

**A few of the questions in this Pre-Test Paper will be asked in the
Final Exam on 29th February 2004.**

BOCHASANWASI SHRI AKSHAR PURUSHOTTAM
SWAMINARAYAN SANSTHA
SATSANG EXAMINATIONS

PRE-TEST: SATSANG PRAVIN-1

January 2004

Time: 9.00 a.m. to 12.00 noon

Total Marks: 100

SECTION-1: AKSHAR PURUSHOTTAM UPASANA

Q.1. For any TWO of the following, give three references from the scriptures. (6)

1. Parabrahman Purushottam Narayan – one and unique.
2. The relationship between Akshar and Purushottam.
3. Glory of the Gunatit Sadhu: In the words of Shriji Maharaj.
4. Importance of Upasana.

Q.2. Given below are references from the scriptures, principles or stanzas. Write the topic they relate to. (5)

Example: "One who believes God as formless and abstract becomes the worst sinner, even worse than one who has committed the five grave sins."

Ans: Disadvantages of understanding God as Nirakar.

1. Jiva Ishwar tano re, maya kala purush pradhan...
2. Jeh dhamne pamine prani, pachhu padvanu nathi re...
3. Without upasana of God and His meditational worship, it is impossible to realise one's own atma, and consequently the Paramatma seated within the atma.
4. At the time of cosmic evolution, which He inspires through Prakriti and Purush, it is He who creates millions of macrocosms.
5. He should surrender to His brahmanised Sadhu and dedicate himself at his lotus feet, that will bring redemption.

Q.3. Write the correct answers from the given options. (4)

Note: There may be more than one correct option. Marks will be awarded only for all correct options.

1. Deficiencies resulting from not realising the pragat form of God.
 - (a) Mangal rup pragatne meli, parokshne bhaje je prani re...
 - (b) One who maligns him, maligns God; and one who serves him, serves God.
 - (c) Eva sant jamye jamya Shyam, jamya sahu devta...
 - (d) One's conviction of the manifest form of God (pratyaksh) is not as firm as the conviction of God in His divine abode (paroksh).
2. Gunatitanand Swami is Akshar – from his life and work.
 - (a) Today the Lord of the divine abode has set out on His long piligrimage.
 - (b) I do not know how to manipulate stories to serve my personal motives.
 - (c) Arrogant with their half-baked knowledge of Brahma, the scholars of Memdavad were humbled by him.
 - (d) I had heard on many occassions from Maharaj that Swami is Mul Akshar.

Q.4. Describe any ONE of the following and bring out the significance. (4)

1. The Harililakalpataru scripture describes Maharaj's supreme form.
2. The composition of the 'Harililakalpataru'.
3. Even if I have to put on black clothes, I shall say Swami is Akshar.
4. Even in the cold weather Maharaj asked for cold water to have a bath.

Q.5. Write briefly on any TWO of the following. (In 12 lines each.) (8)

1. Characteristics of the Gunatit sadhu.
2. Shriji Maharaj - the all-doer.
3. The need for becoming brahmarup
4. Origin of the understanding that God is nirakar.

Q.6. Explain any TWO of the following, giving reasons. (In 12 lines each.) (8)

1. The appearance of human instincts in Him is like the magic feats of a great wizard which cannot be fully comprehended by the human mind.
2. Bapu Ratanji said, "Always remain under Swami's obligation. But never let him feel your obligation."
3. Without His will, nobody can move even a leaf.
4. Maharaj said, "What Laduba; Jivuba have attained is beyond description."

Q.7. Upasana: What to understand? What not to understand? Complete the following statements. (8)

What to understand in upasana:

1. The sagun and is subtlest of the subtle.
2. Jiva is eternal.
3. Shriji Maharaj is Purna Purushottam Narayan and divine.
4. Aksharbrahma is one stays as a servant.
5. After departing from this earth is in many ways manifest.

What not to understand in Upasana:

1. Do not understand and Aksharbrahma.
2. Articles, such as, footwear, etc. of Shriji Maharaj..... Mul Aksharbrahma.
3. Only Aksharbrahma through him.

