

Bochasanwasi Shri Aksharpurushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha
Satsang Sikshan Parixa

SATSANG PRAVESH-1

Time : 9.00 to 11.15 a.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 (X) of each sub-question should be marked only on the left-side before the question starts.

(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. "My name is Sahajanand." (39/79)
↳ Nilkanth Varni - to Bhana Pathak
↳ When Bhana Pathak asked Nilkanth Varni his name, Varni said that people will know me by this name in future.
2. "If you are sincere and earnest in your quest, you will find God incarnate right here." (4/8)
↳ Nilkanth Varni - to the ascetics
↳ When the ascetics asked Nilkanth Varni, "Where can we find a living God and when? How can we attain salvation?" Nilkanth Varni said the above words.
3. "You recite the Ramayan, but why don't you follow dharma?" (22/42)
↳ Nilkanth Varni - to the bawa
↳ After the Ramayan recitation was over some women began to massage the legs of the bawas and to render other service to them. so Varni said the above words.

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

1. Nilkanth Varni smashed the kamandal against a boulder and broke it. (15/26)
A. Mohandas's mind remained on kamandal even while doing the darshan of Nilkanth Varni. While crossing a river Mohandas warned Varni, "Be careful while stepping over the stones. If you slip the kamandal will break. In order to get away his attachment with kamandal, Varni smashed the kamandal against a boulder and broke it.
2. Nilkanth Varni's Shaligram drank three-four potfuls of water. (32/64)
A. Nilkanth Varni found water after four days in the dark forests on the way to Bhutpuri. so on fifth day Varni poured water on the Shaligram. Shaligram drank three-four potful of water offered by Varni.
3. The King of Jagannathpuri accepted Nilkanth Varni as his guru. (27/49)
A. The King used to visit the Varni daily and listen to Varni's discourses and learn the essence of spirituality. On seeing the extraordinary powers of Nilkanth Varni, The King accepted him as his guru.

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

- 1. Letter to Ramanand Swami (50/103-105)** As Ramanand Swami did not return to ashram, inspite of Varni staying for seven months, Varni told Muktanand Swami "If you kindly permit me, I would like to go to Kutch for the darshan of the guru. so Muktanand Swami told to write a letter to him. On Falgun vad 5, Samvat 1856 (on 15 March, 1800 CE) Varni wrote separate letters to Ramanand Swami. They were conveyed to Kutch and reached Bhuj after seven days, by Mayaram Bhatt. He pressed Nilkanth's letter to his heart. In the letter the words reflected Varni's divine personality, knowledge, detachment and devotion. He declared "The one whom I had been waiting for has arrived. God has come in human form to gift everyone with moksha. Glory-Glory Varniraj. We have become relieved of all our burdens. He addressed the assembly, "Devotees, today is a great auspicious day for all of us. Through whom the Bhagvat Dharma will be established and thousands will become Brahmarup and attain Brahmadham that Varni - God has arrived in Loj. Ramanand Swami distributed sugar crystals to Mayaram Bhatt and said, "I have given you only this much but 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. 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 Ramanand Swami wrote to Muktanand Swami, "Take care of Varni. He is not of this world, which you will realize in future. Arrange for all the sadhus to learn ashtang yoga from him. I shall come at the end of Vaishakh month. Ramanand Swami wrote to Nilkanth Varni, "Take care of your body because you have still to accomplish many tasks. Stay there at present and 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 yours. But I have to travel for the spread of Satsang and please the devotees.
- 2. Defeat of Pibek (20/34-37)** In the Kamakshi pilgrimage of Assam there lived a devotee of goddess Kali, named Pibek. He began to eat meat and fish and drank bhang and liquor too. He forced sadhus jogis and jatis to forsake their religious sect by breaking their kanthis and forcibly made them his disciples. He harassed them by practising hocus-pocus and offering charms to wear. Nilkanth had lodged in a garden outside the village. Some siddha yogis were also camping in the some garden. Pibek came to the garden to defeat Nilkanth Varni. Enlarging his bloodshot eyeballs, he rushed towards the yogis. The bawas fright increased further. They put their hands on their kanthis and tried to break them. Nilkanth said, "Do not rub off your vaishnavi kanthis and tried to break them. Nilkanth said, "Do not rub off your tilak marks and do not break your Vaishnavi kanthis. Do not be afraid of Pibek. Let him practice his devilry first on me. If something happens to me then you may surrender to him. Nilkanth challenged the wicked Brahmin. He said do what you can I am sitting here. Pibek muttered some mantras and threw a handful of adad grains on the ground with great force. Kalbhairav and Batuk emerged from the smoke but could not go near Nilkanth and stood at a short distance from him. On the contrary, they began to beat Pibek with their trident and crashed him to the ground. He started bleeding from his mouth. This incensed him all the more and he invoked the presence of Hanumanji. When he saw Nilkanth, he bowed to him and struck a blow with his fist on Pibek's head. You want me to fight with God. I will kill you. He beat Pibek so severely that he vomited blood and fell unconscious. On seeing this some of Pibek's disciples and relatives prayed to Nilkanth Varni to revive him and bring him back to life. Varni looked at Pibek whereupon he regained consciousness. He finally dragged himself near Nilkanth and caught hold of his feet in abject surrender. He asked for forgiveness. Everyone was surprised at the change of Pibek's heart. Nilkanth Varni said, "Pibek, he who is a true sadhu does not frighten others. He who has sought refuge in Paramatma is not afraid of anything. Your majical powers have been reduced to ashes by Paramatama's power's. Nilkanth Varni put his hand on Pibek's head and he experienced divine bliss. He initiated him into the Vaishnav fold and asked him to adopt moral and peaceful ways. Nilkanth blessed them

