Only for absent examinees: Cut only this front page with the 'bar code' from the answer book and return with form A and form B.

A few of the questions in this Pre-Test Paper will be asked in the Final Examination to be held on Sunday, 5 March 2017. Use the latest editions of the exam books.

BOCHASANWASI SHRI AKSHAR PURUSHOTTAM SWAMINARAYAN SANSTHA

SATSANG EXAMINATIONS

PRE-TEST: SATSANG PARICHAY : PAPER - 1

JANUARY 2017 **Time: 9.00 to 11.15 a.m.** **Total Marks: 75**

स्वामिनारायण
BAPS

For absent examinees, please return this sheet only.

☞ **Please do not damage in any way the 'bar code' printed above.**

For Moderation Dept.	Question No. (Marks)	Marks Obtained
	1 (9)	
	2 (6)	
	3 (5)	
	4 (5)	
	5 (4)	
	6 (4)	
	Section-1, Total Marks (33)	

☞ **Compulsory: To be filled by Examinee only** ☜

Answer books without the signature of the Class Supervisor will not be considered valid.

Birthdate of Examinee D D M M Y Y Y Y

Education of Examinee .....

Class Supervisor should only sign after checking the printed personal details and the compulsory written details above.

Signature of Class Supervisor .....

For Moderation Dept.	Question No. (Marks)	Marks Obtained
	7 (9)	
	8 (4)	
	9 (5)	
	10 (4)	
	11 (6)	
	12 (4)	
	Section-2, Total Marks (32)	

☞ **Please follow the instructions written on the back side.**

Paper Checker's Signature .....

Paper Checker's Note:

For Moderation Dept.	Question No. (Marks)	Marks Obtained
	Section-3, Total Marks	
	13 (10)	

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☞ Important Instructions For Satsang Exam Students ☜

1. Students can appear for the Satsang Exams from Prarambh to Pragna - 3 after passing each exam.
2. Satsang exam is only valid for use by the candidate identified on the top sheet, and only at the designated center, in the specified medium (Gujarati, Hindi, English) and for the exam level (e.g. Prarambha, Pravesh, Parichay, etc.) indicated. **Any difference will not be allowed and considered as disqualify.**
3. The medium (Gujarati, English, Hindi) and the exam level in which candidates take **the Pre-Test** will be the medium in which they must take the Final Exam. Answer books bearing details of candidates different from the Final List **will not be accepted for marking.**
4. On the day of the Final Satsang Examinations, all examinees should obtain the signature of the class supervisor on the top sheet of answer book bearing their own personal details only. Answer books without the signature of the Class Supervisor will **not** be accepted for marking**.**
5. Write your answers with either a blue or black pen only. Answers written in pencil, or with a red, green or any other coloured pen will **not be considered valid.** Answers written in more than one coloured ink will not be considered valid.
6. Follow the instructions while answering. Answers crossed out will not be considered valid. Answers will not be considered valid if they are not written in legible handwriting. Please write clearly and legibly. **Answer papers with more than one type of handwriting will not be accepted and considered as disqualify.**
7. Examinations taken at **unauthorized locations** or in which the exam rules have been violated will not be considered valid.
8. Without the prior permission of the Satsang Exam Division in India, answer papers written by substitute writers in place of the original candidate will **not be accepted for marking.**
9. Candidates who wish to change the center at which they will sit the Final Exam **must inform and take prior permission** of the Satsang Exam Division in India. Otherwise there answer sheet **not be accepted for marking**.
10. Candidates who have registered for both papers of Satsang Pragna Exam and candidates sitting the Satsang Pravesh, Parichay and Pravin exams should give both papers. **Presence in only one paper will not be accepted for marking**.
11. **In the Final Examination answers written on extra pages will not be accepted for marking.**
12. Candidates will not be allowed to keep any electronic items, such as, mobile phones, tablets, laptops, etc. in the examination room.
13. **Before filling the Application Form for the Pragna Exam, Please note the following points:**

