

**Bochasanwasi Shri Aksharpurushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha  
Satsang Shikshan Pariksha**

**SATSANG PRAVESH-PAPER-2**

Time : 2.00 to 4.15 p.m.

Total Marks : 75

Sunday, 5 March, 2017

**Note :** 1. Answer of the prescribed edition only will be accepted. Any other answer from different edition 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. "I offer these in the service of Gopinathji!" (15/44)  
👈 Bhattji (Dubli Bhatt) - Shriji Maharaj  
👈 Funds were being collected for the Gadhadra mandir. Dubli Bhatt came in the assembly, prostrated at the feet of Maharaj, untied the knots of his turban and offered Shriji Maharaj thirteen paisa, and said...
2. "I can stay alive with the black lentils for now." (1/13)  
👈 Ushasti Rishi - Mahavat  
👈 Once, Ushasti Rishi did not get food for many days. He was about to die. On his last breath he went to a mahavat, who was eating putrefied black lentils, and asked for some food. Thereafter, the mahavat offered him water. Then..
3. "I wanted to perform puja of all the muktas there." (3/17)  
👈 Shitaldas - Assembly  
👈 Shriji Maharaj asked Shitaldas to chant the 'Swaminarayan' mantra and by Shriji Maharaj's grace, he went into samadhi and experienced the divine bliss of God. When Shitaldas came out of samadhi, he narrated his divine experience to the assembly.

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

1. Bali puja is performed on Kartik sud 1. (16/49)
  - A. King Bali surrendered everything to God on this day. Pleased with his total surrender, God asked everybody to perform Bali puja on Kartik sud 1 every year.
2. Purnanand Swami walked away. (23/79)
  - A. Purnanand Swami could not walk fast with the group, so when he reached, the assembly was packed and he did not get a proper seat. seeing him standing aloof, omniscient Maharaj said, "Has anybody seen ego personified? This Bapu, who is the ruler of the state and truly deserves respect, is standing there in a **corner humbly** holding the barber's bag under his armpit. Whereas this sadhu, who should live **humbly**, expects to be honoured." **Feeling insulted**, Purnanand Swami immediately left the assembly and walked away.
3. Relatives of Kashidas also joined the satsang. (12/39)
  - A. Kashidas constantly rejoiced in having attained manifest God. He wished that his relatives would also develop faith in Shriji Maharaj so that they too would attain ultimate redemption. So Kashidas took Maharaj from village to village, to the homes of all his relatives. As a result, his relatives also joined the satsang.

**Q.3 Write short notes on 'Suicide, prohibition of meat eating' (1/7-8) (In 15 lines). (Total Marks:5)**

**Suicide:** Formerly people hoping to attain heaven used to commit suicide in places of pilgrimage. But suicide is **a form of himsa** and should not be committed. Even when one has **committed any unbecoming act** one should not, in a fit of **anger** or in repentance thereof, ever commit suicide by means of poison, strangulation, a headlong plunge into a well, by throwing oneself from atop a high place or any other method. No one should **mutilate** with a weapon **any part of his body** or that of others in a fit of anger (14, 16). The Vedas proclaim, "Of all things the atma should be protected." **Liberation can be obtained only in the human form.** The human body is awarded to offer devotion to God and is attained after a lapse of thirty five millions prakrut pralays. Therefore, taking into **consideration the importance and rarity of this human body**, one should never commit suicide.

**Prohibition of meat eating:** One has to kill animals to eat meat. **Killing is a grave sin.** Shriji Maharaj **has recommended** performance of only **non-violent yagnas**. So, one should never eat flesh, even if it is the remnants of offerings in a sacrifice, even in circumstances of great difficulty. **One should not eat or drink the offerings made to a deity** to whom flesh and wine are offered. Even unclean food grains and unsieved flour should not be used, as they are likely to contain small insects which may be killed. So, this should also be avoided. No one should bathe with dirty water which breeds insects (15, 22, 30). The Mahabharat declares, "**A man who does not take wine and meat is as good as a man who performs the Ashwamedh Yagna every month.**"

**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. Whom did the four brothers together decide to worship? (8/27)
  - A. The four brothers together decided to worship the ocean.
2. The king of which state had summoned Sagram to his court? (2/16)
  - A. The king of Bhavnagar state had summoned Sagram to his court.
3. Who went to see the young woman from Machhiav in Udaipur? (17/63)
  - A. A Brahmin from machhiav, named Mulji went to see the youngwoman from Machhiav in Udaipur.
4. Where did Bhai Atmanand Swami stay after Maharaj returned to Akshardham? (11/36)
  - A. After Maharaj returned to Akshardham, Bhai Atmanand Swami stayed at Vagad.

