

Bochasanwasi Shri Aksharpurushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha
Satsang Sikshan Parixa

SATSANG PARICHAY-2

Time : 2.00 to 4.15 p.m.

Total Marks : 75

Sunday, 3 March, 2013

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 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 (✗) of each sub-question should be marked only on the left-side before the question starts.

(SECTION-1: KISHOR SATSANG PARICHAY, 4th Edition, January - 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. "If an elephant is stuck it can be pulled out only by another elephant." (23/84-85)
👈 Shriji Maharaj - to Muktanand Swami
👈 The queen Kushalkuvarba heard the divine glory of Bhagwan Swaminarayan from Swami and was attracted towards satsang. At times she arranged for the swami to be on an elephant through the streets of the town. She had such great respect for the sadhus of Maharaj. To call Swami back Maharaj told Muktanand Swami while going to Dharampur.
2. "You must have done something which was in my interest." (7/17)
👈 Prince - to son of the minister
👈 Son of the minister made a cut on the throat of a prince. The prince inspite of witnessing this also did not say anything so the friend said the above words.
3. "There is only one Swami and that is Vallabh Swami the rest are like devas to me." (16/54)
👈 Himraj Shah - to Vanasha, the eldest son
👈 The eldest son Vanasha, would talk to his father about the glory of Swaminarayan, so he said the above words.

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

1. Shriji Maharaj touched the containers with his stick during the yagna at Dabhan. (15/52)
A. During yagna at Dabhan Vishnudas and Swarupanand Swami checked the stock and said to Maharaj, If there is not enough foodstuff, it will bring a bad name to Lakshmiji. Why should we worry about it? seeing the faith of these disciples, Maharaj, touched the containers with his stick.
2. Sundarji Suthar's vanity vanished. (19/67)
A. When Maharaj visited Bhadra, he sent a letter to eighteen devotees asking them to go to Ramdas Swami at Jetalpur to renounce and then to meet him in Bhuj. When all eighteen devotees came to Bhuj after becoming sadhus, Shriji Maharaj embraced all them with great love and introduced them all to Sundarjibhai and said that they were all big landlords and village chiefs. When Sundarjibhai looked at them, his vanity vanished.

3. Shriji Maharaj built mandirs in Ahmedabad, Bhuj, Vartal, Dholera, Junagadh and Gadhada. (10/23)
- A. For the sake of preserving upasana, Maharaj have relaxed the emphasis on renunciation have built mandirs of God. Thereby even if only a little renunciation remains, upasana will at least be preserved and through it, many jivas will attain liberation **OR** One of the six aims behind Shriji Maharaj's manifestation on the earth was to establish the worship of his supreme form along with that of his ideal devotee, Aksharbrahman, and preach the spiritual path of supreme wisdom. To realize this aim and for the spread of the Sampraday, Maharaj built the mandirs.

Q.3 Write short notes on "Damodarbai" (13/44-47) (in 15 lines). (Total Marks: 5)

Damodarbai Patel of Ahmedabad was a disciple of Sadguru Ramanand Swami. He was greatly impressed by the unique process of Shriji Maharaj and was convinced about his supremacy. Once, Damodarbai had a discussion with Nathu Bhatt. Both of them approached Shriji Maharaj. That very moment, Shriji Maharaj put Nathu Bhatt in samadhi in which he saw innumerable mukhtas, innumerable incarnations of and Ramanand Swami, all serving Maharaj. This convinced Nathu Bhatt of Maharaj's supremacy. Once during a discussion, Damodarbai had a dispute with a sadhu. The sadhu lost his temper and slapped Damodarbai. But he did not utter a word nor did he become angry with him. When Maharaj came to know about this, he scolded the sadhu. At that time Damodarbai intervened and said, "O Maharaj! A sadhu after all is like a father and sometimes the father beats the son, so there is nothing wrong." Maharaj became very happy on hearing this. By coming into contact with Maharaj, he had become a great devotee. He had lost interest in the material world and detached himself completely from the objects of pleasure. He used to spend more time in the service of Shriji Maharaj. He would know Maharaj's mind and serve him accordingly. Once while addressing the congregation, Maharaj started coughing. Suddenly a clot of mucus got stuck in his throat. He instantly extended his turban and said "O Maharaj! Please spit into this vessel. Such was his service that he used even his precious turban to serve Maharaj. When Damodarbai went for the darshan of Nar-Narayan dev, Rampratapbhai always insulted and rebuked him, yet he did not develop any ill-will towards the Satsang. He continued his old practice of regularly going for darshan of Nar-Narayan Dev and Rampratapbhai. Such a humble and steadfast devotee of Shriji Maharaj was Damodarbai.

