

Bochasanwasi Shri Aksharpurushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha
Satsang Sikshan Parixa

SATSANG PRARAMBHA

Time : 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 a.m.

Total Marks : 100

Sunday, 6th March, 2011

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.

Important Note

In the question paper the marks of the each sub-question should be written in the box (mark : 1) given on the right side and the marks of obtained by the candidate should be written in the adjacent box. If the answer is wrong than 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.

(SECTION-1: GHANSHYAM CHARITRA, 7th Edition, April - 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. Hanumanji - to Bhaktimata (2/4)
Hanumanji took child-God from the hands of the old evil woman and gave the child-God to Bhaktimata that time he prostrated before her and said so.
2. Raidarshansinh - to wrestlers of Ayodhya such as Mansang, Dillisang, Bhimsang (21/36)
When some of the more renowned wrestlers of Ayodhya said to Raidarshansinh that they shall wrestle with Ghanshyam and defeat him that time Raidarshansinh advised them so.
3. Ghanshyam - to Everyone (to Dharmadev and Rampratapbhai) (22/40)
Ghanshyam led Dharmadev and Rampratapbhai into confectioner's shop and show them that all the basket are full.

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

Note : mark of right half answer not to be given.

1. Sage Markandey named Ghanshyam. (4/7)
2. The cows stood around Ghanshyam at Khampa Talavadi. (23/41)
3. The cow named 'Gomti' was most dear to Ghanshyam. (37/73)
4. When Bhaktimata was hungry, Ghanshyam instructed the eight Siddhis to bring food. (8/12)

Q.3 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. **Ghanshyam has his ears pierced:** She at once called for her elder son, Rampratapbhai, and asked him, "See, Ghanshyam is seated on the tamarind tree. Climb up and bring him down." (6/10)

2. **Sparrows sent into samadhi:** While the sparrows were in samadhi, Ghanshyam went away to Madhavram Shukla's field nearby. There he played with his friends, Raghuvir and Buxram. (14/24)
3. **The importance of Ekadashi:** Since the observance of Ekadashi was stopped in Jagannathpuri people have stopped doing it. People believe that to remain hungry is to inflict suffering on one's atma. (31/62)
4. **Ramdatt is taught a lesson:** Ghanshyam took the drinking pot and string string from the Brahmin's shoulder, and rushed back to the top of the tree. (17/29)

Q.4 'Monkeys get a sound thrashing' (16/26) - Write five brief sentences on the main points of this incident (continuous narration 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. Once Ghanshyam took some puris and yogurt on a plate and sat down to eat in the verandah that time a mischievous monkey came down and snatched some puris from Ghanshyam's hand and leapt back and sat on a branch of the tamarind tree.
2. Ghanshyam stretched out his hand, caught the monkey by the neck and threw him to the ground. On hearing the painful yells of the monkey, other monkeys came and surrounded Ghanshyam from all sides.
3. Dharmadev saw this and he went inside the house to fetch a stick. Meanwhile, Ghanshyam assumed as many separate forms of himself as there were of monkeys and caught all of them.
4. Ghanshyam threw away some monkeys by catching hold of their ears, some by catching thier legs or tails and he pushed away some by grabbing their mouth.
5. In short while, Dharmadev came out with a stick and he found that all the monkeys had run away. Due to this miracle he became sure that Ghanshyam is the God.

Q.5 From the given options, place a tick (✓) in the box next to the correct ones. (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. 2, 3 (44/86) 2. 1, 3 (3/6) 3. 2, 3 (38/75) 4. 1, 4 (9/14)

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

1. Ghanshyam climbed the pipal tree and looked west. (18/31)
He was looking in the west because in the west, are the lands of Gujarat- Kathiawad and Shri Krishna's Dwarika, where there were many spiritual aspirants who yearn to meet God.
2. The scholars in Kashi prostrated before Ghanshyam. (43/84)
At everyone's request and with Dharmadev's permission Ghanshyam beautifully and very clearly explained the deep and difficult meanings of verses from the Vedas. Also with the backing of the shastras he solidly propagated the Vishishtadvait philosophy. Thus, by his knowledge and oratory, he concluded the endless debate on the shastra which spellbound everyone in Kashi.
3. At mango garden, a severe cyclone came which brought torrential rains. (11/17)
In the mango garden, to kill Ghanshyam, Kalidatt stretched out his hand to catch hold of Ghanshyam but Ghanshyam looked at Kalidatta and he began to burn. This made him angry and so, with his magical powers, he created a severe cyclone which brought torrential rains.

(SECTION - 2: YOGIJI MAHARAJ, 8th Edition, May-2009)

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. Jaga Bhakta - to Jina Bhagat (9/13-14)
Jina Bhagat dreamt that Jaga Bhakta was standing before him and he requested him to say a few words of wisdom that time Jaga Bhakta said so.

