

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

SATSANG PRAVESH-PAPER-1

Time : 9.00 to 11.15 a.m.

Total Marks : 75

Sunday, 4 March, 2018

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 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: NILKANTH CHARITRA, 6th Edition, December - 2010)

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. "Hereafter all of you should follow out the instructions of Ramanand Swami." (41/82)
 - Atmanand Swami - His disciples.
 - Ramanand Swami and Atmanand Swami had a dialogue and he was finally convinced. Atmanand Swami renounced the Advait philosophy. He asked all his disciples to submit to Ramanand and directed them by saying this.
2. "Remember me and govern your kingdom." (8/15)
 - Nilkanth Varni - Maharaja Ranjit Singh
 - At Harki Pedi Ranjit Singh once again met him. The Sikh ruler expressed his inclination to surrender his empire to him. But the young ascetic was not interested in it at all. He said after blessing him.
3. "Go and search for Nilkanth and bring him back from wherever he is." (25/48)
 - Jairamdas' mother - Jairamdas
 - Nilkanth thought that his mission with Jairamdas, his family and the bear was over

and decided to leave. At morning Jairam's mother noticed that Nilkanth was not in his bed, so they searched for him everywhere but could not find him. Jairam's mother gave him some food and money for the journey and said.

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

1. The Siddha yogis began to tremble in Kamakshi. (20/36)

A. Nilkanth had lodged in a garden outside the village. Some siddha yogis were also camping in the same garden. Pibek came to the garden to defeat Nilkanth. He was practising black magic. He forced sadhus, jogis and jatis to forsake their religious sect by breaking their kanthis and forcibly made them his disciples. On seeing Pibek, they began to tremble as they were mortally afraid of him.


2. The sadhus were imprisoned by the King of Kathmandu, Rana Bahadur, and subjected to the tortures. (18/32)

A. The king, Rana Bahadur, was suffering from a chronic disease. he tried his level best to find a cure but did not succeed. he even sought the assistance of bawas, sadhus, Brahmins, scholars, priests and others. But there was one problem. Whoever tried to cure the king and failed would be imprisoned by him and subjected to all sorts of tortures.

3. A bright light issued from the Shaligram of Narsinh Mehta. (42/86)

A. Narsinh Mehta was worshipping the Shaligram in Piplana. Nilkanth Varni asked for alms from Kalyanji who replied him to wait till the food became ready. But Nilkanth Varni told him that he couldn't wait till the food is cooked as he was on a pilgrimage. As he left he shot a glance at the Shaligram being worshipped by Narsinh Mehta.

Q.3 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. Redeems the Telangi Brahmin (19/33-34)

Nilkanth lived in a garden at **Sirpur**. At that time a **Telangi Brahmin** arrived there. He was very greedy. Out of **avarice**, he acquired **an elephant and a kalpurush as a gift** from the king. The Brahmin was very handsome and fair complexioned, but when he accepted the gift out of greed, **his whole body turned black and ugly**. All the Brahmin began to **censure and ridicule** him. The Telangi Brahmin, therefore, became very unhappy and cried in despair. With tears in his eyes, he came to Nilkanth and **prostrated at his feet and confessed his greed**. Nilkanth felt pity for him and placed his hand on the Brahmin's head and blessed him. The Brahmin became fair-complexioned and handsome. He bowed to Nilkanth and became his disciple. Nilkanth advised him to give up greed. At this, King Siddhavallabh developed more affection and respect for Nilkanth.

