

**Bochasanwasi Shri Aksharpurushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha
Satsang Sikshan Parixa**

SATSANG PRAVESH-1

Time : 9.00 a.m. to 11.15 a.m.

Total Marks : 75

Sunday, 7th March, 2010

Note : 1. Answer of the prescribed addition 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 blanks on the right side of the answer indicate lesson number & page number.

(SECTION-1: NILKANTH CHARITRA, 6th Edition, June-2007)

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. Nilkanth Varni - to Haribhaktas (49/105)
Nilkanth Varni told this when the devotee told to manage a cart as they will not be able to carry a load of 20 maunds of cucumbers from a sheel village.
2. Nilkanth Varni - to Sevakram (30/59)
Nilkanth Varni said when Sevakram fell ill and he started crying as his condition became worse and he could not walk further.
3. Nilkanth Varni - to Suryanarayan (14/26)
Suryanarayan the Sun God appeared in human form before Nilkanth Varni as He rigorous austerities or penance.

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

1. Jairamdas agreed to accompany Nilkanth Varni to Jagannathpuri. (26/51)
When Nilkanth Varni got ready to go to Jagannathpuri, He said to Jairam come with me on a pilgrimage to Jagannathpuri. Jairamdas had a lot of affection for his family he was hesitant at first, but then he agreed to accompany Nilkanth Varni to Jagannathpuri.
2. Narsinh Mehta sent Kalyanji running in search of Nilkanth Varni. (42/90)
As Nilkanth Varni started walking, He shot a glance at the Shaligram, being worshipped by Narsinh Mehta, a bright light issued from the Shaligram. So Narsinh Mehta sent Kalyanji running in search of Nilkanth Varni.
3. Nilkanth Varni broke the kamandal. (15/29)
While concentrating on God, Mohandas was more attached with this mundane thing. While crossing the river Mohandas warned Nilkanth Varni "Be careful, If you slip the kamandal will break so to get detached or redeemed from this world about mundane thing Nilkanth Varni broke the kamandal.

Q.3 Write short notes on 'Letter to Ramanand Swami' (50/106) (In 15 lines.) (Total Marks: 5)

Though Nilkanth Varni stayed in the ashram for more than seven months Ramanand Swami did not return. So Nilkanth Varni told Muktanand Swami "If you kindly permit me, I would like to go to kutch for the darshan of the Guru? On Falgun vad 5, Samvat 1856 Nilkanth Varni wrote separate letters to Ramanand Swami. They were conveyed to Kutch by Mayaram Bhatt. He reached Bhuj after seven days, prostrated and gave the letters to Ramanand Swami. The words reflected Nilkanth Varni's divine personality, knowledge, detachment and devotion. Ramanand Swami was overwhelmed with happiness and declared, "The one whom I had been waiting for has arrived. God has come in a human form to gift everyone with moksha." "Glory, glory to Varniraj! We have become relieved of all our burdens." And then he addressed the assembly, "Devotees, today is a great auspicious day for us all. Through whom the Bhagwat Dharma will be established and thousands will become brahmarup and attain Brahmadham; that Nilkanth Varni - God - has arrived in Loj." To celebrate this eventful occasion, Ramanand Swami asked for sugar crystals and gave handfuls to Mayaram Bhatt and told "I have given you only

this much but Nilkanth Varni will give you a lot more and make you happier.” Ramanand Swami wrote letters to Varniraj and Muktanand Swami and instructed Mayaram Bhatt to return with the two letters. He said to him, On your way, inform all the devotees about Varni’s arrival in the villages you pass through. And tell them that I have instructed everyone to go to Loj for his darshan.” In his letter to Muktanand Swami, Ramanand Swami wrote, “Take care of Varni. Arrange for all the sadhus to learn ashtang yoga from him. I shall come at the end of Vaishakh month.” To Nilkanth Varni Ramanand Swami wrote, “Take care of your body because you have still to accomplish many tasks. Stay there at present. Do not be in a hurry to come here. Teach ashtang yoga to all the sadhus. As you are eager for my darshan, I too am equally eager for your’s. But I have to travel for the spread of Satsang and please the devotees.”

