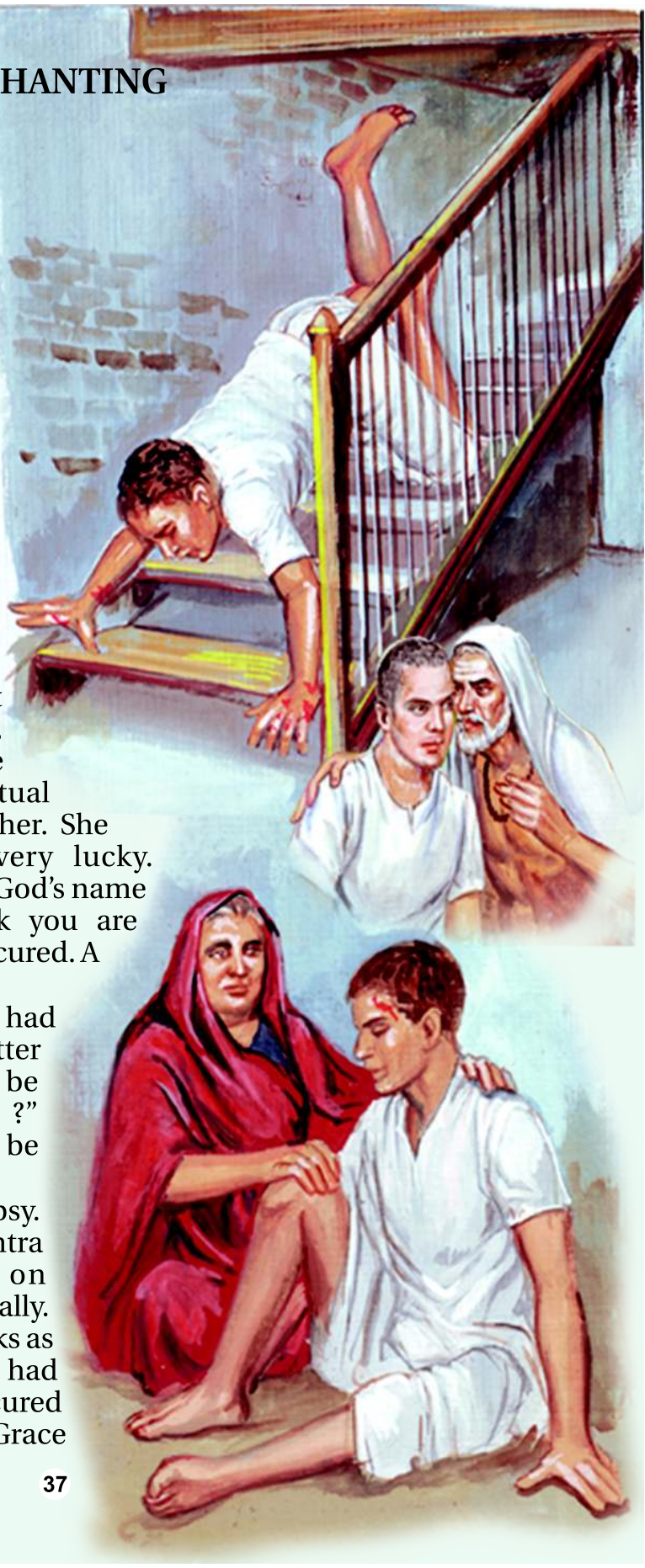
## EPILEPSY GOT CURED BY CHANTING

On returning from Garudeshwar, Mota went to meet Prabhaba at Vadodara. He was on the third floor when epilepsy struck him again. He rolled down three staircases and fell flat on the floor in the front room of house. He was badly bruised and became unconscious. As he was gaining consciousness, that saint of Garudeshwar appeared before his eyes and said "Are you still skeptical about faith the Lord ? Just try it and start chanting God's name. Don't you have faith in scientific experiments ? Then do this and I assure you that your disease will be cured."

Mota told Prabhaba about meeting the saint at Garudeshwar, his advice there, and again his advice in vision. She was Mota's spiritual mother and he had great faith in her. She exclaimed, "Chuniya, you are very lucky. Without any doubts, start chanting God's name immediately while whatever work you are doing. For sure, your disease will be cured. A saint's words are always truthful."

Mota was still skeptical. He had great faith in Gandhiji. He wrote a letter to him and asked, "Can a disease be cured by chanting God's name ?" Gandhiji replied "Any disease can be cured by chanting God's name."

Mota wanted to be free of epilepsy. He started chanting Hari Om mantra given by the saint. He went on increasing hours of chanting gradually. He noticed that the number of attacks as well gravity of attacks of epilepsy had decreased and he was completely cured within three to four months by the Grace of God.





## CALL FROM SHRI SADGURU

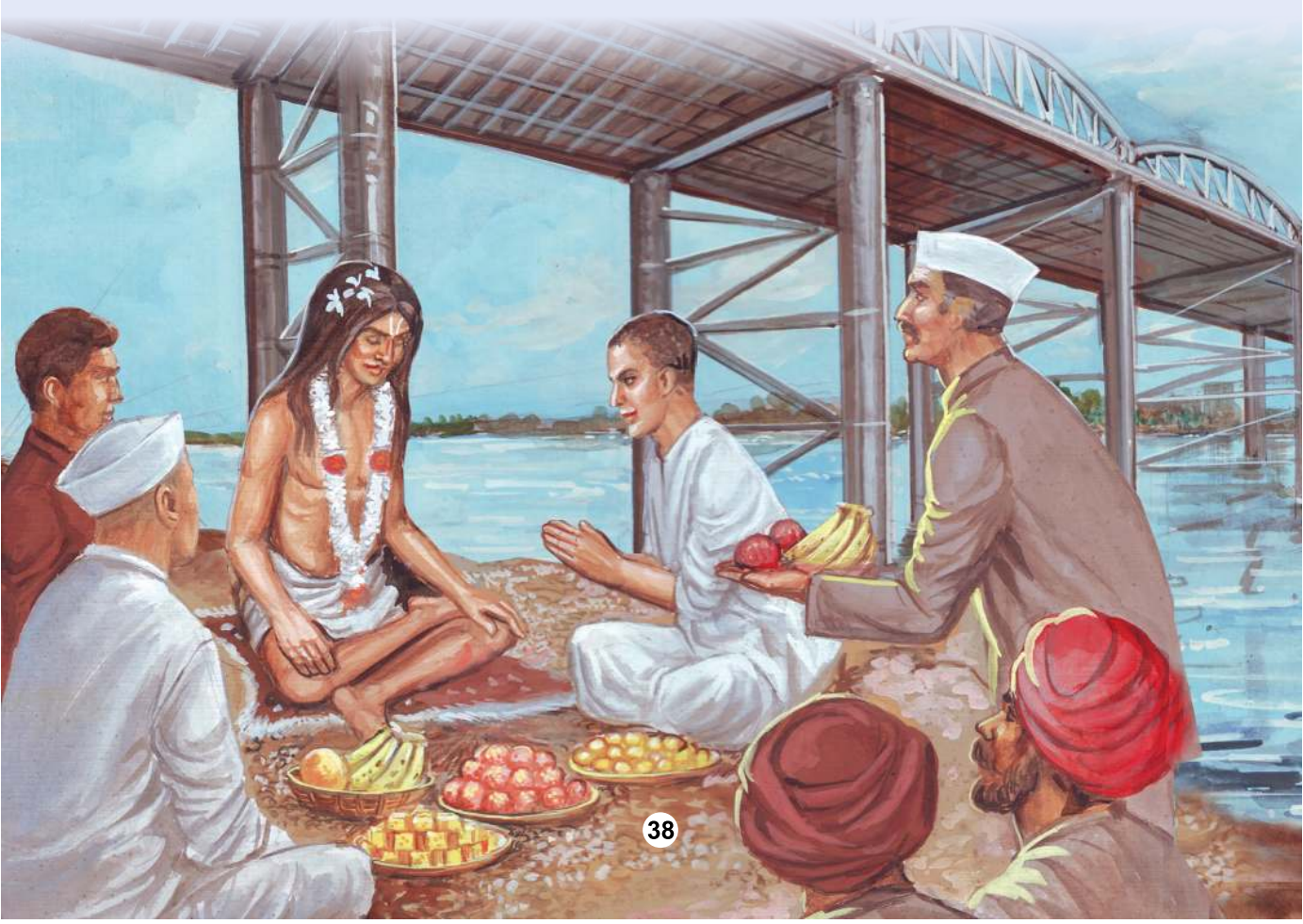
Now Mota was busy in Nadiad serving Harijans. At the same time his chanting Hari Om for maximum hours during day also continued. Then a strange event happened. His friend Nanubhai Kanthariya had gone to Ahmedabad for some work. There he met a saint on the banks of river Sabarmati. The saint used to camp on the right side of Ellis bridge.

Nanubhai heard him shouting “Someone please call Chunilal Bhagat from Nadiad.” He was surprised to hear Mota’s name and so on his return to Nadiad, he informed Mota about it. Mota was not impressed at all, as at that time he believed that - “The whole sadhu community is a burden to the society.” Yet thoughts of a sadhu calling him by name lingered in his mind. To get rid of those thoughts he went to Ahmedabad to meet the sadhu.

The sadhu kept Mota with him for four days during which he had many mystical experiences. While taking his permission to return to Nadiad, Mota mentally prayed to the sadhu “Please come to Nadiad and initiate me for sadhna\*.” That sadhu’s name was Balyogi Maharaj and he was from Bengal. Subsequently he came to Nadiad and initiated Mota for Sadhna on the day of Vasant Panchami.

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\*Spiritual practice to achieve realization of Almighty God.





## BALYOGI MAHARAJ ARRIVES AT NADIAD

Mota had to go to Mirakhedi in Dahod district to attend a meeting of the Antyaj Seva Mandal. He purchased a ticket from Nadiad station and boarded the train. Seated by the window suddenly, he spotted Balyogiji sitting in one corner of the platform.

Immediately, Mota dashed and prostrated in front of him. Balyogiji asked Mota to return his ticket. As Mota hesitated a bit, he got very angry and asked him to return the ticket in a commanding order.

Mota took him to his house in Narakhi Pole and made him rest on the first floor. Balyogiji was in great ecstasy - exuberance. He would jump from place to place and dance. He told Mota that he had come to initiate him for sadhna. But for that he requires a big bungalow in a remote area and on a lake front.

Mota tried to reason him that being a poor man, how could he arrange for such a bungalow and location ! Balyogiji shouted at Mota angrily. Mota asked Surajba to take care of him and proceeded for school.





## BALYOGIJI INITIATED MOTA IN SADHNA

Mota was walking towards school but his mind was engrossed in the thoughts of Balyogiji's demands. His daily route was passing through the Vohra community residence area. It

was his daily routine to wish a Vohra gentleman Haji Kasam Miya Saheb by greeting 'As-Salaam-Alaikum' (Arabic greetings means - 'Peace be unto you.') And Haji Kasam Miya Saheb would return him the same greetings.

But on that day he was so deeply engrossed in the thoughts of the saint that he missed to greet him. Haji Saheb called him back and said "Bhagat, you seem to be in deep thoughts. What is the matter? What is bothering you?"



Mota apologized and said “One fakir like saint has come to my house to initiate me in to sadhna. He demands a big house at a lonely place with a water pond nearby.” Haji Kasambhai laughed, went inside the house brought a bunch of keys and said “Oh ! It is so simple; take these keys of my bungalow Haji Manzil on the way to village Dabhan. It is in a solitary place on the Ramtalvadi lake front.”

Mota’s joy found no bounds. He thanked God with heart for solving his problem. After the school, he took Balyogiji to Haji Manzil. There Balyogiji initiated Mota for sadhna.

The day was 22nd January 1923. According to Gujarati calendar it was the 5<sup>th</sup> day of Magha month in Sud period, known as Vasant Panchmi day of the Vikram Samvat year 1979. (Vasant Panchmi is a Hindu Spring festival on the fifth day of Indian traditional calendar month of Magha. This day is observed as Saraswati Puja - A Goddess of Learning. New teaching starts on this day.)

Balyogiji stayed there two to three times each lasting for eight to ten weeks and taught intricate methods of sadhna to Mota.



## BALYOGIJI'S DEMAND TO MEET MAGARMACHH (CROCODILE)

Once during his visits to Nadiad, Balyogiji asked Mota "Take me to Magarmachh." (A mammoth water creature known as crocodile) Mota said "Yes my dear sir." But Mota did not know where to find it. He took him to the nearby religious place at Dakor and showed him huge tortoises in the lake Gomti. Balyogiji said "this is not a crocodile, you fool." Mota then took him to the Ranchhodray Temple and showed him the idol of Ranchodraiiji - Lord Krishna and said "He is the biggest Magarmachh of all. Sir, behold him."

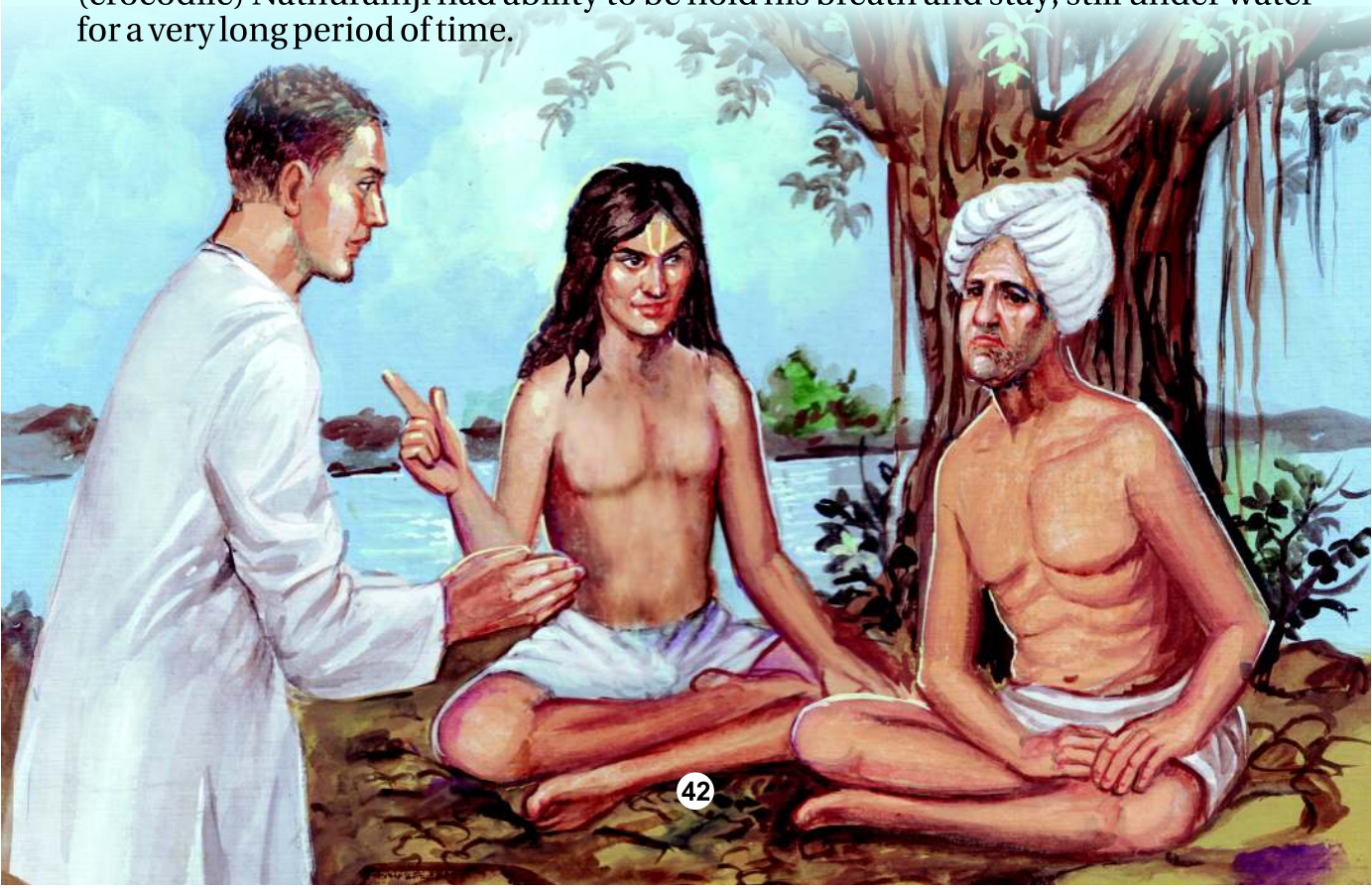
Balyogiji said "No, even he is not big enough Magarmachh, now you come with me and I shall show you a real Magarmachh." Then he took Mota to a remote corner of lake Gomti and showed him a bum like person who was sitting adjoining the wall of a building. The sadhu was in tattered clothes and in a dismal condition. Balyogiji talked with the sadhu for quite some time, but Mota did not understand a word of it.

After a while, Balyogiji pointed at Mota and said to the Magarmachh "this young man is initiated in sadhna recently. Whenever he comes to you for assistance, guide him in simple words and help him."

Then he turned towards Mota and said "Look, this is a real Magarmachh. His name is Nathhuram\*. Whenever you have a question in your sadhna, come to him and ask for his guidance."

"Later on Mota went to him many times to get his guidance for sadhna. Such was a real Magarmachh and yet unknown to the people.

\*Nathuramji was a saint parallel to Shri Balyogiji Maharaj. Like Magarmachh (crocodile) Nathuramji had ability to hold his breath and stay, still under water for a very long period of time.



## NARMADA MATA AS A BEAUTIFUL GIRL

Once Balyogiji guided Mota to Chandod-Karnali, a sacred place on the banks of river Narmada. They went to a dharmashala (a low cost guest house) and camped there. Mota was very hungry and was thinking how to satisfy hunger. Exactly at that time, a beautiful girl walking graciously came with a large dish of silver plate. She placed that dish in the room and walked away silently. With prior permission of Balyogiji maharaj, Mota satisfied his hunger relishing the food.

In the evening a young shepherd girl brought a flat pancake (rotlo) made out of millet (bajra / juwar) flour with butter and milk. The next day another beautiful young girl brought food in a big German silver plate, kept in the room and walked away silently.