5. In whose murti did Ladhilbai see Shriji Maharaj? (14/42)

A. Ladhilbai saw Shriji Maharaj in the murti of Raghunathji.

**Q.5** “Ek jane lakh rupiyani....” (24/80-82) - **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: “Ek jane lakh rupiyani buddhi lidhi. Temaj mokshani buddhi pan anek prakarni mota thaki shikhay chhe.” (1.127)

“A person bought wisdom for 100,000 rupees. Similarly, wisdom of the many ways for moksha can be learnt from the Godrealised Sadhu.”

A prince and a minister's son were close friends. On their way to another village they stayed a night in jungle. When they awoke the next morning both were very hungry. The prince told his friend to get some food from the nearby town. The minister's son went to the town but found the gates of the town were closed. It had so happened that the town's king had died childless. To choose their next king, the townspeople had decided that the first person to enter the town in the morning would be the new king. When the gates were opened that morning, the minister's son was the first to enter and so he was proclaimed king. Meanwhile, the prince grew tired of waiting for his friend to return with food. So he set out in search of his friend. Soon, the prince too reached the town. As he entered, he noticed a shop sign which read, “For sale - Intellect”. Out of curiosity, the prince entered into the shop and asked the price for the intellect. The shop owner replied, “It ranges from one rupee to one lakh rupees.” The prince then gave a jewelled ring valued at one lakh rupees and asked for wisdom. “One should bow to one's junior in case he is raised to a position of power.” The shop owner wrote this on a piece of paper and handed it over to the prince. The prince read the note and left. When he had walked a short distance he noticed that the town king's procession was coming towards him and so he stood to one side. When the procession came near, the prince saw that the king sitting on the elephant was his friend, the minister's son. At first he felt angry at him, just then the prince remembered the words on the note. Immediately he bowed down and paid salutations to the new king. The minister's son noted that his friend was bowing to him. On returning to the royal palace he summoned the court and asked the assembly, “Now that I am the king I can do as I please.” So he called for his friend, the prince, and handed over the royal throne to him. This prince bought advice for a lakh rupees and by acting according to the advice he benefited by becoming the king of a new town. Similarly, we receive wisdom from the holy sadhu and when we act according to that wisdom, we attain salvation. If we associate with the holy sadhu and receive such wisdom, then just as the prince attained a new kingdom, we shall attain Akshardham.


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

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

1. Sahjanand Maharajke, sab satsangi sujan; Taku hoy dradh vartano, shikshapatri praman. So patri me atibade niyam ekadash joy; Taki vigti kahat hu, suniyo sab chitt proy....(7/24)
2. Bal charitra kari ape van vicharya, Tirthomahi fari jivo pavan karya, Nilkanth nam dharavta ho. (25/89)
3. Ayam nijah paro vetti ganana laghuchetasam; udaracharitanam tu vasudhaiva kutumbakam. (22/75)
4. **Translation:** I bow to Bhagwan Swaminarayan, who speedily built beautiful, divine mandirs on this earth so that people can easily offer devotion to the Lord of all Creation - Paramatma Purushottam Narayan. (6/23)

(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. "Perhaps we may be able to reach a compromise with Vartal. So let us not build a mandir yet." (31/69)  
➤ Swamishri - Devotees  
➤ Eight hundred devotees attended the celebration of Fagan Punam festival of Samvat 1962. They requested Swamishri that a new mandir be built. Then...
2. "Do not come back here to become a sadhu!" (7/17)  
➤ Acharya Viharilalji Maharaj - Dungar  
➤ Dungar's father Dhoribhai complained Acharya Viharilalji Maharaj, "Your sadhu is spoiling my child." Then Acharya Viharilalji Maharaj scolded Dungar and said.
3. "Therefore go back to Vartal, apologize to and appease the sadhus in front of the general assembly." (13/33)  
➤ Bhagatji Maharaj - Yagnapurushdasji and Bhaktijivandas  
➤ Many envious sadhus complained to Bhagatji Maharaj, "These sadhus of yours are out of control." Bhagatji replied, "I will speak to them." The following day, when Bhagatji left for Nadiad, Yagnapurushdasji and Bhaktijivandasji walked with him. Then..