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

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

1. On the basis of which principle did Shastriji Maharaj consecrate the murtis of Akshar and Purushottom together in mandirs? (1/4)
A. God always manifests on the earth along with his Akshardham - Vachanamrut-Gadhada-I-71 in accordance with these principle, Shastriji Maharaj consecrate the murtis of Akshar-Purushottam together in mandirs.
2. To whom did Gopinath's murti give a garland to daily? (5/14)
A. The Gopinath's murti gave a garland to Premanand Swami daily.
3. What would Gordhanbhai write in his accounts book? (29/107)
A. Gordhanbhai wrote 'Debit-Swaminarayan' in his account book.
4. Which two ascetics were on their way to Kathiawad for Bhagwan Swaminarayan's darshan? (12/43)
A. Ramanujanand Swami and Gopalanand Swami were on their way to Kathiawad for Bhagwan Swaminarayan's darshan.
5. What are the five panchvishays? (25/94)
A. The five Panchvishays are shabda (speech), sparsh (touch), Roop (beauty), Ras (taste), Gandh (smell)

Q.5 “Jem gay chhe te....” (25/92-94) - **Complete the Swamini Vato and narrate it. (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 Hare Swamie vat kari je: “Jem gay chhe te vachhda saru parso muke chhe tem je shishya hoy te gurune man sope to antahkarannu ajnan tali nakhe. Pan te vina tale nahi.”

“Just as a cow releases milk for its calf, if a devotee surrenders his mind to his guru, he will free the inner faculties of ignorance. But without this it will not be removed.”

Satyakam Jabali went to a guru to attain wisdom. The guru asked him to tell him about his family background and history. He replied, “I don’t know.” and went to his mother to learn about his family background. But his mother told him, “You have no father.” Jabali returned to the hermitage of the guru and told him everything. The guru then remarked, “You haven’t concealed anything from me so you are a Brahmin.” He granted him permission to study in his hermitage. Once, the guru said, “Who will lead these cows to the meadows? He will have to allow them to graze till they increase to four hundred cows. Then only I will impart spiritual wisdom to him.” Most of the pupils replied, “We have come here to study and not to graze cows.” They avoided the work. But Satyakam Jabali carried out the guru’s command and led the cows away for grazing. In accordance with the guru’s command, he started serving the cows and took them out for grazing everyday. He looked after their daily needs of water and fodder and served them with love. The cows went on multiplying. While serving the cows, he began to learn a great deal from the trees, leaves, animals and birds. When the number of cows had reached four hundred Satyakam went to his guru. At that time his face was beaming with the radiance of wisdom. The guru bestowed upon him his choicest blessings and said, “You have acquired all knowledge. From today, you will be regarded as a master of everything.” With these words the guru blessed him and he attained brahmajnan. Thus, Swami observed, such stories can be narrated only when one begins to overflow with love for one’s disciples. Milk begins to flow from the udder of a cow at the sight of her calf, because the calf is so dear to the cow; in the same manner if one surrenders completely to the guru and accepts his precepts unconditionally, then only does the guru eradicate one’s ignorance. One who has become worthy of one’s guru’s blessings and love does not need any knowledge of the scriptures.