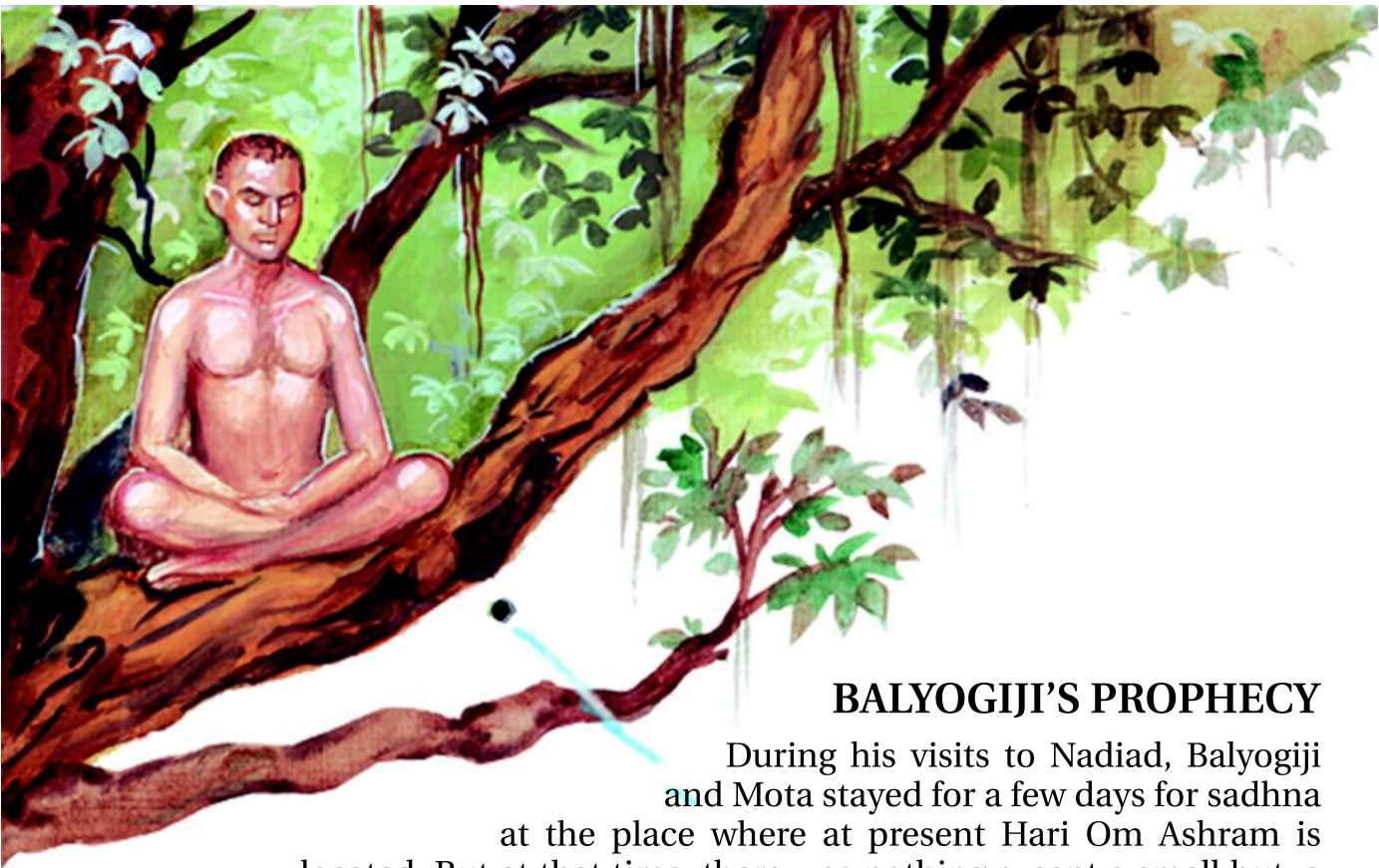
Mota could not understand - Who are these girls and from where are they coming ? Then Balyogiji said "Let us now go back." Mota thought – since no one has come to collect empty utensils, we have to take them home. Balyogiji guided Mota to the bank of river and ordered "Offer all utensils to river Narmada."

Mota hesitated for a moment as they were very precious and expensive. "Should I throw this silver plate also ?" Mota asked. "Do they belong to your father, you fool ? Should we not return to the owner, whom they belong to ?" Balyogiji chided.

Now Mota realized that - Mother Narmada herself was bringing meals for them in different forms of girls. Exhilaration and a sense of indebtedness went through his whole body. In great ecstasy he shouted at the top of his voice "Narmada Maiya ki Jai" and consigned all the vessels in the waters of holy Mother Narmada.







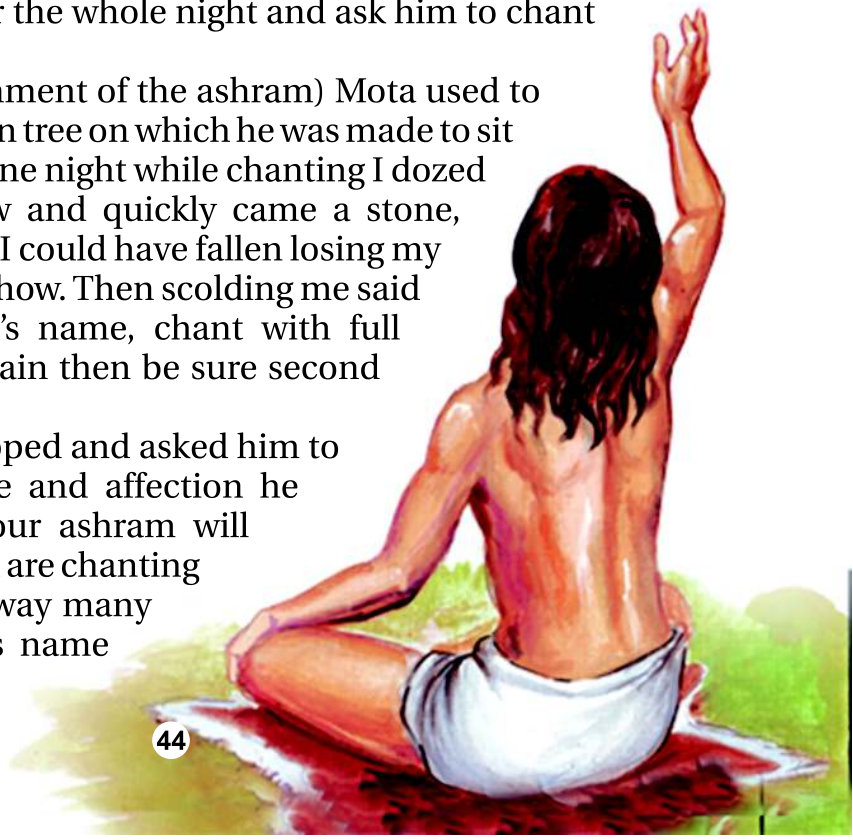
## BALYOGIJI'S PROPHECY

During his visits to Nadiad, Balyogiji and Mota stayed for a few days for sadhna at the place where at present Hari Om Ashram is located. But at that time, there was nothing except a small hut, a tiny well and a big banyan tree.

At Balyogiji's insistence, Mota had brought him to this place. Both would spend the night here. Balyogiji would ask Mota to sit on a big branch of the banyan tree for the whole night and ask him to chant Hari Om sitting there.

Later (after the establishment of the ashram) Mota used to show the branch of the banyan tree on which he was made to sit and share his experience - "One night while chanting I dozed for a moment. Balyogiji saw and quickly came a stone, hitting me hard on the thigh. I could have fallen losing my balance but I managed somehow. Then scolding me said "If you want to chant God's name, chant with full awareness, if you goof up again then be sure second stone will hit you harder."

Thereafter Balyogiji clapped and asked him to come down. With great love and affection he spoke "My son, one day your ashram will come up here. And just as you are chanting God's name here, the same way many others will also chant God's name here in your ashram."



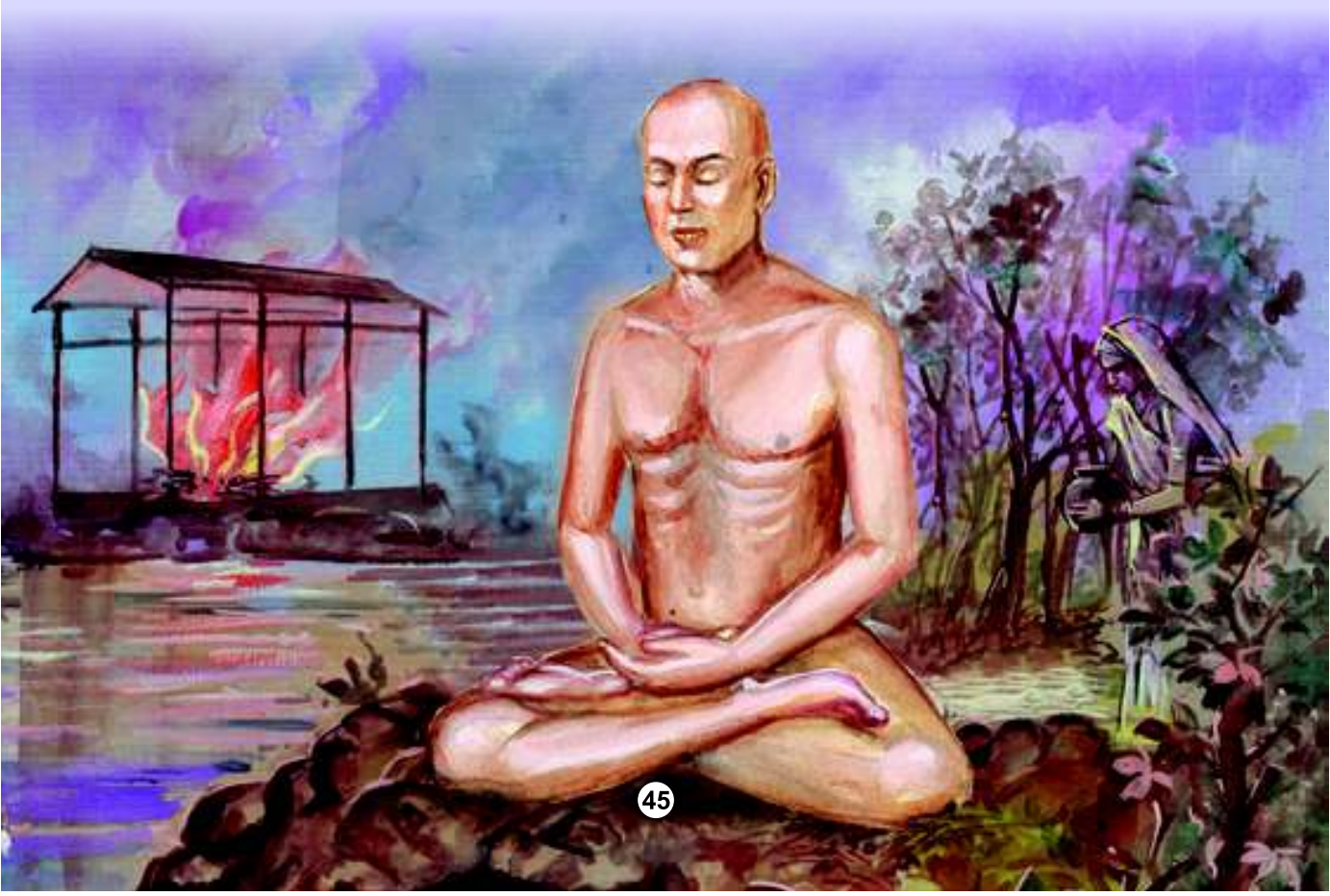
## GRUELLING SADHNA TO CULTIVATE FEARLESSNESS

As advised by Balyogiji, Mota hardly ever slept at his house. He would go to dangerous places to cultivate fearlessness. He would prefer crematorium for that. He never used mattress and slept on bare ground. Initially even drinking water was not available there.

There was one crematorium just behind Santram Temple in Nadiad. An old woman lived there to guard fire wood stored for cremation. She would fill a pot of water for Mota and sweep his sleeping place. Be it freezing cold or raining weather, Mota's determination of sleeping there would not change. Such an unfailing commitment was necessary to cultivate fearlessness, courage, daring, valour, introspection and concentration. Mota was doing his sadhna in crematorium.

There was an area full of thick acacia trees know as Bokad. It was a favourite place for thieves and criminals. They would meet there at night to execute their theft plans. Mota, also went there for sadhna. He used to do jap chanting, sing bhajans, hymns, stay awake whole night.. His presence was not liked by the criminals and they would threaten to kill him, still undaunted Mota would go there every night.

Mota would take one month's leave once in a year and visit remote places for his sadhna. He would go to a solitary place not frequented by human beings. The place would have wild and ferocious animals but would be full of natural beauty too. He did not even care for food. As a result he had to keep fasting for number of days at a stretch. His determination for sadhna was strong.





## HIS REAL GURU DHUNIWALA DADA

After initiation Balyogiji told him that “Shri Keshwanandji Dhuniwala Dada is your real Guru, your true Master. He has guided me to initiate you for sadhna. You must visit him at the earliest and take his blessings and further instructions. Now you have to live your life as ordered by Dadaji. He is your true Guru.”

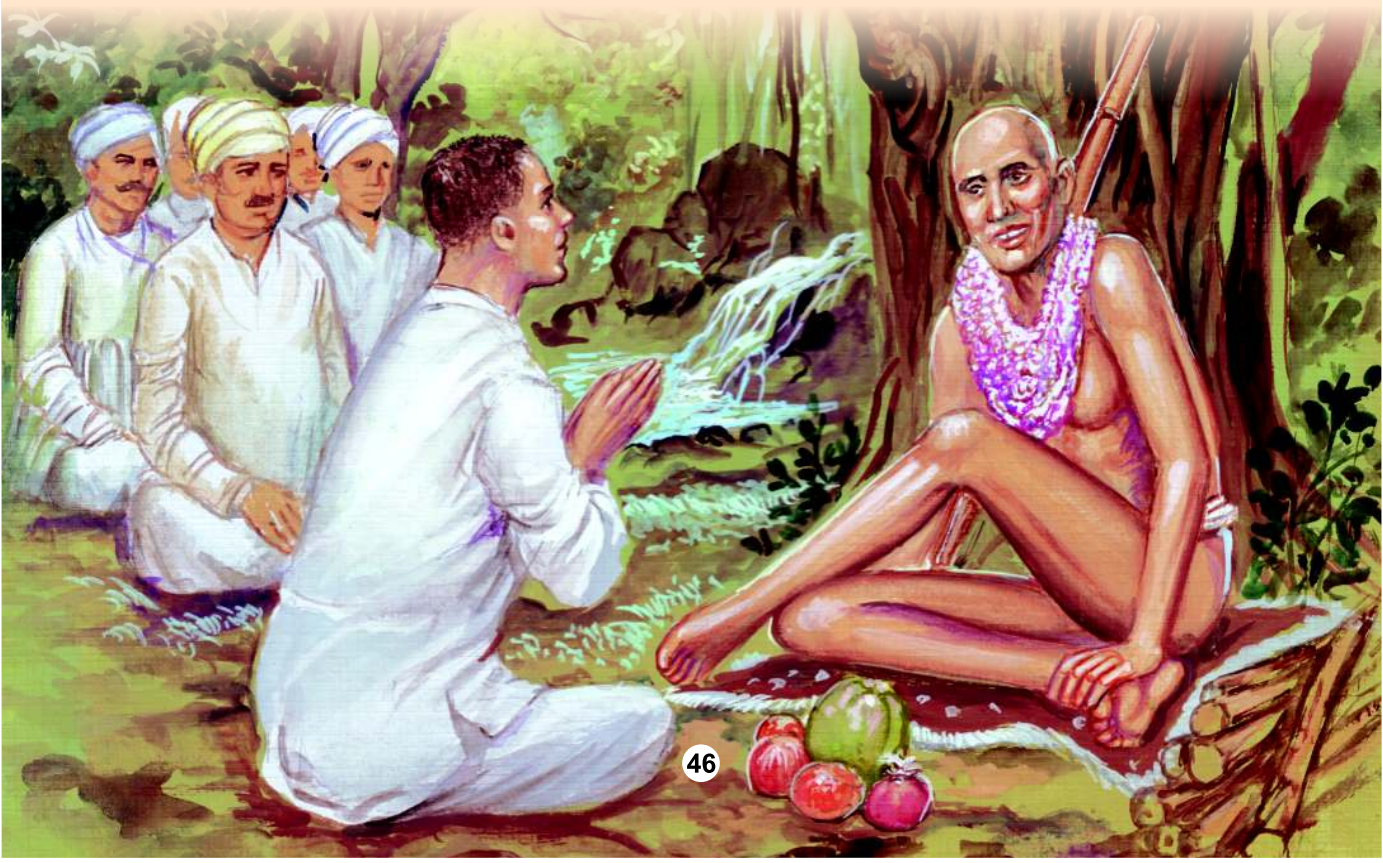
Saikheda is a small village near Itarasi city in Madhya Pradesh. Dhuniwala Dada stay put there at that time. Mota went there and met him. He witnessed many miraculous occurrences happening there. He saw ill persons getting cured of their diseases and Dadaji predicting past and future of people.

Dhuniwala Dada would permanently sit close to a burning fire place. He would wear many layers of garlands of calotropis\* (ankada or ark) flowers which are normally offered to Hanumanji. Caltropis flowers are believed to be very hot in nature. Dadaji sat in front of the burning fire pit. This indicates that he had acquired a siddhi - divine power to separate his Soul from the body. Dadaji always remained in nude posture.

On the last day of his stay there, Gurumaharaj told Mota “Go home. Keep praying me. Keep working at your present place. Keep yourself away from social services which involve likes and dislikes. Now on you have to work with the sole aim to attain God.”

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\*Caltropis flower has layers of 11 petals. Every human has 11 indriyas. (Senses) The symbol resembles as the person who has a complete command on his all 11 indriyas. (Senses)





## NONSTOP CHANTING OF HARI OM

After returning from Saikheda, Mota's sadhna picked up momentum. He would nonstop sing devotional songs, prayers, talk to God intimately and chant Hari Om nonstop. The chanting had gone up to sixteen hours a day but he was unable to make it up to all twenty four hours.

Meanwhile Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was going to inaugurate an ashram for Harijan children at village Bodal in Kheda district in March 1928. The arrangements of the program were to be done by Mota. Tired of full day's work, at night Mota went to sleep in a nearby farm to keep himself away from the crowd. Later on Thakkarbapa and Shrikant Sheth also came and slept on either side of him. At about midnight a king cobra bit Mota on his thigh. Mota woke up with a jolt. Immediately he remembered an advice of Gandhiji "If a person is bitten by a snake, you should not allow him to get unconscious. Even If you have to slap him





repeatedly to keep him awake, it is not an act of violence.” Mota realized that he had to remain conscious anyhow, by any means. Instantly he started chanting Hari Om loudly without stopping even for a moment.

He was taken to two villages to people known for treating snake bitten persons but they were unsuccessful. Finally he was taken to The Mission hospital at Anand. There, a famous doctor Mr. Kook extracted snake poison from his stomach. On examination the poison was found fatal. Besides 72 hours had passed since he was bitten by king cobra. With a great wondering Dr. Kook said “I am surprised that this boy is still alive in spite of the deadly poison. I believe his chanting of God’s name and with the grace of God he has survived, else it is impossible to stay alive.” What Mota could not achieve by his own efforts, he achieved it by the snake bite. His chanting continued nonstop for seventy hours. Thus it became nonstop forever. Several times Mota has expressed “The snake bite was God’s grace upon me!” Such confidence in the power of the Almighty!

## UPASANIBABA OF SAKURI AT NADIAD

One day Mota was informed by someone that a naked man is lying in a farm, behind Marida outskirts of Nadiad. Mota thought - he must be an Avadhoot - a self realized person. He took bath and went there with a jug full of milk. The Avdhoot drank every drop of milk but didn't utter a single word. Mota also sat there in silence.

In the evening the Avadhoot asked Mota to take him to a house belonging to a Muslim person. A Yunani (Arabic word Yunan - Symbol of medicine) doctor was known to Mota. He allowed Mota accommodate the fakir like person to live on the first floor of his unused house. But how to take a naked person inside town ? Mota hired one horse driven buggy cart with curtains and made Avadhoot sit inside. He made him wear a gunny bag.

Thus Mota served Avdhoot for ten - twelve days but Avadhoot hardly spoke anything to Mota. The doctor talked to Avadhoot and thus came to know that - he was Upasanibaba from Sakuri. When Avadhoot was ready to leave, the curtained buggy cart was called again. Mota escorted him to see off, on the road leading to Uttarsanda. Avadhoot asked Mota to come with him to Sakuri but Mota declined.

