

Bochasanwasi Shri Aksharpurushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha  
Satsang Shikshan Pariksha

**SATSANG PRAVESH-PAPER-2**

Time : 2.00 to 4.15 p.m.

Total Marks : 75

Sunday, 6 March, 2016

**Note :** 1. Answer of the prescribed edition only will be accepted. Any other answer from different addition will not be accepted. 2. Numbers of the right side indicate marks of question number. 3. Numbers in the blanks on the right side of the answer indicate lesson number & page number.

**Important Note**

In the question paper the marks of each sub-question should be written in the box ( mark : 1 ) given on the right side and the marks obtained by the candidate should be written in the adjacent box. If the answer is wrong then write '0' (zero) in the given box. The sign or indication of true (✓) or false (X) of each sub-question should be marked only on the left-side before the question starts.

**Important Note**

While checking the answers, when you come across lengthy answers i.e. shortnotes, reasons, brief answer in five sentence etc. Justify to the left side of the paper for any marks deducted. If the candidate has forgotten to mention any mentioned points then the examiner can deduct mark likewise and explain to the leftside of the paper that which point is not mentioned by candidate. For example there is question in March-2013, Pravesh paper-1, "Transformation of JobanPagi" JobanPagi said to Maharaj, 'Oh Lord, I am crooked worthless and foolish. I was unable to recognize you for who are you. Oh compassionate one! please have pity on me. Please free me from my sins.' If any point is not written then write "My sins" at left side.

**(SECTION-1: KISHOR SATSANG PRAVESH, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, December 2009)**

**Q.1** In the sentences below, state who is speaking to whom and when.(Total Marks: 9)

**Note: Who is speaking 1 mark, to whom 1 mark and when 1 mark.**

1. "Small insects breed in the wheat, so I am spreading it in the sunlight." (23/79)  
⇒ Keshaba - Shriji Maharaj  
⇒ Once Maharaj went with the group to Devalia at the invitation of Jalamsinh Bapu. As Maharaj entered the Darbar's courtyard, Keshaba was spreading some wheat on the verandah. Maharaj asked her, "What are you doing?" Then...
2. "It will come to me when I call for it." (9/29)  
⇒ Devjibhai - Sadhus (Kripanand Swami and Gunatitanand Swami)  
⇒ Once the saints arrived at Devjibhai's house and at night when they prepared to retire for the night, Devjibhai was going to his farm. They asked, "When will you go to sleep?" then...
3. "So, for someone like me to be able to sit here before you is itself a great miracle." (2/16)  
⇒ Sagram - The King Vajesinh Bapu  
⇒ The King Vajesinh asked Sagram, "Has Swaminarayan shown you any miracles?" Then...

**Q.2 Give reasons for the following (two to three lines each). (Total Marks: 6)**

1. Ranchhodji Maharaj was known as Dubli Bhatt. (15/45)
  - A. Ranchhodji stayed at Mota Gokharwala. He performed religious rites for a living. Since he was very weak both physically and financially, he was known as Dubli Bhatt.
2. Shriji Maharaj called Vyapkanand Swami His God. (3/19)
  - A. Hamir Khachar's horse had died and he was weeping as if he had lost his son. Vyapkanand Swami felt sorry for him. So, he took the soul of a mosquito and transferred it into the dead horse. When Vyapkanand Swami went to meet Shriji Maharaj, Maharaj asked him "You bring the dead back to life." so, Maharaj called him God.
3. Shriji Maharaj took Motabhai to Gadhada. (21/73)
  - A. From the first time Motabhai met Shriji Maharaj, he was completely attracted by Maharaj's murti and harboured an intense desire to become a sadhu. He frequently ran away from home to Shriji Maharaj. Annoyed by this, his family put fetters on his legs and locked him in a room. He remembered Shriji Maharaj. Maharaj soon appeared before him, broke the fetters and took Motabhai to Gadhada.