2. Intense Austerities at Pulhashram (14/24-26)

Nilkanth Varni, though only **12 years** old, took a resolution to perform austerities at Pulhashram, where Brahma's son **Pulaha had performed austerities**. He held both his hands high and stood on one leg. He was heedless of hunger and thirst, and exposed his body to the elements. The austerities went on unhindered and soon it was reflected by the emaciated body of Nilkanth. The rigorous austerities exposed every bone in his body, his veins were also visible. The once tender body became emaciated. The **Yogis and Munis** staying in Pulahashram used to come their daily and knelt before Nilkanth **praying to achieve virtues like him**. Dharmadev, Bhaktimata, Brahma, Vishnu and mahesh protected them. On the morning of the eleventh day of the bright half of the month of Kartik, **Surya Narayan** appeared in human form before Nilkanth. Nilkanth happily requested him, **"Kindly grant me a boon so that I may retain my vow of naishtik brahmacharya and have your darshan whenever I remember you."** Suryanarayan said, "O God, you are Purushottam Narayan, the **supreme incarnation** and the cause of all incarnations. You are pure. Who am I to bestow a boon upon you? And to prove that through brahmacharya one can attain a realized state you have

performed these austerities. You have all the divine virtues, yet what you have asked will be fulfilled. You undertook such severe austerities so that the people on earth may learn renunciation, detachment and austere living from you.” The Sun god added humbly, “O Paramatma, it is my good fortune that you have kindly remembered me. Please do remember me whenever my services are required. I am always at your service.” Nilkanth Varni undertook penance to inspire **aspirants to salvation**.

3. Meeting Gopal Yogi (17/30-31)


Nilkanth walked through the Himalayan forests after which he came near a banyan tree. he saw an **old rishi** sitting under it, **engrossed in meditation**. **Automatically his eyes opened and** his attention was drawn towards Nilkanth. He ran towards Nilkanth and embraced him. The **rishi was overjoyed** when he saw the young celibate. He shed tears of joy and said, “Bhagwan! You kept me waiting for a long time. My name is Gopal Yogi. **My mind has never been drawn to anyone** and my eyes have never opened while in meditation. But today as soon as you came near this tree, my eyes opened. My mind and eyes were enticed by you. therefore, O bal yogi! Who are you? **I have attained perfection in ashtang yoga**. I shall teach you yoga but please tell me about yourself. Nilkanth replied, “**I am Parabrahman, beyond Atma, Akshar or Brahman**. But from the worldly viewpoint, I am the son of a Brahmin. I have been travelling through forests for three years since I left my home. I have performed severe austerities for over two months and have propitiated Suryanarayan. I aspire to accomplish ashtang yoga.” Nilkanth spent a year with Gopal Yogi and **mastered the science of ashtang yoga** as well as **attained eight-siddhis**. He in turn **imparted to the yogi the knowledge of his own self**. He gave Gopal Yogi the darshan of Narayan in his own self and redeemed his soul.

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. What did Nilkanth Varni prophesy at the Ramji mandir in Bochasan? (36/72)
A. “These murtis will be housed in magnificent mandir that will be built here.”
2. Whom did the jamadar see praying to Nilkanth in the samadhi? (53/109)
A. In samadhi, the jamadar saw Ramanand Swami praying to Nilkanth along with infinite muktas.
3. Whom did belong the big compound adjoining the ashram in Loj? (46/95)
A. There was a big compound belonging to Jivraj Sheth adjoining the ashram in Loj.
4. In the village of Amarpur, Nilkanth Varni was offered a pile of what? (2/2)
A. A pile of fruits, sweets and other kinds of eatable was offered to Nilkanth Varni in the Amarpur village.
5. Where did Nilkanth Varni meet Sevakram? (30/56)
A. On the way to Kanchipuram from Venkatadri, Nilkanth Varni met Sevakram.

