

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

SATSANG PRAVESH-1

Time : 9.00 to 11.15 a.m.

Total Marks : 75

Sunday, 2 March, 2014

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 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 (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. "If you cherish my form in your heart then I shall always be with you." (19/34)
👈 Nilkanth Varni - to King Sidhvallabh
👈 When Nilkanth Varni inspired the glory of his divine form in the King's heart and when he departed the king was pained. Varni said the above sentence.
2. "These murtis will be housed in a magnificent mandir that will be built here." (36/72)
👈 Nilkanth Varni - to the priest
👈 At Bochasan after the evening arti murtis of Shri Ram, Lakshman and Sita Varni said the above statement.
3. "God will certainly provide for your needs and you will have no famine in your house." (38/75)
👈 Nilkanth Varni - to Lakho Koli
👈 When NilkanthVarni asked "Why you have killed so many fishes?" Lakho replied, "In this dreadful drought, because I could not get any grain, I had to take this occupation. so Varni said the above statements.

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

1. Pibek is totally transformed. (20/37)
 - A. Kalbhairav and Batuk emerged from the smoke but could not go near Nilkanth and instead of that they beat Pibek with their trident and crashed him to the ground. Then he invoked the presence of Hanumanji. Even Hanumanji beat Pibek so severely that he vomited blood and fell unconscious on the ground. Some of Pibek's disciples and relatives prayed to Nilkanth to revive him and bring him back to life. He looked at Pibek, whereupon he regained consciousness. He asked for forgiveness. Everyone was surprised at the change of Pibek's heart.
2. King Satradharma approached the mahant for a Shaligram. (28/52)
 - A. King Satradharma and his queen used to go everyday to hear the sermons of Nilkanth. One day Nilkanth described the importance of worshipping Vishnu and Shaligram. The King therefore wished to have a Shaligram. so King Satradharma approached the mahant for a Shaligram.
3. Lalji Suthar went to see Ramanand Swami in Kutch. (51/105)
 - A. When Mayaram Bhatt gave message of Ramanand Swami to Lalji Suthar to go to Loj for darshan of Varni. Lalji thought Mayaram Bhatt is propagating the greatness of Nilkanth on the name of Ramanand Swami. so to inform this to Ramanand Swami he went to Kutch.

Q.3 Write short notes on any ONE of the following. (In 15 lines.) (Total Marks: 5)

1. **Meeting Ramanand Swami (52/106-109)** It had been nine months since Nilkanth arrived in Loj and still he had not been able to meet Ramanand Swami. Muktanand Swami inspired Varni to be patient because it would still take a little more time. One day Muktanand Swami sat down for puja, Nilkanth came and sat besides him. While meditating Muktanand Swami used to see Ramanand Swami so during his meditation Sarjudas linked his mind through his yogic powers with Muktanand Swami's mind and had darshan of Ramanand Swami. When Muktanand Swami finished his meditation, Nilkanth happily expressed his feelings and described the features of Ramanand Swami. Everyone was surprised by hearing this. On the evening of Jeth vad 10, Kurji Dave brought a message that Ramanand Swami was to arrive in Piplana and had invited Nilkanth Varni and all the sadhus to come for darshan. Muktanand Swami was immensely pleased with the good news and as a token of appreciation presented his pagh to Kurji Dave. The other sadhus too presented him with whatever they had as gifts. Since Varni had nothing to give to Kurji Dave he said, "Dave, I shall give you my Akshardham as a gift." Kurji Dave did not understand the words of Nilkanth. The Brahmachari repeated his words. "Dave what no one can give that supreme Akshardham I shall give you." That very same evening, Nilkanth Varni, Muktanand Swami and other sadhus departed for Piplana. On the way to Piplana Nilkanth got tired easily. Muktanand Swami told him, "If you walk like this, then when will we reach Piplana? It is still very far therefore use your yogic power." Nilkanth immediately exercised his yogic power and reached the banks of the Ozat river. The river was in spate and overflowing its banks. The current was so strong that even the mighty elephants would be swept away. But Nilkanth remained undeterred. So he used his yogic powers and walked briskly over the waters of the Ozat river and reached the opposite bank. Varni then had his bath, performed puja. After an hour when the floods subsided Muktanand Swami and everyone crossed the river in a boat and entered Piplana together. Ramanand Swami was staying at Narsinh Mehta's home. The day of this historic meeting was 19 June 1800 (Jeth vad 12, Samvat 1856). News was conveyed to Ramanand Swami that Nilkanth Varni and Sadhus had arrived in Piplana. On hearing this, Ramanand Swami happily got up from his seat. On seeing Ramanand Swami Varni started prostrating. The guru ran towards the young Brahmachar, raised him and embraced him. Then Ramanand Swami said, "Muktanand Swami, do you know that the alms-centres we have started in the villages are for this Varniraj? I have been waiting for him to come for a long time." Then Ramanand Swami spoke about the glory