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

1. Gordhanbhai relieved Swamishri of his duties in Sarangpur. (24/55)  
A. Gordhanbhai was impressed by Swamishri's abilities when he saw the improved condition of mandir, guesthouse and haveli in Sarangpur. However, he reasoned that if he appeased the sadhus, they would harass Swamishri less. So, he relieved Swamishri of his duties in Sarangpur.
2. Yogi Swami stopped singing the kirtan about the 68 places of pilgrimage. (44/94-95)  
A. One morning, Yogi Swami sang famous kirtan, "Pran thaki mune Vaishnav vahala.." When he continued singing, 'Adsath tirath..', Ranchhod patel was annoyed and said, "Maharaj! Do not sing such a silly bhajan. In this Kaliyug, such a sadhu does not exist. Do not sing such nonsense." So, Yogiji Maharaj stopped singing that kirtan.
3. Hirabhai decided to teach a lesson to the parshads. (33/71)  
A. Those who opposed Swamishri, sent three armed parshads on a camel to kill Swamishri. Swamishri had already left Bochasan early in the morning, so there was no reason to worry. Still, Hirabhai decided to teach the parshads a lesson. He detained them. As he swung his stick at the parshads, he accidentally struck the camel. Startled by the blow, the camel started to run. Terrified, the parshads fled with their camel.

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

**1. A fourth shikharbaddh mandir (51/107-110)**

Swamishri returned to **Atladra** to perform the murti-pratishtha. The auspicious day of **12 July 1945** (Ashadh sud 3, Samvat 2001) had been decided for the consecration ceremony. Two days before the pratishtha was to take place heavy rains began. How could the murtipratishtha be done in such rain? Worried everyone approached Swamishri and prayed. Smiling, Swamishri said, "This is **Maharaj's work**. So, when the time comes, the rain will stop. Do not worry." The following day, **it stopped raining**. The remaining work was completed on time. The next day, a magnificent yagna took place. Brahmins chanted mantras according to Vedic tradition. Swamishri ceremoniously consecrated the murtis Of Shriji Maharaj, Gunatitanand Swami and Gopalanand Swami. Swamishri exclaimed, "This Atladra mandir will beome **the greatest of mandirs**. At present, it is far from Vadodara. But, one day it will be near Vadodara. Atladra will become a **suburb of Vadodara**." Today these words have proven true. When Swamishri came to Anand, Shri **Bhailalbhai Patel**, a bold and highly respected public worker, **invited Swamishri** to

**Vidyanagar.** Bhailalbai had **made extensive plans to transform** Vidyanagar. If Swamishri blessed his plans and **sanctified the land**, Bhailalbai was confident that this **undeveloped land would** one day **sprout into a magnificent educational centre**. Bhailalbai knew Swamishri from a very young age and was **well aware of Swamishri's greatness**. Pleased by Bhailalbai's affection, Swamishri arrived in Vidyanagar. Bhailalbai explained his project in detail. Swamishri toured the land, showering flower petals to sanctify the land. He blessed Bhailalbai, "**Your wish shall be fulfilled**. Here a great centre for learning will develop. Thousands of students will benefit from education." Bhailalbai was extremely pleased by Swamishri's blessings. The devotees in Karachi insisted that Swamishri visit them. Swamishri accompanied by many sadhus and devotees, **arrived in Karachi. A parayan on the Satsangjivan** scripture took place. Once again, Swamishri spoke extensively. During his stay, Swamishri regularly visited the old Maninagar Swaminarayan mandir for darshan. On the final day of the parayan, he addressed a vast assembly of devotees, "**A time of disaster soon approaches this land. All of you, must leave your possessions, and return to your native place in our country.**" A few months later, Karachi was overwhelmed by political turmoil. Swamishri's words proved true.

**2. Nirgundas Swami passes away (56/117)**

**Nirgundas Swami** developed a severe illness. He was **brought to Mumbai for treatment**. When Swamishri came to Mumbai, he also **fell ill**. Even when ill, Swamishri would give spiritual discourses. He would discuss matters relating to Satsang history, thereby pleasing the devotees. The devotees in Mumbai also pleased him with their tremendous physical, mental and financial seva. Several skilled physicians treated Nirgun Swami. However, his health **continued to deteriorate**. Swamishri encouraged him to obtain more medical treatment in the village of Pen. Nirgundas Swami had spent his entire life extolling the greatness of Swamishri and the Akshar-Purushottam upasana. He was valiant in nature. Yet, he himself had never wished to be the centre of praise or worship. He had helped many devotees, always siding with them in their times of need. He had laughed with them during joyous times and grieved with them in times of difficulty. In serving the Satsang community, Nirgundas Swami had far exceeded his limitations. **Satsang in Africa** had **flourished** because of his tireless efforts, writing countless **letters** to devotees. Now everyone prayed for his quick recovery. However, by the wish of Shriji Maharaj, on 30 May 1950 (**Jeth sud 14, Samvat 2006**), **Nirgundas Swami** as he uttered the Swaminarayan mantra, **departed for Akshardham**. The devotees mourned the loss of such a valiant sadhu, one who was as dear to Swamishri as his own body. Swamishri consoled everyone.


