

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

SATSANG PRARAMBHA

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

Total Marks : 100

Sunday, 2nd March, 2008

(SECTION-1: GHANSHYAM CHARITRA, 7th Edition, June -2007)

Q.1 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 5)

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

1. The Advait scholars started the discussion saying, "Everything is Brahman. Brahman is the only reality. All else is illusion." (43/87)
2. Markendeya Muni gave the name of Ghanshyam to Bal Prabhu. **OR** Markendeya Muni named Bal-prabhu as Ghanshyam. (4/7)
3. Gumansinh did not see Ghanshyam's shadow and saw sixteen marks on God's feet. (24/46)
4. Ghanshyam held a rosary & a stick of palash tree on which he tied a small bundle (gutka) of papers containing extracts forming the essence of the shastras, and water-pot (kamandal) and alms bowl(bhikshapatra) & a filter cloth, a shaligram as image of Vishnu & a Batwo of Balmukund with him when he left home. (45/93)
5. Ghanshyam climbed the pippal tree and began looking in the western direction. (18/30)

Q.2 Answer the following, and state who is speaking to whom. (Total Marks: 8)

 **Note : One mark for who is speaking and one to whom.**

1. Mahout - Ghanshyam (26/51)
2. Vachanabai - Bhaktimata (20/33)
3. Bhaktimata - Ghanshyam (9/15)
4. Ichchharam - Ghanshyam (38/78)

Q.3 Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct answer from the options given. (Total Marks: 5)

1. Vasantabai (35/71)
2. Four - (42/85)
3. 10 o'clock at night (1/1)
4. Lakshmiji (7/10)
5. Bhaktimata (36/73)

Q.4 Write briefly five main points (in sentences) on any ONE incident. (Narration is 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) A Monkey in a Trance (15/25)

1. To protect themselves from the harassment by evil people left Ayodhya and soon took a beautiful house in the Barhatta street of the town.
2. One evening at dinner a monkey came up to the verandah & carried away a whole lof of chapatis.
3. Monkey fell into a trance when Ghanshyam gave a steady look as it began munching a bit of chapati.
4. For three days the monkey remained in his trance & sat there motionless with folded hands.
5. Ghanshyam blessed him and gave him something to eat.

(2) Ghanshyam is seen as Shri Ramchandra (33/69)

1. Ghanshyam after bath playing for little while with his friends. He dived to the bottom and sat on the bed of the lake.
2. Manchha the washerman dived deep into the lake but could find no trance of Ghanshyam & asked the boys to bring his parents.
3. His parents Rampratapbhai, Vashram & the villagers all got worried as they could not trace him.

4. He thought that He should come out of the water.
5. The people saw Ghanshyam looking out from the bank & walking towards the shore without touching the surface had a vision not of Ghanshyam but of Lord Ramchandra.

(3) The Greedy confectioner. (22/40-41)

1. Ghanshyam was feeling hungry but found that the food was not yet ready.
2. He secretly picked up bhabhi's ring & went away with his friends to feast.
3. Elder brother was very much annoyed knowing about the ring.
4. Ghanshyam took elder brother and Dharmapita to the confectioner's shop & saw that all the basket were full of sweets.
5. After this incident it was proved that Ghanshyam was really great.

Q.5 Pick the correct option from list 'B' for list 'A' and write only the answer number in the given box. (Total Marks: 5)

 **Note : Word or number either of it is correct.**

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Dharmadev's brother-in-law (25/47) | <input type="text" value="3"/> | 1. Baldevji |
| 2. King of Ayodhya (21/36) | <input type="text" value="5"/> | 2. Harikrishna Upadhyaya |
| 3. Owner of the elephant (26/50) | <input type="text" value="1"/> | 3. Baldidhar |
| 4. Mahant of Hanuman Gadhi (31/63) | <input type="text" value="4"/> | 4. Mohandas |
| 5. Fixed the auspicious day for Ghanshyam's sacred thread ceremony (32/65) | <input type="text" value="2"/> | 5. Raidarshansinh |

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

1. When Ramdatt along with the Brahmins climbed & the tree after Ghanshyam to the topmost branch but before the could reach to the top, Ghanshyam had disappeared. When the Brahmins looked down, they saw Ghanshyam standing below. (17/29)
2. When Ghanshyam asked a question about vairagya Vrajvihari told him come to my house. I shall answer all of your questions. Ghanshyam was disappointd with the reply. He felt pity for brahmin. He placed his hand on the brahmin's head & gazed into his eyes. So his eyesight restored. (41/85)
3. Ghanshyam wanted the tiger skin on which the bawa was sitting. The bawa blared out angrily, "What nonsense?" Do you have money to buy ? It will cost you no less than 300 rupees. The moment he said this to himself a real tiger sprang up & taught a lesson to the bawa. (29/58)