Q.5 From the given options, place a tick (✓) in the box next to the correct options. (Total Marks: 4)

 **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. (Ans. 2,3,4) (40/80-81) 2. (Ans. 1,3) (24/44)

Q.6 Fill in the blanks. (Total Marks: 4)

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

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Amichand, Nilkanth Varni | 2. Magshar, 13 |
| 3. window, barber | 4. Forgiving, harm |

(SECTION-2: SATSANG READER PART-I, 6th Edition April - 2011)

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. "I wish that you show us your divine powers." (6/54)
⇒ Jivuba - Maharaj
⇒ Jivuba had firm faith on Maharaj. Yet, she desired to have darshan of divinity and said this to Maharaj.
2. "If you believe me to be great, do not go." (8/72)
⇒ Swamishri (Shastriji Maharaj) - Ashabhai
⇒ Although Swamishri had refused him to go to chhota Udepur, Ashabhai could not let go of this temptation. At that time, Swamishri ordered this.
3. "Give up your flashy lifestyle and lead a virtuous life, a life full of bhakti." (1/5)
⇒ Both of the sisters (Jivuba and Laduba) - Poet (Ladudanji)
⇒ When maharaj asked Ladudanji to go and persuade the sisters to marry and live as normal householders, the sisters said this to him.

Q.8 Give reasons for the following (two to three lines each). (Total Marks: 4)

1. Jhinabhai sat with his head down in the Royal Court of Junagadh. (4/31)
A. The royal court of Junagadh was crowded with darbars, or village chieftains. The lecherous chieftains were immersed in singing, dancing and alcohol. One darbar, sat in the corner with his head down and eyes glued to the floor, feeling uneasy as ever.
2. The Merai devotee was taken aback. (2/20)
A. Devanand Swami told a Merai devotee, "I am going to dham tomorrow, so please make a wooden chair to take my body to the funeral pyre." However Swami continued as he doubted Swami's words, "If five footsteps of kumkum show up at the entrance of your house tomorrow, believe what I say to be true." The next day, the devotee saw the kumkum footsteps. He was taken aback.

Q.9 Write short notes on "The teachings of Devanand Swami based on the verses of 'Manas no avatar....'" (2/20) (In 15 lines). (Total Marks: 5)

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

Human incarnation is difficult to get as one will get it after passing through **eighty-four lakh incarnations**. Because of it, one can't get it again and again. One should therefore forsake **pride** and **arrogance** and devote himself to God. Otherwise he has to take birth again and again. It is difficult to cross the great ocean of pain. One can only get over it if he surrenders himself to God. Humans are unable to make time from their routine. Shameful humans couldn't keep quiet. He went on doing this and that crying 'maya', 'maya'. He should keep this in mind and walk having the fear of God in mind. One should worship God with love in his heart. Therefore, one should **leave all his flaws and associate himself with the true sadhu** to worship God. One should have faith in testimony of the sadhu and immerse in bhajan due to which all his former sins shall be redeemed. By knowing God and **immersing himself in knowledge of God**, the God will **bestow His grace** in all spontaneity. **The kala is a ferocious enemy**. It may pounce any moment. The lust and the family one who believes his, will utilise him till he is ground in pieces. **Happiness and Dharma stay** where there is **satya**. The **Kali** stays where there is **no dharma**. The world is **blind to stark realities**.

Q.10 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. Whom was Abhel Khachar following originally? (5/53)
A. Abhel Khachar originally was follower of Ramanand Swami.

2. By whose command did Jethabhai take initiation into the parshad-fold and when? (7/59)
 - A. At Bhagatji Maharaj's command, Jethabhai took initiation into the parshad-fold on 17 April 1897 (Chaitra sud 15, VS 1953).
3. By which name was Yagnapriyadasji became known? (8/78)
 - A. Yagnapriyadasji became known as Mota Swami.
4. Why did Maharaj send Brahmanand Swami to Ahmedabad? (1/9)
 - A. To supervise the building of the first mandir in Ahmedabad, Maharaj sent Brahmanand Swami.

Q.11 Select the SIX correct sentences from below and write them in the correct story sequence in the boxes. (Total Marks: 6)

Topic: Maharaj at Bapujibhai's home (1,3,4,6,10,12) (4,6,12,10,1,3) (5/41-43)

- | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|----|----|----|----|
| (1) Write the correct sentence numbers | 1 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 10 | 12 |
| (2) Correct sequence of sentences | 4 | 6 | 12 | 10 | 1 | 3 |

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 six sentence numbers are correct in any sequence, otherwise no marks will be given. **(2) Correct sequence of sentences:** Give 3 marks if all sequence of sentence numbers are correct as per answersheet otherwise no marks will be given.


