

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

SATSANG PRARAMBHA

Time : 9.00 to 12.00 p.m.

Total Marks : 100

Sunday, 3 March, 2019

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 brackets on the right side of the question heading indicate lesson number & page number.

👉 Important Note 👈

In the question paper the marks of the each sub-question should be written in the box (

mark : 1	
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) 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, brief answer in five sentence, reasons 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: GHANSHYAM CHARITRA, 7th Edition, June - 2015)

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. "You are God. I am your humble servant." (25/45)

❏ The king - Ghanshyam

❏ The king climbed up the tree but due to Ghanshyam's divine powers, the pipal tree shook vigorously. The king fell to his knees and pleaded while saying this.

2. "We insulted you and your father. Please forgive us." (29/53)

❏ Bawas - Ghanshyam

❏ To teach a lesson to Bawa, Ghanshyam willed that a real tiger spring up from the tiger skin. The Bawas asked for forgiveness to Ghanshyam and said this.

3. "Take us away, if you like." (47/87)

❏ Rampratapbhai and Suvasinibhabhi - The God

❏ Ghanshyam left home and after searching all the places, no one could find Ghanshyam. At that time, they both said this to the God.

Q.2 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 4)

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

1. Who will scold Ghanshyam for being late to home? (28/49)

A. Elder brother will scold Ghanshyam for being late for home.

2. Whom did Dharmadev ask to foretell the future of his son? (4/6)

A. Dharmadev asked Sage Markandey to foretell the future of his son.


3. By the looking of Ghanshyam, who began to burn in the mango garden?(11/16)

A. By the looking of Ghanshyam, Kalidatt began to burn in the mango garden.

4. Which river is there on the way to Ayodhya? (34/62)

A. On the way to Ayodhya was the river Saryu.

Q.3 Rewrite the incorrect words shown below in relation to the sentence heading. (Total Marks: 4)

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

1. **Ghanshyam leaves home:** When Dharmadev heard this, he thought, "Rampratapbhai should be told off. If people started talking about him daily, our reputation in the city will risen." (45/81)

A. **Ghanshyam leaves home:** When Rampratapbhai heard this, he thought, "Ghanshyam should be told off. If people started complaining about him daily, our reputation in the town will suffer."

2. **Ramdatt is taught a lesson:** Rampratapbhai lifted the drinking jug that was hanging on a rope from the Brahmin's shoulder, and rushed back to the top of the house. (17/27)

A. **Ramdatt is taught a lesson:** Ghanshyam lifted the drinking pot that was hanging on a string from the Brahmin's shoulder, and rushed back to the top of the tree.


3. **Birth of Ghanshyam:** The devas shower vermilion and chandan from the terrace. Seated in their heavenly planes, they fly in to have darshan of Rampratap's brother. Trumpets of victory are sounded all around. (1/3)

A. **Birth of Ghanshyam:** The devas shower flowers and chandan from the sky. Seated in their heavenly chariots, they fly in to have darshan of Dharmadev's son. Trumpets of victory are sounded all around.

4. **Bhaktimata and Dharmadev pass away:** Ichchharam was now twelve years of age. Suvasinibhabhi and Rampratapbhai were quite old. One day, Suvasinibhabhi went down with fever. (44/79)

A. **Bhaktimata and Dharmadev pass away:** Ghanshyam was now eleven years of age. Bhaktimata and Dharmadev were quite old. One day, Bhaktimata went down with fever.

Q.4 Write briefly five main points (in the form of sentences) on any ONE incident. (Continuous narration is not required). (Total Marks: 5)

 **Note : It is not necessary that the answer is written in the following way. If the incident is covered up in five sentences then marks will be given.**

1. Thieves in a Fix (39/71-72)

1. The thieves tried to pluck the jackfruits grown by Ghanshyam and Rampratapbhai and both their hands got stuck to the fruit.

2. The thieves prayed when they saw Dharmadev, Rampratapbhai and Ghanshyam in the morning.

3. The thieves begged for forgiveness, "We shall never again steal anything."

4. Their hands were freed by Ghanshyam's divine look and both the thieves bowed down.

5. Ghanshyam gave them two jackfruits and told them, "Do not steal any more. Stealing is a grave sin."

2. Ghanshyam has his Ears Pierced (6/8-9)

1. Bhaktimata sat on the platform at the foot of a tamarind tree, with seven month old Ghanshyam to get his ears pierced.
2. As the man who had to pierce Ghanshyam's ear lobes approached Ghanshyam with a needle and tried to hold the ears, dazzling light radiated from Ghanshyam's body blinded the man's eye leaving him frightened.
3. Ghanshyam withdrew the light back into his body and was found sitting on a branch of the tamarind tree, disappearing from his mother's lap.
4. After being visible at two separate places at the same time, Ghanshyam asked for some gur to eat.
5. Ghanshyam got his ears pierced while eating the gur by given by his mother.