(SECTION - 2: YOGIJI MAHARAJ, 8th Edition, March-2007)

Q.7 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 5)

 **Note : One mark for who is speaking and one to whom.**

1. Three are eternal : Dham, Dharni and Mukta. (32/57)
2. Shastriji Maharaj appointed Yogiji Maharaj as the Mahant of the Gondal Akshar Mandir. (22/36)
3. The murtis were installed in Gadhada mandir with great funfare in the presence of Yogiji Maharaj on v.s. 2007. (24/40)
4. At 28 years age was Shastri Narayanswarupdasji appointed the president of the Sanstha. (33/58)
5. Jina Bhagat & the other sadhu paid homage to Shastriji & then presented to him a mala & a tumbdi, which had been used by Aksharbrahma Gunatitanand swami. (10/16)

Q.8 Answer the following, and state who is speaking to whom. (Total Marks: 8)

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

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Karsansang Bapu - Yogiji Maharaj (17/27) | 2. Jinabhai - Mohankaka (6/8) |
| 3. Jinabhai - Sadguru Krishnacharandas (7/10) | 4. Jaga Bhakta - Jina Bhagat (9/14) |

Q.9 Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct answer from the options given. (Total Marks: 5)

1. Yogiji Maharaj (20/33) 2. Lodhika (12/18) 3. Golden kalashes (27/44)
4. Mumbai (30/53) 5. 1948 Vaishakh (1/1)

Q.10 Write briefly five main points (in sentences) on any ONE incident. (Narration is 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) Jinabhai's courage (3/3-4)

1. Tribhovandas severely thrashed Chandu a fifth standard student who was innocent.
2. The child died as a result of severe beating. His father reported the case to the Inspector & an inquiry was opened.
3. Jinabhai addressed the Inspector & was bold enough to report the truth.
4. When Jinabhai spoke up other students shouted with one voice "yes sir"
5. Inspector dismissed the head-master & rewarded Jinabhai with a prize.

(2) Gurubhakti (23/37-38)

1. Yogiji Maharaj developed harnia as Yogiji Maharaj observed fast whether it was scorching heat or biting cold, & visit many villages.
2. Dr. Aspinol of Rajkot told Swamiji you will have to undergo an operation.
3. On seeing Shastriji Maharaj, Yogiji Maharaj was overcome with joy & folded his hands in reverence.
4. When the effect of the Yogiji Maharaj's anaesthetic subsided in reverence asked the devotees sitting nearby, Has milk been served to Shastriji Maharaj?
5. Dr. Aspinol & the devotees were surprised & said "How unique was his devotion to his Guru."

(3) Youth Centres and Satsang Assemblies. (25/40-41)

1. Yogiji Maharaj gradually conducted the activities of youth.
2. If any centre had stopped, he would restart it, & established new youth centre & encouraged them by writing letters.
3. Yogiji Maharaj frequently said, "One should attend the weekly meetings even if one has to forego a profit of Rs. 25,000."
4. If we attend a satsang assembly, then we can meet all the elders and youths at the same time.
5. We should never miss the satsang assembly because at such gatherings Shriji Maharaj, Gunatitanand Swami & Shastriji Maharaj are divinely present.

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

 **Note : Half mark not to be given.**

1. At Bhavnagar after offering Thal when Yogiji Maharaj sang with great devotion then from thal five ladoos, dal and rice & the water cups was also half-empty which indicated Maharaj accepted the thal. (19/32)
2. Once we have renounced something, why let it re-enter our heart? With this thought he didn't go to see the Maharaja's wedding procession. (14/22)
3. A Rajput devotee who was an expert in astrology & palmistry said "You will be great sadhu one day. Holy men with urdhvarekhas are extremely rare. They are the sacred signs possessed by a sadhu who has a constant rapport with God. (11/16)

SECTION-3: KISHORE SATSANG PRARAMBH, 7th Edition, May-2003)

Q.12 Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (Total Marks: 7)

1. Shriji Maharaj installed His own murti in the mandir at Vartal. (4/8)
2. Jodho's devotion can be compared only to that of the Gopis of Vraj. (13/31)
3. Punja Dodiya heard a divine voice, "Bhagwan Swaminarayan has incarnated & you shall meet His sadhus." (19/49)

4. Shastriji Maharaj constructed temple at five places Bochasan, Sarangpur, Gondal, Atladra and Gadhada. (17/46)
5. Nath-Bhakta had profound understanding that His son was a devotee of God. God has called him. This is a joyous occasion so he distributed sweets among the people of the town. (20/52)
6. North or East two directions can one face when performing puja. (5/10)
7. To pray is to ask. (3/4)