Q.6 Complete the following. (Total Marks: 8)

 **Note : Only 1 marks for incomplete kirtans/verses.**

1. Gayatrithi laksh gano vishesh, jane ja jeno mahima Mahesh;
Jya Jya maha muktajano vasay, a kalma to jap e ja thay. (6/15)
2. Arun kamalsam jugal charanni, shobha ati sari vhalo,
Chintvan karva atur ati, man vrutti mari vhalo.
Pratham te chintvan karu, sundar sole chihna vhalo;
urdhvarekha opi rahi, atishe navin vhalo. (20/75)
3. Bhav-sambhav-bhiti-bhedanam, Sukh-sampatkaruna-niketanam;
Vrata-dan-tapah kriya-falam, Sahajanand-gurum bhaje sada. (11/39)
4. Translation: Dharma is the code of moral conduct prescribed by the Shrutis and Smrutis. Deep devotion and love for God, with complete knowledge of his glory is called bhakti. (28/104)

(SECTION-2: PRAGJI BHAKTA, 4th Edition, SEPTEMBER - 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. "Didn't leave a drop of it for others." (29/61)
 - Chakubhai and Sadashankarbhai - to Bhagatji
 - Chakubhai, Sadashankarbhai and others were overwhelmed with joy at the sight of Bhagatji. They recalled the old memories of their days together and said the above words.
2. "Shriji Maharaj, as depicted in Vachanamrut, eternally dwells in him. This is the reason we follow him wherever he goes." (20/44)
 - Yagnapurushdasji - Vitthalbhai (in the assembly of the saints of Gadhada and the devotees)
 - Vitthalbhai asked talk about occasion of his supreme nischay and said Bhagatji is a man of firm determination.
3. "You should not feel despondent with this world." (14/30)
 - Pragji Bhakta - to Gunatitanand Swami
 - Swami told Pragji Bhakta, "The sadhus from Vartal have resolved to reprimand me and they have decided to excommunicate you from the satsang. I can't tolerate you being insulted in my presence." That time Pragji Bhakta said the above words.

Q.8 Give reasons for the following (two to three lines each). (Total Marks: 6)

1. Pragji Bhakta resolved to be worthy of Swami's blessings. (4/9)
 - A. Swami said "I am overflowing with Jnan but I have yet to find a worthy person to receive it. It can only be given to a valiant soul who has total control over all his senses and body and is prepared to surrender himself completely to me." Pragji Bhakta took Swami's words seriously and he resolved to be worthy of Swami's blessings.
2. Pavitrnanand Swami decided to excommunicate Pragji Bhakta. (13/28)
 - A. The talk between Pragji Bhakta and devotees continued till late at night. Pavitrnanand Swami lost his temper when he heard Pragji Bhakta talking about the glory of Akshar. Pragji Bhakta went near him and whispered, "There is no alternative except to understand Gunatitanand Swami as the manifestation of Akshar. so Pavitrnanand Swami said, Who are you to teach me? I will excommunicate you from satsang.
3. Bechar Bhagat went to Pragji Bhakta to seek communion with him. (17/37)
 - A. Bhagatji had stitched Bechar Bhagat's perfect shirt without taking any measurements. He was pleased with Bhagatji's skill. Bhagatji said, "This shirt will cover your body but I can prepare a shirt for your soul. But, for that you will have to come to my seat. This aroused an air of curiosity in Bechar Bhagat so he went to Bhagatji's seat and sought communion with him.