2. Hargovind Maheta - to Yogiji Maharaj (14/23)
In Rajkot, Yogiji Maharaj unintentionally made a small mistake. Vignandas Swami became very angry and ordered Yogiji Maharaj to leave his unfinished meal as a punishment. Hargovind Maheta witnessed this scene and privately he asked Yogiji Maharaj that Don't you feel like leaving here and going home?
3. Two teachers - to Jinabhai (5/6)
During 30 minute recess time other student played games while Jinabhai spent time in prayer or meditation. This made teachers curious and they asked him Jina, you don't play any games?

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

 **Note : mark of half answer not to be given.**

1. Jinabhai used to meditate near the bridge, constructed on river Shetrunji, known as Patalio Jharo. (2/2)
2. Jina Bhagat and the other sadhus presented to Shastriji Maharaj a mala and a tumbdi, which had been used by Aksharbrahman Gunatitanand Swami during their first meeting. (10/16)
3. After exactly twelve hours, the effect of the poison subsided from Yogiji Maharaj. (21/35)
4. When Shastriji Maharaj appointed Shastri Narayanswarupdasji as the president of the sanstha, he was only 28-years-old at that time. (33/57)

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 (4/5-6)

Write the correct sentence numbers	2, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11	Correct sequence of sentences	11, 5, 10, 8, 2, 7
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 **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.10 Write short notes on 'Shastriji Maharaj Is Always Manifest' (24/39) (In 15 lines.) (Total Marks: 5)

"I have performed the arti of the murtis for the Gadhada mandir. They will now be ritually consecrated by Yogiji Maharaj. "There is not even a slight difference between me and Yogi. I am Yogi and Yogi is me" were his last words. On Vaishakh sud 4 Shastriji Maharaj passed away. His body was cremated the next day. The devotees were in deep shock. The devotees were in deep shock. They all thought, "Shastriji Maharaj has gone. Now what will happen to us?" No one know what to do. At that time Yogiji Maharaj reassured everyone," Shastriji Maharaj has not gone. We should never think that Shastriji Maharaj has gone from our midst. Shastriji Maharaj is forever present in Satang." Listening to these words of Yogiji Maharaj everyone felt, "Shriji Maharaj was ever present in Shastriji Maharaj is now manifest in Yogiji Maharaj. Shastriji Maharaj will now bless everyone through Yogiji Maharaj." Six days after the passing away of Shastriji Maharaj to Akshardham on V.S. 2007, Yogiji Maharaj performed the murti-pratistha in Gadhada with great joy and festivity. Fifty thousand devotees assembled to witness the ceremony. Everyone was convinced that "Shastriji Maharaj is always manifest in the Satsang." The opponents were disappointed. They had thought that as Shastriji Maharaj had reverted to Akshardham, no one would attend the celebrations and that the Akshar Purushottam Sanstha would collapse. But they were amazed by the personality of Yogiji Maharaj. The glory of Akshar Purushottam spread in all directions. He captured the hearts of all the devotees, and won their respect and admiration.

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

1. One should humbly render service, no matter how menial it is. (32/55)
 - A. Harboursing ego will cause one misery in satsang. It could even lead one to fall from satsang. But if one humbly renders service, no matter how menial, then one does not become proud, and is able to uphold the satsang.
2. Yogiji Maharaj won the respect of Narayanprasad. (17/29)
 - A. Narayanprasad had insulted Yogiji Maharaj, even then Yogiji Maharaj removed the thron from his foot, dressed the wound, fed him prasada of puri and laddoo, made a bed for him and in the morning he kept a cart ready to take him Kariyani. He underwent a complete change of heart and thought, Yogiji has served me with love even though I had insulted him. He was won me over completely with his great affection.
3. Krishnacharandas advised the other young sadhus to cultivate the virtues of austerity and self-restraint as Jina Bhagat. (12/18)
 - A. Krishnacharandas Swami praised his austerity and placed self-control. That night he called Jina Bhagat and placed his hands on his head, and blessed him. He advised the other young sadhus to cultivate the same virtues of austerity and self-restraint as Jina Bhagat.