(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. "Bhagwan Purushottam Narayan himself will come to your village." (2/17)
 - ⇒ Lord Shivji - to Devidanji
 - ⇒ When Devidan's father had gone out, Devidan continued his father's daily routine. He sat before the murti of Shivji, feelings of devotion and an inner desire, to please Shivji poured from the innocent heart. He devoutly offered abhishek and bilipatra to the murti and fixed his gaze on Shivji, yearning to meet him. Shivji appeared before him, granting him darshan and a boon and said the above words.
2. "Gunatitanand Swami's greatness is not due to the seat. He is eternally great." (3/27)
 - ⇒ Maharaj - to Shukmuni or Shukanand Swami
 - ⇒ Gunatitanand Swami had come to Akshar ordi for Maharaj's darshan. Seeing him enter, Shukmuni scrambled to find a sit for him.
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." (7/67)
 - ⇒ Nirgundas Swami - Shastriji Maharaj
 - ⇒ As Nirgundas Swami fell ill, he was brought to Mumbai for treatment. Yet his illness and the resulting weakness he suffered left him feeling uneasy. so he said the above words.

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

1. On seeing Jivuba returning home, Abhel Khachar was left speechless. (6/52)
 - A. On seeing his daughter return home, Abhel Khachar was furious. Flushed with rage, he came to beat her, but was silenced when he saw the permission letter in her hands.
2. Ranchhodray granted darshan to Ashabhai in a dream. (8/71)
 - A. Every punam Ashabhai would go to Dakor for the darshan of Ranchhodray. Here, he was saddened on seeing some instances of unrighteousness. One night, Ranchhodray granted him darshan in a dream and said "If you wish for your liberation, take refuge in Bhagwan Swaminarayan. At present, he is manifest and moves about within Satsang.

