A few of the questions in this Pre-Test Paper will be asked in the Final Exam on 2nd March 2008.

BOCHASANWASI SHRI AKSHAR PURUSHOTTAM SWAMINARAYAN SANSTHA

SATSANG EXAMINATIONS

PRE-TEST: SATSANG PRAVIN-1

JANUARY 2008

Time: 9.00 am to 12.00 pm

Total Marks: 100

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Apply sticker here for Pravin-1 (Eng.)

To be filled by Examinee only

Age of Examinee ..............................................................

Education of Examinee .......................................................

Class Supervisor should only sign after checking the sticker and the written details above.

Signature of Class Supervisor .............................................

Please carefully read the following instructions:

1. On the day of the Final Satsang Examinations, all examinees should obtain the sticker with their personal details from the class supervisor. Then, after applying the sticker at the appropriate place on the front page of the answer book, obtain the signature of the class supervisor.

2. Answer book without signature of the class supervisor will be considered NOT VALID.

3. Figures given on the right hand side indicate the marks for that question.

4. Follow the instructions while answering.

5. Answers should be clearly written.

6. Write your answers with either a blue or black pen. Answers written in pencil, or with a red, green or any other coloured pen will not be considered valid.

7. Marks for Question ➔ 1 Mark ➔ Space for Examiner to write marks

Apply sticker without sticker will be invalid.

Do not apply sticker of absent examinees.

Please do not damage in any way the bar code on the student details sticker.

Examiner's Signature

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

...........................................................................................................................................................
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2. The pragat form of God after Shriji Maharaj’s return to Akshardham.
3. Importance of Upasana.
4. Gunatitanand Swami’s unique glory as described by himself.

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. One should drive out the notion that God is formless.
..........................................................................................................................................................

2. Nirvikalp uttam ati nishchay tav Ghanshyam.
3. God of the divine abode and God of the earthly form are one and the same entity.
4. In proportion to the devotion that one offers to God manifesting on earth, only to that extent does one realize the difference between atma and anatma.
5. It is the great sadhu who instills divinity in the murtis.

Q.3. From the given options, place a tick (✔) in the box next to the correct ones. (4)

Note: One or more options may be correct. Full marks will be awarded only if all the correct options are chosen, otherwise no marks will be awarded.

1. Glory of the Gunatit sadhu - In the poems of well-known saints poets.
   (a) Lakshmiji ardhangana mari, te mara sant ni dasi re.
   (b) Sant harijan ek hai, bhinna na mano koi.
   (c) Sant bole te bhelo hu bolu re, sant na bhule huye na bhulu re.
   (d) Santkrupathi sadmati jage, sant krupathi sadgun.

2. Gunatitanand Swami is Akshar in the words of Shriji Maharaj.
   (a) "Ma, you may not understand, but your son (Mulji) is my divine abode, Akshardham, in person."
   (b) "I give you today the gift of my Akshardham – Gunatitanand Swami – to the devotees in Sorath."
   (c) "If Gunatitanand Swami is not Akshardham, then may I incur the sin of destroying as many cosmoses as there are notches on this mandir."
   (d) "Najabhai, do you know this Sadhu? He is my Akshardham.

Q.4. Describe any ONE of the following and highlight its significance. (4)
1. Shriji Maharaj asked why do you call me Bhagwan?
( ) .......................................................................................................................................................... ..................................
2. Gunatitanand Swami is Akshar - the conviction of Keshavjivandas.
3. "Boy! Do not indulge in judging God."

Q.5. Write briefly on any TWO of the following. (In 12 lines each.) (8)
1. Aksharbrahman: one and unique.
2. Necessity of understanding Divyabhav.
3. Deficiencies resulting from not realizing the manifest form of God.
4. Glory of the Gunatit saint - In the words of Shriji Maharaj.
Q.6. Explain any TWO of the following, giving reasons. (In 12 lines each.) (8)
1. By his steadfast conviction of God's doership, a devotee remains unaffected by happiness or misery.
2. For an ekantik devotee physical death is not real death.
3. The power in all avatars is due to Purushottam Narayan.
4. Although B.A.P.S. is separate from the two dioceses of the original Sampradaya, it is not excommunicated.