SECTION-3: KISHORE SATSANG PRARAMBH, 8th Edition, April - 2008

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

1. Before going home from the balmandal, one should say "Jai Swaminarayan" to everybody. (21/58)
2. In our puja, we should worship the murtis of Shri Akshar Purushottam Maharaj, Shri Bhagatji Maharaj, Shri Shastriji Maharaj, Shri Yogiji Maharaj and Shri Pramukh Swami Maharaj. (5/12)
3. This farmer's humble son was not protected like Prahlad, yet he did not flinch from his faith. His father is like Hiranyakashyapu. (6/16)
4. Maharaj stretched his legs and touched the pipal tree in the compound. Divine light radiated from the big toe of his right foot. (22/61)

Q.13 From the given options, place a tick (✓) in the box next to the correct ones. (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 (13/32) 2. 3, 4 (12/29) 3. 2 (18/51) 4. 1, 4 (3/4)

Q.14 Fill in the blanks. (Total Marks: 4)

1. Narayan (2/2) 2. Akhandanand (8/19) 3. God (18/34) 4. Mahelav (17/49)

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

Note : If the Kirtan/Verses are half correct one mark to be given.

1. Shastra sakalno sar param e, Brahman ane parabrahman jai jai
Brahman ane Parbrahman jai jai
Mul Akshar je Brahman Anadi, Gunatitanand jai jai, Gunatitanand jai jai. (23/62)
2. Beso melya bajothiya dhali, katora kanchanni thali,
jale bharya chambu chokhali...
Kari katha ghauni poli, meli ghrut sakarma boli,
kadhyo ras kerino gholi.....
Galya sata ghebar fulvadi, dudhpak malpua kadhi,
puri pochi thai chhe ghi ma chadhi... (12/30)
3. Shrimannirgun-murti sundar tanu, je gnanvarta kathe,
Je sarvagna, samast sadhugun chhe, maya thaki mukta chhe;
Sarvaishvaryathi purna, ashritjnona dosh tale sada,
Eva Pragji Bhaktraaj gurune, preme namu sarvada. (9/24)

4. Shastriji Maharajna gun nitya gaou, Yogiji Maharajna gun nitya gaou,
Pramukh Swamina gun nitya gaou, Tav charanoma shish namaou,
Ashish vachan dyo anandkari..... (3/5)

Q.16 “Swaminarayan namna mantra” (16/40) - **Complete the Swamini Vato and write an explanatory note on it (in 15 lines). (Total Marks: 5)**

 **Note : If Swami-ni-vato is written fully then 1 mark and 4 marks for explanation.**

In Book Swamini Vato is given in Gujarati and English. Give full marks to examinee if written in any one from that.

“Swaminarayan namna mantra jevo bijo koi mantra aj baliyo nathi, ne e mantre kala nagnu pan jher na chade, ne e mantre vishay udi jay chhe, brahmarup thay chhe ne kal, karma, mayanu bandhan chhuti jay chhe, evo bahu baliyo e mantra chhe. Mate nirantar bhajan karvu.”

Today, there is no mantra as powerful as the Swaminarayan mantra. It neutralizes even the poison of a black cobra and dispels the vishays. With it, one becomes brahmarup and is freed from the bondage of kal, karma and maya. That is how powerful the mantra is. Therefore, chant it always. The divine power of the mantra was attested when a poisonous serpent bit the finger of Yogiji Maharaj in Gondal. When Bhaktivallabhdas Swami saw the snake he realized that it had bitten Yogiji Maharaj. He immediately informed Shastriji Maharaj who then instructed that Yogiji Maharaj be taken to the Akshar Deri and that all should start chanting the Swaminarayan mantra with total faith. Accordingly, one and all began chanting the mantra. When the Maharaja of Gondal came to know of the snake bite, he immediately sent his doctor to treat Swami. But Shastriji Maharaj refused the treatment, and affirmed his faith in the chanting of Swaminarayan mantra. He said that God would cure him. After about twelve hours, the effect of the poison completely disappeared. However, the bite and poison were so vicious that the tip of Yogiji Maharaj’s left hand index finger withered slightly. Swamiji’s index finger was, as a result, somewhat bent. As this story shows, we too must recite the Swaminarayan mantra with faith and devotion.

Q.17 ‘Nath Bhakta’ (20/55) - **Write five brief sentences on the main points of this incident. (Continuous narration 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. Nath Bhakta of Vadodara, Whatever he earned from selling vegetables, he would spend it for Maharaj and his sadhus by offering them rich and wholesome food, he left for Vadodara with the permission of Maharaj.
2. A messenger hurried after Nath Bhakta and caught him near the river Vishwamitri, on hearing the summons, Nath Bhakta turned back, Shriji Maharaj was greatly pleased.
3. When Nath Bhakta’s wife died many people saw Shriji Maharaj carrying her great soul to Akshardham in his divine chariot. At that time Nath Bhakta did not mourn at all.
4. His son, Prabhudas used to experience samadhi. He would bring dry dates, sugar crystals etc. as prasad when he died at the age of sixteen Nath Bhakta distributed sweets among the people of town.
5. Nath Bhakta said, “He was a devotee of God. God his called him, This is a joyous occasion. There is no need to mourn at all.”

