

**SATSANG EXAMINATIONS (PRE-TEST: 18 JUNE 2017)**

TIME: 9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 P.M.

SATSANG PRAVIN: PAPER - 1

(Note: The figure after each question indicates the page number of the answer in the textbook.) (TOTAL MARKS: 100)

SECTION 1: AKSHAR PURUSHOTTAM UPASANA - 3rd Edition, May 2012**Q.1 For any TWO of the following, give three references from the scriptures. (It is compulsory to write the reference of scripture and number.)** [6]

1. Gunatitanand Swami is Akshar: As revealed in Swamini Vato. (150-151)
2. The importance of devotion to the pragat form of God. (80-82)
3. Glory of the Gunatit Sadhu: In the words of Bhagwan Swaminarayan. (103-105)

Q.2 Given below are references from the scriptures, principles or stanzas. Write the topic they relate to. [5]**Example:** "Maru dham chhe re, Akshar Amrut jenu nam; Tema hu rahu re, dvibhuj divya sada sakar."**Ans:** God as sakar in Akshardham and on earth.

1. "Sant krupae sukh upaje, Sant krupathi sare kam;" (108)
2. "I – Purushottam – beyond even Akshar, have assumed human form." (40)
3. "None can ever equal or surpass Parabrahman," (54)
4. "Its splendour is countless times more than the divine riches of countless other abodes. That abode is also limitless." (127)
5. "Maha moto pratap pragatavi re, rit nautam nyari chalavi re;" (57)

Q.3 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. How is God Karta ? (4-5)
 - (1) ☐ God has the power to absorb maya.
 - (2) ☐ God Possesses kartum, akartum and anyathakartum Shakti.
 - (3) ☐ Aksharbrahman is the cause of all and the creator of all, he is all-Powerful.
 - (4) ☐ The factors of place, time, Karma and maya can only do as much as Aksharbrahman allows them to do.
2. The infinite glory of Aksharbrahman (124-125)
 - (1) ☐ Akshar is visible.
 - (2) ☐ Akshar is the witness of Parbrahman.
 - (3) ☐ That Brahman is omnipotent.
 - (4) ☐ Subtler than the subtlest.

Q.4 Describe any ONE of the following and highlight its significance. [4]

1. Text describing the supremacy of Shriji Maharaj: Harililakalpataru. (64-65)
2. Aksharbrahman is superior to aksharmukta. (154-155)
3. Swarupanand Swami realized his mistake. (84)

Q.5 Write briefly on any TWO of the following (in 12 lines each). [8]

1. Above all, but respect for all. (72-74)
2. The Gunatit Sadhu: The pragat form of God yet a loyal servant. (112-114)
3. Gunatitanand Swami's unique glory described by Nityanand Swami, Brahmanand Swami and Bhai Atmanand Swami. (157-159)

Q.6 Explain any TWO of the following, giving reasons (in 12 lines each). [8]

1. God should not be understood to be like kal, karma, maya and swabhav. (7-8)
2. One should never refute the form of God. (9-11)
3. Shitaldas assumed countless forms. (54-55)

Q.7 Complete the following statements based on summary. [7]**(What to understand in Upasana?)**

1. He is always infinitely to know and to do. (169)
2. Although Aksharbrahman brahmands and supports them. (170)
3. Akshar-Purushottam upasana upasana to Parabrahman. (173)
4. The chaitanyas of from each other. (173)

(What not to understand in Upasana?)

5. Articles such as Aksharbrahman. (174)
6. Aksharbrahman as the only divine light. (174)
7. It is possible Gunatit Sadhu. (174-175)

[P.T.O.]

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Please note that I have been present personally in the Pre-Test "Satsang Pravin: Paper - 1" Exam organized by the Satsang Shikshan Pariksha Karyalay, Ahmedabad. Please note that the following details filled are true.

Birthdate of Examinee: Date Month Year

Exam Date and Time:

Signature of Examinee:

Note: Only those who are present have to fill in this slip and give it to their Exam Supervisor. The slip of only those who are present have to be filled and sent to the Satsang Shikshan Pariksha Karyalay, Ahmedabad. (The presence slip not filled properly will not be considered valid.)