of Nilkanth to all the Sadhus. Then a sadhu asked him, "Swami, you had often said that the main player of the show is yet to come. Is it this Varni?" "Yes, it is him. It is your great fortune to have met him today. And when you realize his true form your joy will know no bounds!" replied Ramanand Swami.

2. **Compassionate Nilkanth (9/15-16)** In Bansi two servants of the king entered in the garden, they aimed their rifles at a spot and fired. The bullets hit a couple of birds which fell down from the tree, screaming and struggling for life. The helpless eyes of both birds stared at Nilkanth and they soon died. Nilkanth blessed them and redeemed their souls. He was deeply pained at the cruel behaviour of the king's servant. He became sad and dejected. On that day he observed a fast. At midnight he suddenly woke up. A thought casually passed through his mind, "Let this city be burned!" Immediately after this, he withdrew that thought saying to himself, "No, a sadhu should be forgiving. He should not even harbour a thought which may cause harm to anyone." But a result of his first casual utterance, the city of Bansi went up in flames. The god of fire had already set it aflame from the heavens. The fire started from the king's palace and rapidly spread to the whole city. The king, the queen and all the citizens began to flee the city. When Nilkanth saw this, he felt compassion for the citizens. Instantly he plunged in the waters of the river and with that the fire was extinguished. Only the two servants who had killed the birds were burnt to death. The city was saved from being reduced to ashes. Since such an incident occurred as a result of his casual utterance, Nilkanth stood in the water of the river, and taking a little water in the palm of his hands, took an oath and uttered a curse on his own speech, "If ever again such an impure thought passes through my mind even by mistake, let it not be fruitful. Let my words, on such an occasion, fail to bear any fruit."
3. **Reunion with Nilkanth (48-49)** When Nilkanth was briskly walking in the direction of Jagannathpuri he heard someone calling, "Oh Nilkanth Varni." When he turned back, he saw Jairamdas who came running panting and shouting. After twenty days of searching he had at last found Nilkanth. Jairamdas fell at the feet of Nilkanth. He beseeched, "O Brahmachariji! Please forgive our faults. Oh kind one, please excuse our mistakes. Come back to our house. I shall not allow you to proceed any further, My parents are bewailing. They have stopped eating. They are crying all day long. The whole village is sad. My sisters and Krishna Tamboli have become almost mad. Please hurry up, and return to my house. I shall not leave you alone." Nilkanth quietened him and gave him a lot of advice. It was only then that Jairam calmed down. He said, "Jairam come with me on a pilgrimage to Jagannathpuri." Because Jairamdas had a lot of affection for his family he was hesitant at first, but then he agreed to accompany Nilkanth to Jagannathpuri. Whilst travelling through a dense forest Jairamdas experienced the divinity of Nilkanth. They crossed the sea and reached Bhubaneshwar. There they had darshan of Mahadev and after three days they reached Janakpur.