Q.12 Rewrite the incorrect sentences below in relation to the sentence heading. (Total Marks: 4)

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

1. **Swami Nirgundasji:** As he was returning to the village, Nirgun Swami fell off his camel. He suffered injury to his hands and feet. (7/65)
- A. **Swami Nirgundasji:** As he was returning to the train station, Nirgun Swami fell off his horse. He suffered injury to his abdomen and head.
2. **Bhaktaraj Darbar Shri Jhinabhai:** On the night of the no moon, the sadhus went along with Maharaj to an open field on the city outskirts. Adorned in rich, silver-threaded clothes and beautiful diamonds. (4/34)
- A. **Bhaktaraj Darbar Shri Jhinabhai:** On the night of the full moon, the devotees went along with Maharaj to an open field on the village outskirts. Adorned in rich, gold-threaded clothes and beautiful ornaments, Maharaj arranged for everyone to dance in a ras.
3. **Sadguru Shukanand Swami:** After Maharaj had passed away, Pujaji, Maharaj's attendant, once walked into the Radha Vav. As he walked in, he was surprised to find Maharaj seated on the rock. Maharaj said, "Pujaji, go call Brahmamuni." (3/26)
- A. **Sadguru Shukanand Swami:** After Maharaj had passed away, Bhaguji, Maharaj's attendant, once walked into the Akshar Ord. As he walked in, he was surprised to find Maharaj seated on his bed. Maharaj said, "Bhaguji, go call Shukmuni."
4. **Sadguru Brahmanand Swami:** He would often sit in the mandir and dance beautiful kirtans before Swami. He had obeyed Swami's wishes and now he was prepared on becoming one with Swami. (1/13)
- A. **Sadguru Brahmanand Swami:** He would often sit in the mandir and sing beautiful kirtans before murtis. He had obeyed Maharaj's wishes and now he was focused on becoming one with Maharaj.

(SECTION-3: ESSAY)

**Q.13 Write an essay on any ONE of the following: (In approximately 30 lines).
(Total Marks: 10)**

 **Note: Essay is an independent original subject. In addition to following points many other point might be included. Examiner has to examine essay on the basis of originality, knowledge of sampraday, special analysis and point from any other scriptures.**

1. Yuva Talim Kendra(YTK) awakens the divine flame of upasana: His Divine Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj inaugurated Yuva Talim Kendra by lighting lamps on 30th april, 2007 in Bochasan. - This is the beginning of the exclusive activities for youth development. - Swamishri was extremely delighted. - Graced youth inspite of his ill health.

(1) Divine grace of Swamishri : Swamishri blessed while gracing that by joining Yuva Talim, one can serve sanstha by achieving everything and the knowledge of Akshar Purushottam becomes strong. The divine task of Shastriji Maharaj and Yogiji Maharaj becomes strong. One can make others understand, deliver discourses, can do talks-pravachans like the Sadhus and can do the work while staying in the household. We can easily sacrifice if such knowledge is in our life. We can explain such spiritual talks to anyone in the family and friends.

(2) These words spoken by Swamishri in 2007 are achieved today. - Youth who can spread the divine glory of Upasana are ready. -To make reach everywhere the light of upasana spread by Swamishri by these trained youth. - At present, youth are committed to work in the guidance of His Divine Holiness Mahant Swami Maharaj. Travelled determinedly with the torch regardless of facilities. Where he reached, spread the glory of upasana.