Q.5 From the given options, place a tick (✓) in the box next to the correct options. (Total Marks: 8)

Note: One or more 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 (19/29) 2. 2, 4 (13/19,21) 3. 1, 3 (2/3-5) 4. 2, 4 (8/11-12)

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

1. Dharmadev suddenly stopped walking in the jungle. (27/68)

- A. Dharmadev saw a tiger resting under a tree and was yawning. Dharmadev stopped by seeing this. The tiger smelt the human flesh and so he roared as he got up. Dharmadev, Rampratapbhai and Gauri shook with fear at the sight.

2. Bhaktimata, along with the other women from the village, began cooking at Dharmadev's house. (40/73)

- A. On Diwali day, Bhaktimata and Suvasinibhabhi, along with other women from the village, began cooking and preparing for the Annakut festival from early in the morning.

3. Mohandas went into samadhi. (31/57)

- A. Mohandas was misleading the people by spreading false beliefs. Ghanshyam gave him true advice. The bawa got was annoyed at Ghanshyam so he simply fixed his eyes on the bawa, who immediately went into samadhi and found himself transported to Yampuri.

(SECTION - 2: YOGIJI MAHARAJ, 8th Edition, February 2014)

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. "A sadhu has come and wishes to stay for the night." (17/27)

- ❑ The watchman – Yogiji Maharaj
- ❑ Sadhu Narayanprasad, who had insulted Yogiji Maharaj, walking wearily along the muddy road, came to Sarangpur mandir and knocked on the door. He wished to stay there a night so the watchman informed this.

2. "What were you doing?" (2/2)

- ❑ Friends – Jinabhai
- ❑ The friends of Jinabhai were amazed to find him rapt in meditation at Patalio Jharo. At that time, they said this.

3. "I will write to you." (26/41)

- ❑ Yogiji Maharaj – the youths.
- ❑ During the vacation every year, the youths accompanied Yogiji Maharaj. When they left at the end, Yogiji Maharaj said this to them while advising to observe niyam sincerely and to attend weekly youth assemblies regularly.

Q.8 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 4)

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

1. What did Nirgundas Swami say to Yogiji Maharaj after hearing his prayer? (20/32)

A. We were travelling and couldn't find any water on the way, and so we were late.

2. How should one remember the God as per Yogiji Maharaj's talks? (32/52)

A. While walking eating, drinking or in any activity we should remember God.

3. What Jinabhai used do while his friends and other children played games? (5/6)

A. Jinabhai prayed to God in a quiet corner or under a tree while his friends and other children played games.

4. When did Yogiji Maharaj visit East Africa and Aden for the first time? (Year, Samvat) (29/47)

A. Yogiji Maharaj visited East Africa and Aden for the first time in the year 1955 (V.S. 2012).

Q.9 Select the SIX correct sentences from below and write them in the correct story sequence in the boxes. (Total Marks: 6)

Topic: An Ideal Student

(1) Write the correct sentence numbers	2	5	7	8	10	11
(2) Correct sequence of sentences	11	5	10	8	2	7

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

Note: (1) Correct sentence numbers: Give 3 marks only if all 6 sentence number is correct otherwise no marks. **(2) Correct sequence of sentences:** Give 3 marks if all sequence of sentence numbers is correct as per answerpaper. otherwise no marks.

Q.10 Write short notes on any ONE of the following (in 15 lines). (Total Marks: 5)

 **Note: Main points of short note are highlighted. If points are included than give full marks.**

1. Head of Akshar Mandir (22/34-35)

A. On 24 May 1934, (V.S. 1990) Shastriji Maharaj ceremoniously consecrated the murtis of Akshar Purushottam in the Akshar mandir and after that in the **presence of thousands of the devotees, he appointed Yogiji Maharaj as the Mahant of the Akshar Mandir and garlanded him.** To Yogiji Maharaj the Akshar Mandir and Akshar Deri meant everything in life. The Akshar Deri was dearer to him than his soul. He was never tired of **performing pradakshinas of the Deri.** He would get up early at 3.30 am and sweep the floor of the Deri, performed the puja of the charnavind with sandalwood paste and flowers, performed arti, gave spiritual discourses to the devotees, performed mahapuja in the Deri, **prayed "May the number of sadhus increase and may the Satsang spread."** in mahapuja. **He kept the accounts of the mandir and maintained the ledger.** He looked after the maintenance of the mandir and attended to the needs and the **comforts of the guests.** He never allowed any visitor to leave without eating. Rana Daji Bapu assisted him in many of his duties. One day, Daji Bapu wanted to consult Yogiji Maharaj about the mandir accounts. He searched for him in the kothar, Akshar Deri, mandir, but he was not there. He finally went to the kitchen where he found him cooking. He said, "I have seen searching for you for a long time. Why are you cooking? Where is the sadhu who cooks daily?" Yogiji Maharaj quietly replied, **"The sadhu who cooks is ill. By Maharaj's grace, today I have got the chance of this service."** But when he enquired of the sadhu

