

BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha
Yuva Talim Kendra - Sarangpur

Interview Questions

● Where the answer is not given, it means to be found by own.

1. Recite the arti.

- A. Jay Swāminārāyan, Jay Akshar-Purushottam,
Akshar-Purushottamjay, darshansarvottam... Jay Swāminārāyan...
Mukta anant supujit, sundar sākāram,
Sarvopari karunākar, mānav tanudhāram... Jay Swāminārāyan... 1
Purushottam Parabrahma, Shri Hari Sahajānand,
Aksharbrahma anādi, Gunātītānand... Jay Swāminārāyan... 2
Prakat sadā sarvakartā, param muktidātā,
Dharma ekāntik śthāpak, bhakti paritrātā... Jay Swāminārāyan... 3
Dāsabhāv divyatā saha, brahmarupe priti,
Suhradbhāv alaukik, śthāpit shubh riti... Jay Swāminārāyan... 4
Dhanya dhanya mam jivan, tav sharane sufalam,
Yagnapurush pravartita, siddhāntam sukhadam... Jay Swāminārāyan,
Jay Akshar-Purushottam, Jay Swāminārāyan... 5

2. Recite the prarthana ‘Nirvikalp Uttam Ati...’.

- A. Nirvikalp uttam ati, nischay tav Ghanshyām;
Māhātmya-gnān-yukt bhakti tav, ekāntik sukhḍhām. 1
Mohime tav bhaktapano, tāme koī prakār;
Dosh na rahe koī jātko, suniyo Dharmakumār. 2
Tumāro tav Hari bhaktako, droh kabu nahi hoy;
Ekāntik tav dāsko, dīje samāgam moy. 3
Nāth nīrantar darsh tav, tav dāsanko dās;
Ehī māgu karī vinay Hari, sadā rākhiyo pās. 4
He Krupālo! He Bhaktapte! Bhaktavatsal! suno bāt;
Dayāsindho! śtavan karī, māgu vastu sāt. 5
Sahajānand Mahārājke, sab satsangī sujāṇ;
Tāku hoy dradh vartano, Shikshāpatrī pramāṇ. 6
So Patrī me atibaḍe, niyam ekādash joy;
Tākī vigti kahat hu, suniyo sab chitt proy. 7
Hinsā na karnī jantukī, partriya sangko tyāg;
Māns na khāvat madhyaku, pīvat nahi badbhāg. 8
Vidhvāku sparshat nahi, karat na ātmaghat;
Chori na karnī kāhukī, kalank na kouku lagāt. 9
Nindat nahi koy devku, bin khapto nahi khāt;
Vimukh jīvake vadanse, kathā sunī nahi jāt. 10

Ehī (vidhi) dharmake niyamme, barto sab haridās;
Bhajo Shrī Sahajānandpad, chhoḍi aur sab ās. 11
Rahi ekādash niyamme, karo Shrī Haripad prīt;
Premānand kahe dhāmme, jāo nishank jag jīt. 12

3. Recite the stutis (verses) of Bhagwan Shri Swaminarayan and the Guru Parampara.

- A. Antaryāmi parātparam hita-karam, sarvopari Shri-Hari,
Sākāram Parabrahma sarva-sharanam, kartā dayā-sāgaram |
Ārādhyam mama ishtadeva prakatam, sarvāvatāri Prabhu,
Vande dukha-haram sadā sukha-karam, Shri Swāminārāyanam ||

Sākshād Aksharadhāma divya paramam, sevāratam murtimān,
Sarvādhāra sadā sva-roma vivare, brahmānda-koti-dharam |
Bhakti dhyāna kathā sadaiva karanam, brahma-sṭhiti-dāyakam,
Vande Aksharabrahma pāda-kamalam, Gunātītānandanam ||

Shriman-nirguna-murti sundara tanu, adhyātma-vārtā-ratam,
Dehātita dashā akhanda bhajanam, shāntam kshamā-sāgaram |
Āgnā-pālana-tatparam guna-grahi, nirdosha-murti swayam,
Vande Prāgaji-Bhakta-pāda-kamalam, brahmaswarupam gurum ||

Shuddhopāsana mandiram surachanam, siddhānta-rakshāparam,
Sansthā-sṭhāpana divya-kārya-karanam, sevā-mayam jivanam |
Nishthā nirbhayatā sukashta-sahanam, dhairyam kshamā-dhāranam,
Shāstri Yagnapurushadāsa-charanam, vande pratāpi gurum ||