(3) Inspiring stories : Given Nitya Puja.- A youth named Maheshbhai Prajapati got the job as a teacher in a school after education and training. - Everyone was glad due to his excellent work. - He started a new syllabus comprising religion and culture for children with everyone's permission. Nurturing them with the distinctive values of satsang and good conduct. He made more than 100 children to do Nitya Puja with the permission of their parents. He started Satsang Sabha. Incident : Amubhai from Rojmal village - Business of milk after Talim. - Do the talks of Satsang and good conduct to his customers. - After pious efforts, started Satsang sabha by collecting 4-5 youth in a short time. - The numbers reached to 40-50 gradually. - Whoever come in contact with these trained youth, become satsangi naturally.

(4) Made addiction-free : Rameshbhai Aahir from Haldava - Transformed lives of 20 people in a short span after taking Talim in 2015. - Life engrossed in Satsang and high values. - Some of them were imprisoned 32 times. - Were living life of addiction, meat and adultery. - But Rameshbhai was constant in touch - Started new Satsang centres. - Incident : Satishbhai Gamar, resident from a village near Poshina, got Talim in 2014. - 14-15 labours work in his farm - They all come to work high on alcohol and other addictions. - Satishbhai talked with them about Satsang and good conduct. - Visited BAPS Mandir in Himmatnagar. - They became Satsangi after understanding the benefit of Satsang. Inspired to live life high on values. Incident : Chiragbhai from Sayla who got Talim in 2010, made de-addicted and vegetarian the labors working in the textile factory from their village. - De-addicted 20 other labors. - 100 other persons were initiated and became satsangis and started doing Nitya Puja. - Also acquired 2 acres of land for Orissa mandir.

(5) Firm in adverse situations : The trained youth stayed firm in volunteering regardless of health issues, financial condition, external difficulties. - Stayed rockhard as the mountain Meru in adverse situations. - Incident : Nareshbhai dabhi from the village Tuver in the region of Poshina in Sabarkantha. - Has an ambition for touring in surrounding villages. - But the financial condition was poor. - He can't afford vehicle expense. - He refused to take travelling allowance from the mandir. - Did laborwork for travelling expense. - By this earned money, he spread a lot of Satsang by touring in villages. - According to these youth, to stay firm in any adverse situation is their duty.

(6) Difficult work in the forest region : Vipulbhai Patel from Valsad, who got Talim in 2009, was living in the forest region. - Used to travel on bike on the roads of jungle during the dark nights. - Fear of wild animals on quiet roads. - Once he had an encounter with two leopards. - At first, he fretted, but he started praying to Maharaj and Swamishri. - Both of the animals disappeared in the jungle within few moments. His touring is still continue in such terrifying condition.

(7) The shepherds who used their stick in support of Shri Krishna, all are known as devotees. Just like that, all these youth give their support in the 'Govardhan'-like task of His Divine Holiness Pramukh Swami Maharaj in the true manner by making the talim successful they got from Yuva Talim Kendra and achieved the bliss of Gurus. - As the small lamp show its readiness to carry the work of the sun, these youth are the torch-bearer of the light of the sun-like Brahmaswarup Pramukh Swami Maharaj and Pragat Brahmaswarup Mahant Swami Maharaj. Might not the ocean itself, but they have surely become a small stream adjoining the ocean.

2. Historical record of the life of Bhagwan Shri Swaminarayan.

Preface : Many pictures have been created showing the incidents of divine life of Bhagwan Swaminarayan in last 200 years. It is an attempt to give documentary form of the divine personality of Shriji Maharaj by creating a series of paintings covering the whole life of Shriji Maharaj. - An unprecedented attempt by BAPS Sanstha due to the resolution, inspiration and blessings of Swamishri. "Bhagwan Swaminarayan - A Saga in Paintings" - Published with this name, the paintings book is not only an artistic presentation of the divine life of Bhagwan Swaminarayan, but it is also a historic documentary form of divine life of Shriji Maharaj. - Here are the utterance of internationally acclaimed art critic and artist Mr. Ravi Paranjape and the creator of this book, world famous artist Mr. Vasudev Kamath.