Q.8. In the literature of the Swaminarayan Sampraday, one does not find many references to Gunatitanand Swami. Despite this, why is he held in such high regard? (5)

SECTION-2: SATSANG READER-III

& PORTRAIT OF INSPIRATION - PRAMUKH SWAMI MAHARAJ

Q.9. Answer the following, stating who says to whom and when. (Any TWO.) (6)

1. "Today the pujari opened the inner mandir before the scheduled time." (S. R. - III)
2. "This is the village of my father-in-law. Everyone knows me here, so how can I beg here?" (S. R. - III)
3. "What you say is absolute nonsense!" (POI-PM)
4. "Don't shout. You'll wake everyone up !" (POI-PM)

Q.10. Give reasons. (Any Two in 9 lines each.) (6)

1. Dalpatram has compared the flow of Muktanand Swami's speech with the flow of river Ganga. (S. R. - III) **OR**
1. Gopalanand Swami wore the dhoti very tightly. (S. R. - III)
2. Seva is Swamishri's life blood. (POI-PM) **OR**
2. For Mangal the divine dialogue of care and love opened a new chapter and fresh dawn in his life. (POI-PM)

Q.11. Narrate the following and highlight the significance of each. (12 lines each.) (8)

1. Forgiving nature of Raghuvirji Maharaj. (S. R. - III) **OR**
Parvatbhai - always ready to follow the wishes of Maharaj. (S. R. - III)
2. Midnight prayers for others. (POI-PM) **OR**
Pramukh Swami's devotion to God. (POI-PM)

Q.12. Answer the following, using one sentence for each. (6)

1. What did Muktanand Swami eat with the younger sadhus? (S. R. - III)
2. In Umreth, in Gopalanand Swami's dream, what did Shriji Maharaj tell him? (S. R. - III)
3. Whose son was Bhaga Doshi? (S. R. - III)
4. What talks took place at Hanuman Madhi mandir? (POI-PM)
5. What comment did Swamishri make to Bhagwatcharan Swami in Atladra mandir? (POI-PM)
6. Who was the mayor of Ashton? What was he acquainted with? (POI-PM)

Q.13. Write the correct answers from the given options. (6)

Note: There may be more than one correct option. Marks will be awarded only for all correct options.

1. Sadguru Muktanand Swami's literary works. (S. R. - III)
 - (a) Purushottam Prakash
 - (b) Sarsiddhi
 - (c) Nirnay Panchak
 - (d) Brahma Sutra Bhashya
2. Bhagwan Swaminarayan's divine personality. (S. R. - III)
 - (a) What the government could not and will not be able to achieve.
 - (b) Contribution to morality, non-violence and virtuousness in Gujarat.
 - (c) Redeemer and sanctifier of the lowly.
 - (d) The joy of the living Brahma.
3. Pramukh Swami's supreme devotion to Bhagwan Swaminarayan. (POI-PM)
 - (a) Looked after a jealous sadhu, who had tried to give him poison, for 40 years.
 - (b) Follows and performs all activities by God's commands and after remembering Him.
 - (c) Celibacy and non-covetousness.
 - (d) I am not the doer, God is.

SECTION-3: ESSAY

Q.14 Write an essay on any ONE. (In approx 60 lines.) (20)

1. Pramukh Swami Maharaj – Intensely detached from worldly pleasures, yet attached to God.
2. Only God and His holy Sadhu are worth looking at.
3. Devotion to God as per the season – clothes of sandalwood paste.



Important Note:

- (1) On the day of the Final Satsang Examinations, all examinees should obtain the sticker with their personal details from the exam supervisor. Then, after applying the sticker at the appropriate place on the front page of the answer book, obtain the signature of the exam supervisor. Answer book without signature of Exam Supervisor is **NOT VALID**.
- (2) Write your answer either with a blue or black pen. Answer will not be considered valid if written in pencil, or with a red, green or any coloured pen.
- (3) **IMPORTANT CHANGE IN THE 'SATSANG PRAVIN' EXAMINATION SYLLABUS**

With effect from the February 2003 and July 2003 examinations, 'Idol of Inspiration – Pramukh Swami Maharaj' will no longer be a part of the syllabus.

It will be replaced by the following book:

Title: Portrait of Inspiration - Pramukh Swami Maharaj
Publishers: Swaminarayan Aksharpath

Translated by: Sadhu Vivekjivandas
First Edition: December 2002

Note: Please order this book from Swaminarayan Aksharpath, Amdavad taking into account the number of exam candidates from your center.

Satsang Exam Division