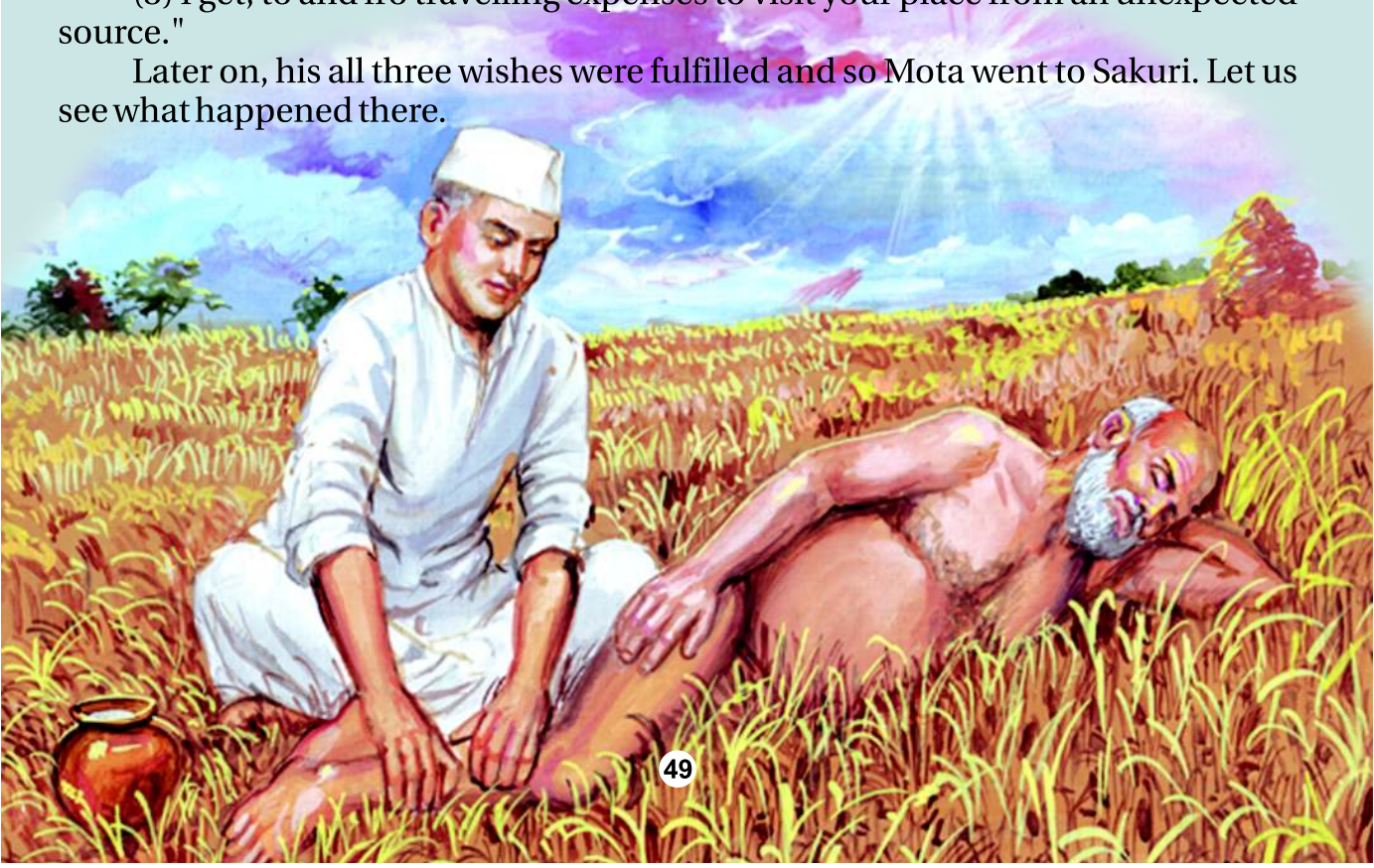
He prayed "My present duties do not permit me to come with you. But I will surely come there if my three wishes are fulfilled.

(1) If you promise me to help expedite my sadhna.

(2) Bless me to attain my purpose of sadhna, may I have your clear vision whenever I desire and a constant inner feelings of your divinity.

(3) I get, to and fro travelling expenses to visit your place from an unexpected source."

Later on, his all three wishes were fulfilled and so Mota went to Sakuri. Let us see what happened there.





## MOTA WENT TO UPASANIBABA AT SAKURI

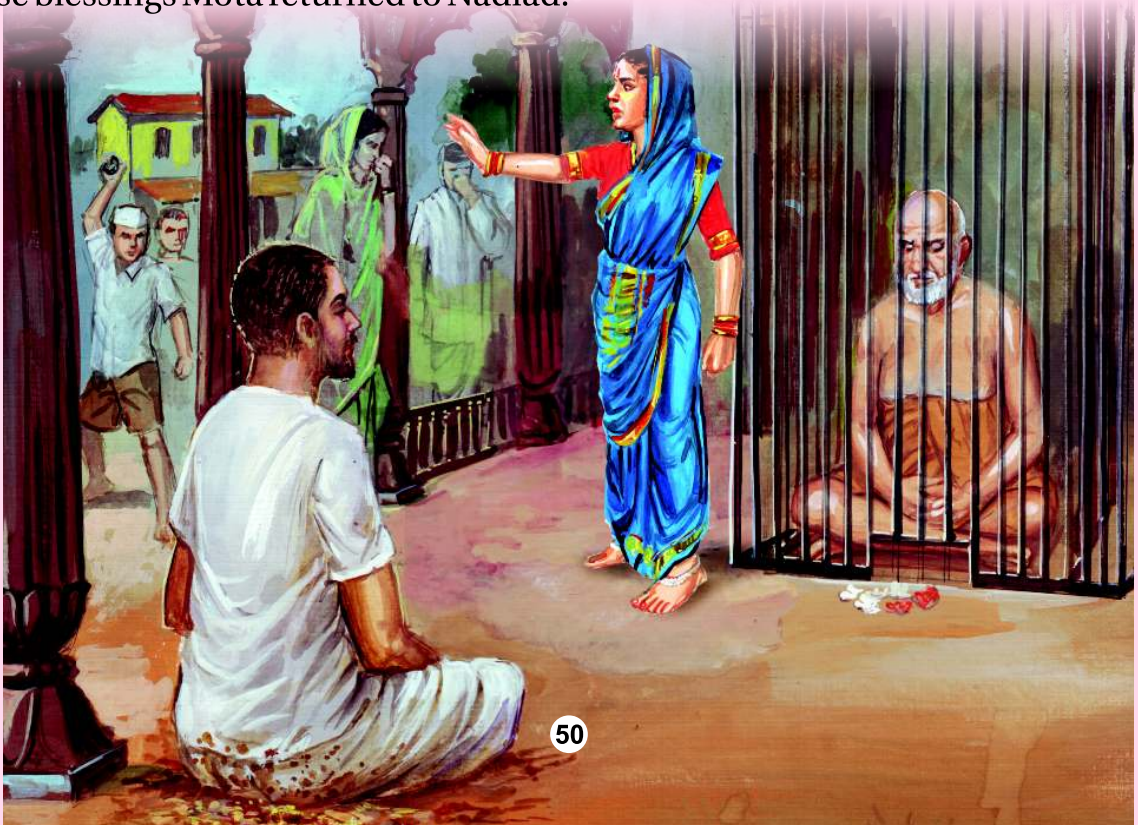
Sakuri is a small village just 5 km near Shirdi in Maharashtra. Mota reached there, took a bath and went straight to meet Upasanibaba and bowed down. Baba always kept himself locked in a wooden cage. Baba ordered Mota to sit in front of the cage. Mota sat there and engrossed in his daily routine of sadhna.

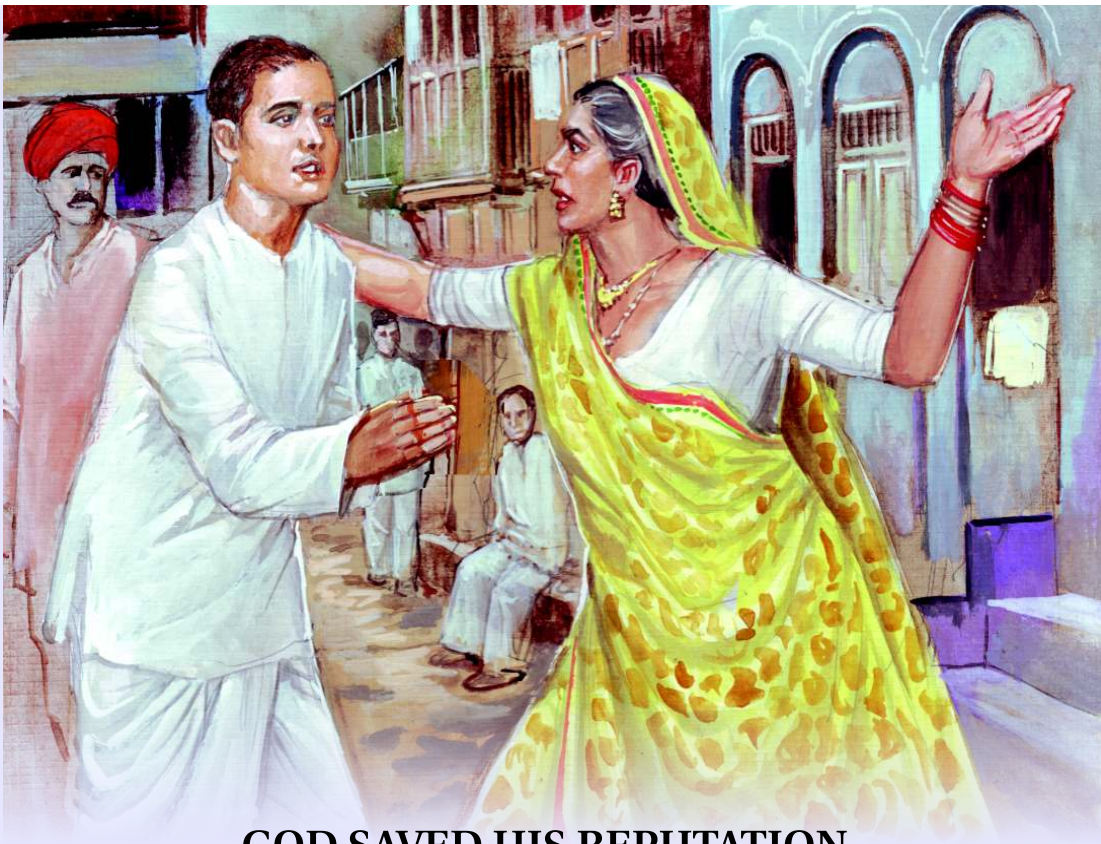
After five to six hours, he had a sense to urinate but could not get up. After two to three more hours, the sense to urinate intensified, but could not stand up or slide on the ground. Mota continued his chanting. Both urine and stool passed there itself. Frequent excreta were happening on the spot. His clothes were soiled. The surrounding area of four feet was full of dirt. For first five days he had nothing to eat or drink, still urine and excreta came out of his body in a continuous stream. Virtually a bed of excreta and urine surrounded him.

People who came for Baba's darshan would abuse Mota and pelt stones at him. Neither Baba said a word nor did Mota react to the situation in any way. A young girl barely 13-14 years of age would often request people not to pelt stones at him. In later years she became the head of Upasanibaba Ashram and became famous as Sati Godavarimaiya of Sakuri.

Mota remained in such a state for eleven days. He realized that his body had become featherlike. He moved up immediately, went far off place and changed his filthy clothes. Then thoroughly cleaned the place and sprinkled sandalwood oil.

He then sought permission from Baba to return to Nadiad. Baba gave him permission after half an hour and said "All your impurities are flushed out and now your body is perfectly cleaned. Such a physical state will remain live forever." With these blessings Mota returned to Nadiad.





## **GOD SAVED HIS REPUTATION**

Mota's mother's sister (Masi) also lived in Nadiad and she was financially sound. During his elder brother's illness, Mota had borrowed money from her two to three times for treatment and medicines. She repeatedly demanded Mota return her money.

One day on his way to school, he was singing his favourite bhajan "He who will pray Almighty God to save his repute, Grace of God will be a saviour to him." (Gujarati bhajan - Hari ne bhajta, haji koi ni laaj, jati nathi jani re) His aunt's house was on the same route. As he passed by her house she heard his voice. She dashed out and held Mota by collar. Mota told her with folded hands that he would return her loan as soon as possible. He pleaded "Please bear with me and have patience. I will return your money."

But aunt was not ready to give more time. She got hotter and bitter. She started using sarcastic language. Passersby soon gathered. They had free entertainment!

Mota begged her to cool down and assured to return her loan within 3-4 days. Aunt let him go with the warning "If you do not return the loan as promised, I will make a bigger scene."

Mota was greatly moved and embarrassed. Prayer was his only support. He prayed heartily "O God, save my reputation."

After three four days he got money order from an unknown person of exact amount he owed to his aunt. Mota rushed to his aunt and paid her full amount. Thus God saved the reputation of his devotee.



## AFFABLE SERVANT

While Mota was serving Harijans, he was also secretly engrossed in his sadhna. He would take one month's leave; visit a solitary place to carry on sadhna as per instructions from his Gurumaharaj.

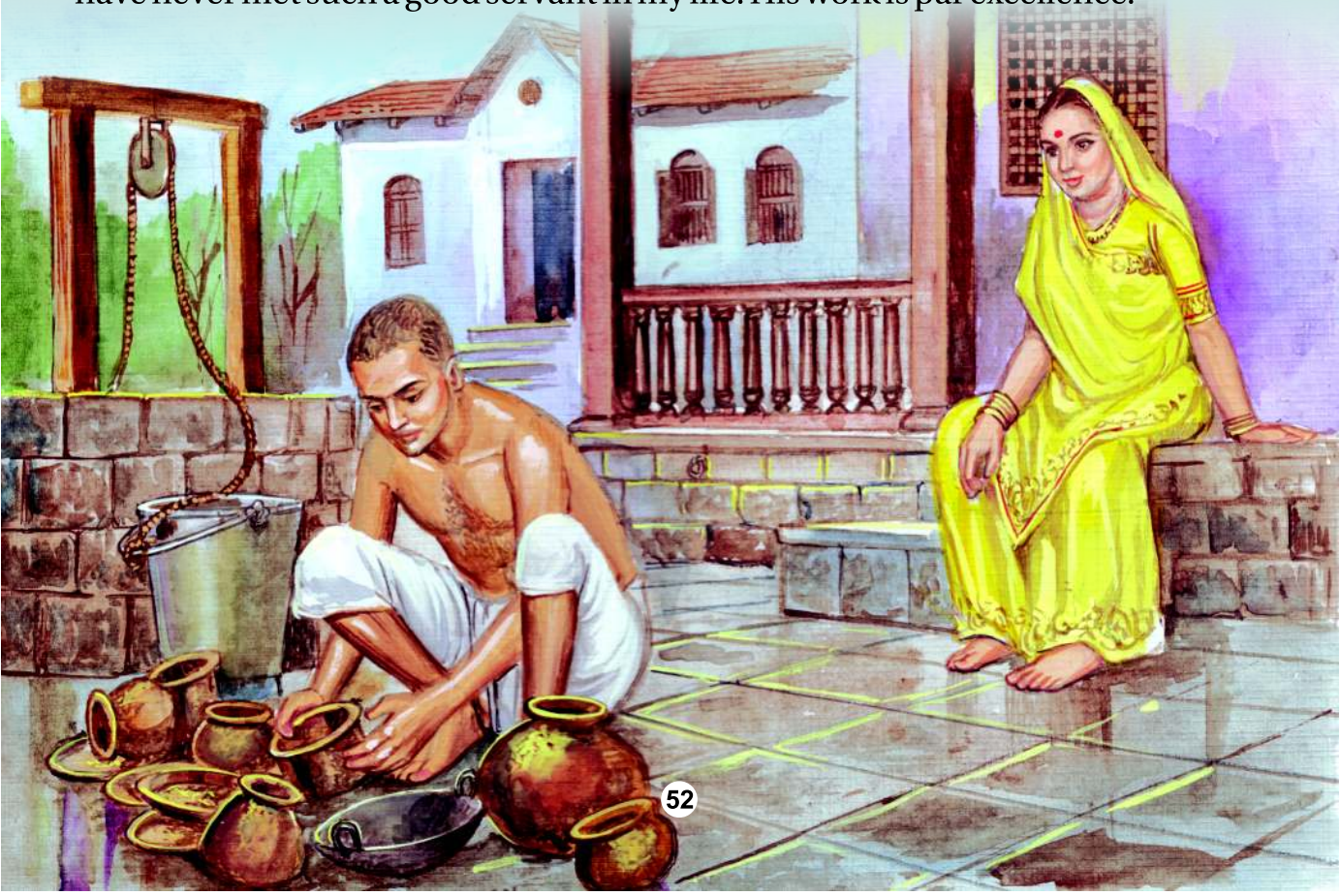
In one of such sadhna trips, Mota was on his way to Jabalpur city on the banks of river Narmada, to a place called Dhunvadhar. En route some thief picked his pocket in the train and he lost all money. Now how to go to Dhunvadhar? He found the way. He went to a Gujarati trader at Jabalpur and talked to him about his picked pocket. He requested him to give him some work. The trader said "I have no work for you at my shop but I can employ you at my house. Would you do household work like sweeping, cleaning utensils, washing clothes etc?"

Mota was ready to do everything. So the trader sent him to his residence.

The trader's wife gave Mota a heap of utensils to clean. Mota cleaned them fast and put them in sunlight for drying. He also cleaned the washing place thoroughly. The trader's wife saw utensils glittering from a distance. She was pleased to get such a good servant.

Then she gave Mota a pile of washing clothes. Mota washed them well, dried them in sunlight and folded carefully crease free. The lady was pleased to see the clothes clean and snow white.

The trader came for lunch at noon. His wife praised the servant and said "I have never met such a good servant in my life. His work is par excellence."







At night Mota prepared beds for all so nicely that everyone were pleased. He narrated stories from Ramayan and Mahabharat to children at the bed time. The children were immensely overjoyed.

In a few days of work Mota earned required amount. He went to the trader to take his leave. The trader asked "Gentleman, I have seen your work in last few days. The style and understanding with which you work inspires me that - you are not an ordinary servant. Please tell me frankly who you are ?" Politely, Mota told him everything about his mission to Dhunvadhar and what happened to him. The trader was very sorry to engage a devotee in household works and waste his time. Mota took leave of the couple and started for Dhunvadhar.



## SAMADHI (TRANCE) IN MARRIAGE PANDAL

Mota did not want to marry. But Surajba insisted him to marry. Mota asked his Gurumaharaj, who replied "You must obey your mother's wish." Mota agreed. The Marriage party went from Nadiad to Ahmedabad by train. The marriage process started. The bride and the groom were sitting in their chairs. The brahmin was reciting mantras of marriage ceremony. At that crucial hour Mota was in deep prayers to God "O God ! What type of drama you are creating for me ? I want to marry you, instead you are doing something opposite." He was deeply engrossed in prayers. Gradually he attained deep trance – samadhi, almost for two hours. Mother got very angry for such an uncalled show at marriage time at an odd place.

The bride had a high fever even on the marriage day itself as she was ill since long. Her uncle took her back home after marriage ceremony. She died five months later.

Thus Mota got married but he did not enjoy the marriage life. Thus an obedient son honoured his mother's wish. The mother also got satisfaction of getting her son married.

God cleared the way of sadhna for his devotee. Mota, again got engrossed in sadhna headlong and Surajba never talked of getting him married second time.