(1) Mr. Ravi Paranjape : He spoke while narrating the art of painting that there is always two sides of the painting - One is its physical side which expresses its message and the other is its emotional side which gives presentation of meaningful realization. - Mr. Paranjape's point of view about the paintings, goes perfect with his beliefs of hinduism, culture, mannerism and philosophy. - As Indian classical music has integrity of Raga, Bandish, Taal and Khayal, the paintings also have three-layered quality which can be distinguished and enjoyed with the view of Science, Wisdom and Art. World greatest painters used to describe the history and cultural heritage of their country through their paintings marvelously. - In 1993, after the death of great painter Mr. S. M. Pandit, Mr. Paranjape felt that the painter who can symbolize India's historical heritage and the heroes of the nation through his paintings will come after a long time. But Mr. Kamath was there busy in the depiction of Bhagwan Swaminarayan's historical life in paintings. - from 1995 to the beginning of 21st century, he finished 49 paintings. - For that, Mr. Kamath travelled the places, graced by the divine presence of Shriji Maharaj, breath takingly and tiring. - He took the photographs of the existing objects connected with the life of Maharaj. Mr. Paranjape was convinced that, due to this project, Mr. Kamath's great vision, observation ability, imagination power and dignified and quality laced art of the painting was tested. His talent escalated in creating the painting which included more than five human figures. - Specially mentioned the landscape paintings. - Vivid description of the procession ceremony of Nilkanth Varni in the painting. - The spontaneous scene. - Only the unique artist can have such extraordinary talent. - Oneness with his favorite subject. - This talent shows the light of realism in his creations. - In our art, due to modernization, the appropriate significance is not given to the Mr. Kamath's quality laced art of painting.

(2) Everything is excellent including Mr. Kamath's symbolic art of high level, his powerful grip on the subject that is presented in the paintings. All the paintings from this series of paintings are beautiful but out of all, three paintings are more liked by Mr. Paranjape. - The first painting which includes Bhagwan Swaminarayan himself is carrying a huge rock on his head and all the devotees and sculptors are watching him bewildered. Here Mr. Kamath's unusual sense of showing reality and the art sense of presenting architectural details are felt. - The second painting touches both intellectually and emotionally. - Bhagwan Swaminarayan

lifting crossbeam on his shoulders, which was about to fall down due to rain thunderstorms, to save cattle. - In this picture, Mr. Kamath showed matchless excellence. - Because on which a realistic painter is evaluated to prove his abilities, he succeeded in this with flying colors.

(3) The third best painting of Mr. Kamath - Bhagwan Swaminarayan blesses one of his devotees in the beginning of the yagna. - In this painting, many of Shriji Maharaj's followers, reputed devotees, men and women were gathered. - Due to Mr. Kamath's exclusive style of designing, this painting is on the epitome of excellence. - By painting the vast area of painting with proper colors at right places, Mr. Kamath gave his exquisite introduction as India's invincible and famous painter. - To show the festival, the combination of chandelier, red carpet, garlands and pillars are very decent. - It is very necessary to give the documentary form to the inspirational and humanitarian life of Bhagwan Swaminarayan through paintings. - With the blessings of Swamishri, Mr. Kamath created such a beautiful work. - Mr. Paranjape thanked heartily to Mr. Kamath. - The artists from India and throughout the world will love to keep this priceless treasure of painting with them. As a world famous artist, Mr. Kamath dedicated his art of painting in the feet of Bhagwan devotedly.

(4) Mr. Kamath recalled one of his incidents. - One devotional poem - A painting was required to place on the front page. - The scholar poet inquired about the price of the painting. - When Mr. Kamath told him about the price, he said that this is a religious work so tell his price accordingly. Mr. Kamath replied with a mild smile that he only makes religious paintings. He takes it as his religion and karma. This art is gifted by God so he doesn't make any ungodly paintings. How significant Mr. Kamath's answer was! The subject of his paintings has always been the Indian culture and mannerism and he believes it is his good luck. The art has beauty and the ability to attract but it should become conveyor of culture, not only the means of the entertainment, is the main goal of Mr. Kamath. - This is the reason why God has made such co-incidences that he can meet the people who do holy activities.