in charge of the kitchen, Bapu found that he was not ill at all. He and some other sadhus were loitering around and not doing his duty. He scolded them, **“Yogiji Maharaj works day and night. Yet you make him serve in the kitchen as well.”** He then sent them to the kitchen immediately. Along with Yogiji Maharaj, Bapu went to the mandir office to discuss the accounts.

2. The Desireless Sadhu (14/20-22)

- A. (1) **Yogiji Maharaj was absolutely without any desire.** Though he was young, he never wanted anything for himself. **All day long he would remain engaged in spiritual discourses, singing bhajans, memorizing scriptures and serving others.** Once, Yogiji Maharaj was with a group of sadhus in Bhavnagar. They were staying at the house of a staunch devotee which was on a main road. Down below, people were eagerly awaiting **the king's wedding procession.** The procession was to pass along the main road. Both sides of the road were crowded with onlookers. Windows and balconies were also full of eager spectators. Suddenly, a devotee got up and approached Yogiji Maharaj and said, “Come on, why are you seated here? The king's wedding procession is here. It is worth seeing. Come to the window – don't you want to see it? Whereupon Yogiji Maharaj replied, **“Of what consequence is it for us sadhus? Of what use is it for us to see such things?** Once we have renounced something, why let it re-enter our heart?” The devotee was amazed by his reply and spirit of renunciation **and bowed down at his feet.** (2) Due to his spirit of service and other saintly virtues the veteran sadhu, Narayandas Swami of Junagadh, thrice sent the message, **“Jnanji Swami, if you return to Junagadh, I will myself come down to Jetpur from Junagadh to welcome you, and bring you here in a grand procession.”** But Jnanji Swami stayed with Shastriji Maharaj to help him accomplish many noble tasks. (3) In Rajkot, Yogiji Maharaj unintentionally made a mistake. Vijnandas Swami became very angry and ordered Yogiji Maharaj to leave his unfinished meal as punishment. Hargovind Mehta of Vadhwani witnessed this scene, and in the afternoon privately asked Yogiji Maharaj, “Yogi! Why do you tolerate so much? Don't you feel like leaving and going home?” Yogiji Maharaj replied happily, **“When the guru scolds it is for our good. Without punishment we would not remain alert. It helps us to correct our mistakes.”** Hargovindbhai was amazed at his reply and fell at the feet of the young sadhu in recognition of his patience and humility.

Q.11 Give reasons for the following (two to three lines each). (Total Marks: 6)

1. The inspector dismissed the headmaster. (3/4)

- A. Jinabhai boldly addressed the inspector, “Our headmaster mercilessly beat the innocent Chandu. He grabbed him by the arm and bashed him to the ground.” He believed Jinabhai as there was the holy tilak-chandlo on his forehead and innocence and honesty on his face and immediately dismissed the headmaster.

2. Yogiji Maharaj always insisted to attend weekly youth or satsang assembly. (25/39)

- A. It is not possible to meet the devotees individually in their homes. But if we attend the satsang assembly, then we can meet all the elders and youths at the same time. We also get to learn about the moral and spiritual beliefs of our Sanstha. Moreover, at such gatherings, Shriji Maharaj, Gunatitanand Swami and Shastriji Maharaj are divinely present. So one should never miss these satsang assemblies.

3. Jhina Bhagat earned the blessings of Sadguru Krishnacharandas Swami. (8/12-13)

- A. In spite of fatigue from the day's work Jina Bhagat always attended the satsang assemblies every evening, sang bhajans and chant the Swaminarayan mantra. Then he would stay and listen to the discourse till late night. Every morning he would get up at four to serve his guru once again. Such was his daily routine. He earned the blessings of Krishnacharandas Swami by serving him devoutly.