**Q.3 Write short notes on 'Kashidas of Bochasan (12/37-41)' (In 15 lines). (Total Marks:5)**

Soon after Kashidas became a satsangi his son passed away. Then his bullock died, and some time later, his milch buffalo also faced a similar fate. As a result of all these deaths, his relatives became frustrated. They tried to convince Kashidas to give up Satsang, but he refused. He had unflinching faith in Shriji Maharaj. Kashidas, a native of Bochasan, first met Shriji Maharaj when Maharaj was travelling as Nilkanth Varni. Later, while Kashidas was on a pilgrimage to Dwarika, he met several of Maharaj's sadhus, who revealed Shriji Maharaj's glory. Thereafter, Kashidas went to Gadhada, took refuge under Shriji Maharaj and was initiated by him into Satsang. Once, Maharaj celebrated a shakotsav at Sura Khachar's darbar in Loya, Kashidas had also arrived with a group of devotees. They watched as Shriji Maharaj himself busily cooked the vegetables and added the spices for the main meal. Seeing Maharaj's fallible appearance, the devotees who had come with Kashidas began to doubt Shriji Maharaj's divinity. After feeding all the devotees, Shriji Maharaj held an assembly. In his discourse, Maharaj said, "What should we think of someone who, after making an arduous pilgrimage to Kashi, neither takes a bath in the Ganga nor drinks its water?" Kashidas immediately knew the intent behind Shriji Maharaj's words. Realizing their mistake the devotees shed their doubts of Shriji Maharaj's greatness and were convinced of his divinity and glory. Due to Kashidas's affection and firm attachment towards him, Shriji Maharaj visited Bochasan 32 times. Kashidas's faith and devoted service often earned him Maharaj's blessings. Kashidas dealt in the cultivation of indigo. Innumerable small insects bred and died in the water given to the indigo shrubs. Thus a lot of himsa was committed. However, other crops did not grow in that part of the country, so Kashidas was helpless. Shriji Maharaj blessed him, "Seven kinds of crops will grow in abundance in your field." Crops soon began to grow in abundance in his fields and he began to earn a lot of money. Kashidas constantly rejoiced in having attained manifest God. As he wished that his relatives would also develop faith in Shriji Maharaj, he invited Shriji Maharaj to Bochasan and took him from village to village, to the homes of all his relatives. As a result they also joined the Satsang. Kashidas used to trade in tobacco as well. However, instead of selling his crop in the local market, Kashidas used to take his carts full of tobacco to Gadhada to sell. He would stay there and enjoy the company of Shriji Maharaj. Once he suffered a great loss in his tobacco business. The creditors lodged a complaint against him at the court in Kheda. Kashidas was not in a position to pay. He had to go to jail in Kheda. In jail he thought, "How will I be able to do puja without a bath? How will I be able to eat? I won't be able to have the darshan of Maharaj at the festival in Gadhada." With these thoughts his mind

was in turmoil. The next morning when the guard brought him breakfast, Kashidas expressed his wish to take a bath. Knowing him to be a pious man, the guards took Kashidas, his hands bound in chains, to the River Vatrak. Kashidas remembered Shriji Maharaj and plunged into the river. On coming out of the water, Kashidas saw no chains on his hands or legs. On looking around he found himself in Gadhada instead of Kheda! Maharaj had miraculously brought him from Kheda to Gadhada through the river. Kashidas ran straight to Maharaj. Shriji Maharaj told Kashidas to stay there for six months. Having heard of the miracle, considering Kashidas to be a true devotee, the creditors also pardoned him of all his debts. Once Kashidas's house was on fire. But Shriji Maharaj at the time was in Gadhada, protected him. Shriji Maharaj was sitting in front of some devotees. All of a sudden Maharaj started rubbing his hands. After some time, blisters were seen on his hands. All began to ask, "What is this?" Maharaj replied, "Kashidas's house was on fire, so I went there to extinguish it." Some time later, Shriji Maharaj started building a mandir in Vartal. He sent a few sadhus to Vadodara to collect the murtis of Lakshmi-Narayan from Amichand Seth. While the sadhus were returning with the murtis, there was heavy rain and the cart got stuck in the mud near the town of Bhalaj. People from Bochasan were called and the cart was pulled out. The murtis were then kept at the house of Kashidas. Before the murti-pratishtha ceremony in Vartal, Shriji Maharaj himself went to Bochasan to collect the murtis. Naniba, Kashidas's mother served kansar to Maharaj and requested him to consecrate the murtis in Bochasan by erecting a mandir in the village. Maharaj held Kashidas's hands and promised, "My murti will be established here along with that of my Akshardham. Thereafter, on many occasions Shriji Maharaj blessed Kashidas, "I shall erect a great mandir in Bochasan."