Q.9 Write short notes on 'Transformation of Jobanpagi' (5/42-43) (in 15 lines). (Total Marks: 5)

Jobanpagi was such a terror in Gujarat that not even kings dared to utter his name. He roamed 100 kms committing crimes, even in broad daylight yet nobody could catch him. Maharaj had previously granted Jobanpagi darshan in Vartal as the yogi Nilkanth Varni, yet Jobanpagi had forgotten Maharaj due to the stark evil that had enwrapped his mind. Maharaj came to Vartal after many years along with his 'Rojho' (horse) at Bapujibhai's home. He went to Bapujibhai's enclave to test Maharaj's godhood and steal the horse. But when he tried, Rajji boomed and said what will do you when Swaminarayan is in another village? Joban turned back disappointed. After few years Maharaj organized a grand yagna at Dabhan. Swift horses kathi darbar and Maharaj's Rojho were tied at the village outskirts. Joban was tempted, "If I had such horse, I could cover many kilometres in a single night. Looting would be much easier. He entered the stable in a dark night. But as he went to untie the horse, he saw circles of light coming from somewhere. He saw Bhagwan Swaminarayan in Gold-threaded clothes. Joban jerked his hands back from the horse, shocked. Stepping back he retreated and disappeared into the darkness. Thousands of devotees eyes were focused on Maharaj's murti. An unknown edgy looking man soon entered. He jumped onto the stage and fell at Maharaj's feet. He began crying profusely, washing Maharaj's feet with his tears. He said "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. Maharaj forgave him for his misdeeds and had him take the vows of satsang. Samvat 1866 of posh, Jobanpaji left everything and became Maharaj's bodyguard.

Q.10 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. How did Jivuba explain the futility on the world and its affairs through religion to Ladu Barot? (6/55)
 - A. Jivuba explained Ladu Barot that the body is nothing but a container full of rotting waste, nothing worth being attracted towards.
2. What blessings did Shukmuni give to Dunganbhai when he gave him vartman?(6/28)
 - A. Shukmuni said to Dhoribhai, "This child will do great work for satsang and will spread Maharaj's true upasana.
3. What was Jhinabhai's reply when Shriji Maharaj asked, "Which Dham do you wish to go to?" (6/39)
 - A. Jhinabhai replied, "Please keep me forever in your service just as you have kept Bhaguji, Miyaji and Mulji Brahmachari.
4. Who initiated Ashabhai and what was he named? (8/78)
 - A. Yogiji Maharaj gave diksha to Ashabhai and named him 'Yagnapriyadas.'

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


3	5	7	9	11	12
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- (2) Correct sequence of sentences

7	9	3	5	12	11
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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:** Answer is written in any serial numbers form but all numbers are correct then you given full 3 marks **otherwise no marks will be given.** **(2) Correct sequence of sentences:** Sequence of sentence numbers is written as answersheet then you given correct 3 marks **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 complete correctly. Otherwise no marks will be awarded.**

1. **Swami Yagnapriyadasji :** Being with him settled his qualms and convinced him that, through Swamishri, he had attained moksha. He bowed his head before Swamishri's lotus feet. (8/72)
2. **Bhaktaraj Jivuba :** Jivuba happened to have a clay pot and some extra clothes with her. Thinking quickly, she had Maharaj dress as a shepherdess and give him her pot to complete the costume. Amongst a group of similarly dressed women, Maharaj entered the darbar, unnoticed. (6/53)
3. **Sadguru Brahmanand Swami :** Born on Vasant Panchmi, Samvat 1828, in the village of Khan in the Shirohi region. Here, he stayed as a guest of the Rao, of Kutch. (1/1)
4. **Sadguru Shukanand Swami:** Immediately understanding Maharaj's wish, Dada Khachar called a carpenter to cut some wood. Dada Khachar then broke open a clay pot and lit a fire in it from the wood. He brought the fire before Maharaj. (3/26)

