



BAL SATSANG EXAMS
Bal Pravrutti Central Office



ANS. PAPER

BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha, Shahibaug, Ahmedabad-380004, INDIA

BAL SATSANG - 1 : FINAL PAPER

Sunday, 4th March 2012

Time: 9.00 a.m. to 11.00 a.m.

Total Marks: 100

Q.1 Fill in the blank space with the appropriate word from the parenthesis [10]

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|------------------|--------------|--------------|---------|---------------|
| 1. elephant | 2. Ramayan | 3. Dharmadev | 4. 7 | 5. Joban Pagi |
| 6. Pramukh Swami | 7. Muktanand | 8. Parents | 9. Māyā | 10. mandap |

Q.2 In the following sentences place a (✓) next to those which are correct and a (X) next to those which are incorrect. ✓X [20]

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. X | 2. X | 3. X | 4. ✓ | 5. X | 6. ✓ | 7. X | 8. ✓ | 9. X | 10. ✓ |
| 11. X | 12. ✓ | 13. ✓ | 14. ✓ | 15. ✓ | 16. ✓ | 17. X | 18. ✓ | 19. ✓ | 20. ✓ |

Q.3 Write the number of the correct answer in the appropriate box. [40]

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. 3 | 2. 1 | 3. 2 | 4. 3 | 5. 2 | 6. 1 | 7. 1 | 8. 2 | 9. 3 | 10. 1 |
| 11. 3 | 12. 2 | 13. 3 | 14. 2 | 15. 1 | 16. 3 | 17. 1 | 18. 2 | 19. 2 | 20. 2 |
| 21. 3 | 22. 2 | 23. 3 | 24. 1 | 25. 3 | 26. 1 | 27. 2 | 28. 3 | 29. 2 | 30. 1 |
| 31. 2 | 32. 2 | 33. 2 | 34. 1 | 35. 3 | 36. 1 | 37. 1 | 38. 2 | 39. 3 | 40. 2 |

Q.4 Complete the following Swamini Vatos. [10]

1. Āpne Bhagwānnā chhie pan mǎyānā nathi em mǎnvu.
2. Karod kām bagāḍine pan ek moksha sudhārvo ne kadāpi karod kām sudharyā ne ek moksha bagāḍyo to temā shu karyu?
3. Āvā Sādhune manmā sambhārie to mannā pāp bali jāy ne vāto sām̐bhalie to kannā pāp bali jāy ne darshan karie to ānkhna pāp bali jāy em mahimā jānvo.
4. Nirantar sarva kriyāmā pāchu valine jovu je, māre Bhagwān bhajvā chhe ne hu shu karu chhu, em joyā karvu.
5. Gāfalāi tālvānu kāran e chhe je khatko rākhe to tale ne bijo upāy to koik shikshā kare tyāre tale.

Q.5 Complete the unfinished kirtan / shloka / ashtaka. [10]

1. Nānā nānā bāl ame, Swāmine vahālā bāl ame;
Shrijine vahālā bāl ame, santone vahālā bāl ame...
Vahelā uthi dhyān dharshu, nāhi dhoine puḍā karshu;
Swāminārāyan mantrā bhanshu, pragat Prabhune pranām karshu...
2. Purushottam pragatnu, je darshan karshe,
Kāl karmathi chhuti, kutumb sahit tarshe...jay
Ā avasar karunānidhi, karunā bahu kidhi,
Muktānand kahe mukti, sugam kari sidhi...jay
3. Om saha nāvavtu, sahanau bhunaktu,
saha viryam karvāvahai tejasvinā vadhitamastu,
mā vidvishāvahai Om Shanti(hi)..Shanti (hi)...Shanti (hi)

4. Āthde āth, muki de jagno thāth...Mārā bandhu 7
Navde nav, tari jā tu ā bhav...Mārā bandhu 8
Ekde minde dash, adharmā māthi khas...Mārā bandhu 9
Evi rite bhajāy, to Akshardhāmmā jāyāy...Mārā bandhu 10
5. Gururbrahmā gururvishnu gururdevo Maheshvara(ha)
Guru sākshāt param Brahma tasmai shri gurave nama(ha)

Q.6 Write short notes on any ONE of the following.

[10]

1. A Donkey into a Cow

There was an evil man named Joban Pagi. He was feared by all. Even the police trembled at his name. Cutting a person's throat was as easy as cutting a watermelon to him. People locked their doors and hid their children when they heard that he was coming.

Once, Joban heard that Maharaj had a beautiful mare called Manki. He decided to steal Manki.

Maharaj was in Dabhan at that time, performing a yagna. At night Joban Pagi went to the stable where Manki was tied. To his surprise he saw Maharaj standing next to the mare, gently stroking Manki with his hands. He returned back several times that night, but saw Maharaj with the mare again and again. So he decided to come the next night.

The next night Joban came and saw Maharaj standing again by the mare. Joban waited the whole night. But Maharaj did not move. The same thing happened when he came on the third night.