1. First of all, Mr. Kamath's first meeting with Pujya Ishwarcharan Swami, Pujya Bhaktinandan Swami and Pujya Shrijiwarup Swami at BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir, Dadar, Mumbai. - Due to these sadhus' affection and friendship, he connected with the Sanstha forever. - Pujya Ishwarcharan Swami's benign smile touched his heart. The sadhus assessed the quality of Mr. Kamath's paintings. - Satisfied with his work. - He was approached for drawing pictures for the book on Param Pujya Yogiji Maharaj's life. - He drew portraits of Yogiji Maharaj and also drew pictures. After that, the saga of paintings on Ramayan and Mahabharat and a series of Puja pictures of Bhagwan Swaminarayan was made.

2. In the middle of the year 1995, Pujya Ishwarcharan Swami inspired to picture the life story of Bhagwan Swaminarayan on canvas. - Pujya Aksharvatsal Swami guided about the complete life-story of Bhagwan Swaminarayan and contemporary references. - As he heard about divine incidents, the whole life raised in front of his eyes. - He asked to visit all the places, which was sanctified by Shriji Maharaj in Gujarat, with family before starting the work. - He was permitted with satisfaction. - Observed 200 year-old houses, vehicles, places and nature. - Clicked the pictures of sanctified things. - First he underlined the festival of Shriji Maharaj's birth in painting. - At that time, he was blessed by Swamishri in Vadodara. - Swamishri did chandlo on the sketch and sanctifies his extensive hard-work of painting. - The sadhus well-worth with the art of painting, apprehended him to increase the quality. - Due to that, the elegance and innocence of the paintings escalated enormously.

3. To picturise a historical event in any field is the biggest challenge. - The reason behind that is the time period, geographical condition, circumstances, contemporary social life, etc. of that incident. - The work can only be completed if proficiency of such art is there. - A stage has different experts to do different activities, but here only the painter has to play all roles. - In this saga, not even a single painting is repeated, every painting is spontaneous. - The paintings of the childhood of the God in the village Chhapaiya are underlined as per nature and situation of the village. - Special attention is given on the incidents of the Nilkanth's touring in India. - Thus, the whole saga of the paintings is an ideal witness of the divine life of the God.

Conclusion : The launching of this book, which was completed due to blessings of Swamishri, is the most delightful time for Mr. Kamath and the dignitaries related with the book. - Mr. Kamath prayed that this saga of the paintings becomes the inspiration for the devotees, satsangis and every human being seeking salvation. - The formal tradition of making paintings are about to extinct. - In such time, if these paintings inspire the artists, then it will be more successful. - At the end, he talked about the divinity that he is surprised to observe these paintings. - He hasn't made these paintings, they are made by themselves. God had entered in me. I am just a root. The glory of this extensive work is dedicated to Swamishri. - He wished that all the rewards earned while doing this noble task would be distributed amongst everyone equally. - With the noble wishes that everyone remain blessed, Jai Swaminarayan.

3. Pramukh Swami represents world peace: Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.

(1) In the divine presence of Pramukh Swami Maharaj, Dr.Kalam has perceived great messages. - Swamishri's smile is a symbolic message for him. - When there is goodness in one's heart, his character gets glorified. When the character is glorified, then the harmony in one's family gets flourished. When the harmony in the family is flourished, the good governance prevails in the country. When there is good governance in the country, then there is peace in the whole world. When Dr.Kalam met Swamishri, he saw sacredness in his heart. - Where there is sacredness, the peace can be prevailed in the world. - He felt such divine joy.