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. Who did Nilkanth Varni serve on the way to Kanchipuram ? (30/56)
 - A. On the way to Kanchipuram Nilkanth served sadhu called Sevakram.
2. Who accompanied Nilkanth Varni to Sheel village? (49/100)
 - A. Deva Bhagat went with Nilkanth to Sheel village.
3. Which best thing did Nilkanth Varni give to Lakhubai? (41/84)
 - A. Nilkanth gifted Akshardham, the best thing in the world to Lakhubai.
4. In Loj, what did Nilkanth Varni chant when seeking for alms? (49/99)
 - A. In Loj, Nilkanth Varni was chanting "Ram Krishna Dhuni Dhuni, Ram Krishna Dhuni Dhuni" when he was seeking for alms.

5. For how long did Nilkanth Varni's travels last? (Year, Month, Day) (44/91)

A. Nilkanth travelled for seven years, one month and eleven days.

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, 4 (22/40-41) 2. 2 (27/49-51)

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

1. hyena, Nilkanth (4/8-9) 2. puja, cow (55/116)
3. Janbai, milk (39/78) 4. ten, priest (27/51)

(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. "Where did this pepper come from?" (4/37)

◇ Jinabhai - to Adiba (sister)

◇ Adiba refused to give pepper when Kamalshibhai was having headache by saying we don't have it in house but after some days she gave it to Jinabhai when he had headache. so Jinabhai said the above statement.

2. "If you wish for liberation, take refuge in Bhagwan Swaminarayan." (8/71)

◇ Ranchhodray - to Ashabhai

◇ Every Punam Ashabhai would go to Dakor for darshan of Ranchhodray. Here he was saddened on seeing some instances of unrighteousness. One night, Ranchhodray granted him darshan in dream and told above statement.

3. "Take this sukhdhi and use it today to freshen your mouth." (3/25)

◇ Shriji Maharaj - to Shukmuni

◇ Shukmuni was busy writing letter for Maharaj. He was late for the morning bath. Everyone had already returned from their bath. He began to worry about this. He was not able to break his previous day's ekadashi fast without bathing and performing his morning worship rituals. Maharaj sensed his worry and said this.

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

1. Ladudanji family decided to go to Gadhada. (1/5)

A. Ladudanji was deeply touched by the sisters divine words and immediately went to Maharaj and gave up his rich clothes and ornaments. He then asked Maharaj to make him a sadhu. Maharaj initiated him into the sadhufold. When Ladudanji's family knew about what Ladudanji had done they came to Gadhada to persuade him to return home.

2. Jetha Bhagat wore saffron clothes. (7/61)

A. Nobody ever had the courage to tell Jetha Bhagat to wear saffron but Shastriji Maharaj told him that his intellect, knowledge and ability will shine only when he accept the saffron robes but not in white. This words stuck in Jetha Bhagat's mind and soon he took initiation.

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

Shriji Maharaj once went to Kutch along with his sadhu and devotees. In Mandvi 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. Realizing the

scholar's intention Maharaj devised a plan. Turning to Brahmanand Swami, he said, "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. When Khaiyo Khatri and his disciple arrived his eyes fell on Brahmanand Swami 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 unfailing 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 was cleared. Once a critic Khaiyo 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 mark for incomplete answer.**

1. What did Abhel Khachar tell Jivuba when he barged into the room with a sword? (6/49)
A. When Abhel Khachar barged into Jivuba's room he said you act like such a great devotee yet you've blemished the family name! You're hiding a bawa in the darbar! Where is he? Speak up!"
2. At whose house did Shriji Maharaj sit on the yoke of the cart and eat milk and thuli? (2/18)
A. At Raya Khatan's house Shriji Maharaj ate milk and thuli a preparation of wheat flakes while sitting on the yoke of the cart.
3. What were the names of Joban Pagi's brothers? (3/42)
A. Joban Pagi's brothers names were Sundar Pagi, Shakaro Pagi and Dalo Pagi.
4. In his last moments, what did Nirgun Swami pray for to Shastriji Maharaj? (7/67)
A. Nirgun Swami prayed to Swamishri "Please forgive me if I have done anything wrong or if I have ever not been able to act according to your wishes. Now take me to Akshardham."