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

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

1. Krishna Tamboli plucked Lotus-plants from the water and offered the fruits to Nilkanth Varni. (24/47)
2. Nilkanth Varni poured water on the Shaligram but Shaligram drank it. (32/68)
3. Nilkanth Varni was given diksha in the samvat year 1857 of Prabodhini (Kartik sud 11) Ekadashi. (54/116)
4. Urdhvarekha, ashtakon, swastik, jambu, java, vajra, ankush, ketu, and padma marks on right sole of Nilkanth Varni’s foot. (31/64)
5. Before becoming demon Rata Bashiya was a pious and religious king of Telang Region. (29/56)

Q.5 From the given options, place a tick (✓) in the box next to the correct ones. (Total Marks: 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. 2, 3 (8/15-16)
2. 2, 4 (10/19)

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

1. three (35/72)
2. Janmashtami (45/98)
3. Ramanujacharya (33/69)
4. Ganesh (55/121)

(SECTION-2: SATSANG READER PART-I, 5th Edition May - 2008)

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. Jivuba - to Maharaj (6/51)
Jivuba had firm faith that Maharaj was the supreme God, Purushottam Narayan. Yet she desired to have darshan of His divinity.
2. Maharaj - to Brahmanand Swami (1/10)
When Maharaj gave each Sadhus a four-and- a half feet piece of jute, the thick rough material from which sacks are made, Brahmanand Swami asked a larger piece of cloth as he was fat.
3. Jobanpagi - to Maharaj (5/41)
Jobanpagi who went to steal Maharaj’s horse, before every horse, he had Maharaj’s darshan so he asked Maharaj to forgive him.

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

1. Jethabhai's eyes were opened. (7/53)
Yagnapurushdasji explained to him that Bhagatji Maharaj was the manifest form of Akshar and Purushottam and the gateway to Moksha through Vachanamrut. So Jethabhai's eyes were opened.

2. Shriji Maharaj used to call Brahmanand Swami a true yati. (1/10)
The nagar brahmin of Junagadh sent an untamed horse for Brahmanand Swami to ride during the reception. Yet Swami's mere touch calmed the horse immediately. So Shriji Maharaj used to call Brahmanand Swami a true yati.

Q.9 Write short notes on 'The scriptural debate with Khaiyo Khatri' (1/7-8) (in 15 lines). (Total Marks: 5)

Shriji Maharaj once went to Kutch along with his sadhus and devotees. In Mandavi there lived a great learned scholar of Vedant by the name of Khaiyo Khatri. When he learnt of Maharaj's arrival in town, he challenged Maharaj to a scriptural debate. Maharaj told Brahmanand Swami, "When Khaiyo Khatri arrives for the debate, you sit in my place, and I shall sit on the ground nearby. When he asks you questions, point to me and tell him, 'This disciple of mine will answer all your questions.' Brahmanand Swami hesitated, for Maharaj was asking him to play the role of God. Yet, he was helpless in the face of Maharaj's command. Khaiyo Khatri and his disciples soon arrived in the assembly, Brahmanand Swami was seated on Maharaj's seat. Taking Brahmanand Swami to be Bhagwan Swaminarayan himself, Khaiyo began asking him questions. "This disciple of mine will reply." Brahmanand Swami said, pointing towards Maharaj. Maharaj gave clear and logical replies to each of Khaiyo's questions. His unflinching answers left the scholar taken aback and wondering which of the two was the real Swaminarayan. Khaiyo's mother, sitting afar, quelled his doubt. "Look, my son," she said. "This younger sadhu sitting on the ground is God. The sadhu sitting on the seat is a fake!" Brahmanand Swami at once got up and had Maharaj sit on the high seat. He himself sat on the ground. Khaiyo's misconceptions about Maharaj were cleared. Once a critic, Khaiyo Khatri now became a devotee.

Q.10 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 4)

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

1. We are many brothers just as you. we are not afraid of you. (5/40)
2. When Ashabhai's home caught fire, the entire year's stock of cotton, grams, wheat and other crops got burnt. (8/68)
3. Please forgive me if I have ever done anything wrong or if I have ever not been able to act according to your wishes. Now take me to Akshardham. (7/62)
4. Joban would take a little bit of the holy ash everyday with his meal. This routine helped him feel close to Maharaj, keeping his mind at peace. (5/45)

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

Topic: Your problems will go away (8/66)

Write the correct sentence numbers	Correct sequence of sentences
2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 12	9, 8, 6, 4, 2, 12