**Q.4 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 5)**

 **Note : No mark for incomplete answer.**

1. Whose disciple was Ladhikai? (14/42)  
A. Ladhikai was a disciple of Ramanand Swami.
2. What are the qualities of a true disciple? (10/33)  
A. The disciple must have great love for his guru, and have utmost faith and trust in his words.
3. What did Sagram's foot hit as he walked? (2/13)  
A. As Sagram walked, his foot hit a shiny silver ornament weighing about half a kilo.
4. When and where was Bhaktimata born? (Samvat, Month, Tithi) (16/52)  
A. Bhaktimata was born on Kartik sud 15, Samvat 1798, in the village of Chhpaiya.
5. What are humans obliged to unlike other animals? (1/1)  
A. Unlike other animals, humans are obliged to observe dharma, or moral principles.

**Q.5 "Prahladje Narayan sathe....." (24/87-88) - Complete the Swamini Vato and narrate it. (Total Marks: 5)**

 **Note: If Swami-ni-vato is written fully correct give 1 mark. 4 marks are for explanation. In Book Swamini Vato is written in Gujarati and is translated in English, give full marks if any of them is written by examinee.**

Swaminarayan hare Swamie vat kari je: "Prahladje Narayan sathe ghana divas yuddha karyu pan Bhagwan jitana nahi. Pachhi Bhagwane Prahladne kahyyu je, "Yuddha karine to hu jitau tevo nathi ne mane jitvano upay to e chhe je, jibhe karine maru bhajan karvu, manma maru chintvan karvu ne netrama mari murti rakhvi - e prakare nirantar mari smruti karvi," em kahyu. Pachhi evi rite Prahlade abhyas karyo tyare Bhagwan chha masma vash thai gaya. Mate Bhagwanne raji karvane arthe a upay sarvopari chhe te shikhvo."

**Prahladji fought for many days with Narayan, but God was not won over. Then God told Prahlad, 'I cannot be won over by such wars. The way to win me over is by singing my bhajans, thinking of me in your mind and cherishing my murti in your eyes. In this way, always remember me.' Then Prahlad tried this method and God was won over within six months. Thus, to please God, learn this method, which is the best."**

Different types of foes require different tools to defeat them. While one needs a sword, a shield, or a gun to defeat a warrior, these same tools are useless in defeating a scholar in a debate; to defeat a scholar, one must use one's sharp intellect. While weapons may work against warriors in battle, they do little in the battle against diseases caused by insects or viruses; these diseases can only be defeated with medicine. Similarly, worldly weapons cannot win over the supreme and all-powerful God; to win him over one needs to use a whole new type of weapon. In this sermon, Gunatitanand Swami describes this unique type of battle and shows us the tools one must use to win over God.

Ravan and Kans were highly intelligent and heroic men but did not know the way to win Rama and Krishna respectively and were ultimately defeated. On the other hand, Bali was a demon yet he pleased God because he ignored his weapons and resorted to the true way of winning against God. Gunatitanand Swami has shown this way to please God in this sermon. Swami says if we attach all our senses to God, He is won over immediately. This method is revealed to us by the ekantik sadhu. It is a difficult task but can be accomplished with constant practice.

Once, Gunatitanand Swami sent Ramdas Swami to Vanthali for some work. He instructed him, "Chant 'Swaminarayan, Swaminarayan' mentally all the way." Thus, totally engrossed in chanting the mantra, Ramdas Swami reached Vanthali. As a result, he saw the divine form of Shriji Maharaj on every indentation of the fort surrounding the village. Thus, we should learn this ultimate method to please God.

**Q.6 Complete the following. (Total Marks: 8)**



 **Note : If the Kirtan/Verses/shloks are half correct 1 mark to be given.**

1. Nath nirantar darsh tav, tav dasanko das;  
Ehi magu kari vinay Hari; sada rakhiyo pas...  
He Krupalo! He Bhaktapate! Bhaktavatsal! suno bat;  
Dayasindho! stavan kari, magu vastu sat....(7/24)
2. Yagnapurushma akhand rahine,  
Upasana shuddh pragat kari...  
Bhakti eja amaru jivan,  
Dejo rome rom bhari... (13/41)
3. Ganga papam shashi tapam dainyam kalpatarustatha;  
Papam, tapam cha dainyam cha ghnanti santo mahashayaha. (22/75)
4. **Translation:** I bow to Bhagwan Swaminarayan, the supreme incarnation who had descended on this earth with Aksharbrahman (Gunatitanand Swami), the divine abode, and the muktas (Gopalanand Swami and other liberated souls), after hearing the prayers of Brahma and other deities. (6/22)

**(SECTION-2: SHASTRIJI MAHARAJ, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, March 2012)**

**Q.7 In the sentences below, state who is speaking to whom and when. (Total Marks: 9)**

 **Note : Who is speaking 1 mark, to whom 1 mark and when 1 mark.**

1. "He is young but abundant in virtues." (55/116)  
 Shastriji Maharaj - assembly (Sadhus and devotees)  
 When the ceremonious appointment of the new president of the Sanstha took place.