(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. Indiscriminate Use of Internet:** (1) One can not imagine the dangerous scene of Tsunami which occurred in South India and on the sea-shore of Japan which destroyed so much and was very frightening? It took the life 19,000 people and many were injured. But we are yet not aware of the waves which are worse than this and spoiling the lives of people any age. Do you know where and which are these waves? These are the waves of Internet. (2) There is also a question-mark in everybody's mind that there is definitely advantage by the invention of Tsunami and internet because of its limitless and indisiplinary use - It leads to destruction. This is the similarity between the two - The destruction caused by the internet is not exposed quickly to the public - This creates a bad impression on youth - education too gets affected. (3) In the beginning youngsters used to visit cyber-cafe to do the surfing - which proved to be bit expensive too - Now it has entered the middle class family easily - smart-phone because of the new technology internet is used in the mobile too - They cross their limit and gets addicted to it and is proved that it gives a wrong affect on small children and youth too - They loose concentration - lack of interest - many students fail and yet others do not achieve the expected or desired result. (4) Wastage of time: This is the other reason for using unlimited internet - time is wasted on cheap and irrelevant talk - very difficult to take out the true statistical number in U.S. 10.8 crores of people waste their time - so wasted their education. (can quote few incidents) (5) Characterless and love-relation: Gadhada-I-18 you develop yourself with the surrounding where you are brought up - similarly whatever you see on T.V., your thoughts are also reflected and gets distracted and even the soul becomes dirty, due to malice. Because of such thoughts people do not hesitate even to murder or rape anyone. A child from England murdered 19 people in merely eight hours - the only reason for doing this was the movie 'First Blood' he watched - Husband-wife doubting one another - interest of progressing during students life, they loose moral values and their growth stop because of the violent thoughts in mind. (quote few incidents) (6) Effect on family relation - youngsters spend most of the time on internet and see things which they need to be, they don't talk to their parents, brother and sister - instead of talking to their siblings they are occupied with play video games, instead of playing something creative - it results in beating murdering and even the nature changes - one gets annoyed and spoils vision - because of lack of exercises the physical development of the child stops - (quote few incidents) (7) Reading and thoughts: Internet reduces the reading habit - because of the materials readily available students copy from that - effects internal capacity to think - lack of new creative ideas - and youth becomes internet's slave. (8) Under such circumstances Pramukh Swami Maharaj is teaching to use internet in a disciplinary way. He is saying that one should not do the activities by which cannot make you forget your religion. There is always a downfall only and not a progress. (9) Conclusion: We in the same way should become Swamiji's ideal youths and set an example to the entire world by becoming a good youth with good conduct and make the sanstha B.A.P.S. praiseworthy.
- 2. Yogiji Maharaj: Renowned Advocate of Discipline and Education:** (1) Youth means treasure of infinite (limitless) strength - can be attained through self-discipline - One can collect energy through magnifying lens - in the same way through discipline youth can energize themselves - it is easy to say but difficult to implement. (2) The lesson of self-

discipline in life were taught very easily and gently by our ideal Guru Brahmaswarup Yogiji Maharaj - taught with selfless love and moral support - as he was the great or chief administrator of discipline - Pracharya means one who teaches with great love then the teacher or principal - He initiated the youths by teaching them the lessons of speech, thought, action, drug-addiction etc. **(3)** Discipline in speech and vision: Nobody can deny the fact that Yogiji Maharaj taught the lessons of discipline in speech and vision with great love to the youth of village or city, National or international level. A youth of Africa named Dinesh stayed in hostel for studies - used to serve Maharaj a lot - was fond of watching movies - one day he didn't go for his routine seva. Maharaj kept dinner ready for him - Maharaj asked reason for coming late - he genuinely answered that he had gone out to watch a movie - Yogiji Maharaj left his strictness and told him watch everyday. Dinesh became happy - after a week Yogiji Maharaj all of a sudden developed a pain in his chest - he got ready to call the doctor - Yogiji Maharaj refused and said if you stop watching movies, my pain will disappear - Dinesh take niyam, Yogiji Maharaj became alright - this way he treated the youths with love. **(4)** Discipline in drug-addiction: Mahendrabhai of Vaso was a chain smoker - when Yogiji Maharaj came to know about it, he requested him to stop smoking, He immediately left smoking - Yogiji Maharaj became very happy and he remained in his heart forever. **(5)** Taught the lesson to eat certain food Ratibhai of Kampala - a staunch liquor drinker - Yogiji Maharaj gave him vartman and asked him to stop consuming the liquor - As soon as Yogiji Maharaj left he took out the bottle of whisky and started to drink - but he visualised Yogiji Maharaj's innocent murti and realised that it is for his own benefit and stopped drinking that very moment. **(6)** Limited speech or disciplinary speech: In the year 1959 he came on the bank of river Narmada for vicharan - along with youths - one youth said to the other youth, Aai you, sit in the cart. Yogiji Maharaj said immediately don't call him like that. One must say please come, let's sit in the cart. How mannerfully he talks? Even to the postman he used to address him as "Sir". At Mumbai in Hariprasad's bungalow he address the servant also as "Ghatisaheb". He thought this lesson through his own speech and action - should not see bad qualities in anyone - it is like consuming poison - so that one can walk without any fear towards the spiritual path. **(7)** Yogiji Maharaj's main goal was to teach the lesson of celibacy by following the rules and regulations of discipline - so during vacation he used to take youths along with him - made them do different types of seva like learning by heart of vachanamrut, kirtan and Swamini vato - Yogiji Maharaj stressed mainly on three things like Ahimsha, Truth and Celibacy - for this he took out 11 niyams from the dairy of Vinubhagat - stressed mainly on celibacy - in the present time this is carried on by Pramukh Swami who has dedicated his full life for youth's welfare - this way Yogiji Maharaj was the most intelligent Pracharya.