- Students according to their choice can appear for both the Question Papers in the same year or appear for the 1st paper in the first and the 2nd paper in the following year for any of the Pragna Exams. **One can only appear for the 2nd Paper after passing the 1st Paper.** Candidates opting to sit only one of the two papers for any of the Pragna examinations must score 45 Marks to pass.
- Student should make his/her choice while registration. Pragna candidate can choice first paper or Both papers. **Select the first paper if the student wishes to appear for the first paper and if he/she wishes to appear for both papers select both papers.** Candidates who have registered for both papers of Satsang Pragna Exam should give both papers. **Presence in only one paper will considered as disqualify.** Candidates who appear for both papers in the same year must score a combined minimum of 90 Marks to pass.
- After passing the 1st paper, one can **postpone** appearing for the 2nd paper for a **maximum of 1 Year.**
- If two students are eligible for a prize then the one who has appeared for **both exams together** will be **rewarded with 10% marks** and thus become a candidate for the prize.
- **Note : Now all students who have passed the India Pravin Exams can appear for the Pragna - 1 Exam.**

14. **No valid registration!!! No result.**

SECTION 1: SAHAJANAND CHARITRA - 6th Edition, January 2013

Q.1. In the sentences below, state who is speaking to whom and when. [9]

1. "It gives light to the holy and the unholy alike."

   Who is speaking? ..... To whom? .....

   When? .....

   .....

   .....

2. "That's our destiny. We must suffer it."
3. "We will extend all possible help in the construction work."

Q.2. Give reasons for the following. (two to three lines each). [6]

1. The boy started crying when the barber finished Shriji Maharaj's shaving.

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2. Ghosts haunted the banyan tree in Piplana went to Badrikashram.
3. Bhagwan Maharudra decided to send the famine.

Q.3. Write short notes on any <u>ONE</u> of the following. (In 15 lines.) [5]

1. Imbibe virtues.
2. Succour to the poor.
3. Sahajanand, the just.

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Q.4. Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. [5]

1. What did the Brahmins of Umreth think when they saw Maharaj?

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2. Why were paramhansas not prepared to take cooked food as alms?
3. Why did Shriji Maharaj decide to appoint Mahants for each mandir?
4. What did Suvasini Bhabhi feel when she saw Maharaj?
5. What did Shriji Maharaj say while showing the tilak on Gunatitanand Swami's forehead?

Q.5. From the given options, place a tick (✔) in the box next to the correct ones. [4]

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. "Mitha vahala kem visaru..."
   - (1) ☐ Walked more than sixty miles in a day.
   - (2) ☐ Would give the rest of thal to Swami.
   - (3) ☐ Muktanand Swami consoled all.
   - (4) ☐ Reached Gadhada on Jeth sud 10.
2. Bhimbhai's prayer in Kalvani
   - (1) ☐ 'When a new king is crowned, he puts the bad people into jail.'
   - (2) ☐ 'Very recently you too were coronated.'
   - (3) ☐ 'Release those jivas from hell.'
   - (4) ☐ 'Why should the jivas in hell remain as prisioners?'

Q.6. Fill in the blanks. [4]

1. Near the mandir of ..... , Shriji Maharaj gave a handful of ..... to all the members of the group.
2. In ..... Mr. Anderson asked ..... Swami to look after Shriji Maharaj.
3. In ..... Shriji Maharaj called the ..... as dumb as doves.
4. In ..... Shriji Maharaj gave darshan in ..... forms.

SECTION 2: SATSANG READER II - 4th Edition, April 2011

Q.7. In the sentences below, state who is speaking to whom and when. [9]

1. "Learn and practise the wisdom of this Vachanamrut."

   Who is speaking? ..... To whom? .....

   When? .....

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   .....
2. "After attaining this knowledge return to this region and meet me."
3. "I got up halfway."

Q.8. Give reasons for the following (two to three lines each). [4]

1. Ada started telling his followers to go to Bochasan.

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2. Gunatitanand Swami put his pattar in the gold plate and ate his food.

Q. 9. Write short notes on 'Nityanand Swami's unshakable faith in the supremacy of Maharaj' **(in 15 lines).** **[5]**

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Q.10. Answer <u>ALL</u> of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. **[4]**

1. How did Shriji Maharaj appreciate Premanand Swami?

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2. What did Bhaktimata reply when the women requested her to dwell among them?
3. Which mandir did Nityanand Swami contribute to significantly in constructing?
4. To whom did Shriji Maharaj solemnize the marriage of Dada Khachar?