2. "Not even the slightest difference exists between Jogi and me." (58/119)
  - Shastriji Maharaj - Devotees
  - When the train halted at Ahmedabad station, Swamishri addressed the devotees who had come to meet him.
3. "The force that drives you is not your own." (40/87)
  - Sadguru Balmukund Swami - Kothari Shankar Bhagat and several sadhus
  - When Balmukund Swami was passing by the construction site of Sarangpur mandir, he was pleased by the devotion with which the sadhus were serving. Then...

**Q.8 Give reasons for the following (two to three lines each). (Total Marks: 6)**

1. The Parents covered Dungar and quietly laid him in next door. (3/4-6)
  - A. Once, during a wedding in the family, Dungar fell ill. Using his divine powers, Dungar suppressed his heart beat and entered into a state of samadhi, a divine trance in which he remained blissfully engrossed in the murti of Shriji Maharaj. To his parents, Dungar appeared dead. By immediately performing the final rites of their young son, it would disturb the wedding ceremony which was already in progress. So, mourning the death of their son, they covered Dungar and quietly laid him in Dhulabhai's house next door.
2. Harilal Sheth voiced his opinion that Shastri Yagnapurushdas should be honoured first. (19/44)
  - A. On the final day of the parayan, when the four puranis were to be honoured, it was confusion who should be honoured first. Harilal voiced his opinion, "He, whose discourses have been most satisfying should be honoured first. Shastri Yagnapurushdasji's discourses have pleased everyone. So, he should be honoured first."
3. Haribhai Amin of Virsad, came to meet Swamishri in Sarangpur. (47/98)
  - A. The piece of land on which Akshar Deri was worth at least two hundred thousand rupees, but Haribhai negotiated the cost down to twenty-five thousand rupees, with condition that the Akshar Deri must remain intact on this land, the mandir that is built over the land should be finished in three years and at least one million rupees must be spent on the project. Haribhai was confident that Shastriji Maharaj was capable of such a feat. So, Haribhai Amin of Virsad, came to meet Swamishri in Sarangpur.

**Q. 9 Write short notes on any ONE of the following. (In 15 lines.) (Total Marks: 5)**

**1. A true disciple of a Guru (20/45-46)**

Yagnapurushdasji had tremendous devotion for Bhagatji Maharaj. Years ago, Bhagatji Maharaj had been excommunicated without reason and sent away from the Junagadh mandir. Yagnapurushdasji had a sole desire to welcome back his guru into this same mandir with unprecedented honour and glory. Only then would he prove a true disciple to his guru. He asked Acharya Maharaj to invite Bhagatji for the Janmashtmi celebrations in Junagadh. Acharya Maharaj heeded his request and sent a letter summoning Bhagatji to the celebrations. Yagnapurushdasji informed all of Bhagatji's disciples of their guru's imminent arrival. Yagnapurushdasji had often spoken to Jibhai about Bhagatji's greatness. So, Jibhai arranged the same magnificent welcome and the same facilities for Bhagatji as would be arranged for Acharya Maharaj. In 1866 (Samvat 1922), Bhagatji has been ordered by Acharya Bhagvatprasadji Maharaj to leave Junagadh mandir. Now at the behest of Acharya Viharilalji Maharaj, Bhagatji was being welcomed back. A carriage pulled by two horses arrived for Acharya Maharaj. The same type of horse carriage came for Bhagatji Maharaj. A cot with silk and cotton quilts were also provided for Bhagatji. Bhagatji Maharaj, along with Acharya Maharaj, was welcomed with great honour and festivity. During Bhagatji's stay, many devotees from the Gujarat region came to Junagadh. During the festival, Bhagatji spoke extensively about the Akshar-Purushottam upasana. Jaga Bhakta also gave many discourses. Bhagatji gave discourses and delighted all of the devotees who were present.