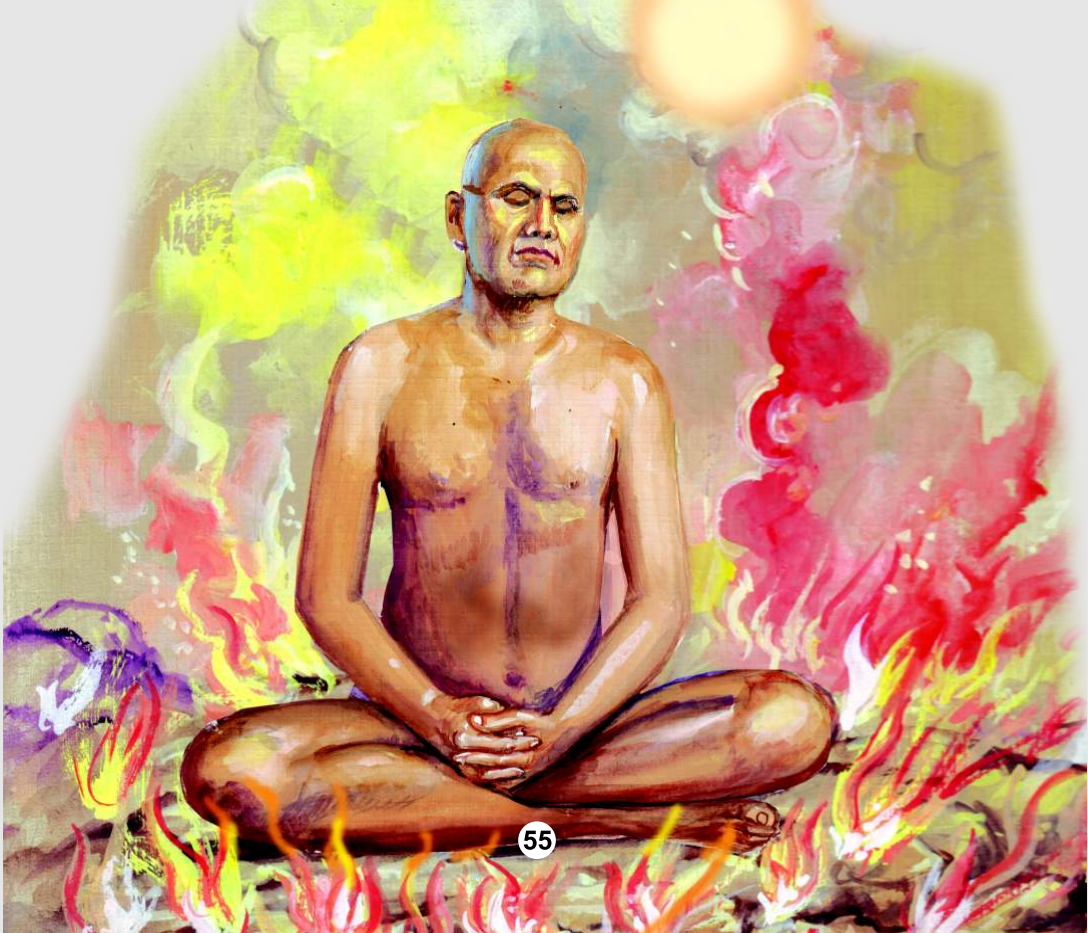


## SADHNA AMONG BURNING FIRE-PITS

During the sadhna period Mota had undergone very difficult penance. He carried out experiments of different types as inspired by his Gurumaharaj. One such experiment was to sit among several burning fire pits (dhunies).

He carried out this experiment in extremely hot summer in the month of May (as per the Gujarati calendar in the month of Vaishakh). Mota would sit completely naked on a large hot stone in centre. Then just at a distance of one and a half feet, ignite 21 heaps of cow dung cakes and firewood in a circle around him. He made 3 such circles at the equal distance of one and a half feet to each other. Such way total 63 heaps of cow dung cakes & firewood were ignited at the same time. And there he would sit in centre and perform jap chanting and prayers. Beside fired heat on ground, the blazing sun of hot summer was creating sunburns on his body. The stone seat would be unbearably hot to sit. Imagine what Mota must have experienced ! He performed sadhna like this from 11 am in the morning to 5 pm in the evening for 21 days, just sipping half a cup (100 ml) juice of tender neem (limda) tree leaves and nothing else to eat or drink. He spent 21 days like this on this diet in extreme heat.

The chief aim of this sadhna was to bring his mind under control so that it does not waver and succumb to the various demands of the body. This process of sadhna removes excreta from every pore of skin in the form of perspiration and makes whole body completely pure and divine. What a will power !



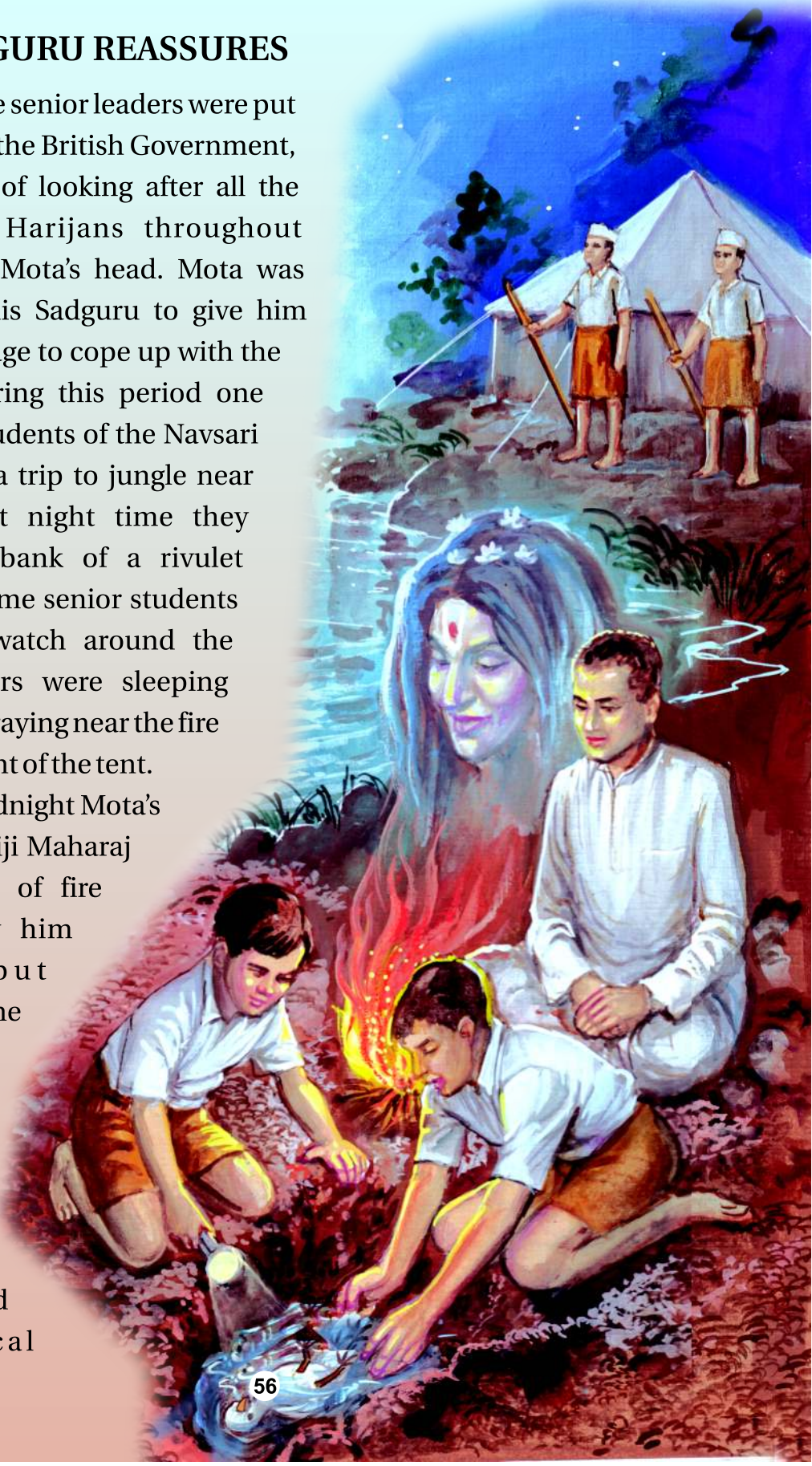


## SHRI SADGURU REASSURES

As most of the senior leaders were put into jail in 1932 by the British Government, the responsibility of looking after all the institutions for Harijans throughout Gujarat came on Mota's head. Mota was praying hard to his Sadguru to give him strength and courage to cope up with the responsibility. During this period one day he took the students of the Navsari hostel school, on a trip to jungle near Gurukul Supa. At night time they camped on the bank of a rivulet flowing nearby. Some senior students were keeping a watch around the camp while others were sleeping inside. Mota was praying near the fire place lighted in front of the tent.

Little after midnight Mota's Guru Shri Balayogiji Maharaj emerged in front of fire place. Mota saw him personified but thought - how can he be here ? This must be my illusion.

Sadguru shouted "Look you fool ! I am present in flesh and blood. (Physical



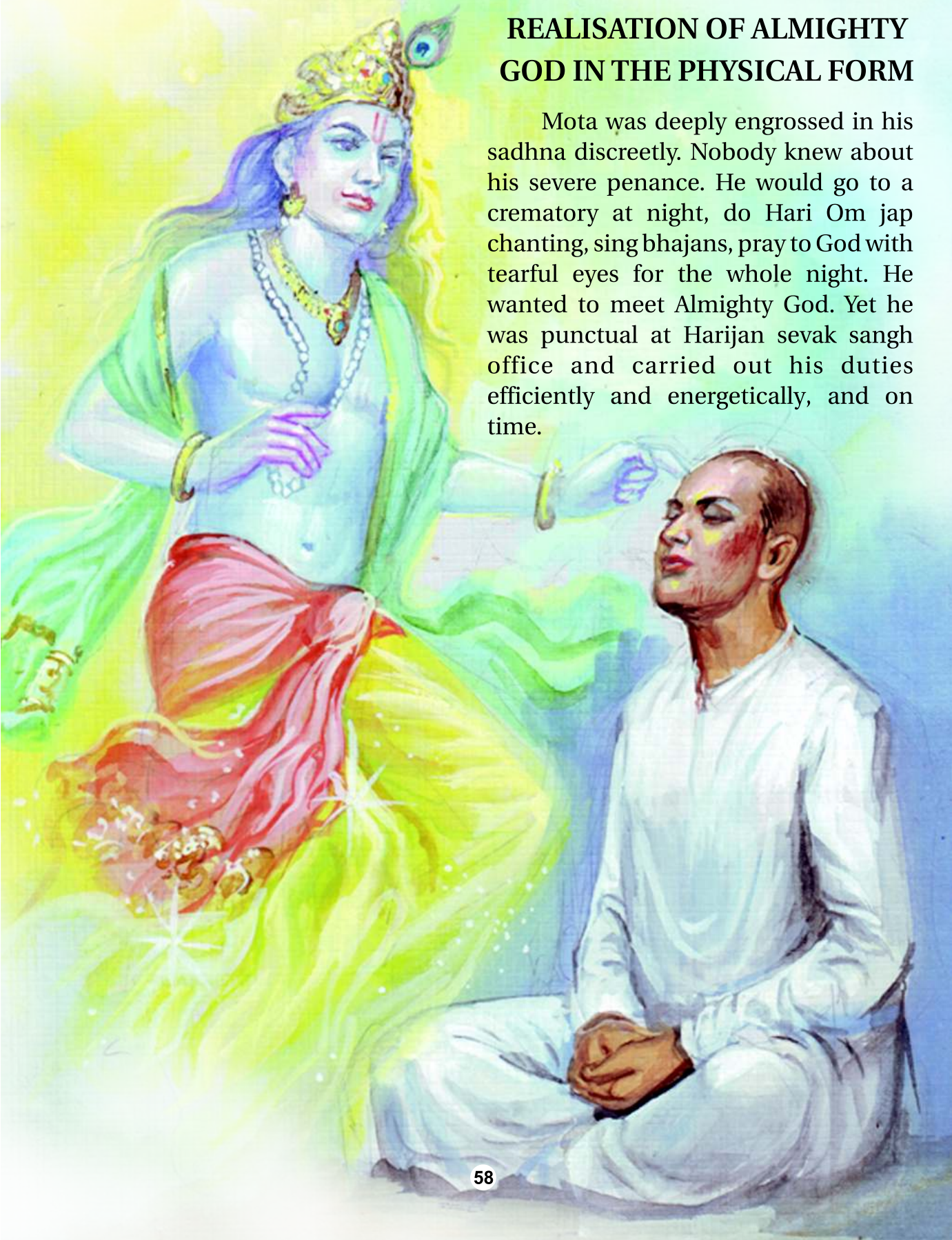
body) I have come to warn you. Do not lose your confidence. Be assured. God is going to take care of all your needs. If you still doubt my words and my presence, check at this place and you will find a dead body.” He then drew a circle with his toe of right leg and vanished.

Stunned by the scene, Mota called two boys on guard and asked them to dig a pit on the circle. After digging about three feet, water oozed out. By digging one foot further deep a dead body of a dove was found. It was totally dry and clean even though below water. Mota took a deep sigh of relief that his Sadguru had taken his total responsibilities of running all the schools and feed the children. Now he was relaxed and surrendered himself completely to divine faith.



## REALISATION OF ALMIGHTY GOD IN THE PHYSICAL FORM

Mota was deeply engrossed in his sadhna discreetly. Nobody knew about his severe penance. He would go to a crematory at night, do Hari Om jap chanting, sing bhajans, pray to God with tearful eyes for the whole night. He wanted to meet Almighty God. Yet he was punctual at Harijan sevak sangh office and carried out his duties efficiently and energetically, and on time.



In 1930 he attained state of absolute tranquility of mind. It was a result of constant and rigorous sadhna.

In 1934 he realized Almighty God in physical form. Realization means seeing - experiencing Almighty God as a truthful real experience. He experienced incarnation of **Lord Krishna**.

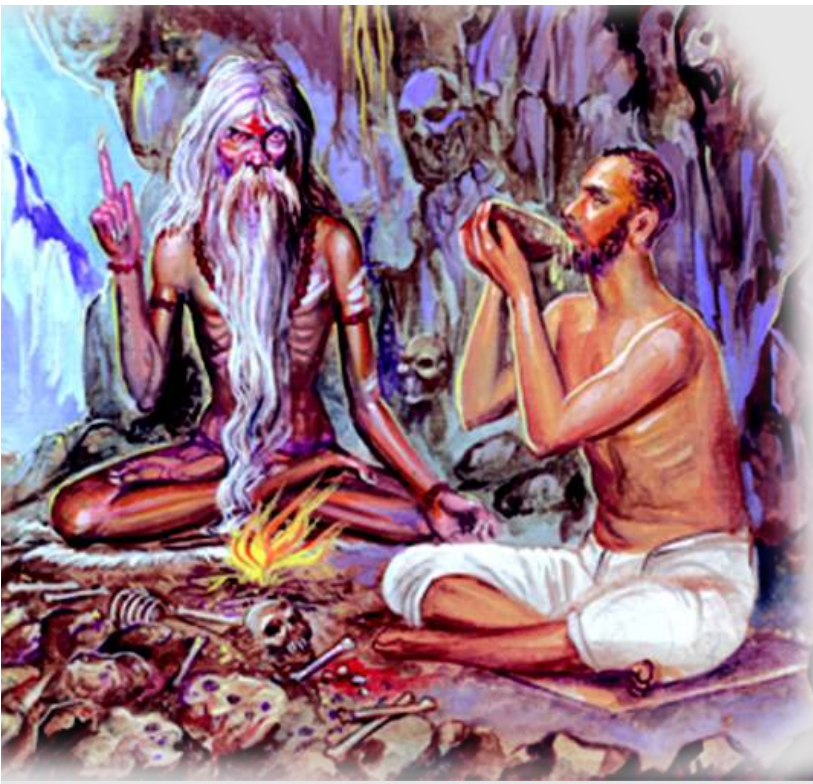
At least two to three times **Lord Krishna** appeared in front of Shri Mota in physical form. Krishna, in a dazzling radiant form with abundance of divine beauty spread all around. In Mota's words - "It was an astonishing moment. That vision cannot be described in human expressions.

Charming **Lord Krishna** ! Live in vision was soft, transparent, in a light blue colour like a crystal and throbbing with life. The vision was not static but vibrant, playful, moving and sliding all the time, coming closer in one moment and going away next moment. In a moment it would appear entering the body and touching its different parts and carrying out necessary corrections there. And in the next moment it would appear firmly bethroned in my heart.

The vision of **Lord Krishna** was so angelic and celestial that how to describe it in words ! At that time my body was featherlike, floating high in the air. The experience of this benevolent vision of Almighty God got kindled in every pore of my body and became permanent then on. The inner most heartfelt feeling about the presence of Almighty God is a live experience steadfast forever."



## ENCOUNTER WITH AN AGHORI

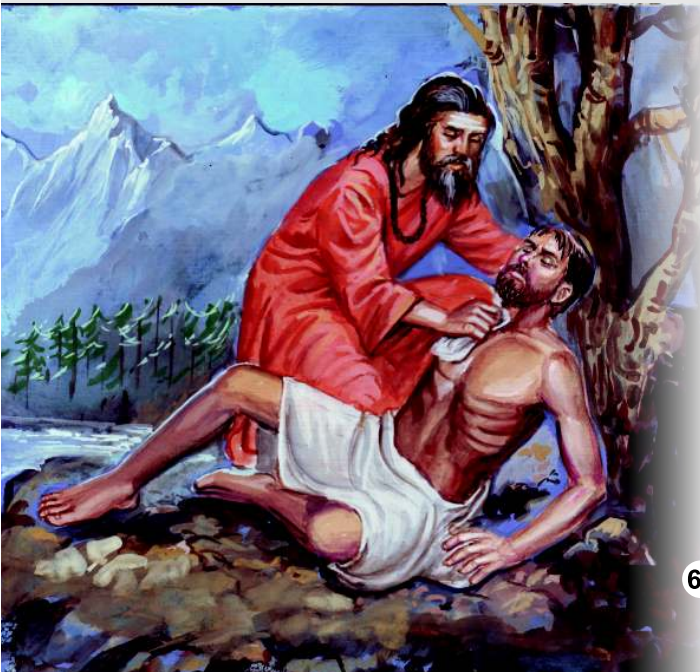


Once, Mota went to the Himalayas. There he came to know about the presence of an Aghori (a tantric sadhu) at one place. It was a very difficult terrain but Mota reached there for his darshan. There were bones strewn all over the area and it stunk hell. There he sat down in meditation. The Aghori came at midnight. He had very ferocious looks. He also sat down for meditation. For three days nobody spoke.

Mota was hungry. On the fourth day Aghori broke the silence and gave him stinky thick liquid to drink. Aghori pressed Mota to stay on with him as his disciple. Mota refused and prepared himself to return. Aghori threatened him to kill if he left the place. Mota said "My mission is realization of Almighty God, staying in society with all." Fearless Mota bowed to the Aghori and ignoring his threats came down the cliff.

There, immediately he was seized by diarrhea - dysentery. Mota went near a brook and lay unconscious. This happened due to the stinky thick liquid given by the Aghori. After twenty days he regained consciousness. He learnt that some

Bengali sadhu had taken care of his body for all those days. Mota thanked him and gave him a blanket and twenty five rupees. The sadhu told Mota "I am here by the order of your Gurumaharaj to take care of you." The sadhu left immediately and in a hurry. After few moments it dawned upon Mota that he was none else but Balyogiji Maharaj himself. Mota turned back to look for the sadhu but the sadhu had disappeared, not visible anywhere. Gone with the wind!





## THIEF RETURNED STOLEN ORNAMENTS

Parsadbhai had two daughters : Kurangiben and Chitraben. They were studying Ved, Upnishad and Sanskrit at Benares Hindu University at Varanasi and lived in a rented house. Mota had gone with them as their guardian.