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

What to understand in upasana?
1. The other incarnations ................................................................. avtari of all avtar.
2. Only by contact........... worship of Purushottam.
3. Shriji Maharaj is Purna Purushottam Narayan ........... divine.
4. Jiva, ishwar ........... one another.

What not to understand in upasana?
1. Paramhansas other .......... Mul Aksharbrahman.
2. There is no .......... Aksharbrahman.
3. Only Purushottam .......... such as Purushottam.

Q.8. Write short notes: God with form as well as immanent. (5)
SECTION-2: SATSANG READER-III
& PORTRAIT OF INSPIRATION - PRAMUKH SWAMI MAHARAJ

Q.9. In the sentences below, state who is speaking to whom and when. (9)

1. "Make a heap of the ashes and then sit on it, forgetting my body." (S.R.-III) OR
2. "Maharaj stopped it for your sake." (S.R.-III)

( ) Who is speaking? ................................................ To whom? .........................................................
When? ...............................................................................................................................................

3. "You were to encounter a great danger which I have averted." (S.R.-III) OR
4. "I experience profound peace for the first time in my life." (POI-PSM)
5. "You bring the water in this bucket and I'll do the cleaning with the brush." (POI-PSM) OR
6. "Before the king, tell me, how would it look if one shows respect to a servant by touching his feet!" (POI-PSM)

Q.10. Give reasons for the following. (In 9 lines each.) (8)

1. Parvatbhai remained in the company of Shriji Maharaj for six months. (S.R.-III) OR
2. Raghuvirji Maharaj made Gunatitanand Swami discourse in the assembly. (S.R.-III)

( ) ...........................................................................................................................................................
3. Narendraprasad Swami’s doubts were resolved. (POI-PSM)  OR
4. The Mayor of Ashton, Mr. Wilkinson, lost control over his anger. (POI-PSM)

Q.11. Answer the following concisely. (12 lines each.) (8)
1. Maharaj explaining the meaning of "Anirdesh" to Kushalkunvarba. (S.R.-III)  OR
2. "Anubhavine antar re..." Explain the kirtan. (S.R.-III)
Q.12. Answer ALL of the following, using one sentence (not just one word) for each answer. (5)
1. Who awakened Keshavjivandas from samadhi? (S.R.-III)
2. After seeing the piece of cloth floating on the water how was Lalji Bhakta convinced? (S.R.-III)
3. What did Parvatbhai wish while ploughing the farm? (S.R.-III)
4. What misunderstandings of the Harijans were dissolved on meeting with Swamishri? (POI-PSM)
5. What is Swamishri’s prediction for the future? (POI-PSM)

Q.13. From the given options, place a tick (✔) in the box next to the correct ones. (8)
Note: One or more options may be correct. Full marks will be awarded only if all the correct options are chosen, otherwise no marks will be awarded.
1. Mandirs in which Raghuvirji Maharaj has performed the idol installation ceremony: (S.R. - III)
   (1) Vartal (2) Mumbai (3) Junagadh (4) Gadhada
2. Muktanand Swami answered Varni’s question. (S.R.-III)
   (1) Shabda, Sparsh, Rup, Ras and Gandh
   (2) The five eternal realities
   (3) Hands, legs, nose, ears and tongue
   (4) Jiva, Maya, Parabrahman
3. The opinions of saints for Pramukh Swami (POI-PSM)
   (1) Pramukh Swami is a great part of the infinite.
   (2) As living brahmaswarup sadhu - the crowning glory of all sadhus.
   (3) A spiritual sculptor
   (4) So silent, at the same time making so many people so active.
4. Pramukh Swami’s love towards devotees (POI-PSM)
   (1) Harijans of Sarangpur (2) Mangal
   (3) Ganesh of Kankarawadi (4) Dalubhai Dabhi

SECTION-3: ESSAY
Q.14 Write an essay on any ONE. (In approx 60 lines.) (15)
1. Symbol of selfless service and devotion: Mandir
2. A display of Indian spirituality and pride: Bal-Yuva Shibirs
3. B.A.P.S.: World Best
   ( )
Important Note:
One essay from the above essays will be asked in the Final Exam.