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


Topic: Ladudanji's four wishes (1/1-6)

- | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|----|----|
| (1) Write the correct sentence numbers | 1 | 4 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 12 |
| (2) Correct sequence of sentences | 9 | 8 | 5 | 4 | 12 | 1 |

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 is correct. Otherwise no marks will be given.

Note: (1) Correct sentence numbers: Give 3 marks only if all 6 sentence number is correct otherwise no marks. **(2) Correct sequence of sentences:** Give 3 marks if all sequence of sentence numbers is correct as per answersheet otherwise no marks.


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 correct. Otherwise no marks will be awarded.**

1. **Bhaktaraj Joban Pagi:** Joban learnt that the yogi had come to Vartal from Umreth after having travelled to various parts of the country. He offered the Yogi a meal. (5/41)
2. **Sadguru Brahmanand Swami:** Soon after, through a dream, God inspired the poet's mother and father, Laluba and Shambhudanji, with the same thought. So, when the Maharaja approached them with the idea of having study further, they readily agreed. (1/1)
3. **Sadguru Shukanand Swami:** At the time, a number of Shriji Maharaj's paramhansas were studying in Dabhan under a learned scholar. Jagannath, with his inherent liking for satsang, came in touch with these paramhansas. (3/23)
4. **Swami Yagnapriyadasji:** It was a dharmashala for sadhus that had been sanctified by Shriji Maharaj. As Ashabhai looked inside, he saw that it was packed full with a crowd of devotees. He was stunned to see such a large crowd in such a small place.(8/71)

(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 examin essay on the basis of originality, knowledge of sampraday, special analysis and point from any other scriptures.**

1. **Pramukh Swami Maharaj:- A Role Model for Youth:** (1) Generally the role of youngsters would be youth only but there is something really unique in Pramukh Swami Maharaj - He is role model for thousands and lakhs of people How? Why youth of modern world considers him as ideal (role model)even in this cruel and wicked world. Here are the reasons given below. (2) Swamishri's faith and firmness in religion inspired many youths. (Quote incidents) The most difficult path is to remain celibate which the youngsters observed without any obstacle and they stood still. (Quote incidents) (3) Swamishri's unparralled love towards youngsters are the pillars of Sanstha - so inspired them to came forwards and progress towards the path of satsang - so he established mandals for male/female conducted adivation (seminar) - cultural programmes were conducted based on religion. (Quote few incidents) (4) He is not only role model for youth but also showed motherly affection and sometimes fatherly care and guided them too. He has de-addicted many youths. He lead them towards the education field, financial and social field by being a good guide. He has strongly established a army of youth. (Quote incidents) (5) He forgives the mistakes of youth. This quality of Swamishri touches the heart of everyone. (incidents) (6) As Swamishri showeres his love towards youth in the same way youngsters also reciprocate in the same way - They use to say "What can't be one for our role model? They use to sacrifice their family, property and join the battalion of saffron clothes (sadhu). Apart from this even the married people equally devote their time and work for the sanstha (incidents). (7) He plays games with the youngsters and did raas too. He stood by their side in the days of happiness well as in their problems. Why can't such guru be role model? and they sing '100, 100 matha Swami ne kurban kari daiye.' The completion of 60th year for youth's activities is an incredible example. - Conclusion.
2. **Supreme Bhagwan Swaminarayan: Darshan of the Avatars (Swaminarayan Prakash April-2013 (Gujarati) Pg. No. 10 to 11):** (1) The main objective of Bhagwan Swaminarayan manifestion was to spread his Sarvopari Upasana and to freed innumerable devotees and jivas and bless them with aatyantic kalyan i.e. ultimate liberation. Therefore through his word, deed and divine glory he introduced his divine supremacy. Since aspirants were from different religious background. The only way to make them believe true supremacy of Shriji Maharaj was to give them darshan of their ishtdev in his form. (2) For the same purpose Shriji Maharaj wrote letter from Gadhada to devotees

that: "According to the faith of devotees I make possible darshan of their God with their respective abode." (Haricharitamrut Sagar 15/72) To convinced theist and various devotees. Shriji Maharaj gave darshan in form of different incarnation of God and thousand of aspirant experienced this. During his pilgrimage as Nilkanth Varni in Gujarat. Wherever he went he gave darshan to so many aspirant in form of different avatars.