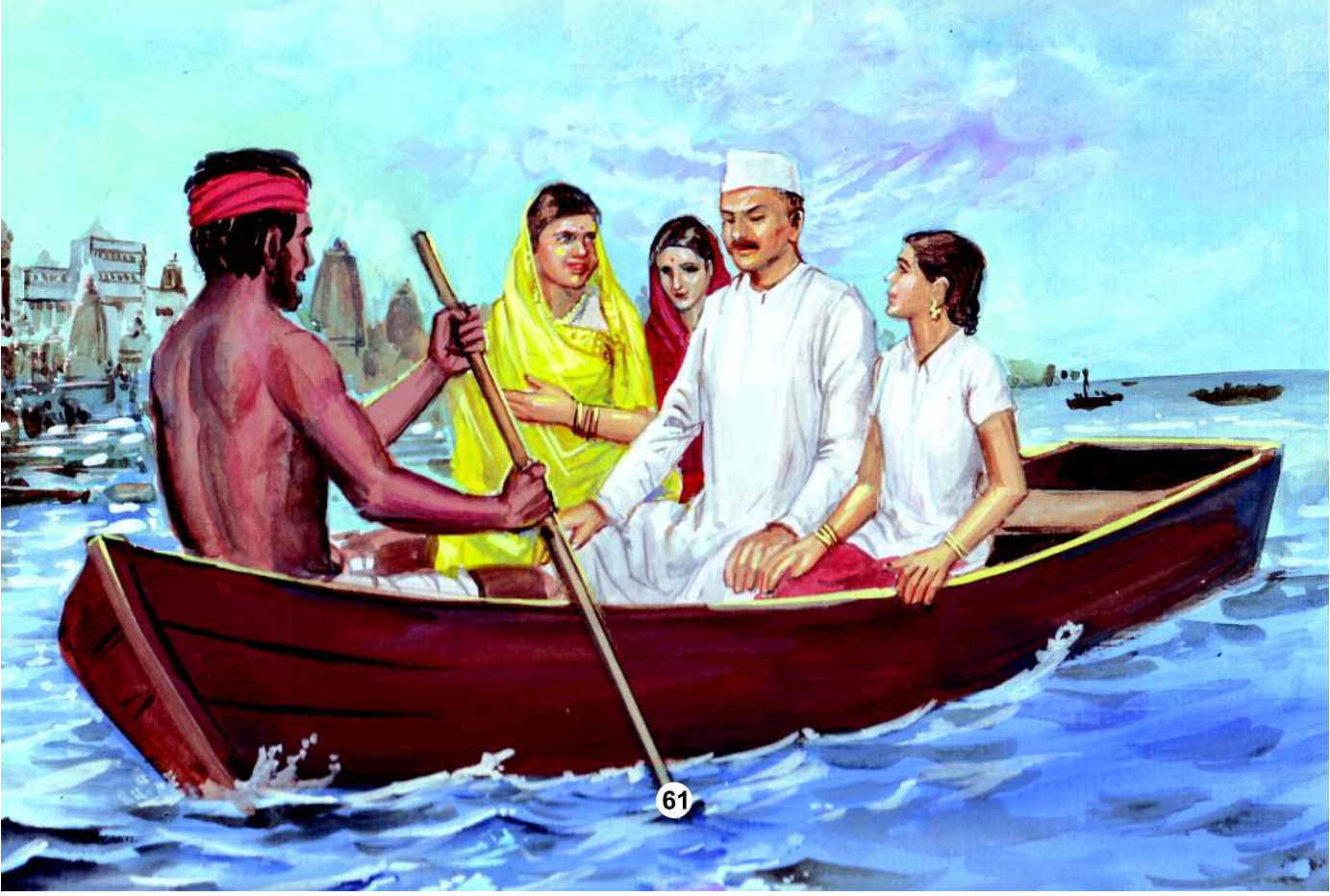
One day they went on a devotional visit to Kashi Vishvanath temple. Both the sisters gave their ornaments to Mota for safe custody.

Next day they were to go for a boat ride with a friend of the girls. While changing the shirt, Mota came to know that his pocket was picked and ornaments were stolen. He was greatly shocked. He informed the girls about the theft. They took it lightly and advised him to forget the matter but how can Mota forget ? He had failed in his responsibility of safe keeping of the girl's belongings.

During the river ride, a friend of girls sang several touchy devotional songs. Hearing them Mota went into samadhi - trance. In that state of deep trance he saw exactly who picked his pocket where and how. Mentally he told the thief "Gentleman, these ornaments are not mine. They belong to the girls who gave me for safe keeping. I am a poor man and so I cannot compensate for them. You will not be able to digest this theft so better return them to me."

Next day Mota was standing in the second floor balcony of the examination hall where the girls were appearing for exam. At that time a man signalled him to come down.

As soon as Mota reached downstairs, the man fell at the feet of Mota. While crying he said "Sir, please take your ornaments." Mota asked him "how you came





to know that these ornaments belonged to me and I am here?"

The thief narrated the events as they happened. "Yesterday I picked your pocket at Kashi Vishvanath temple. Since last evening my whole body is burning. I could see your face clearly, all the time. I also saw this place and time that you will be available here in the morning. So I have come here sir, please stop this unbearable burning of my body and forgive me."

Mota said "Brother, take a vow that you will never pick pockets of devotees coming for darshan at the temple. Then God will get you rid of your misery." The thief prostrated to Mota and vowed that even if he has to go hungry, then also he will not pick pocket of any one in temple from today.

Mota prayed God to stop the burning of the thief. In a short time the burning of the thief got cured and he became normal. Again he prostrated to Mota with devotion and peacefully left the place.





## AIR TRAVEL TO KARACHI

The Son-in-law of the famous Gujarati poet Shri Narsinhrao Bholanath Divetia, Shri Parsadbhai was a very close friend and a great admirer of Mota. He was staying in a bungalow facing the sea shore on Clifton beach of Karachi. Mota used to stay with him for long periods. Parsadbhai would help Mota in all ways and looked after him affectionately.

Mota stayed at the Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad for 10 weeks. He had by now decided to leave Harijan Sevak Sangh. His birth date was close by and Parsadbhai's family members wished that he spend his coming birthday with them at Karachi. But it did not seem possible as he was far away.

Just a day before his birthday God's grace descended. The postman delivered a registered envelope containing sixty rupees. The attached note written in Urdu language read - "You must go to Karachi on your birthday and that too by plane. This is an order." A muslim co-worker Shri Kureshibhai read the note in Urdu and translated it for Mota. Mota luckily got a ticket in a four seater plane plying between Ahmedabad and Karachi. As soon as the plane was airborne, Mota went into deep samadhi - super trance which lasted till he landed at Karachi. The family members of Parsadbhai were overjoyed to see him with them on his birthday.



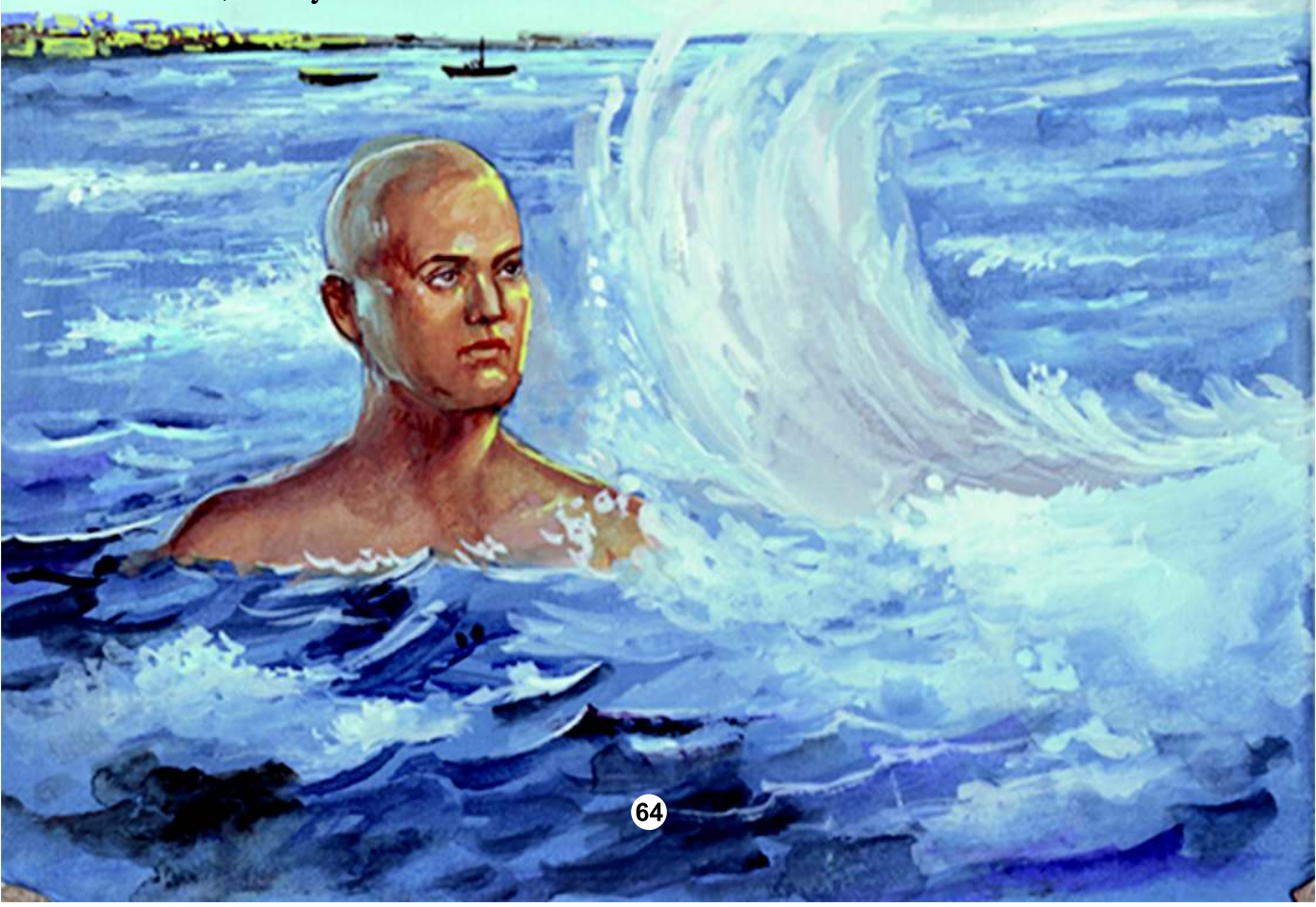
## A WALK IN DEEP SEA WATERS

Mota went to Karachi and stayed with Parsadbhai - his old friend and manager of Scindia Steam Navigation Company (a shipping company). Mota experienced the advance stage of sadhna in Karachi. One day he went for a leisure walk by the sea shore. Sadguru's message got kindled in his heart asking him to walk in sea waters.

Mota obeyed the order and went on going further and further in the tossing waves of sea. The waters rose up to mouth and then to the nose but Mota went on going further and further till he got drowned. Hari Om chanting was constantly going on till last moment. He did not know what happened thereafter. When he recovered his consciousness, he found himself on the beach. He was far away from the Clifton bungalow where he lived. His clothes were also not very wet. This indicated that he must be lying there since few hours.

Thus he obeyed Guru's order lovingly and in return Guru helped him to survive unhurt.

Shri Mota had deep deep faith in Sadguru. He firmly believed that - **He, who obeys the order of Shri Sadguru with love and devotion without even caring for his own life, surely will attain salvation.**





## A FAKIR OF KARACHI TAUGHT THE WAY TO MEDITATE

The day before Diwali is known as “Kali Chaudash.” Mota was in Karachi and went for a stroll at the Clifton beach and sat on a rock in the sea. The time must be very late evening or first phase of night. Abruptly a robust fakir-Saibaba\* appeared there from nowhere. He asked Mota to get out from there. When Mota refused, he threw a big stone at him. It just touched the hair of Mota, and passed by without hurting him. Mota immediately had an intuition that a man, who can throw such a big stone with perfect accuracy, must be a unique person. Mota bowed down at his feet.

The fakir asked Mota to bring a cigarette for him. Mota went to a nearby wooden cabin owner, who had closed the cabin. He took a pack of cigarettes and a





matchbox but had no money to pay. The owner was about to snatch back the items, suddenly a little boy came running with money.

Mota returned with cigarettes and a matchbox. The fakir was pleased with Mota's thoughtfulness because he had not asked for a matchbox. He then taught a very intricate process of dhyan (method of sadhna) to Mota. First the fakir performed the process. A bright stream of light flowed out of his body and again re-entered his body. He then drew a line with his finger from Mota's heart to forehead to ending point up to the centre of skull. Then he knocked at these three points. With this - a powerful flow of electricity started circulating in Mota's body and he also experienced that bright stream of lights emanating from his body and again re-entering his body. The fakir asked Mota to repeat the process by himself and Mota did it successfully. The Fakir then asked him to perform this process again on the day of next Ramnavami.

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\* (1) Saibaba - A Great Realized Soul - True Master - Guru Maharaj guided Shri Mota in Karachi for final leg in his sadhna of Realization. Shri Mota never knew him by name. Almost after two years Shri Mota came to know that - the fakir's name is Saibaba.

(2) Saibaba left his physical body on Vijayadashami Day (Dussehra) 15th October 1918, appeared before Shri Mota in physical form to guide him in 1939.

(3) Saibaba's samadhi temple is at Shirdi, Maharashtra.

## A UNIQUE STATE OF ECSTASY

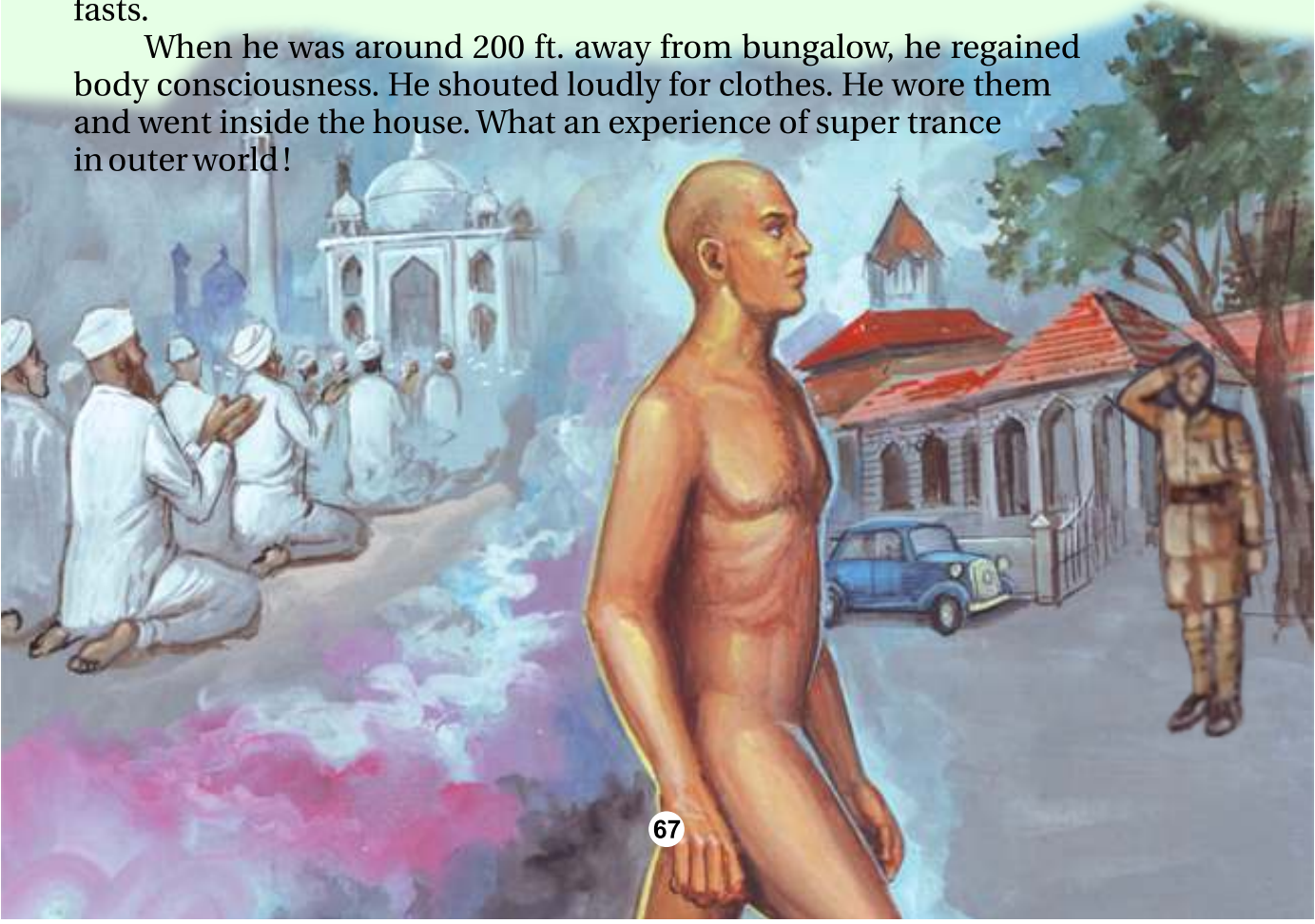
In order to cultivate a control over his physical senses, Mota once kept Roza (fasting) in the month of Ramzan when he was at Karachi. At the end of Roza he went for prayers to a mosque in Karachi. As he was coming out after the prayers, Sadguru appeared before him. He ordered Mota “from here on go home naked through the busy city.”



Sadguru commanded this to make Mota free from attachments of the body, to break dead locks of mind over the body, to go beyond dualities of likes and dislikes, the good and the bad and to rise above the mindset of shame in society. Mota asked Bhimjibhai, the driver of Parsadbhai to go home. He then went to the house of Mr. Kalyanpur, whom he knew and asked him to come to a nearby place with him. There he removed all his clothes and asked him to deliver them at Clifton bungalow (Parsadbhai's residence).

Mota instantly gained a very high state of ecstasy. He felt as if he was flying in air. One English sergeant tried to stop him on the street. But Mota roared with a loud voice, that frightened sergeant saluted him and said “Id Mubarak Saibaba !” Mota saw Sadguru standing near the Governor Bungalow. He embraced Mota and showered love and affection on him. Sadguru gifted five rupee note to break his fasts.

When he was around 200 ft. away from bungalow, he regained body consciousness. He shouted loudly for clothes. He wore them and went inside the house. What an experience of super trance in outer world!







## **FORMLESS REALIZATION OF ALMIGHTY GOD**

### **“I AM OMNIPRESENT.”**

It was the day of 13th March 1939. Gandhiji was going to Kanpur by train. Mota met him at Prayag (Allahabad) railway station and bowed to him reverently. A burning sensation started from that moment in his whole body. He returned to Varanasi the same day.

On the day of Ramnavmi, on 29th March 1939 the unbearable burning sensation was at its peak causing him almost to scream. He was sinking within. The external awareness had reduced but the internal awareness was very sharp and intact. According to Saibaba who guided him on Clifton beach on 'Kali Chaudash', something was to happen on this day of Ramnavmi. Mota was at home with two sisters.

On the night of 29th March 1939, a sadhu shouted Hari Om to call him. Mota went down and met him. The sadhu advised him not to carry out the process of

sadhna taught by Saibaba on sea shore of Karachi and warned him that if he does that process then he will be in serious trouble. The sadhu asked him to come to his guru's (Sadhu's) ashram for sadhna. Mota clearly told him that "it is my first duty to take care of two sisters. Leaving them alone here and doing anything else means breaking my duty, hence i cannot come." Thus Mota politely refused the offer and gave a warm send off to the sadhu.

Then he went upstairs in his room and started meditation shown by Saibaba on the Karachi sea shore. Around midnight he felt as if a stream of heat was flowing from the centre of his head. The burning sensation throughout the body was unbearable. He lost consciousness and was into super trance. He experienced the light of millions of Suns spread all around him, entering and coming out of his body. He went into a Maha Samadhi. That was the Realization of the Formless God or 'Adhwait Sakshatkar.' On that moment a dynamic consciousness kindled within him that - **"I AM OMNIPRESENT."** He felt Oneness with everybody and everything. He was one with all and yet separate from all too.

From that moment attributes of consciousness like Omnipresent, Omniscient, Omnipotent, Infinity became part of his existence. That was an experience of Realization of Almighty God or Mukti or Liberation. That feeling remained constant, forever, steadfast then after.