(2) A Jain priest, a Hajji and a Sadhu asked Dr.Kalam the reason behind writing a book. They asked Dr.Kalam that, "Which incident was inspirational to you?" Dr.Kalam replied that his first meeting on 30th june, 2001. From that day, he was greatly inspired by Swamishri. Akshardham mandir in Gandhinagar had a terrorist attack on 24th september, 2002. - At that time, Swamishri sprinkled the Holy water of the river Ganga on everyone who lost their lives, without discriminating whether they are devotees, army men or the terrorists. He gave a silent message to the world that the life of every human being is sacred. The God is the giver of life and he is the taker of the life. Such greatness of Swamishri inspired Dr.Kalam to live spiritual life. - Not only he designed this book but also show everyone the method of being unique.

(3) It takes confidence to become unique. - Firm determination is required. - Thomas Alva Edison - He show firm determination to enlighten the New york city by following the rules of Ferraday. - The flying plane makes us to remember the Wright brothers. - The great scientists like C. V. Raman, Madam Curie, etc. achieved great achievements in the field of science by facing many difficulties. - All these personalities are unique. - Dr.Kalam has met nearly 2.10 cross of youth and inspired them to become unique.

(4) How can the one become unique? The life is a journey. - One should continue his journey, regardless of how bad the roads are. - The unique persons have four main aspects. The first aspect is - Which road should be followed to reach the goal? To have a lesser a is a crime. - Always have high goals. The second aspect - One should have constant flow of knowledge through the books of great personalities, dignitaries and the great Guru. - The third aspect is rigorous hard work. - Fourth aspect - No difficulty should take control over oneself. - We should take control over difficulties. He inspired to defeat the difficulties with persistence and be successful.

(5) One is required to have wings to fly high - Higher aim is required to become unique. - The resolution-like wings are essential for higher flying. - One should make resolution, "I am capable by born, I am born with goodness and confidence, I am born with dreams and thoughts, I am courageous by born, I am not born to accept defeat. I have wings, so that I will fly definitely.

(6) Recommendation to work with unity - Dr.Kalam shares his experience of how one came work with unity. In his village, the priest of Rameshwaram temple, the father of the church and Dr. Islam's father (The Imam of the mosque) used to discuss on many important topics. - During the war in 1941, there was the situation of drought on the island of

Rameshwaram, so how to provide employment in such situation! They use to discuss on the matters like providing help to the people during the time of war, their education, health, etc. – Thus, Dr.Kalam learnt from these dignitaries to work with unity.

(7) Great leadership – What did Dr.Kalam learn from the great scientist Dr. Brahma Prakash? – Life is a precious gift. – Through our life, we should use our abilities to make this world more beautiful. – During working in the team work, one should be more tolerant towards everyone's opinions and view points. – This is very tough indeed. He shared his experience with Dr. Satish Dhawan during SLV-3. – He taught him that, a good leader takes the responsibility of the failure of his team on his shoulders. But passes the credit of the success to the team. One should digest failures. Dr. Satish Dhawan had such great leadership skills. Dr.Kalam learnt this from him.

(8) The divine meeting with Swamishri – When Dr.Kalam first met Swamishri, that day was of great spiritual means. – After the earthquake in Bhuj, he met Pujya Brahmavihari Swami for the rehabilitation work. At that time, he felt dilemma when asked about his thoughts which were going in his mind during India's first nuclear explosion. – But, the genuineness of his answer made us convinced about his high thinking. Dr.Kalam said, "The power of god doesn't work for destruction but works for connecting the minds." Hearing his answer, Pujya Brahmavihari Swami replied, "Our spiritual Guru Pramukh Swami Maharaj has greatly worked for awakening unity. – He has put together all our energy from the debris and made our lives rekindle and restored. Dr.Kalam felt impressed by this. – He wished to meet Swamishri. – The new spiritual journey begun and resulted in this book.

(9) Conclusion: He gave best wishes to the mission of BAPS of spreading kindness, love and understanding.

👉 **THE END** 👈