(SECTION-3: KISHORE SATSANG PRARAMBH, 8th Edition, May 2015)

Q.12 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 4)

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

1. What did Jodho protest to take from Maharaj? (13/32)

A. Jodho protested to take burnt milk (dudhpak) from Maharaj.

2. By whose instructions the sadhus used to move around and where? (8/20)

A. With the instructions of Shriji Maharaj, the sadhus moved about various centres.

3. What did Ghanshyam do after the death of his parents? (4/6)

A. After the death of his parents, Ghanshyam put on the garb of a celebate and began his travelling in the forest.

4. How much money did Samat Patel collected and how? (11/29)

A. Samat Patel sold his land, bullock cart and buffaloes and collected Rs. 4,500.

Q.13 Fill in the blanks. (Total Marks: 4)

 **Note: Marks will be given only if both answers are correct.**

1. Babul stick, Bibi (14/35-37)

2. Dhyan (Meditation), grace (5/11)

3. Akshardham, Parabrahman (3/5)

4. Vajiba, Ramdas (22/59)

Q.14 From the given options, place a tick (✓) in the box next to the correct options. (Total Marks: 8)

Note: One or more 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 (20/56)

2. 2, 3 (16/42-43)

3. 2, 4 (6/15-17)

4. 1 (16/47-49)

Q.15 Complete the kirtans/verses/shloks below. (Total Marks: 8)

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


1. Galya sata ghebar fulvadi, dudhpak malpua kadhi,
Puri pochi thai chhe ghi ma chadhi.
Athana shak sundar bhaji, lavi chhu tarat kari taji,
Dahi bhat sakar chhe jhajhi. (12/31)

2. Ame a yagna arambhyo, balidano ame daishu;
Amara Akshar Purushottam, Gunatit jnanne gaishu... ame
Ames au Shriji tana putro, Akshare vas amaro chhe;
Svadharmi bhasma choli to, amare kshobh shano chhe. (common)

3. Purushottam pragat nu je darshan karshe,
(Prabhu) je darshan karshe;
Kal karma thi chhuti (2) kutumb sahit tarshe... jai
A avsar karuna nidhi, karuna bahu kidhi,
(Vale) karuna bahu kidhi;
Muktanand kahe mukti (2) sugam kari sidhi. (9/23)

4. Agachha Bhagwan Deva svasthanat Parameshwara;
Aham pujam karishyami sada tvam sanmukho bhava. (5/11-13)

Q.16 Complete the Swamini Vat and write an explanatory note on it (in 15 lines). (Total Marks: 5)


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

“Karod kam bagadine pan ek moksha sudharvo ne kadapi karod kam sudharya ne ek moksha bagadyo to tema shu karyu?” (16/3/43-45)

“Spoil ten million tasks but improve your moksha. But if ten million tasks are improved and moksha is spoilt, what has been achieved?”

There was a Patel who lived in a small village. Once, he planned to go shopping to the nearby town. His wife gave him a long list of articles to be bought from the town. The Patel was very forgetful, so he noted down everything on a piece of paper. When some of the villagers came to know about the Patel’s going to town for shopping, they also came, and asked, “Patel, will you bring this also?” He said, “O.K.” The Patel noted everything down. The Patel drove to the town in his bullock cart. He thought that first he would buy things for his neighbours, and later on for his own family. There was much hustle and bustle in the market. The Patel, one by one, bought what the villagers wanted and put them in the cart. The cart was filled up within a short time. So he returned home. The people of the village called at his house to collect the things they had asked for and Patel gave them the articles he had bought for them. Within a short time the cart became empty. His wife who was watching with growing anxiety asked the Patel, “Where are our purchases?” Patel scratched his head and said, “I absolutely forgot to buy our things.” Shall we call Patel a wise man or a foolish one? He went to the market and forgot about his own purchases. In the same way we do many other tasks. If we think only of others, but forget of our own moksha or neglect to worship God then we would be as foolish as this Patel. That is why Gunatitanand Swami stresses that we should think of our own liberation even if it means less attention to worldly work. We must think of God constantly if we are to attain moksha. If we offer wholehearted devotion to him and do bhajan regularly, then we can be sure that God will always protect us.

Q.17 ‘The pragat Bhagwan realized by Punja Dodiya’ - **Write five brief sentences on the main points of this incident (Continuous narration is not required). (Total Marks: 5)**

 **Note: It is not necessary that the answer is written in the following way. If the incident is covered up in five sentences then marks be given.**

1. A Rajput devotee named Punja Dodiya from the village, Panvi, had decided to end his life if he failed to find God before he became a satsangi.
2. So he went to Nana Gopnath and clinging to a murti of Shivji was about to plunge himself into the violent waves of the sea.
3. All of a sudden he heard a divine voice, “Bhagwan Swaminarayan has incarnated and you shall meet his sadhus.”
4. He met Krupanand Swami and Gunatitanand Swami on his way to the field where he prayed, “Show me where God is.”
5. The sadhus told him about the glory of Shriji Maharaj, inspired him to follow the divine path and he became a satsangi.



THE END