 **Note: 3 marks will be awarded only if all the six sentence numbers are correct and 3 marks will be awarded only if all the sequence is correct. 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 sentence is written completely correctly. Otherwise no marks will be awarded.**

1. **Sadguru Devanand Swami: Devidanji** was born in **Balol**, near **Dholka** on **Kartik punam** in samvat **1859** to **Jijibhai** and **Benjiba**, who were devotees of **Shiv**. (2/15)
2. **Bhaktaraj Darbar Shri Jheenabhai:** In order to be with **Maharaj** he set up

temporary residence in **Gadhada**. Thus, he would spend **half** of his time in **Panchala** and **the rest** in **Gadhada**. (4/33)

3. **Sadguru Brahmanand Swami: Khaiyo Khatri** of **Mandvi** in **Kutch** expressed his wish to **a scriptural debate** with **Maharaj**. (1/7)
4. **Sadguru Shukanand Swami:** After **Maharaj had** passed away, Shukmuni **used to travel from village to village to spread Satsang**. The reason being that **his body would become weak**, he would often **pray to Maharaj** that he be blessed **with illness**. (3/25)

(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. The following points plus many other sides can be included. For e.g. originality, knowledge of sampraday, special analysis in context to discourses, any other scriptures study points be considered too.**

1. **Becoming gunatit by associating with the gunatit satpurush:** (1) Gunatit means one who has excelled all the gunas and make others too. (2) According to Gadhada Madhya 31 one develops the same quality in the company he lives. If you accompany with Brahmnished Saints then one will think only about the example of (Bumble-bee-worm) (3) Gunatitanand Swami gave the knowledge of Brahm to 200 people. The Saints and devotees are one with Gunatit because they are constantly with him in all the states whether they are awake or asleep. Pragji Bhakta also became one with Gunatit. (4) He dissolved many peoples ego and other problems and made others like him - Raghuvirji Maharaj, Dajibhai, Upendranand Swami etc. incidents - enemies like anger, greed, passion, etc. from the people. (5) Even Shriji Maharaj said in Vachanamrut : The Mumukshu obtain the same virtues of Satpurush but when? He can do so only if he does not keep any obstacle and behave selflessly. Pragji Bhakta and Jaga Bhakta could do so as there was no selfishness. They totally sacrificed their soul and mind and they became Gunatit.
2. **Mandir - A place of vibrant culture:** According to Dr. Missel from school of Architecture "Temple is a powerful and excellent architected image of Hinduism. Temple is an inseparable part of Hinduism. Types of Architecture: Buddha religion Idol of Gautam and Gandhiji are incredible. According to Anand Shankar Dhruv - The birth of BAPS from temple to temple is a live mantra of the Sanstha - They are not mere monuments but has philosophy of life. Dr. Missel's remarked Hinduism is a life cycle or continuous process. The exhibition of the culture in temple in Canada. Cultural activities organised or carried out in the temple - The development of cultural activities through different mandals like BalMandal and KishoreMandals. The main objective is to arise Indian or Hindu religious culture through BAPS temple - so the temple a cultural - shining - pilgrimage - through religious talk all the Aspirants, get good culture - the heritage of Indian culture will also raise or the feelings of the culture will raise.
3. **Pramukh Swami Maharaj - An ideal guru:** (1) The word "Gu" means darkness and "ru" means brightness. The person who drives us from darkness to brightness is Guru. (2) The real guru should be able to destroy to darkness of ignorance. (incidents) (3) Pramukh Swami is such ideal Guru who behaves acc. to the scriptural values. (4) Swamishri ideal guru - his guru Yogiji Maharaj and Shastriji Maharaj and even Swamishri's behaviour cent percent pure. Even his disciples and devotees also 100% pure. Swamishri is decorated with the high moral values like forgiveness, simplicity, patience, saintliness and open hearted or frankness. (incidents) (5) Swamishri has many lakhs of followers. The image of the followers is also gentle in the society as they bear

the high moral values of honesty and good behaviour. (incidents) People living from all the corners of the world and high status people right from ministers all are highly impressed by the Swamishri's auspicious work and appreciate his high moral values. (6) Swamishri was paralalled with disciples happy in their happiness and sad along with them, worried about the disciples day and night. Always thinking of what can be do for the disciples? Ready to sacrifice for them and big hearted Guru. (7) Though a ideal Guru behaved like a ideal student.