Q.13 State whether the following sentences are True or False and rewrite the False sentences. (Total Marks: 6)

 **Note : If indicate only X (False) Please don't give marks. If right sentence written than marks will be given.**

1. False - X A. Maharaj called the brave child devotees father as Hiranyakashyapu. (6/15)
2. False - X A. Shriji Maharaj enjoyed her meals especially the rice & dal prepared by Gangama. (7/18)
3. True - ✓ (11/25)
4. False - X A. Naradji named Ajamil's youngest son as Narayan. (2/2)
5. True - ✓ (12/27)
6. False - X A. Shriji Maharaj initiated Mulji Bhakta into the sadhu fold on the fifteenth day of the bright half of the month of posh in V.S. 1866. (15/35)

Q.14 Fill in the blanks by choosing the correct answer from the options given. (Total Marks: 6)

1. Dhruv (1/1)
2. Akhandanand (8/18)
3. Sura khachar (14/32)
4. Ramdas (22/54)
5. Acharya Shri Viharilalji Maharaj (17/46)
6. Kalvani (9/20)

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. Pragat Hari guru darshan apo, prabhu tav namna japiye japo, Tav murti nitya hradaye dhari..... Shri Hari. (3/4)
2. Shrimannirgun murti sundar tanu, je gnanvarta kathe, Je sarvgna, samast sadhugun chhe, maya thaki mukta chhe; Sarvaishvaryathi purna, ashritjanona dosh tale sada, Eva Pragji Bhaktraj gurune, preme namu sarvda..... (9/22)
3. Chalu karo lavu hu jaljhari, elaychi laving sopari, panbidi banavi sari, Mukhvas mangamta laine, prasadino thal mune daine, Bhumanand kahe raji thaine. (12/28)
4. Mul-Akshar je Brahma Anadi, Gunatitanand jai jai, Gunatitanand ... jai...jai... Purushottam Parabrahma paratpar, Shri Hari Sahajanand jai jai..... Shri Hari Sahajanand jai...jai.... (23/58)

Q.16 Complete any ONE of the following Swamini Vato and write an explanatory note on it. (In 10 lines.) (Total Marks: 5)

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

1. **“Today, there is no mantra as powerful as the Swaminarayan mantra. It neutralises even the position 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 is always.” (16/37-38)**

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 realised 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 fervour and devotion.

2. "Some are controlled by the mind and some control the mind. This talk is worth contemplating daily." (16/43)

Our mind is full of wordly desires, and is therefore our greatest enemy. It prevents us from thinking of God and offering worship or service. But there are people who can control their minds. There was a boy of the Koli caste in Gadhada. His father was growing sweet pumpkins in his orchard. The boy decided to offer the first pumpkin to Shriji Maharaj. When the pumpkins ripened, he selected one of them for Maharaj. On his way to meet Shriji Maharaj he was tempted by the sweet smell of his ripe pumpkin. The boy thought that he might as well as eat it.

But almost immediately he scolded his mind, controlled his desire and went on his way. Again after some time, the thought came into his mind that people offer very nice and costly gifts to Shriji Maharaj. Who would appreciate an insignificant thing like a pumpkin ? So why not eat it ! But again he resisted the temptation, "No, no! I have decided to give it to Maharaj, so I must give it to Him." Thus, keeping his mind under control, he soon reached the court of Dada khachar.

Maharaj Himself called the boy, and asked for his pumpkin. He ate some of it Himself and the rest He distributed as prasad. Maharaj was very happy with this young boy because he had succeeded in controlling his mind. Maharaj asked the kothari (store-keeper) to give the boy a handsome reward of 5 kg of sugar crystals to take home.

In that assembly there was a Bania. He thought that if this boy could get 5 kg of sugar crystals for a single pumpkin, how much sugar crystals would he get if he gave a cartful of pumpkins to Maharaj. The very next day, the Bania came to Maharaj with a cartful of sweet pumpkins. Maharaj told him, "Throw all the pumpkins into the river and let the fish eat them." The Bania was disappointed. He asked, "Why Maharaj? Yesterday you gave 5 kg of sugar for just one pumpkin, while I have brought You a whole cart-load."

Maharaj replied, "Yes, I did give the boy 5 kg of sugar crystals. But it was not for the pumpkin; it was for the self-control that the boy had shown over his mind. You came here with greed in your heart. So you will get nothing." Thus, if we conquer our minds, and resist evil temptations, then Maharaj will be extremely pleased.

Q.17 From the following sentences choose FIVE correct sentences. (Write the sentence numbers only) (Total Marks: 5)

 **Note: Give full marks if the numbers are not in this order but numbers should be written.**

Topic : Brave Bhaguji (10/23)

Sentences No : 1, 4, 5, 8, 10.