**2. In search of a Guru (6/14-16)**


Dungar no longer preferred to stay at home. He wished to renounce it and become a sadhu. Whenever he went to Vartal for the full-moon day festival, he would not return home for two or three days. He would sit individually with many of the sadhus and listen to their teachings. His trips to Vartal became more and more frequent. His relatives became concerned. Dungar was in search of an enlightened and scholarly guru. He had resolved that after finding such a guru, he would leave aside his worldly ties and become a sadhu. On 14 April 1881, the full-moon day of the month of Chaitra, Samvat 1937, a grand festival was to be celebrated in Vartal. Groups of Swaminarayan sadhus from all over the country were coming to attend. Of the many who had already arrived, the sadhus from Surat led by Sadguru Vignananand Swami, stood out from the rest. Their saintliness attracted the attention of all. Vignananand Swami had stayed with Shriji Maharaj for twelve years. He had pleased Shriji Maharaj and attained many virtues, including the virtues of dharma, gnan, vairagya and bhakti. In addition, he was a profound scholar of the shastras and a master of classical music. One after another, Dungar sat with the sadhus to get to know them. Finally, he came to Vignananand Swami. After having his darshan, Dungar sat down in front of him. While listening to his discourses, Dungar experienced peace within. He was certain that all of his spiritual goals would be fulfilled by staying with this great sadhu. He resolved there and then to make Vignananand Swami his guru. Vignananand Swami, too, perceived an extraordinary spiritual fire within Dungar. He thought to himself, "If this youngster becomes a sadhu, he is surely capable of carrying forth our lineage of spiritual knowledge." With this belief, he asked, "Son, do you want to become a sadhu?" "Yes." The intense spiritual zeal trapped in Dungar's heart escaped from his lips. At that moment, a bond of spiritual affinity formed between the guru and his new disciple. Both shared a common experience - a feeling of fulfillment. Dungar now wished more than ever to accompany Swami after the celebrations. However, afraid that his father would protest, he returned to Mahelav with his family. After a few days, Dungar quietly set out for Vartal. He had heard that today was the day that Swami would return to Surat. Dungar planned to accompany him before anyone could object. However, upon reaching Vartal, he came to know that due to an unexpected turn of events, Swami would have to leave a day late. That one day of waiting in Vartal spoiled Dungar's plans. Noticing Dungar's disappearance, his father immediately came to Vartal and took him home.

**Q.10 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 5)**

 **Note : No mark for incomplete answer.**


1. Where did the devotees plead to Swamishri not to go? (28/62)  
A. The devotees pleaded to Swamishri not to go to the kitchen to eat.
2. When did Adbhutanand Swami pass away? (Samvat, Month, Tithi) (9/23)  
A. On Kartik sud 5, Samvat 1939, Adbhutanand Swami passed away.
3. How was Ranchhodbhai's ignorance removed? (44/95)  
A. When Ranchhodbhai had darshan of the Ganga in the form of a cow, his ignorance was removed.
4. What did the Kothari say on hearing about Vadhwan? (25/57)  
A. On hearing about Vadhwan, the Kothari spoke, "Whatever Shriji does, is meant to be."
5. What did Jaga Bhakta promise to Swamishri? (21/47)  
A. Jaga Bhakta promised Swamishri, "I will call you for my final seva before I return to Akshardham."

**Q.11** From the given options, place a tick (✓) in the box next to the correct ones.  
(Total Marks: 6)

 **Note:** One or more of the options may be correct. Full marks will be awarded only if all the correct options are chosen, otherwise no marks will be awarded.

1. 3, 4 (11/29-30)      2. 2, 3 (23/51-54)      3. 1 (35/78-79)

**Q.12** Rewrite the incorrect sentences below in relation to the sentence heading.  
(Total Marks: 6)

 **Note:** Marks will be awarded only if a sentence is written completely correct. Otherwise no marks will be awarded.

1. **Inspiration from Sadhus:** However, the financial condition of Sarangpur mandir had improved considerably. The mandir's renovations were progressing rapidly. Therefore, no one heeded these false complaints. (22/50)
2. **Steadfast faith:** After travelling through the villages of Gujarat, Swamishri arrived in Sarangpur. Even after the murti pratishtha, the work of the mandir was continued. (41/90)
3. **Renunciation:** Dungar had guessed that Vignananand Swami would surely accompany Viharilalji Maharaj. He was right. (8/21)
4. **Bhagatji: The Param Ekantik Satpurush:** Purani Raghuvircharandasji accommodated Yagnapurushdasji and Keshavprasaddas in the Mahuva mandir. (14/33)
5. **Divine Samadhi:** Soon thereafter, three balls of light containing the images of Shriji Maharaj, Gunatitanand Swami and Gopalanand Swami were seen disappearing into the sky. (46/97)
6. **A Fourth Shikharbaddha Mandir:** Pleased by Bhailalbhai's affection, Swamishri arrived in Vidyanagar. Bhailalbhai explained his project in detail. (51/109)

 **THE END** 