

In those days there were only primary schools in Gangapur. So Radha Raman sent his nephew to Kota for secondary education, where, in August 1929, Deendayal was admitted to the fifth standard. Three years later in 1932, he went to Rajgarh, where he passed the 8th and 9th standards. One of his cousins, Banwarilal, was his classmate. Between them they had one set of books. As Banwarilal was not so good at his studies he would always keep the books with himself. But Deendayal never complained. He read the books only when Banwarilal did not need them or was asleep.

When Deendayal was in the 9th standard brother Shiv Dayal (Shibu) got typhoid and fell seriously ill. The best doctors were called, but in vain. He died in November 1934 in Bharatpur. There was great love between the two brothers and there was deep sorrow in Deendayal's heart.

From Rajgarh Deendayal went to Sikar and joined the high school there. His teachers in Rajgarh were unhappy at his leaving their school, as they were sure he would have brought it honour and prestige. A few months before the examination, he fell ill, and yet stood first in the examination, securing distinction in every subject. He topped the list in the entire area covered by the Ajmer Board and established a new record of marks.

When the Maharaja of Sikar was told about this brilliant student he called Deendayal and asked, "What would you like to have as a present?" Deendayal replied, "Your blessings". Pleased with the reply, the Maharaja gave him a gold medal, Rs. 250 for books and a monthly scholarship of Rs. 10.

So far no one in Radha Raman's family had had college education. When he asked friends about higher education for Deendayal, they advised him to have the boy admitted to some college in Agra. But Deendayal expressed a desire to study at Pilani. Accordingly in 1935 he was sent there.

The next year he passed the first year examination, standing first and maintaining his brilliant record. A notable feature of Deendayalji's student days was his great concern for others. Generally he would study late at night after everybody else went to sleep. At the same time he took care to see that his late hours did not disturb anybody. He would not use the electric light; instead, he would sit in a corner and read in the light of a lantern.

His fellow-students would often come to him for guidance and gradually their number increased so much that he formed their association and called it 'Zero Association'.