"Doesn't Maharaj ever sleep?" thought Joban. "Or is it true that he is a magician? If he is a magician, I will have to test him!"

Joban Pagi decided to go to Maharaj's assembly the next day. He thought if Maharaj recognised him, called him by his name, told him why he had come there and offered the garland from his neck, then he would believe him to be great and powerful!

The next day Maharaj was seated in an assembly. Around him were many sadhus and devotees. Joban Pagi came and stood before him. Maharaj said at once, "Welcome Joban Pagi, welcome. Why are your eyes so red? Are they red because you haven't slept for the last three nights? You couldn't steal Manki and neither could you steal the other horses."

As soon as the assembly heard the name of Joban Pagi, the Kathi Darbars reached for their swords.

Maharaj smiled and said, "Joban Pagi has not come to steal anything today. He has come to become a satsangi."

He then took off the rose garland He was wearing and placed it around Joban Pagi's neck. Joban's three wishes were fulfilled. He fell at Maharaj's feet and asked for forgiveness for all his sins. He said, "Maharaj, you are my Lord and I am now your servant!"

Joban the robber was now Joban the devotee! He took a rosary in his hand.

When the King of Vadodara found out about this miracle he was overjoyed. He promised to pay Joban a fixed pension every year.

Once Joban went to Petlad to collect his yearly pension. A clerk made fun of him, saying, "Joban, can your Swaminarayan transform a donkey into a cow?"

Joban did not get angry at all. He calmly replied, "Yes, it is true. He has transformed a

robber like myself into a devotee of God. He has given me the rosary and taken away my sword. Is this not making a donkey into a cow? What greater miracle do you want to see?"

The clerk did not say a word more.

Shriji Maharaj transformed an evil man into a virtuous devotee.

2. Eating a Cucumber on an Elephant !

The devotees of Junagadh loved Shriji Maharaj dearly.

They once took out a procession in town with Maharaj seated on a decorated elephant. Hundreds of Kathi Darbars joined the procession. Many were on horseback, armed with either rifles or swords.

The whole town came out into the streets to see the colourful procession. Even the Muslim king watched from his palace window.

As the procession moved along a young boy, carrying a fresh cucumber, ran up to the elephant. He called Maharaj, "Maharaj, look here. I've brought this for you!"

Maharaj looked down and saw the boy. He loved children and thus never disappointed them. So He stretched his hands. The boy stood on tiptoe to give Maharaj the cucumber but he could not reach him. Then a sadhu lifted the boy and raised him. Happily the boy gave the cucumber to Maharaj and said, "Maharaj, the cucumber is fresh and sweet."

Shriji Maharaj started eating it there and then. In response to his love, Maharaj did not care about the procession or thousands of people watching him eat on an elephant.

The king saw Maharaj eating. The king's minister, who was against Maharaj, immediately criticised, "Look at Maharaj. He calls himself God but he has no manners. He is eating the cucumber as if he has never seen a cucumber in his life." The king was wise and of spiritual inclination. He commented, "He is not an ordinary man. He is either God or he is God's true Sadhu! No one else would dare eat a cucumber during a procession!"

Shriji Maharaj loved children, and whenever the occasion arose he pleased them and fulfilled their wishes.

3. Curses his own words

There was a village called Banshi. On the banks of a river near the village Nilkanth Varni was seated in deep meditation. Beautiful birds were singing sweet songs in the early morning. Nilkanth was very happy. He had been here for a few days now, meditating by the river bank.

One day as he was preparing to sit in meditation there was a sudden loud bang from a gun. Nilkanth heard a piercing scream and then to his horror two beautiful birds fell into his lap. Nilkanth gently stroked the birds, sprinkled some water on them but after fluttering a little they both died.

Nilkanth felt very sad. He thought as to who had killed these beautiful birds while they were singing happily.

Shortly, two hunters came to Nilkanth Varni. They quickly picked the birds up and put them into a bag. "These birds are ours," they said, "We are the king's men."

Nilkanth replied, "How can these birds be yours? You have just killed them!"

The hunters answered, "One who kills is the owner. Everyone knows that." Then they went away.

Nilkanth felt sad and unhappy. He did not eat anything that day. In the middle of the night he suddenly uttered, "Let this village burn! I don't want to stay here any more!"

As soon as Nilkanth Varni said this the village began to burn. Flames leapt high into the sky. On realizing what had happened, He at once felt extremely sorry. Nilkanth thought, "What have I done? I am a sadhu. My words have sparked off destruction."

Nilkanth Varni quickly ran to the river and jumped in. He prayed, "May this fire be extinguished." The fire died down immediately.

But Nilkanth was not satisfied. He cupped his hands and took up water in them and cursed his own words. He said, "If ever again I say such a thing then O Speech, may you not become true."

Often, other sadhus became angry to scare people and to exploit them. But Nilkanth Varni was a true ascetic. He didn't want to become angry on anyone nor did he want to scare anyone. He wished to make everyone happy.

Such was the compassion and power of Nilkanth.