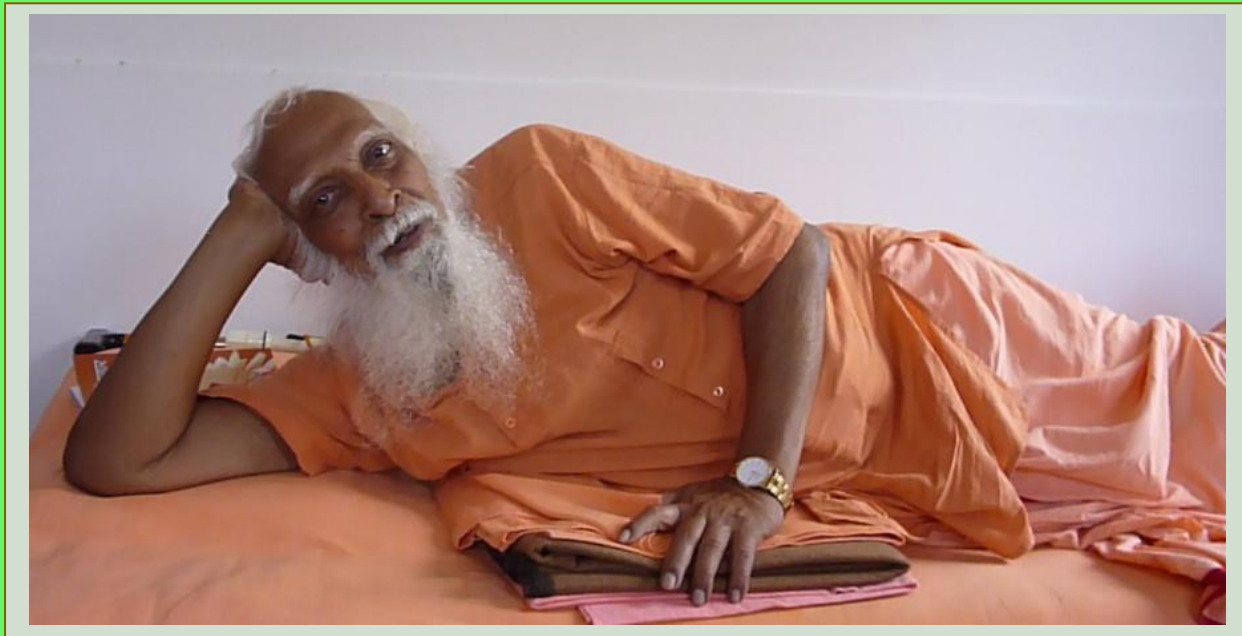


## The Lord saves the innocent

*Anecdote on Pujya Motaji of Gujarat  
Narrated by Swami Shantananda Puri Maharaj*



## The Lord saves the innocent

Pujya Mota was a great saint of recent times in Gujarat.

In his earlier days, he worked along with Mahatma Gandhi for some time before he came to be revered as a saint.

In his earlier days, Pujya Mota worked in Karachi under a Seth, a Gujarati businessman. The two daughters of the boss were to give some examination in Benaras. As per the rules of the Institution, the private candidates had to come there with a guardian throughout the period of the examination. The Seth entrusted Mota with the job of taking his daughters and living with them during the examination days at Benaras. One day, the girls decided to have an oil bath when they gave their diamond jewellery in the custody of Mota. Immediately Mota put them in his pant pocket and forgot about them.

In the evening Mota and the two girls went to the temple of Vishwanath. There was a huge crowd in the temple. When Mota raised both his hands above his head to pay his obeisance to the Lord, some burglar took all the diamond jewellery from his pocket and ran away. When they went home, the girls demanded back the jewellery from Mota. Mota found that

his pockets were empty and that he was indeed pick pocketed. He was shocked as even in his entire life he would never be able to earn and give back the substantial cost of the jewellery. The girls however brushed all of it aside saying that their father would not mind the loss at all. However, Mota went to his room and sat in meditation.

During meditation, he sees himself standing before Lord Vishwanath and a dark hairy hand from behind taking away the jewellery from his pocket and going out. He sees in his meditation that he is going behind the thief into a narrow street and then into a small house. He chases him and addresses him, "Aye, you have done great injustice to me. The ornaments you have stolen are not mine; they are somebody else's. I would not be able to make good its cost even in 1000 years. Tomorrow morning at 9 o'clock I have to take the two girls to the college. Come to my house, here is my address, before 9:00 in the morning and hand over all the jewellery you have burgled. Otherwise, a great calamity will overtake you." After telling this, Mota comes back to his house. This is all he sees during the meditation.

Then next day at 8.30 in the morning, the girls came and told Mota that somebody was waiting outside and wanted to see Mota immediately. When Mota stepped out, he saw the same burglar whom he had seen in meditation the previous night. He told Mota, "Please take all these jewellery urgently as my entire body is burning while it is in my possession." Pujya Mota places a condition for him to fulfill before taking back the jewellery. The condition was that the burglar should swear in the name of God that he would never again pickpocket while inside the temple even if he was free to do what he wanted outside the temple. The pick pocket swore accordingly. And then Mota took the jewellery from his hand and handed it all over to those girls. This was a miraculous experience.

**\*\* Hari Om\*\***

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