Q.11 Select the <u>SIX</u> correct sentences from below and write them in the correct story sequence in the boxes. **[6]**

Topic: Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj's atmanishtha

1. Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj ate salty dudhpak. **2**. Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj had gone to a village called Ashlali near Jetalpur. **3.** The sadhus lovingly served dudhpak to Acharya Maharaj. **4.** To Acharya Maharaj both salt and sugar were alike. **5.** He pleased the sadhus and devotees under his care. **6.** He said, "One should not care for taste in God's prasad." **7.** While performing mansi puja, a scorpion stung him but he was not disturbed. **8.** Acharya Maharaj was forgiving by nature. **9.** Acharya Maharaj said, "If the evil cannot give up its nature, why should the good give up their goodness." **10.** His brotherhood had made him loved by all the sadhus and devotees. **11.** Instead of sugar, salt had been added to the dudhpak. **12.** When the sadhus sat to eat they discovered that dudhpak was salty.

(1)	**Write the correct sentence numbers**						
(2)	**Correct sequence of sentence**						

Note: (1) 3 marks will be awarded for the correct line numbers only if all the six sentence numbers are correct and (2) 3 marks will be awarded only if all the sequence of sentence numbers is correct. Otherwise no marks will be given.

Q.12. Rewrite the incorrect sentences below in relation to the sentence heading. [4]

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

Example: **Sadguru Nityanand Swami:** On Maha vad 9, V.S. 1902, in the presence of Acharya Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj, Gunatitanand Swami, Paramchaitanyanand Swami, Kripanand Swami and other sadhus, he passed away at Ahmedabad.

Ans. **Sadguru Nityanand Swami:** On **Magshar sud 8, V.S. 1903,** in the presence of **Acharya Raghuvirji Maharaj, Gopalanand Swami, Shuk Muni, Shunyatitanandji** and other sadhus, he passed away at **Vartal.**

1. **Bhaktaraj Dada Khachar:** Once, while returning after taking bath in river Falgu in Sarangpur, Maharaj saw some munis camping in the open air on a hillock. By looking at this, Maharaj said, "It will be good if we build a Pathshala for this munis."

A. .....

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2. **Acharya Ayodhyaprasadji Maharaj:** Shriji Maharaj founded a pure ashram by establishing mandirs and by initiating efficient devotees. But the problem of place for mandirs was a trying one.
3. **Sadguru Nityanand Swami:** There is a village called Chhapaiya near Delhi. A Baniya called Ram Sharma lived there. His wife's name was Vanitadevi. This pious couple led a pure life and worshipped God.
4. **Premsakhi Premanand Swami:** After some days a black smith passing by suddenly saw the girl lying in the root of the tree. His joy knew no bounds on seeing the girl.

SECTION 3: ESSAY

Q.13. Write an essay on any ONE of the following. (In approximately 30 lines.) [10]

1. Solution of problems: Pramukh Swami Maharaj.
   (Swaminarayan Prakash (Gujarati) December 2015, pp. 22 to 25)
2. Tributes paid by Prime Minister Shri Narendrabhai Modi.
   (Swaminarayan Prakash (Gujarati) September-October 2016, pp. 69 to 75)
3. Divine experiences of the living and non-living body of Pramukh Swami Maharaj.
   (Swaminarayan Prakash (Gujarati) September-October 2016, pp. 91 to 93, 89)

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☞ **Matter of above three essays are shown in the following pages**

(One essay from the list of essays will be asked in the Final Examination of March-2017.)

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☞ **Important Note: Past Papers and their solutions can be downloaded and printed free from the BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha's website - link : http://www.baps.org/Satsang-Exams.aspx**

Parichay

<u>Essay 1:</u> Solution of problems: Pramukh Swami Maharaj.

I. Section 1:

A. Delhi Akshardham was made in just 5 years. It is a visible representation of Akshardham itself on this earth given to us by Pramukh Swami Maharaj himself. No one was as involved as Pramukh Swami Maharaj in the process of making Akshardham.