Vāni amruta-purna harsha-karani, sanjivani mādhuri,
Divyam drushthi-pradāna divya hasanam, divyam shubham kirtanam |
Brahmānanda prasanna sneha-rasitam, divyam krupā-varshanam,
Yogiji guru Jnānajivana pade, bhāve sadā vandanam ||

Vishve vaidika dharma marma mahimā, satsanga viśtārakam,
Vātsalyam karunā aho jana-jane, ākarshanam adbhutam |
Dāsātvam guru-bhakti nitya bhajanam, samvāditā sādhutā,
Nārāyanaswarupa Swāmi Pramukham, vande gurum muktidam ||

Divyam saumya-mukhāravinda saralam, netre ami-varshanam,
Nirdosham mahimā-mayam suhrudayam, shāntam samam nishchalam |
Nirmānam mrudu divyabhāva satatam, vāni shubhā nirmalā,
Vande Keshavajivanam mama gurum, Swāmi Mahantam sadā ||

4. When and where was Bhagwan Swaminarayan born?

- A. 3 april 1781 chappaiya

5. How old was Ghanshyam when renounced home?

- A. 11 years
6. For how many months did Nilkanth Varni perform austerities in Pulhashram while standing on one foot?
- A. 4 months
7. Which five questions did Nilkanth ask wherever he went?
- A. Explain the nature of jiva, ishwar, maya, Brahma and Parabrahma.
8. For how many years did Nilkanth Varni do vicharan?
- A. 7 yrs 1 months 11 days
9. How old was Sahajanand Swami when Ramanand Swami appointed him as his successor? Where did he make this appointment?
- A. 21 years old, Jetpur.
10. Which two boons did Sahajanand Swami ask for from Ramanand Swami when he was appointed as his successor?
- A.
11. Which mahamantra did Sahajanand Swami give?
- A. swaminarayan mahamantra
12. Which ill practices did Shriji Maharaj stop?
- A. Sati, female infanticide (Dudhpiti) and singing foul songs.
13. Where did Shriji Maharaj initiate 500 paramhansas?
- A. Kalvani (District: Junagadh).
14. How many mandirs did Shriji Maharaj build? Where?
- A. 6, ahmedabad, gadhada, jetpur, vadtal, bhuj, junagadh
15. Which two changes did Shriji Maharaj initiate as soon as he arrived at Ramanand Swami's ashram?
- A. 1. Ghokhlo puraivo and 2. stree purush ni sabha alag
16. When and where did Shriji Maharaj pass away?
- A. In Gadhada on Jeth sud 10, Samvat 1886 (1 June 1830).
17. Who was the ideal devotee of Bhagwan Swaminarayan?
- A. Dada khachar
18. Who was Gunatitanand Swami?
- A. The manifest form (avatar) of Aksharbrahma.

19. When and where was Gunatitanand Swami born?

A. In the village of Bhadra in the Jamnagar district on Sharad Punam (Aso sud 15), Samvat 1841.

20. What was Gunatitanand Swami's childhood name?

A. mulji sharma

21. Where did Shriji Maharaj initiate Mulji Sharma as a sadhu?

A. dabhan in mahayagna

22. In which mandir did Guntitanand Swami serve as mahant for 40 years?

A. junagadh

23. By what name is Gunatitanand Swami's samadhi sthan (the place of his cremation) known?

A. aksharderi gondal

24. Who was the foremost disciple of Gunatitanand Swami?

A. pragji bhakt - bhagatji maharaj

25. When and where was Bhagatji Maharaj born?

A. In the village of Mahuva on Fagan sud 15, Samvat 1885.

26. Who was the guru of Shastriji Maharaj?

A. vignanand swami

27. Where was Shastriji Maharaj born?

A. mahelav

28. Which name was given to Dungar Bhagat after initiation as a sadhu?

A. sadhu yagnapurushdas

29. Where did Shastriji Maharaj build shikharbaddha mandirs?

A. 5, bochasan, sarangpur, gondal, atladra, gadhada

30. Why did Shastriji Maharaj separate from Vadtal?

A.