- 3. The grand Doorway to Downfall: Indiscipline:** **(1)** Control means to keep your emotions - feelings under control - to bring back your senses by concentration but question arises in every one's mind, "Do people really benefit by observing some rules or niyam? Does it really results in the downfall if one not follow opinion of the person who has studied on this topic. **(2)** A four year child Kerolin was really very firm about her diet right from the beginning. In spite of delicious things to eat were displayed. She ate only limited variety. She was simply tremendous. where else other children did not observe any rule and ate whatever was displayed. After few years, the small baby Kerolin grew up and she achieved the highest degree P.H.D. - bright career - after many year Kerolin's brother uttered if I would have observe certain rules, I too would have succeeded in my life, because he spent his early life in the entertainment field. **(3)** This one example is enough to differentiate between the two - indisciplinary person can never reach the goal. American president Mr. Hary. S. Druman writes "By reading the autobiography of great people, one can know that they have controlled themselves first. They have won over them. Recently before 30 years it was proved approximately from 1000 children that the

children with disciplined life, they leave a good impact physically, mentally and financially on the society - and the other students lives were shattered - that is why controlling power is very necessary. **(4)** Limitless use of modern equipments: No limit especially while surfing - get addicted and further develops a disease - depression, jealousy arises - major reason for divorce cases - effects studies of the students - sometimes it leads to suicide to that extent they use internet - control over watching T.V. too - develops negative attitude - effects social relation - because murder of scenes like Ahimsa, beating one another, leads to the downfall of not only youth but also of children. Lack of creativity - mobile is also another nuisance - this way modern equipments gives opposite (negative) effect on the mind. **(5)** Control over drug-addiction: Due to drug-addiction it effects the physical body a lot - many people loose their life - financial lose and social relation too - this addiction leads to destruction. **(6)** Control over taste longue: Lack of control on taste leads to children and youth towards junkfood - which does not contain balanced nutritious value - increases cholostrol - the extra calorie deposited effects mind - tempted to eat more and more - to burn the calorie one must do lot of exercises - if not done it leads diseases like Heart-attack, Diabetes, B.P., Cancer to etc. (quote few incidents) **(7)** Control over prestige or ego - because of fame many people do not realise to control their prestige or ego. But this prestige does not last longer. Steve Job the founder of I.T.company said that it is compulsary to control your ego if you want to maintain the level. This way losing control results in the downfall - controlling power is the royal path - to control one's mind one should be disciplined in all aspects. Swami Vivakanand said If one wants to keep control over their sense organs then they should concentrate only on God or keep their vision towards God. The path of control as described by Maharaj in Vachanamrut is 'Royal path' you can get rid of this only when you realise the importance of God - and implement in the life - Yogiji Maharaj had his vision clear, so before 60 years he started the activites of youth which interested them. Many youth are now walking on the same path now by the blessings of our present Guru Pramukh Swami Maharaj.