Q.9 Write short notes on "Do or Die for the Guru" (6/10-13) (in 15 lines). (Total Marks: 5)

Swami had undertaken the task of constructing a haveli on the mandir premises. Following Swami's wish, Pragji undertook the difficult work of washing the sand and pouring it into the foundation. When the difficult job of preparing lime mortar nobody was prepared to it as he was not afraid of getting blisters on his hands and feet and also make him blind. Pragji willingly accepted the work and started lifting the large sacks of lime on his back. He mixed water and lime in a pit and pounded it into mortar with his bare-feet. If anyone warned him, "Pragji, you will become blind on account of the heat from the lime. He would simply reply, "I want to please Swami. I have dedicated my life in the service of Swami. On Swami's instructions, he began to fast for two days at a time and eat only once on the third day. Pragji had only one aim to act according to the wishes of Swami and to obey all his commands. At times Swami used to test him. Once Swami told him, "Pragji, mortar is to be prepared. Fetch two hundred spades and five hundred buckets. But he did not argue. He searched the mandir and returned with a few spades and buckets. On another occasion Swami issued an unexpected command, "Pragji go and call Mount Girnar. The poor fellow has performing austerities for ages. I want to redeem him. Pragji rushed to call Girnar. Some people criticised him for not

using discretion. They remarked, "Do you really expect Girnar to come? You should use discretion in carrying out commands. A barber named Karsan used to shave the sadhus at Junagadh mandir every month. He increased his rates by one paise per person. Gunatitanand Swami refused to pay him the increased rates. But soon the sadhus felt uncomfortable without the monthly shave and tonsure. Swami asked Pragji Bhakta to do the barber's job. He was always eager to obey his guru. Then for nearly six months he performed the role of a barber without feeling belittled by what he was doing.

Q.10 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 5)

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

1. Who took Pragji Bhakta with him to Junagadh to meet Gunatitanand Swami? (3/6)
A. Siddhanand Swami took Pragji Bhakta with him to Junagadh to meet Gunatitanand Swami.
2. In which village and how many mango trees did Pragji Bhakta water in a mango grove? (8/17)
A. Pragji Bhakta watered for three hundred mango trees in a mango grove in the Maliya village.
3. How many rotla did Yagnapurushdasji eat in order to please Bhagatji Maharaj? (21/46)
A. In order to please Bhagatji Maharaj, Yagnapurushdasji ate three and half rotlas.
4. What remedy did Shriji Maharaj give to Pragji Bhakta to cure him of his boils? (15/32)
A. Maharaj after giving darshan, to Pragji touched his whole body with his hand and advised him to take some soup of black beans.
5. Why has the supply of stones from outside stopped? (7/15)
A. The supply of stones from outside stopped because a dead dog lay on top of the slabs.

Q.11 From the given options, place a tick (✓) in the box next to the correct ones. (Total Marks: 6)

 **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. 1, 2, 3 (5/10) 2. 2 (21/45) 3. 1, 3, 4 (23/49)

Q.12 Rewrite the incorrect sentences below in relation to the sentence heading. (Total Marks: 6)

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

1. **Recipient worthy of Akshar Jnan** : Once, as he was unable to reach Vartal for a festival, Pragji Bhakta came to Sarangpur in search of Gunatitanand Swami. At that time Swami was at the nearby village of Khambhda. (4/7)
2. **Divinity Revealed** : The thousands of devotees who had thronged the mandir for the annakut darshan, were lucky to have darshan of the luminous personality of Bhagatji. They all praised Bhagatji. Fulchanbhai's father, Khimjibhai, had come there with a carriage. (29/69)
3. **Jnan Yagna in Ahmedabad** : In Mahemdavad Yagnapurushdasji regularly visited the railway station and enquired about Bhagatji from those who returned from Ahmedabad after visiting Bhagatji. (24/51)
4. **Early Childhood** : The child devotee was sent to the local school, but he was too active to remain within the walls of the school. Often, he would run away with other school boys to the river Malan that flowed along the outskirts of Mahuva. (1/1)
5. **Jal-Jhilani celebration at Gadhada** : However much one may talk about atma one cannot become atmarup. One has to offer bhakti with a full understanding of God's glory. (26/58)
6. **Discord in the Fellowship** : Before leaving for Vartal to participate in the Chaitra Punam festival of V.S. 1922, Swami remarked, "This time Pragji will face trouble, but I have made his armour so carefully that nothing will harm him." (14/30)