To spread the knowledge of akshar purushottam

31. Where did Shastriji Maharaj first ritually install the murtis of Akshar-Purushottam while he was still in Vadtal?

A. Vadhvan

- 32. In which BAPS mandir did Shastriji Maharaj first ritually install the murtis of Akshar-Purushottam Maharaj?**
A. bochasan
- 33. Where was Yogiji Maharaj born?**
A. dhari
- 34. What was Yogiji Maharaj's childhood name?**
A. jinabhagat
- 35. Which unique and creative work did Brahmaswarup Yogiji Maharaj do for the Sanstha's progress?**
A. • Commencement of ravi sabha, yuvak mandals, bal mandals, adhiveshans.
• Spread the Satsang abroad for the first time ever; Sent sadhus of the Sampradaya for the first time ever to America to promote Satsang; Repurposed a church into a mandir in London.
• Initiation of 51 educated youths into the sadhu order on the occasion of Gadhada Kalash Jayanti.
- 36. Where was Pramukh Swami Maharaj born?**
A. chansad
- 37. According to the English calender, when was Pramukh Swami Maharaj born?**
A. 7 dec 1921
- 38. What was the childhood name of Pramukh Swami Maharaj?**
A. shantilal
- 39. How old was Shantilal when he was initiated as a sadhu?**
A. 18 years.
- 40. Who initiated Shantilal into the parshad order? Where?**
A. shastriji maharaj - ambli vadi pol - ahmedabad
- 41. Who initiated Pramukh Swami Maharaj into sadhu order? Where?**
A.
- 42. From when did Narayanswarupdas Swami came to be known as 'Pramukh Swami'?**
A. When Shastriji Maharaj ordained him as Sanstha's 'Pramukh' after adorning him with chadar.

43. How old was Pramukh Swami Maharaj when he appointed as the president of the Sanstha?

A. 28 years

44. Where did Pramukh Swami Maharaj build shikharbaddha mandirs? (Name any six)

A. These include:

- | | | |
|------------|------------------|-------------|
| 1) Bharuch | 2) Mumbai | 3) Mahesana |
| 4) London | 5) Surendranagar | 6) Surat |

Note: Others may also be named.

45. Which are the two wings required to go to Akshardham?

46. ^{agna and upasna} What is bhakti?

A. To have love for God based on the understanding of God's glory.

47. Why should one perform the daily puja?

A. For three reasons:

- 1) For expressing one's gratitude to God
- 2) For empowerment of one's atma-soul
- 3) For God's grace

48. Why should one apply tilak-chandlo?

A. It is Shriji Maharaj's command (agna) and is a symbol of our faith.

49. What is pradakshina (circumambulation)?

A. Bhagwan (God) and the Sant are the centrepoin of our life. Performing circumambulations yields immeasurable merit.

50. What is a kanthi?

A.

51. Enumerate the panch vartman of devotees.

A. These are:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1) To never drink liquor | 2) To never consume meat |
| 3) To never steal | 4) To never commit adultery |
| 5) To never keep bad company | |

52. What is our guru parampara?

A.

53. What is the siddhant of our Sampradaya?

A.

Aksharroop thaineh purushottam ni bhakti karvi

54. What is the purpose of our birth?

A. Your text here 14

55. Which invocation (ahvan) mantra is recited in one's daily puja?

A.

56. Which mantra is recited after completing one's daily puja?

A.

57. Which murtis are worshipped in the daily puja?

A.

58. Which three vices cause one's downfall from Satsang?

A. These are:

1) Stubbornness (Hath) 2) Ego (Man) 3) Jealousy (Irsha)

59. Which three virtues help the devotee to ascend in Satsang?

A. These are:

1) Faith (Shraddha)

2) Perseverance (Khap)

3) Regular company of the virtuous (Samagam)

60. What are the three characteristics of a staunch devotee?

A. These are:

1) Observing vows (Niyam)

2) Having firm faith (Nishchay)

3) Paksha

61. Which three things does happiness lie in?

A. They are:

1) Remembering God's form (murti)

2) Having the company of the sadhu

3) Good thoughts

62. Enumerate the four pillars of ekantik dharma

A. These are:

1) Dharma – Righteousness

2) Jnan – Knowledge

3) Vairagya – Detachment

4) Bhakti – Devotion

63. Which mandirs have attained a place in the Guinness World Records?

A. BAPS Swaminarayan Mandir, London; BAPS Swaminarayan Akshardham, New Delhi.

64. Why are mandirs necessary?

A. For mental peace, for doing darshan of God, for performing devotion, for attaining religious knowledge.

65. Name the five artis which are performed in a shikharbaddha mandir.

A. Mangala, Shangar, Rajbhog, sandhya, shayan

66. What is our diksha mantra?

A.