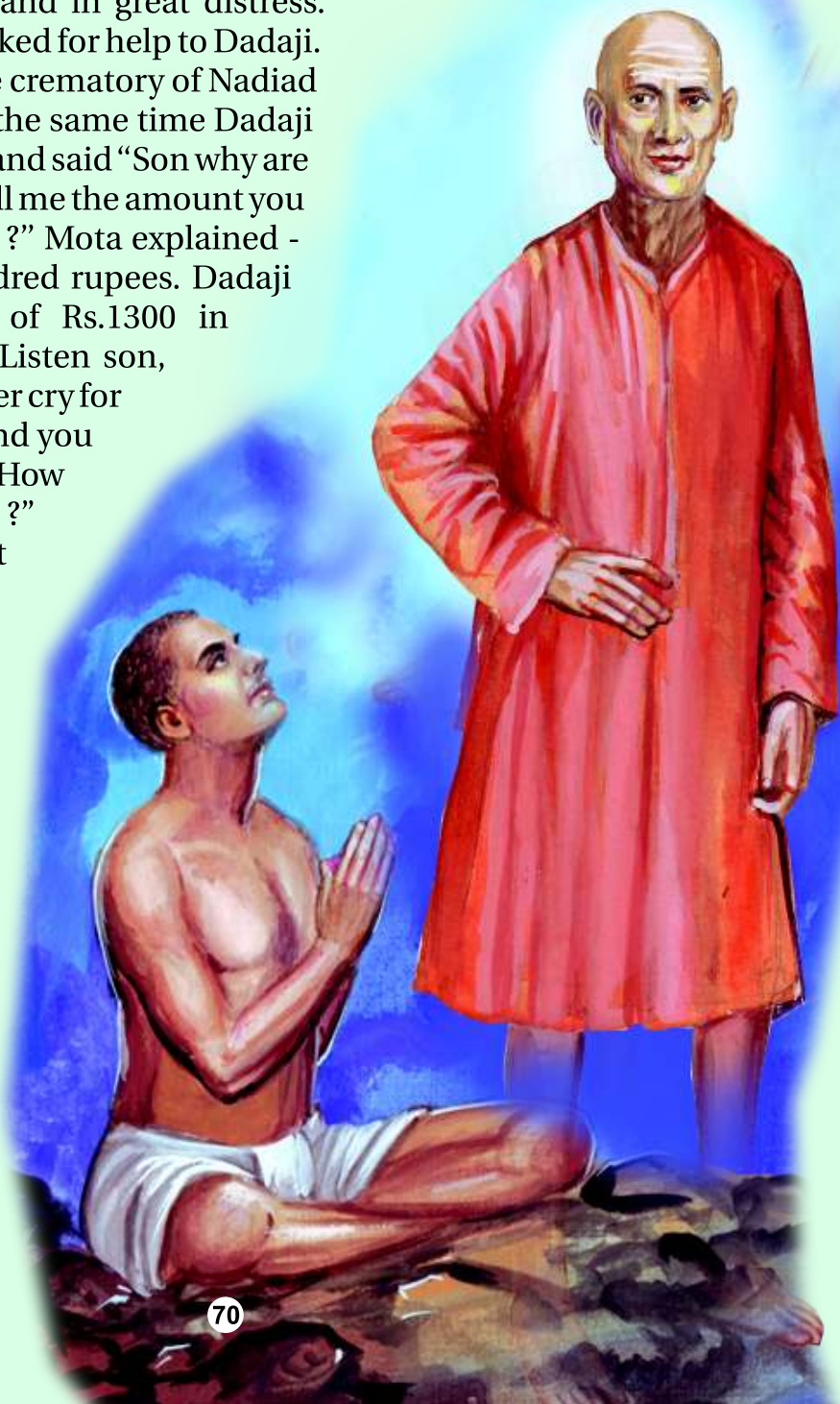


## GURUMAHARAJ GIVES MONEY HAND TO HAND

Dhuniwala Dada Keshwanandji, Mota's Gurumaharaj had once promised Mota that "though I am not present in physical body (means in his absence) whenever you will remember me, I will appear before you." Mota had incurred a debt of Rs.1300 and had no idea as how to arrange for repayment. What is the greatest worry for a poor man? It is lack of money!

Mota was confused and in great distress. With intense prayer he asked for help to Dadaji. Every night staying at the crematory of Nadiad was his daily routine. At the same time Dadaji appeared in front of him and said "Son why are you crying for money? Tell me the amount you need. Rs.1200 or Rs.1300?" Mota explained - he needed thirteen hundred rupees. Dadaji placed currency notes of Rs.1300 in Mota's hands and said "Listen son, hence forth you shall never cry for money. You shall order and you will get." Mota spoke "How can I order you my Lord?" Dadaji said "If you cannot order at least you can make requests and pray. Can't you do that? But never cry henceforth."

Dadaji also gave Rs.100 extra saying it will be helpful for you and then disappeared. Mota always said "My Gurumaharaj is a super human."





## MOMENTS BEFORE MOTHER'S DEATH

Mota asked his mother's permission to quit his job for sadhna. She got furious "You don't even have a capacity to throw handful of grains to sparrows and you want to leave even a small job and run away? Do you want to conquer the whole world by sadhna?" she blurted.

Mota took her to Prabhaba at Vadodara and after great persuasion from her, mother agreed and gave him permission with a wish that he should be back home when she is on her death bed. Mota promised to fulfill her wish. He also promised to give her Rs.5 every month to fulfill her wish.

Few years passed. Mota happened to be at Varanasi as a guardian of two sisters Kurangiben and Chitraben, daughters of Parsadbhai. They had come there to study and give exams of Ved, Upanishads and Sanskrit.

A letter from younger brother Muljibhai informed Mota to come to Nadiad immediately as mother was seriously ill.

Mota sent a telegram to Parsadbhai at Karachi to send someone to replace him. But no such responsible person was at hand. In reply Parsadbhai advised him to appoint another caretaker on his own and leave for Nadiad. But that was not possible either. How can young girls be kept alone or with an unknown person? Now Mota was under great dilemma. On one side was his duty and on other side was his promise to mother. Looking to



circumstances he stood by his duty. He could not visit mother as promised.

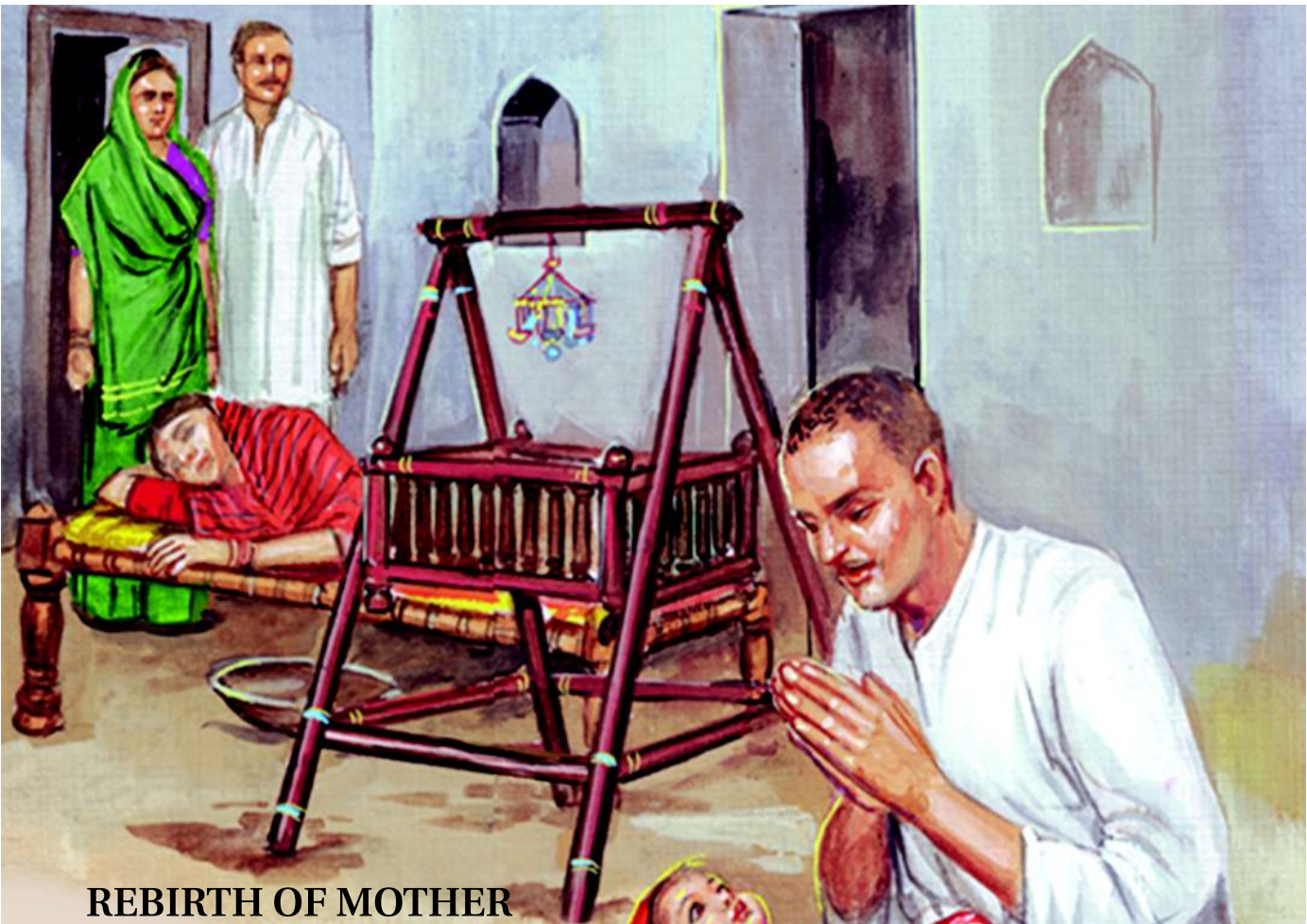
He was into deep thought of mother. He knew that he had no other option but to pray to God. He locked himself in his room and went chanting God's name incessantly. Three days passed ! On third night the electric light bulb of his room defused. Mota had intuition that mother has died at this moment. Next day morning he received a telegram from brother Muljibhai informing him of mother's death. Few days later he received a letter from Muljibhai describing the last moments of mother's death. He had written "Mother called me and said Muliya (nick name) look, Chuniya (Mota's nick name) has finally come as per his promise !" I told her "I see nobody. How can he come so fast ? He is far away at Varanasi." Mother said "Look he is here. His head is on my feet and he is caressing my whole body with his hands. He is very much here."

Mota was highly moved by reading the letter. God went to his mother personally to uphold the promise of his devotee and give satisfaction to his mother that her son had kept his promise.

Emotional Mota bowed to Almighty God with great reverence and a sense of gratitude.







## REBIRTH OF MOTHER

Few days after his mother's death, Mota got curious as where she must have taken her rebirth. He sat in deep meditation and visualized that she was born in Varanasi itself. He saw vividly the house where she was born and its whereabouts. He noted down the address after coming out of meditation and went there. It was an unknown place. He sat on the small platform in front of the house to draw the attention of residents by singing bhajans. After about 45 minutes, someone came out of the house and asked in Hindi - who he was and why he was sitting there.

Mota replied "Last night I had a dream that a daughter born in your family is a very powerful soul. So my Gurumaharaj has ordered me to have darshan of her. It would be nice of you if you can give her in my hands so that I can have her darshan. I will go away after that."

The house holder brought newly born baby girl and gave her to Mota with faith. Mota took her in his arms and then put her in his lap and emotionally bowed her with folded hands. After all she was his mother in her previous birth. That was the first time and the last time he saw her.



## SATYAGRAH AGAINST A DONOR

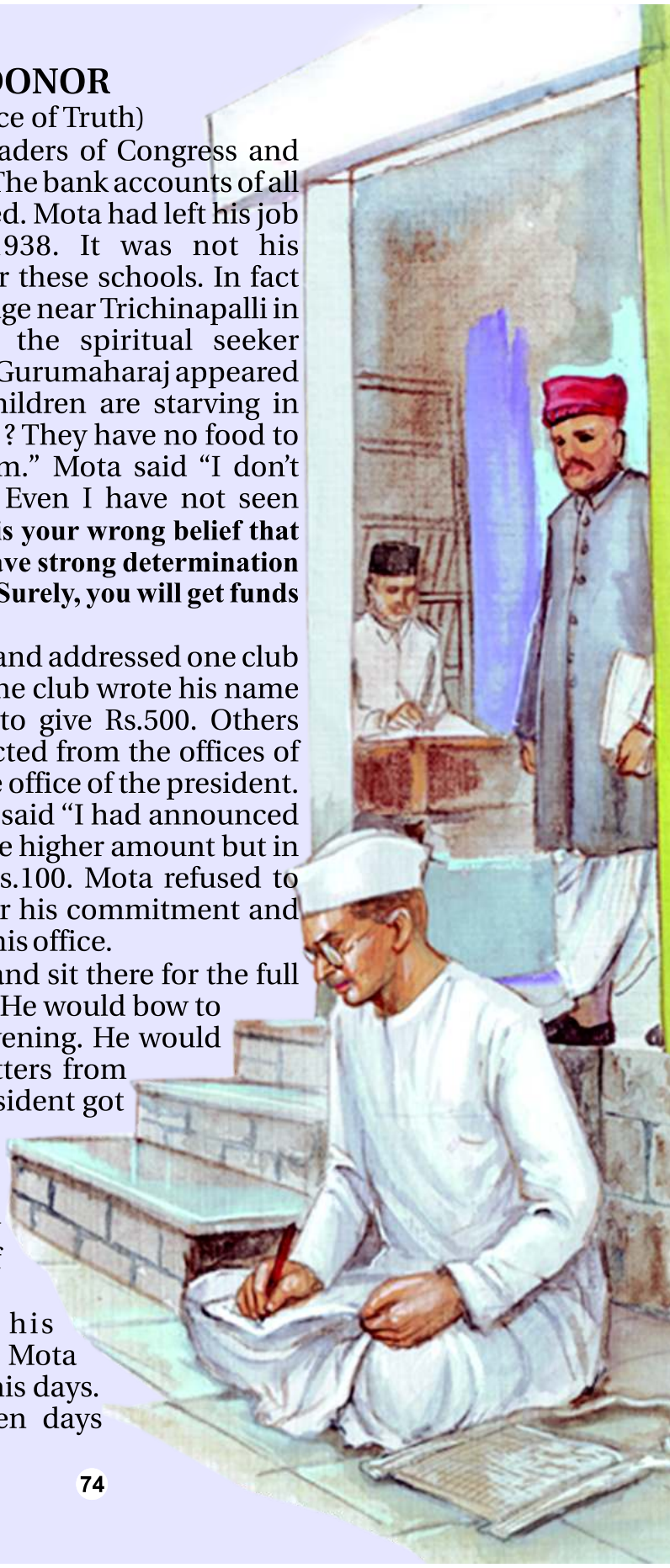
(Satyagrah = Insistence of Truth)

Again in 1942, all the top leaders of Congress and Harijan Sevak Sangh were in jail. The bank accounts of all ashrams and schools were blocked. Mota had left his job of Harijan Sevak Sangh in 1938. It was not his responsibility to collect funds for these schools. In fact Mota was staying at Kirapatti village near Trichinapalli in South India to guide one of the spiritual seeker Nandubhai for sadhna. There his Gurumaharaj appeared and ordered him "You fool ! Children are starving in Gujarat, what you are doing here ? They have no food to eat. Collect funds and help them." Mota said "I don't know anyone who can donate. Even I have not seen Mumbai." Gurumaharaj said **"It is your wrong belief that influence can get you donations. Have strong determination in mind. Don't think anything else. Surely, you will get funds if you have strong willpower."**

He came rushing to Mumbai and addressed one club of rich people. The president of the club wrote his name on top of the list and pledged to give Rs.500. Others followed. Money was to be collected from the offices of each donor. Mota first went to the office of the president. He gave only Rs.100 to Mota and said "I had announced Rs.500 to prompt others to donate higher amount but in reality I intended to give only Rs.100. Mota refused to accept saying one should honour his commitment and sat down for satyagrah in front of his office.

Every morning he would go and sit there for the full day and go home in the evening. He would bow to president in the morning and evening. He would keep himself busy answering letters from seekers. After a few days, the president got curious to know - what is this man writing the whole day ? He stopped by and read the letters Mota was writing. He was highly impressed with the guidance of Mota.

Instantly he honoured his commitment and gave Rs.500 to Mota and also apologized for wasting his days. Thus a silent satyagrah of seven days ended in a positive result.



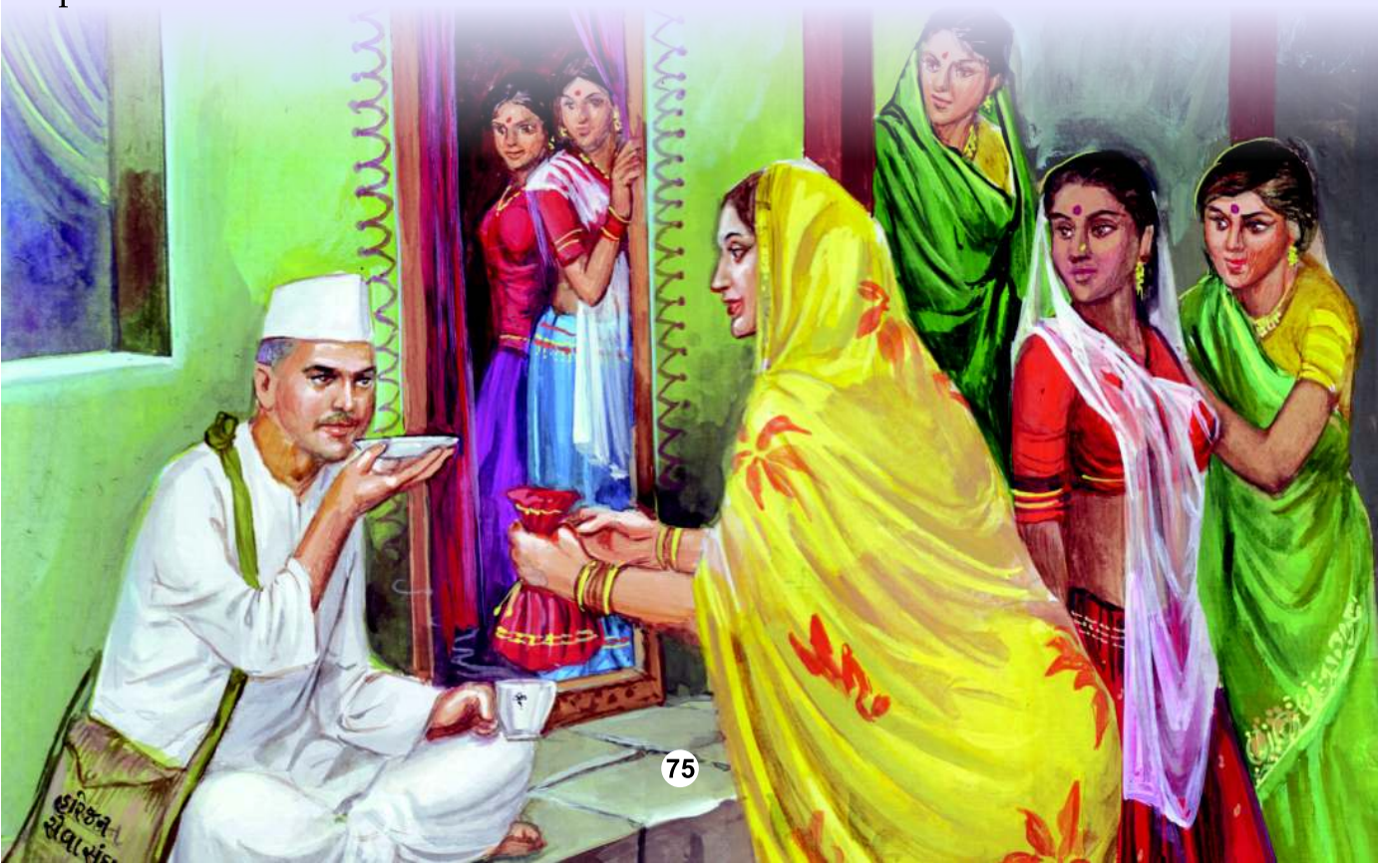
## ACCEPTED DONATION FROM SEX WORKERS

Mota was in Mumbai on a donation drive in those days. He would visit various places by train, bus, tram and even walked long for collection of funds. One day hurriedly he caught the suburban electric train which had just started. Unknowingly he boarded ladies compartment. Mota went to one corner and started answering letters as per his habit.