Q.8 Write a short note on: Gunatitanand Swami is Akshar: From His Life and Work. (163-167) [5]

**SECTION 2: SATSANG READER PART 3, 5th Edition, June 2015 &
PORTRAIT OF INSPIRATION - PRAMUKH SWAMI MAHARAJ, 2nd Edition, April 2011**

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

1. "You have imposed a ban on the sadhus visiting the villages." (66)
2. "This boy is in critical condition and likely to collapse at any moment." (64)
3. "Acharya, do it gently." (19)

Q.10 Give reasons for the following (in 9 lines each). [8]

1. Aradeshariji realized the glory of Raghuvirji Maharaj. (46-47) **OR**
2. Words of Shivilal opened the eyes of Bhaga Doshi. (71-72)
3. Dahyabhai lay in bed wondering about Swamishri's compassion for him. (25) **OR**
4. Inferiority complex was removed from the Harijan youths. (5)

Q.11 Answer the following concisely (12 lines each). [8]

1. Khushal Bhakta's childhood miracles. (2-3) **OR**
2. Muktanand Swami's divine glory of Shriji Maharaj. (24-25)
3. Taming a horse. (12) **OR**
4. David's divine experience. (3)

Q.12 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. [5]

1. What did Shriji Maharaj tell Acharya Maharaj by appearing before him in a divine form? (48)
2. For what did Mukunddas have a natural preference? (17)
3. Where did pilgrims stop on their way to Gadhada? (6)
4. Who helped the thief out of the water tank? (22)
5. Which two villages ended their 200-year conflict? (32)

Q.13 From the given options, place a tick (✓) in the box next to the correct ones. [8]

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. Lalji Bhakta's sons (34)
(1) ☐ Odhavji (2) ☐ Raghavji (3) ☐ Madhavji (4) ☐ Kanji
2. Parvatbhai's mental offerings (63)
(1) ☐ Mentally Offering a lunch of curd and rotla. (2) ☐ Maharaj fulfilled my devotion.
(3) ☐ I have taken a vow. (4) ☐ I can eat only after they eat.
3. Childhood of Shantilal (x-xi)
(1) ☐ Heard about serenity of Himalayas at Hanumanmadhi Mandir.
(2) ☐ Father, Dhoribhai and Mother Hetba.
(3) ☐ Born on Magshar Sud-8
(4) ☐ Received a letter from Guru Yogiji Maharaj.
4. Heads of government and royalty touched by Swamishri's saintliness: (xv)
(1) ☐ H.H. The Dalai lama (2) ☐ Dr. Radhakrishnan
(3) ☐ Shri Atal Bihari vajpayee. (4) ☐ Mr. Tony Blair

SECTION 3: ESSAY

Q.14 Write an essay on any ONE of the following: (In approximately 60 lines.) [15]

1. Divine, transcendent and historic last moments...
(Swaminarayan Prakash (Gujarati) September-October 2016, pp. 52 to 57)
2. Unique commitment to spreading upasana: Shastriji Maharaj
(Swaminarayan Prakash (Gujarati), Feb. 2014, pp. 22-24, 18)
3. Heartfelt tributes to Pramukh Swami Maharaj by religious leaders from India and abroad.
(Swaminarayan Prakash (Gujarati) September-October 2016, pp. 112 to 120)

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Note: A few of the questions in this Pre-Test Paper will be asked in the Final Examination to be held on Sunday, 16 July 2017. In the Main Exam, answers written on extra pages will not be considered valid. Without the prior permission of the Pariksha Karyalay in Ahmedabad, answer papers written by substitute writers in place of the original candidate will not be accepted. Answer papers with more than one type of handwriting will not be accepted. Answers crossed out will not be considered valid. Answers will not be considered valid if they are not written in neat and clean hand writing. Use the latest editions of the exam books. Candidates will not be allowed to keep any electronic items, such as, mobile phones, tablets, laptops, etc. in the examination room.



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>