**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. What did Hirabhai refuse to those who offered him a bribe? (34/74)
  - A. Hirabhai declined to betray Swamishri by accepting a bribe to oppose him.
2. What did Jaga Bhakta promise Swamishri about establishing upasana? (22/49)
  - A. About establishing upasana, Jaga Bhakta promised Swamishri, 'If you do not aspire to do so, then you are at fault and if you do aspire and we fail to fulfil your wish, then we are at fault.'
3. Why did Gangaram Mehta become extremely fond of Dungar? (5/9)
  - A. Dungar's sharp memory and powerful intellect helped him learn all his lessons immediately and excel in schoolwork, so Gangaram Mehta became extremely fond of him.
4. For what purpose did Swamishri command Yogi Swami to do malas? (46/98)
  - A. Swamishri asked Yogi Swami to do mala so that our country gains independence through Gandhiji's efforts.

5. During Vignananand Swami's last moments what did Yagnapurushdasji say to him? (11/29-30)  
A. In his last moments, Yagnapurushdasji informed Vignananand Swami, "Shriji Maharaj has been here since four o'clock in the morning and wishes to take you 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. 1, 2 (1/1)    2. 3, 4 (16/39)    3. 1, 4 (25/57)

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

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

1. **Akshar Mandir:** Swamishri then went to Jhulasan to attend a parayan. Maganbhai had come from Uganda for Swamishri's darshan. He had decided not to return to Uganda. (47/101)  
A. **Akshar Mandir:** Swamishri then went to Rajpur to attend a parayan. Harmanbhai had come from Africa for Swamishri's darshan. He had decided not to return to East Africa. (47/101)
2. **The Meeting of Ganga and Ocean:** From Gondal, Swamishri returned to Gadhada. The sadhus here requested that he build a sant-nivas. Swamishri agreed to do so. The house of Jiva Khachar was purchased. (37/81)  
A. **The Meeting of Ganga and Ocean:** From Rajkot, Swamishri returned to Sarangpur. The devotees here requested that he build a mandir. Swamishri agreed to do so. The house of Pitha Khachar was purchased. (37/81)
3. **The last moments:** A Guru with such qualities can be said to be a form of God. He can be understood as equivalent to Swami. Therefore, everyone must remain within the restrictions established by Gunatitanand Swami and obey his instructions. (58/120)  
A. **The last moments:** A Sadhu with such qualities can be said to be a form of God. He can be understood as equivalent to God. Therefore, everyone must remain within the restrictions established by Shriji Maharaj and obey his commands. (58/120)
4. **The Hail of Akshar-Purushottam Jai in Vartal:** The Maha Pancham festival would soon be celebrated in Vadodara. Kothari was ill and would be unable to attend the celebrations. (26/58)  
A. **The Hail of Akshar-Purushottam Jai in Vartal:** The Chaitra Punam festival would soon be celebrated in Vartal. Swamishri was ill and would be unable to attend the celebrations. (26/58)
5. **A Command to Liberate Jivas:** Sevak reached Mahauva and met Pragji Bhakta. Pragji Bhakta's inspiring spiritual discourses relieved Swamishri of his sorrow. (21/47)  
A. **A Command to Liberate Jivas:** Shastriji Maharaj reached Junagadh and met Jaga Bhakta. Jaga Bhakta's soothing spiritual discourses relieved Swamishri of his sorrow. (21/47)
6. **A nail on the head of Sheshnag:** Yogiji Maharaj now needed some land to build a parting wall for the mandir. However, because the main road passed through that strip of land, the sarpanch of the village refused to cooperate. Still, Yogiji Maharaj wanted the land. (35/78)  
A. **A nail on the head of Sheshnag:** Swamishri now needed some land to build an entrance gate for the mandir. However, because the village road passed through that strip of land, the people of the village refused to cooperate. Still, Swamishri wanted the land. (35/78)