One of the women got curious and asked him what he was writing. Mota explained her in short that he was collecting funds for poor Harijan children living in various ashrams. She asked Mota if he would accept money from her and her friends. Mota said of course "I will, with pleasure." "But we are sex workers and we are looked down by the society," she said. "It does not matter at all as who you are and what is your profession. You are citizens of India and you have every right to show your compassion and mercy for the down trodden," said Mota. "Would you come to our place in our area of Mumbai to collect the funds?" asked woman. "Of course, I will come," said Mota.

On a predetermined day, Mota went to their house for collection. They offered him tea with love and zeal. "Of course, I will have tea if you please clean the utensil first," said Mota. The sisters collected Rs.2700 and donated to Mota for the welfare of the poor Harijan school children.

This was Mota's equality towards all human beings. A Saint loves each and every human being ignoring their karma. Mota's such equality of love, compassion and forgiveness often transformed a sinner to a pure, divine and holy person.





## ESTABLISHED HARI OM ASHRAMS

After formless Realization of Almighty God in 1939, Mota decided to spend the rest of his life in solitude with devotion at the lotus feet of Almighty God. At that time He was living with a family of jeweller in South India. There he established his first ashram on the bank of river Kaveri at Kumbhakonam (Tamil Nadu) in 1950.



***Hariom Ashram, Kumbhakonam (1950)***

Mota considered everyone as friends. He showered love and compassion on all. His colleague Hemantbhai Nilkanth pressed him to establish an ashram. The purpose was to facilitate people with guidance of Mota. On receiving permission from his Gurumaharaj, he established one ashram in the year 1955 on the bank of river Shedhi near village Bilodra which is 5 km away from Nadiad city in Gujarat. The Nadiad ashram is at the same spot which Balyogiji Maharaj had predicted, during his sadhna days.

◀ ***Hariom Ashram, Nadiad (1955)***

The following year, in 1956, he established one more ashram on the bank of river Tapi near Kurukshetra Smashan Bhoomi at Jahangirpura near Rander in Surat. Both these ashrams are known as Hari Om Ashrams of Pujya Shri Mota, worldwide.

Above two ashrams are registered under public charitable trust. Shri Mota had a unique method of working in each and every act. Though he was founder of the ashrams but never became trustee. This reflects that he had no attachment to worldly matters.



***Hariom Ashram, Surat (1956)***

## MAUN MANDIRS-SILENCE ROOMS – ONE OF ITS ONLY KIND IN THE WORLD

During his sadhna days Mota experienced that - It was impossible to get a silent solitary place in society with all life supporting amenities. His Gurumaharaj Shri Keshwanandji Dhuniwala Dada advised him to make Maun Mandir\* (silence rooms) for devotees. Thus the silence rooms - Maun Mandirs came into existence as Hari Om Ashrams. Presently there are nine silence rooms each at Nadiad and Surat ashrams. A devotee gets an independent fully furnished room with all basic amenities inside. His daily needs are catered through a service window. He enjoys complete privacy without coming into contact with outer world. It is like an ancient cave with all modern facilities. A devotee can chant mantra (Jap chanting), meditate, sing devotional songs, pray, recite hymns, read spiritual books, write, dance in the state of ecstasy, pray with humble submission about self to Almighty God etc. These are the instruments to achieve Divinity.





Only one person is allowed to occupy a room, at a time. The room is furnished with a bed, a swing, a writing table and a chair. Drinking water, bath-room, toilet, a small library and a wooden seat for meditation are available inside. A person has to clean the room himself. Laundry service is provided daily from the service window.

The room is full of darkness. Mota has explained the theory of spiritual science. The outer world has both positive and negative vibrations. In today's world negativity is at it's peak. Sunlight is a mode of transmission for these vibrations. Negative forces have hampered humans with a disturbed state of mind. Anxiety, impatience, unsteadiness, likes-dislikes, jealousy, depression etc. are leading to absence of peace in life. Every human is disturbed today and seeking for eternal peace in life. The concept of darkness helps the mind to calm down, to look within and experience eternal peace and to achieve tranquility. Remember, our Indian culture always guides us to pray and meditate at an early morning hour that is in darkness known as Brahma muhurat.

Of course, lights and emergency bell services are always available inside the room. A person belonging to any age, sex, caste, creed, religion or following any guru of his/her faith can stay in these rooms by booking them in advance. The ashram charges Rs.5 per day inclusive of all services.

Every room has a service window. It has small cross ventilations on top of room for air circulation. The room is fairly dark. Electric lights are available inside but fans are not fitted in rooms. The science here is-sweating cleanses the body to be pure and healthy.

A two way service window is provided for serving tea, meals, flowers, washed clothes etc. All services are done with chanting of Hari Om. Listening Hari Om the sadhak (spiritual seeker) opens the window from inside and accepts the service. None sees or talks to each other. A sadhak can leave a note at the window for his requirements or ring a bell in case of emergency.

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\*Maun Mandir = In today's world a person has to devote time for everyone. The fact is he doesn't have space and time for himself. The Silence room provides him an opportunity for introspection and understand his own shortcomings and undergo self improvement there on.

## LAST WILL OF MOTA

Mota decided to give up his mortal body on 19th July 1976. Before undertaking the Maha Samadhi he asked for the ashram's letter head and wrote his final will, folded it and placed it in his spectacles case. It was an extra ordinary, unique will. He wrote:

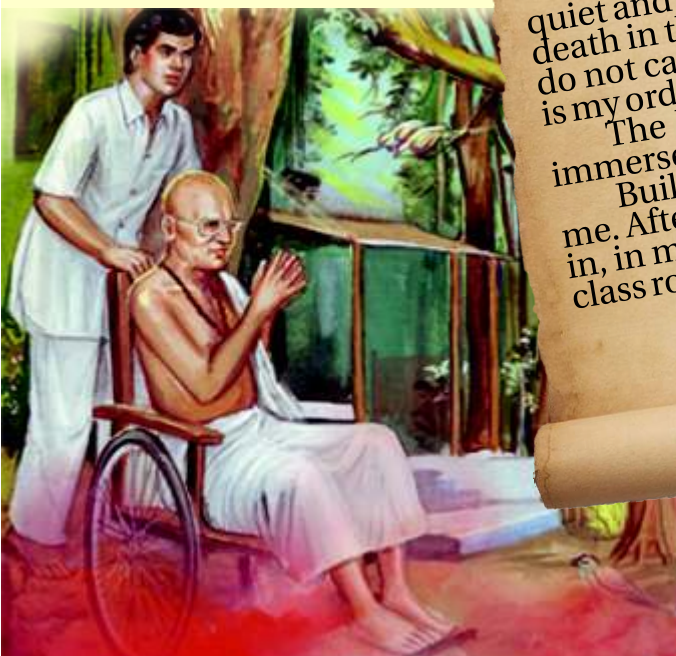
**To whomsoever it may Concern**  
I, Chunilal Asharam Bhagat, alias Mota resident at Hari Om Asharam, Nadiad, hereby declare that of my own freewill and pleasure I desire to give up my physical body. My body is ridden by many diseases and now cannot be use in public welfare works. There is no hope of any cure for these diseases. Therefore it would be good for me to give up this body joyfully. And I shall do so at the appropriate time I think fit and proper.

My last rites should be performed in a quiet and secluded spot near the place of death in the presence of you six people only, do not call many people during the last rites is my order to my sevaks or volunteers. The last remains of my body should be immersed wholly in the river.

Build no monument or memorial over me. After my demise whatever money pours in, in my name, utilize the same for building class rooms in schools.

Sd. Chunilal Asharam Bhagat alias Mota

Dated 19-07-1976







## A DIVINE END - MAHASAMADHI

Shri Ramanbhai Amin - Founder Chairman of Alembic Ltd. owned a farm house named Hari Smruti at village Fajalpur just on the bank of river Mahi. Ramanbhai was a great follower of Mota. He had often invited Mota to come to Vadodara and stay at his farm house Hari Smruti.

Mota was to go there on 22nd July 1976. It was raining heavily. In spite of his poor health, he did not change his program.

Mota asked his close associate Shri Nandubhai to get permission of Shri Ramanbhai to allow him to perform the process of giving up his body at the farm house to undertake Mahasamadhi. Shri Ramanbhai lovingly said "Everything I own, belongs to Mota and so he does not have to take my permission."



Ramanbhai went to his office at 10 am. Mota asked Ramanbhai and his wife Dhirajben to come to the farm house at 3 pm. Total six members present at the farm house were (1) Shri Nandubhai (2) Dr. Smt. Kantaben Patel (3) Shri Rambhai Patel (4) Shri Rajubhai Patel (5) Shri Ramanbhai Amin and (6) Smt. Dhirajben Amin. Mota had instructed not to call any more than these six persons.

He then asked them to take him to the inner room. He was laid in a bed. Nandubhai sat by his side on a stool and chanted Hari Om. Mota had made the final decision to give up his body. Nandubhai requested Shri Mota, “Please wait for some more time, as it’s raining very heavily. Cremation of the body will be a difficult task.” Mota replied firmly “**This is not a matter of discussion.** You may chant Hari Om if you wish to do so. No one should touch me now.”

At 4 pm Mota closed his eyes and started the process of withdrawing ‘Pran’ (Process of breathlessness) from his body. At about 1:25 am on 23rd July 1976 Dr. Kantaben checked heart beats. They had stopped. Thus with his own wish, willingly Mota had left his mortal body. His body was consigned to fire at 6:30 am on the bank of river Mahi and remains of the body were flowed down in the river.

Thus, Mota performed the most uncommon and unique method of giving up the body with a fully conscious Mind and Soul - Mahasamadhi.



**"It is my intense desire that those who have met me by the grace of Almighty God, may experience and achieve the infinite stage of vital consciousness of Supreme power. It is the only unfulfilled sacred deed of this poor man's life. If you finish my sacred deed by gaining consciousness yourself then I will consider my life was worth living."**

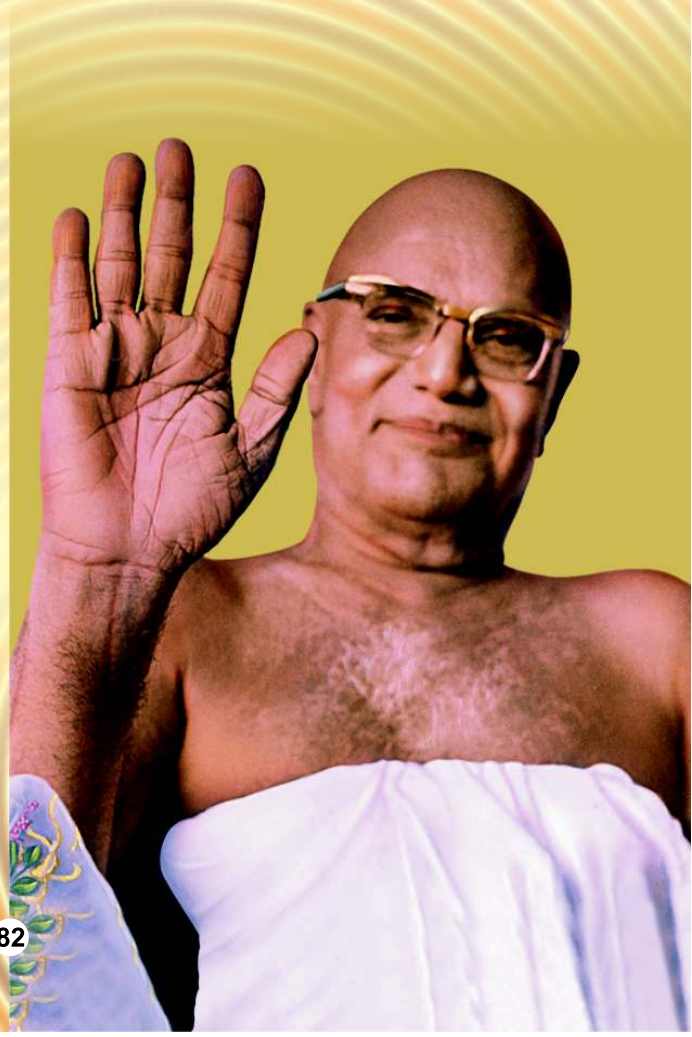
**– Shri Mota**

Book Ref : 'Jivan Mandan', Pg. 23, Ed.-5

Mota established Silence Rooms-Moun Mandirs to repay the debt of his Sadguru. He has said repeatedly that without self exertion and struggle, you will never achieve spiritual power. In a solitary session of spending few days in a silence room - Maun mandir, a Jiva (Soul) begins journey towards self elevation to achieve Shiva swaroopa. In seclusion during maun sadhna - a sadhak (devotee) will realize his limitations of nature and tendencies. i.e. passion, anger, greed, attachment, arrogance, envy etc. etc. Our nature is engrossed in such foul habits. Inside the Maun mandir, a positive understanding awakens leading one to conscious behaviour in daily life.

Living in solitude of the silence room helps one to concentrate on self, and then only the mind will understand one's own short comings and abilities. If one understands his

**SILENCE ROOMS -  
MOUN MANDIRS -  
A UNIQUE GIFT FROM  
SHRI MOTA TO SOCIETY**



own weakness then only he will try to improve. The silence and solitude will develop deep thinking and stability of mind which in turn will help a person to concentrate to find remedies of problems. Thus it helps to perform worldly duties in an absolute faithful and sincere manner. To narrate in simple words, it is a battery recharging process for human mind. Such experiments of living in silence room will give one, a true understanding of life.

In silence room maximum time is spent in jap chanting means reciting God's name. This helps us to kindle virtues and noble thoughts in our being. Once our being becomes pure and strong, the same virtues will help us to perform our worldly duties skillfully. This will make our life easier and more meaningful.

**"My Gurumaharaj said- By kindling virtues in people's hearts, their lives will flourish with goodness. Implanting positivity in life is also the biggest service to the society. Such service is even superior to other social services. An individual can be at peace with himself remain stress free and chant God's name joyfully is the sole motto / purpose of Hari Om Ashram."**

**- Shri Mota**



## LITERATURE OF PUJYA SHRI MOTA

Mota was a prolific writer. He wrote thousands of letters to friends and devotees on diversity of mind and life. He has explained the path of sadhna in his letters. These letters are published as books. He wrote close to seventy books, almost half of them are in verses. Then there are compiled books written about him by devotees close to him. Some of these books are now translated in Hindi and English and are available at both the ashrams. All together around 190 books are available at Surat and Nadiad ashrams as well on website. How to read the books and how can they be useful to the reader? Let us see in the following passages.

**Devotee :** Mota, what should I do to establish a close intrinsic relationship with you ? When will I experience the fruits of my relationship with you ? Can merely your blessings kindle the stream of devotion in my life?

**Shri Mota :** To establish a close intrinsic relation with me you should read my books, regularly for fixed hours with devotion.

Then contemplate and put in practice what you have read. You may remember me with emotion and love. By reading my books your devotion will increase definitely, your virtues will strengthen and you will progress and remain motivated. For taking my advantage you should purify your mind. 'One cannot go to heaven without dying himself.' Similarly one must exert himself to accomplish something. It is a baseless and wrong belief that - some Guru, Saint or accomplished



personality would place his hand on your head and devotion would start flowing like a stream of river in your being. Diligent hard work and grace both go together hand in hand. If we cultivate our worthiness, they (The Realized Souls) are always eager and intent to help us with their grace.

**- Shri Mota**

Book Ref : 'Sant Hrudaya', Pg.-32, Ed.-2

"Read my books one by one and when you complete reading all, start reading them again, turn by turn. My writing is simple and easy to understand."

**- Shri Mota**

Boof Ref : 'Jeevan Sopan', Pg.-55, Ed.-5

"Read my books and you will have peace of mind. The proceeds from the sale of books are used for social services. Total revenue is credited on Ashram accounts and used for good causes, this money belongs to society. Though I am a writer, it does not make me owner of my literature. Because the intelligence with which I have written is blessed by God. And society is God for me. So the books and their proceeds belong to the society.

By the Grace of God I request society to buy these books. They are not very expensive. Many of us go to hotels and spend easily, like wise people can buy these books and keep them at home. Some day they might read them, they will experience great peace of Mind."

**- Shri Mota**

Book Ref : Writers Note from the book : Bhav Jyoti

GUNA means virtuous quality of nature. Generosity, large heartedness, endurance, patience, peace, delightfulness, courage, boldness, daring, helpfulness, satisfaction, sacrifice are the qualities of positive virtues.

BHAV means state of emotional feelings-emotions from the bottom of the heart. Bhav is a soft micro glue which pastes positive virtues in our being forever and increases the strength of virtues. Gradually BHAV is converted into BHAVNA. Means our emotions will become positive tendency and part of our nature. Virtuous quality and positive tendency of nature will accompany us in next birth hence donations to increase GUNA and BHAV are the best donations of its kind.

**- Shri Mota**

Boof Ref : 'Maun Mandir Ma Harismaran', Pg.-69, Ed.-2



## DONATIONS GIVEN FOR ALL ROUND SOCIAL UPLIFTMENT

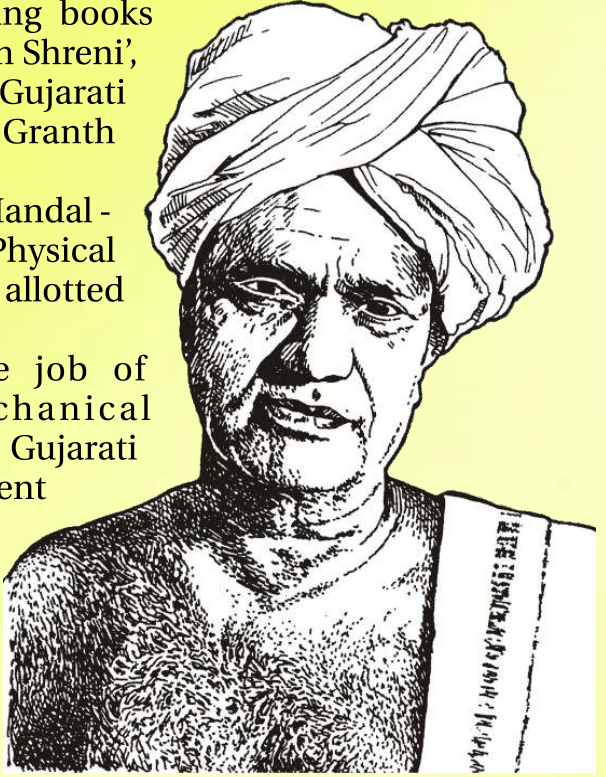
Mota firmly believed that a society, which is lacking positive virtues (Sadgun) and emotion of love (Bhav) will never progress and remain backward and crippled. For development of virtues and emotions, good literature must be available to the society.

With the order of his Gurumaharaj, Mota started collecting funds from society. He also made other organizations responsible for publishing good literature in Gujarati. Mota believed that Hari Om Ashram alone should not be the only one in this character building drive, so he donated large sums to various notable institutions of Gujarat for this noble cause. The idea is to make everyone responsible in building a morally structured society. Some of the important tasks of social upliftment and reformation carried out by Hari Om Ashram are :

- 1) He entrusted the work of publishing devotional literature, stories for children and original unique writings authored by women under Neelkanth Granth Shreni to Gujarat Sahitya Parishad, Ahmedabad.
- 2) Ignite and abide by goodness, decency, respectful behaviour and sense of responsibility towards girls, sisters and mothers (female gender) in society. He made specific arrangement for creation and publication of motivational literature for this cause. He entrusted the work of publishing books under 'Gyan Gangotri', 'Shri Arvind Granth Shreni' and 'Sarvadharm Tatvagnyan Granth Shreni' to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University, Vidhyanagar.
- 3) Books on Hindu, Muslim, Christian, Parsi, Jain, Sikh and Buddh religion are published under 'Dharma Darshan' series. Each book narrates the fundamental theory of the respective religion. He did so for society to understand the basic principles of every religion. He entrusted the work of publishing these books to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University, Vidhyanagar.
- 4) He also entrusted the work to Charotar Education Society for publishing a series of books under 'Shishubharti' and 'Balbharti' which contained life sketches of great personalities of the world, stories based on Ramayan, Mahabharat, Bhagvat, Upanishad and unique storybooks for children. Thus he managed to ignite emotional character in children, based on strong foundation of virtues at the beginning of their life itself.