67. Where and when was Bhagwan Swaminarayan Aksharam aham purushottam dasosmi Bicentenary Celebrations celebrated?

A. Ahmedabad, 1981.

68. Where and when was Gunatitanand Swami Bicentenary Celebrations celebrated?

A. Ahmedabad, 1985.

69. Where and when was Pramukh Swami Maharaj's Amrut Mahotsav celebrated?

A. Mumbai, 1995.

70. Where and when was the Cultural Festival of India celebrated in USA?

A. Edison (New Jersey), 1991.

71. Which are main shastras of our Sampradaya?

A. Vachnamrut, shikshapatri

72. How many Vachanamruts are there in total?

A. 273

73. Name the sadhus who compiled Vachanamrut.

A. Gopalanand Swami, Muktanand Swami, Nityanand Swami, Shukanand Swami.

74. What is upasana?

A. Upa + asana means sitting near. To sit near God in his service is upasana.

75. To whom is our upasana dedicated?

A. To the feet of Purushottam Narayan.

76. What is Akshar-Purushottam?

A. Akshar is Gunatitanand Swami, Purushottam is Sahajanand Swami. To become as pure as Gunatitanand Swami and offer devotion to Sahajanand Swami.

77. Which are the four Vedas?

A. Rig Veda, Sam Veda, Atharva Veda, Yajur Veda.

78. Which four kinds of persons does Shriji Maharaj not get along with?

A. Angry, Jealous, Deceitful, Egoistic.

79. Name the panchvishays.

A. Sound, Touch, Form, Taste, Smell.

80. What are the main beliefs of Hindu dharma?

A. These are:

- 1) Avatarvada – Belief in avatars.
- 2) Karmavada – Belief in karma.
- 3) Punarjanmavada – Belief in reincarnation.
- 4) Murtipuja – Belief in image worship.

81. Who established our Sanstha?

A. shastriji maharaj

82. Enumerate the three bodies of the jiva?

A. These are:

- 1) Sthul – Physical
- 2) Sukshma – Subtle
- 3) Karan – Causal

83. Enumerate the three states of jiva?

A. These are:

- 1) Jagrat – Awake
- 2) Swapna – Dream
- 3) Sushupti – Deep Sleep

84. Which are three gunas?

A. These are:

- 1) Sattvaguna – Positive (Righteous)
- 2) Rajoguna – Active (Sensual)
- 3) Tamoguna – Inactive

85. Which are the three types of miseries?

A. These are:

- 1) Adhyatma – From the self
- 2) Adhibhut – From nature
- 3) Adhideva – From the divine

86. For whose darshan should we not go empty-handed?

A. For the darshan of God and guru (Satsang Diksha 263)

87. Name the five senses of knowledge?

A. These are:

- 1) Nose 2) Ear 3) Eyes 4) Tongue 5) Skin

88. Name the five elements of nature?

A. These are:

- 1) Earth 2) Water 3) Light 4) Air 5) Sky/Space

89. Which six types of people should be respected?

A. As per Satsang Diksha 159–160 these are:

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1) Elders | 2) More Knowledgeable |
| 3) More Virtuous | 4) Scholarly |
| 5) Senior | 6) Teacher |

90. Name any three vows from the eleven vows of a satsangi.

A. no alcohol, no meat, no stealing

91. How is Gunatitanand Swami Aksharbrahma? Narrate any one incident.

A. When Shrihari played raas with the sadhus at Rathod Dhadhal's place in Sarangpur, he placed the stick on the chest of Gunatitanand Swami and said, "In the form of my Dham, Gunatitanand Swami bears me and innumerable muktas."

92. When Pramukh Swami Maharaj was appointed as president of the Sanstha at the age of 28, what pledge did he take?

A. By performing my duty appropriately, and by remaining completely faithful to the Sanstha without caring for my body, I will serve you. To properly develop the garden of Akshar-Purushottam jnan that you have cultivated, I will daily perform this seva with absolute care and diligence, thereby seeking to gain the blessings of the entire Satsang community. Please fulfil this too.