Incidents: **1.** In the pilgrim Bhalka of Prabhaskshetra Maharaj gave the darshan to brahman in the form of Murli Manohar **2.** On Mt. Girnar near Gaumukhi Ganga, He gave darshan to the bawas in the form of Bhagwan Vamanji. **3.** To the ascetics He gave darshan in the form of Dattatray. **4.** On the foot hills of Girnar the mandir of Hatkeshwar Mahadev, A Nagar Brahmin offered Maharaj a dish of shiro-puri and Maharaj gave darshan in the form of Lord Shivji and **5.** on the Janmashtami day he become Lord Krishna in the cradle. **4.** After initiating this diksha he gave darshan in different forms. **1.** To Abhal Khachar of Gadhada He gave the darshan in the form of Chaturbhuj Narayan. **2.** Abhel Khachar who was firm of having Shivji's darshan, Maharaj fulfilled his wish. **3.** To the bawas with their request gave darshan in the form of Nrusinh Bhagwan. **4.** Dinanath Bhatt was given darshan in Nar-Narayan form. **5.** In Kutch, the blacksmith of Bhachau, He gave darshan in the form of Ramchandra but at the same time he stated about his supremacy or greatness. **6.** To Motigar bawa of Muli and to Garasiya, He gave darshan in the form of Chaturbhuj Krishna. **7.** To Khaiyo Khatri of Kutch according to his wish Maharaj fed him jalebi and gave darshan of 60 avatars. **(5)** He gave darshan to all the devotees. Two jain sadhus of Karyani He gave darshan in the form of 24 Tirthankars. **(6)** So many people experienced such a divine glory and superhuman deeds of Bhagwan Swaminarayan. By doing darshan of various avatars in him. They accepted Bhagwan Swaminarayan as supreme parbrahman Purushottam the ultimate avatari of all avatars - Conclusion.

- 3. 'Shilam Param Bhushanam, Shilam Param Balam'. (Character is the greatest ornament, Character is the greatest strength) :** **(1)** Shilam means character - There is a saying "If wealth is lost, nothing is lost. If character is lost everything is lost and characterlessmen cannot progress in his life. **(2)** Character is most precious jewel. It includes celibacy with morality. Everyone respect well character men. They are given the highest position in society. Everyone trust them and the trust bestowed them is their greatest possession. Well character men are considered as landmark in society. They are appreciated and praised. (write related incidents of righteous person. Quote shlok, sakhi, kirtan) **(3)** People tend to preach about righteous Sant, Guru and devotees of Bhagwan. They are considered to be ideal for society. Such as Hanumanji, Lakshmanji, Sura Khachar, Brahmanand Swami etc. We used to preach our Gurus because they are such a righteous personality. Many scripture are written on their character which embodied within them. Rememberance of such a righteous men in 'brahman muhurat' (early morning) inspire everyone to build same quality in their life. **(4)** Shil is again most precious and valuable jewel or ornament for women. Sitaji, Taramati, Jivuba, Laduba, Rajbai were considered as a righteous women in our culture. Due to power of their chastity. We bow them with respect. To protect their character such a women sacrifice on fire. (quote related incident) **(5)** In spite of being a precious jewel and ornament of person character is greatest strength also. Due to this strength no one can destroy them. Such a righteous person can held high in society. (quote related incident) Physically powerful soldiers and strong personality like Bhisma Pitamah are such well character persons.