B. There were many problems that were un-thought of, but because of Pramukh Swami Maharaj's blessings, the solution always became obvious. Anytime there were any issues,Swamishri remained calm and composed.

II. Section 2:

A. Famous Indian architect, Shri B.V. Doshi came to look at Delhi Akshardham when it was still being constructed and he was very impressed. Santos told him to give some advice on the construction as he had designed the marketplaces of Venice and downtown of Austria. He replied that, "When a plant grows it grows naturally by itself, but looking at Akshardham it is obvious that this is the result of divine interaction. Do not ask any professional architect for advice because anything that they could recommend would only decrease the beauty of the structure."

B. Bachubhai Sompura, architect of Houston and Chicago Swaminarayan mandirs, was crying and said "We try to make the marble carvings look just like the design but it never happens. This Pramukh Swami Maharaj was able to translate the exact design into the carvings. Because of this Pramukh Swami Maharaj is like God for me. If a normal person tried to do this, it would not be completed in 4 generations and Pramukh Swami Maharaj has finished it in 4 years."

C. Furthermore, Brahmavihari Swami said "Any respected architect that comes here thinks that this structure (Akshardham) and only be the result of the divine blessing of a Satpurush."

III. Section 3:

A. Everyone was worried about how large of a portion of land it would require. Ishwarcharan Swami and Rithesh Ghadia surveyed the major structures of Dehli to see approximately how many people would come to Delhi Akshardham. Swamishri was sitting at Nitinbhai Ghadia's house discussing how many people would come to Akshardham. Swamishri said "This is a product of Yogiji Maharaj's wishes, so many people will come that you will be tired of counting."

B. On the opening day of Akshardham, all the devotees thought that Pramukh Swami Maharaj would inaugurate it because it was created as a result of his guidance.Instead, Swamishri said that Akshardham would be inaugurated by the President, Prime Minister, and the leader of the opposing party. The inauguration occurred on November 6, 2005.

C. President Kalam expressed his awe at the creation of Akshardham, saying that "Such a structure could not be made even with the help of hundreds of thousands of people in 5 years, and that it had to be the work of Swaminarayan Bhagwan residing and working through the atma of Pramukh Swami Maharaj." Swamishri replied that it is Bhagwan who works through all people.
D. Heart Surgeon Dr. Subramanium asked Swamishri, "What is your next project after Akshardham?" Swamishri replied, "It is to spread satsang, prayer, and peace throughout the world."
E. We will never have enough gratitude to thank Swamishri for giving us Akshardham on earth.

Essay 2: Tributes paid by Prime Minister Shri Narendrabhai Modi.

Bliss Article: "Homage by Prime Minister Narendrabhai Modi"

I. Summary:

A. Prime Minister Narendra Modi came to pay his last respects to Pramukh Swami Maharaj on Independence Day, August 15, 2016. He spoke about what Pramukh Swami Maharaj meant to him, and how great he was. While he was there, he did not take any refreshments as respect for Pramukh Swami Maharaj's passing. The article covers his tribute to Swamishri.

II. Bliss Article:

A. Please refer to the Bliss Article (September-October 2016) for more information. It can be found on **pages 46-49**.
B. This article will be available soon at the following link: http://www.baps.org/Publications/Magazines/Swaminarayan-Bliss-38.aspx

Essay 3: Divine experiences of the living and non-living body of Pramukh Swami Maharaj.

Bliss Article: "Doctors Experience Swamishri's Dvinity"

I. Summary:

A. Swamishri's state of being above the body and acting as the soul has amazed many prestigious physicians who were awed by their divine experiences. These experiences are something that cannot be explained through science. Pramukh Swami never cared for the physical hardships on his body. He selflessly devoted his life to the devotees and sanstha. His state of living as the soul rather than body has been experienced by many people who have come in his contact. Some of the many experiences by physicians have been described in the Bliss article referenced below.

II. Bliss Article:

A. Please refer to the Bliss Article (September-October 2016) for more information. It can be found on **pages 61-63**.
B. This article will be available soon at the following link: http://www.baps.org/Publications/Magazines/Swaminarayan-Bliss-38.aspx