- 5) He entrusted the work of publishing books under 'Kishorbharti' 'Vignyan Granth Shreni', 'Ved Sahitya', 'Vyutpatti Shastra' (Gujarati grammar) to Gujarat University Granth Nirman Board, Amdavad.
- 6) He asked Gujarat Vyayam Prachark Mandal - Rajpipla to publish a guide book on Physical Exercises for every age group and allotted funds.
- 7) Gujarat University accepted the job of preparing Dictionary of Mechanical Engineering, Gujarati Grammar and Gujarati Encyclopedia. Later on an independent 'Gujarat Vishvakosh Trust' was established for publication of Gujarati Encyclopedia and funds were transferred to the new trust. Hari Om Ashram has given fresh donation for the construction of a separate building for the Gujarati Encyclopedia project.
- 8) In the recent past Surat ashram has given funds for development of Gujarati language in the project of Gujarati language library.
- 9) Veer Narmad Dakshin Gujarat University is given corpus funds to award Ten gold medals in different subjects to honour graduate and post graduate scholars. Students are conferred with the awards as : '**Hari Om Ashram Prerit - Dr. Minu Parabiya Gold Medal in the field of Botany**' etc.



A unique method is seen in every project sponsored by Pujya Shri Mota. He did not allow his personal name joined with any corpus donation of a project or an award. He searched institutions doing good work in their respective fields and helped them financially to start specific projects. This was his unique intuition. He gave endowments to carry out various competitions but never allowed to join his name; instead he recommended the name of some well known person connected to subject with the award. For example he gave endowment to Gujarat Government to organize All India Sea swimming competition. Its name was kept as '**Hari Om Ashram Prerit - Akhil Bhartiya Veer Savarkar Samudra Taran Spardha.**'

The Gujarati Encyclopedia work was started with the initial donation from Hari Om Ashram, but you will not even find his name (Shri Mota's name) or of Hari Om Ashrams names linked anywhere with 'Gujarat Vishwakosh Trust'. This is a unique specialty of his character.



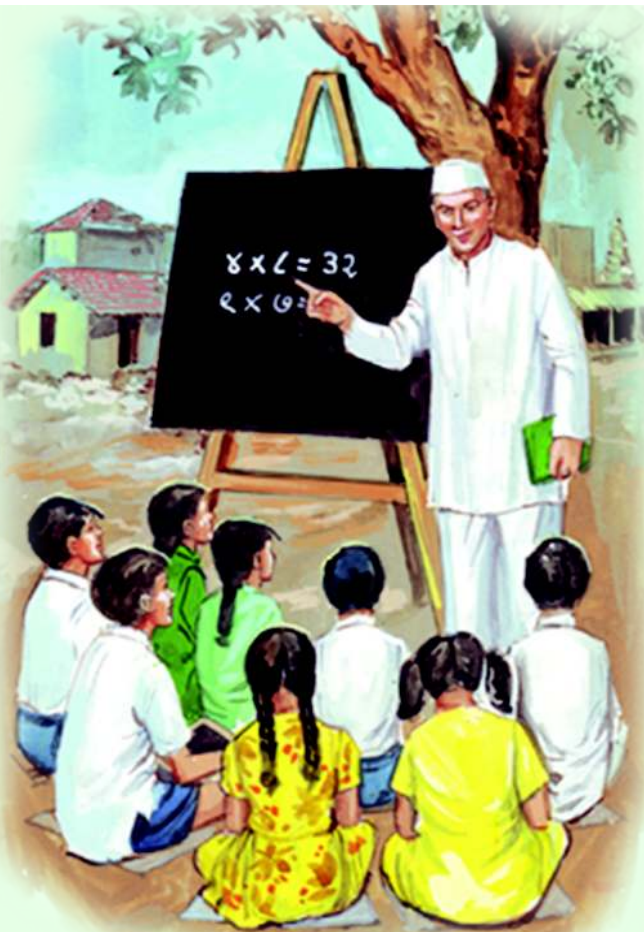
Mota's whole life is dedicated to Almighty God. He is seeing Almighty God in every human being. So he said, **'I want to uplift the society. Society is my God.'** He accepted social work on the command of his Gurumaharaj and thus redeemed his debt to society by serving those who met him by Nimitta-(cause) and Prarabdh-(luck). The prime goal behind all these social services are to encourage, his Nimitta on the path of spiritual pursuit. With lots of love and compassion for all of us he gave us a solemn promise and assurance.

**"Physically we might remain together or not in life, but you are my beloved sweet kith and kin and will always remain so. Even Lord Brahma (creator of universe) cannot divide our relationship."**

**–Shri Mota**

Book Ref. : 'Jeevan Pathey', 4th Ed. Page 82

## HIGHEST PRIORITY TO PRIMARY SCHOOL CLASS ROOMS



Mota was always for education and he did his best to build classrooms in schools in remote villages of Gujarat. Even today building of class rooms of primary schools gets continuous financial support and priority by Ashram. India is a developing country. Still half of its population lives in villages. Many villages do not have class rooms. Mota observed this fact. In his lifetime itself, Mota started a mission to fund for at least one class room constructed in a far off village of Gujarat. By the time he gave up his body, many such class rooms were constructed in interior villages. In his will, he specifically ordered his followers to use money for the construction of class rooms. In his absence too, devotees are giving

generous donations for this project. So the trustees took up the work of helping schools to build educational facilities on a systematic basis. They concentrated on rural most interior backward (adivasi) areas where there were no classrooms at all. The ashram would pay on behalf of the villagers' contribution and rest of the cost is paid by the Gujarat Government as per policy. The Ashram also promotes construction of High Schools class rooms, kitchen, hostels and other supportive amenities for children. The Ashram also gives funds to government schools, non government schools, organizations, social trusts and even individuals based on their merits.

As a result of all this approximately ten thousand class rooms have been constructed by 31st March 2020 inclusive of hostels, kitchens, stores and other amenities for children. Please contact trust board for detailed information.







## AWARDS FOR SPORTS

Mota championed physical fitness a lot. Mota gave corpus funds to Government of Gujarat to conduct All India Sea Swimming competition. He also donated to Surat Mahanagar Palika to organize swimming, running and cycling competitions for children. This was with a view to cultivate a spirit of courage, valour, toughness, daring and adventure in youngsters. The competitions are held at the district level, state level and national level. He gave donations to construct swimming pools at Nadiad, Surat, Bardoli, Rajpipla and Vadodara. He gave donation for exclusive ladies swimming pool to Surat



Mahanagar Palika. In 1973, Mota gave a sizable amount as corpus fund to the Government of Gujarat to hold biennial sea swimming competition on all India bases. 32 nautical miles and 17 nautical miles Swimathon, respectively for boys and girls are held every alternate year. This competition is known as **Hari Om Ashram Prerit - All India Vir Savarkar Sea Swimming Competition**. It is held between the sea shores of Chorwad to Veraval in Saurashtra region of Gujarat. Mota gave corpus funds to Government for awards to winners of both the categories. A Marathon race of 10 km for children is held every year by Gujarat Vyayam Pracharak Mandal, Rajpipla at different locations across Gujarat.

Untouchability was rampant in India before independence and a few years afterward also. Mota constituted an award for the best social worker in removing untouchability.

At present cash award and citation is given to individuals who have demonstrated adventure, bravery, valour and honesty, The Ashram has continued the legacy of Shri Mota by awarding people who served the society selflessly with dedication by renouncing their personal goals and enduring great difficulties, in various fields of life.

The Mahajan Shakti Dal was established exclusively for women with the aim of making them physically strong and daring. They conduct various games and conduct classes to teach women self defense. The rivers are called mothers in India. The ashram has given donations to respective institutions for repair of bathing ghats on banks of rivers in Gujarat.

Over and above donations are also given by the Ashram to universities and institutions for organizing physical exercises, walking excursions, cycling, to run and jump, mountaineering, weight lifting, judo, gymnastics, marathons, traditional games etc. for boys and girls.

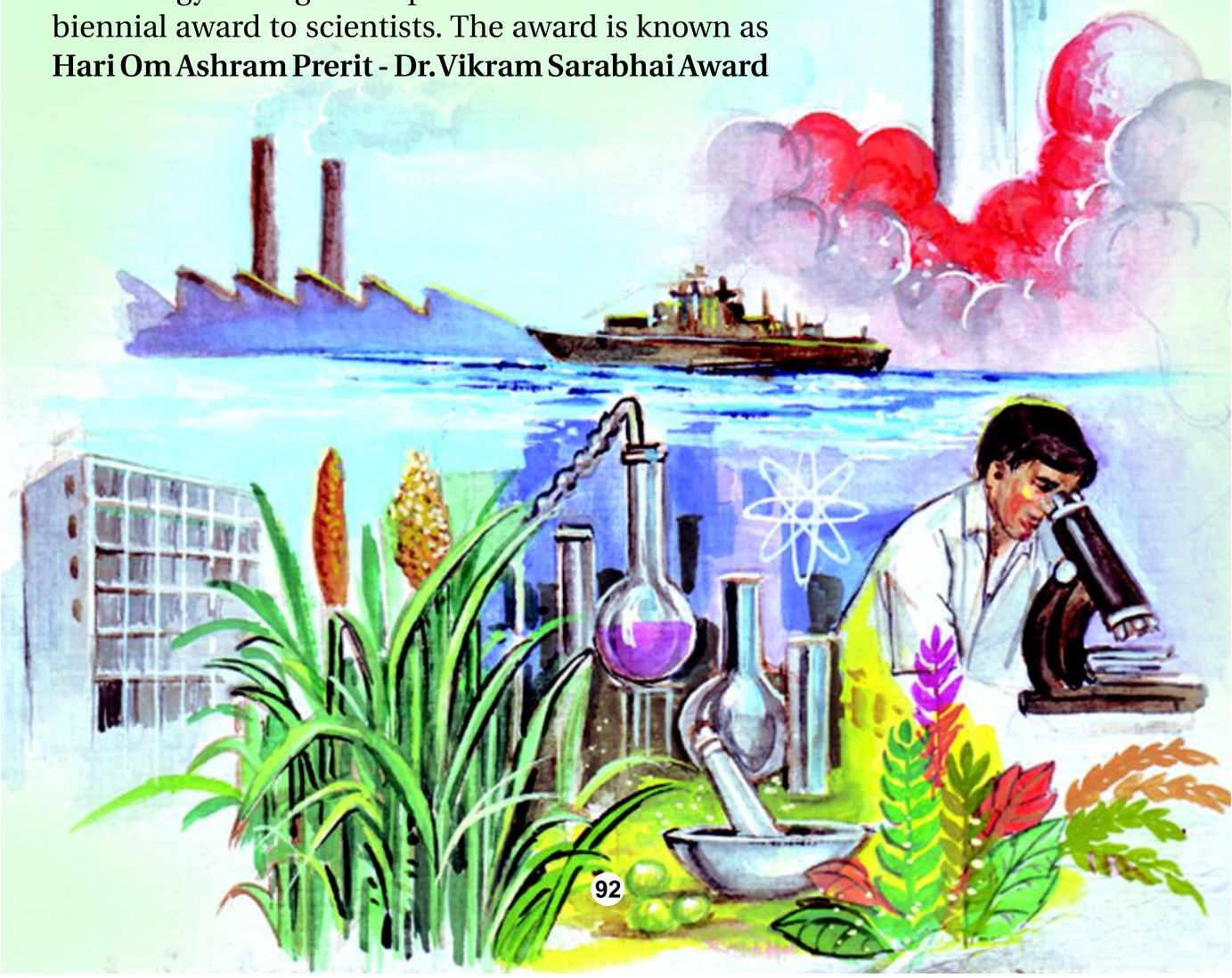




## DONATIONS AND AWARDS FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Mota had a scientific approach to all problems. He believed that our country cannot progress without developments in science and technology. He made arrangements to give prizes to scientists for original research in various fields of science on all India bases as well as on state level basis. He gave corpus funds to various universities of Gujarat to give prizes at state level.

Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has set up a Physical Research laboratory (PRL) with an exclusive motive to carry out research and development (R & D) in science and space technology. Mota gave corpus fund to PRL in 1973 for biennial award to scientists. The award is known as **Hari Om Ashram Prerit - Dr. Vikram Sarabhai Award**





for **Senior Scientist**. The award amount is Rs.2 lacs with a citation. The great scientist known as 'missile man' and our most beloved, inspirational personality **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam** who also became president of India, was also awarded with **Hari Om Ashram prerit - Dr. Vikram Sarabhai Senior Scientist Award**. Many more leading scientists have also won this award as a mark of highest recognition of their carrier. Similarly, four awards of Rs.50,000 each are given with a citation to junior Scientists too.

So how did Mota gather such vast funds?

Mota had a unique method of asking donations. First he would declare the project and then ask for funds. The amount collected was given for the purpose. He never kept money for Hari Om Ashrams.

Thus Shri Mota made a huge deep rooted contribution for the upliftment of society.

A corpus fund of Rs. One crore was given to National Innovative Foundation-(NIF) Gandhinagar in the year 2015. NIF is an independent organization, run by Scientists, under Ministry of Science and Technology Government of India. Their head quarter is at Gandhinagar, Gujarat. NIF has extremely large and grassroot network spread all over the country to hand pick researchers, inventors and to recognize and highlight their invention for the benefit of every common Indian. The selection criteria ranges from children to scholars to labourers to technocrats, thus it includes all. They award inventors of various fields and also provide arm length support by guiding them in service of nation as well earnings. Every year the students of first to twelfth standards are awarded by NIF. The children awards is known as "IGNITE AWARDS." This Award is known as **Pujya Shri Mota Hari Om Ashram Prerit - Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam IGNITE Awards**. NIF also organizes 'National Grassroots Innovation Awards.' every biennial.

The people from all fractions working in the field of research and development and above the age group of 21 years are selected for these awards. The team of NIF visits on site, observes performance of real time innovation and selects the awardees. Researcher's products are displayed in public exhibition and winners are honoured in function by President of India at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi. (Kindly visit NIF website for further information.)

A Corpus fund of Rs. thirty three lacs was given to Navasari Agriculture University (NAU) for various awards to the best college students, Ph.D. scholars, farmers and even farm labourers for their contribution on field and as well Research & Development work in laboratory.



## HARIOM ASHRAM : THE DIVINE LEGACY LIVES ON

Most of the activities of Hari Om Ashram have continued regularly till date as per the guidelines set by Pujya Shri Mota. As costs have gone up considerably in the last 50 years, the interests earned on corpus funds given by ashram in early years would appear meager and not sufficient to carry on those projects. The Ashram therefore gives additional corpus funds to support institutions to continue with their works. Thus the Ashram is committed in its continuous efforts to fulfill the vision of Pujya Shri Mota '**I want to uplift society.**'

Over and above, the Ashram gives cash awards every year for arranging Essay Writing Competitions, Elocution Competitions, Quiz, Painting, Craft Competitions in various schools on life and works of Pujya Shri Mota. The winners are awarded with cash prizes, photograph of Mota and a book. All other participants are given a book of Shri Mota to encourage them further. The teachers, principals and administrative staff of the schools are also gifted books of Shri Mota.

The truth is Mota exists amongst us by his own promise :

**"I AM OMNI PRESENT."**

He guides us through his literature and ideas of serving the society in whatever small capacity we can. His books contain solutions for almost every problem, we face in our daily life. All we need to do is to study them and contemplate.







## PRAYER

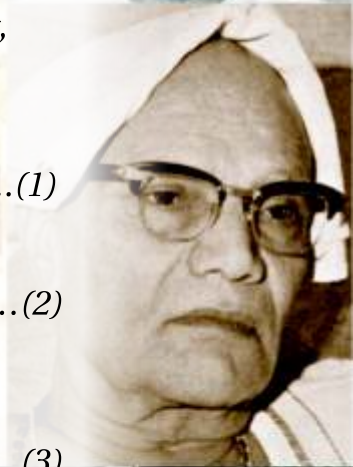
### I pray and bow at Thy Feet



*Lord, ever keep me in the Heaven of Thy Holy Feet,  
I pray and bow at Thy Feet.  
O, Beloved, ever dwelling in my heart,  
Thou Lord of my heart's precious Lotus,  
Thou renowned dear and faithful Lover.....(1)  
I pray and bow at Thy Feet.  
I open to you my heart's inner feelings,  
My mind still remains intransigent, rebellious.....(2)  
I pray and bow at Thy Feet.  
Removing all obstacles from my life,  
Take me home into Thee, dear Lord,  
And make me mad for Thee only.....(3)  
I pray and bow at Thy Feet.  
O, Beloved, I know of no means,  
But only the flowers of my heart's agonising love,  
And these I scatter at Thy Holy Feet.....(4)  
I pray and bow at Thy Feet.  
Wherein is a child's strength?  
If there be any it is in his helpless crying;  
By that force of crying I want to cross over To Thee.....(5)  
I pray and bow at Thy Feet.*

**- Shri Mota**

*(Translated from Gujarati into English by Babu Sarkar)*







॥ HARIḤ AUM ॥

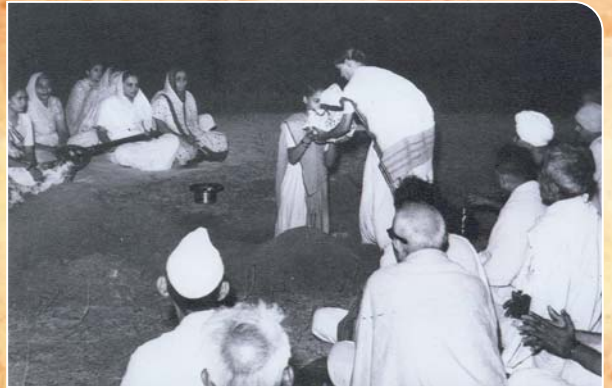
## CLOSING PRAYER ĀRTI

- Aum, give me Refuge O Lord, at the Haven of Thy Holy Feet,  
Save this fallen soul, lead him by Thy hand, clasp him to Thy heart.....(1)
- Let my mind, heart and speech be revealed by my action,  
May Thou unify by Thy Grace, my mind, speech and heart.....(2)
- May our heart's love pervade in our dealings with all,  
Even where insult is done, let there only love prevail.....(3)
- May we attempt by Thy Grace, to change our lower instincts  
Into nobler ones, so we may be worthy of Thy Holy Feet.....(4)
- May my mind's thoughts and tendencies of the vital  
And intellect's all doubts dissolve at Thy Holy Feet.....(5)
- To appear to others as we truly are at heart,  
Let our being be open, so others can know us truly and well.....(6)
- Give me the will not to do otherwise,  
Contrary to what is truly in my heart O Lord.....(7)
- Wherever there are Virtue and Nobility, let my heart there abide  
May Virtue and Nobility flower and blossom in my heart.....(8)
- May the instincts of the vital and the mind merge and melt in my love for Thee  
And may my adoration for Thee ever surge, dance in delight and joy.....(9)

*Aum, give me Refuge O Lord, at the Heaven of Thy Holy Feet*  
- Mota

*(Gujarati : Aarti - Translator : Babu Sarkar)*





**Ground breaking ceremony of Hariom Ashram, Surat.  
At 12 am (midnight) on 23-04-1956.**

The foundation stone and the holy earthen pot was laid by Smt. Pushpaben dalal a widow lady.  
Shri Mota set an example in the society that widowhood is not an inauspicious status.







Hariom Ashram, Surat



Price : Rs. 50/-