93. Name the magnificent festivals organized by BAPS outside India.

A. These are:

- 1) Cultural Festival of India in London, 1985 (Pramukh Swami Maharaj Suvarna Tula Mahotsav)
- 2) Cultural Festival of India in New Jersey, 1991 (Pramukh Swami Maharaj Platinum Tula Mahotsav)

- 94. On which five days has Brahmaswarup Shastriji Maharaj instructed that everyone should observe nirjala (waterless) fasts?**
- A. Dev uthi, Swaminarayan jayanti, jaljhini, Janmasthmi, Dev podhi
- 95. Which three shastras are known as Praasthantrayi?**
- A. These are:
1) Shrimad Bhagavad Gita 2) Upanishads 3) Brahma Sutras
- 96. In which Vachanamrut has Shriji Maharaj endorsed the Vachanamrut shastra, thereby making it authentic?**
- A. Vachanamrut Loya Section 7
- 97. What mahima (glory) of Gunatitanand Swami does Shriji Maharaj describe in the Shri-Harililakalpataru?**
- A. I am overjoyed to initiate Mulji Sharma, who is the embodied form of my Aksharbrahma-Dham.
- 98. What did Yogiji Maharaj say to youths?**
- A. Youths! Be determined and prepared. Be brave in adhering to agna (codes of conduct), upasana (beliefs), sadbhav (friendship), and paksha (allegiance).
- 99. What did Pramukh Swami Maharaj say about youths?**
- A. Youth is wealth. If one has wealth, one can do whatever one wills. Satsang, virtues and self-control are necessary for constructively utilizing this wealth.
- What cannot be achieved by so many youths? We should not believe that we are immature. If you are right then no matter how great a person is in front of you, your opinions will certainly make an impact.
- 100. Why should one attend the weekly/Sunday assembly (sabha)?**
- A. Yogiji Maharaj began the tradition of conducting the weekly satsang assembly (sabha). Discourses (katha) on God are food for the soul (atma). In satsang, one comes to know the principles and methods for solving life's numerous problems, for discarding bad desires, addiction, and superstitions, for removing vices, and for becoming akshar and offering devotion to Purushottam.
- 101. What is mansi puja? Why is it necessary?**
- A. Performing the devotion of God in one's mind is mansi puja. Through mansi puja, a devotee develops a personal

bond with and increased love for God. A devotee can offer all kinds of devotion to God through mansi puja. In the Vachanamrut, Shriji Maharaj reveals that the fruits of performing mansi puja with a pure-hearted intent is just the same as the fruits attained through performing puja physically.

102. Write/Sing the following thal, “Mare gher avajo chhogala dhari... ”

A.

103. How should an eclipse (grahan) be observed?

A. During a solar or lunar eclipse, all satsangis should discontinue all activities and engage in Bhagwan’s bhajan. During that time, one should not sleep or eat, but sit in one place to sing kirtans dedicated to Bhagwan and undertake other forms of devotion until the eclipse is over (Satsang Diksha 264–265).

When the eclipse is over, all should bathe and soak the clothes they are wearing. Thereafter, renunciants should perform puja and householder devotees should give donations (Satsang Diksha 266).

104. How is the glory of the Swaminarayan mantra described in the Harililamrut? (Describe in one sentence.)

A. Je Swaminarayan nām leshe, tenā badhā pātak bāli deshe – For one who chants the name of Swaminarayan, all their sins will be burnt away.

105. What does Mahant Swami Maharaj say in satsang diskha regarding purifying monetary wealth?

A. According to one’s means, one should give one-tenth or one-twentieth of one’s income in Swaminarayan Bhagwan’s service and to attain his blessings (Satsang Diksha 195).

106. How did Krupanand Swami remain constantly engaged in Shriji Maharaj

A. Even without samadhi, Krupanand Swami remained constantly focused on Shriji Maharaj through remembrance, meditation, and knowledge.

107. What does Gunatitanand Swami say regarding following agna (commands)?

A. “One’s desires get destroyed as much as one follows the agna (commands).”

Moreover, he said, “Whatever agna (commands) I give, I give the murti of God through them.”

108. What are the gifts of God?

- A. God has gifted us with air, water, food, and clothes. Moreover, he has gifted us with the sun, the moon, fruits, flowers, plants – due to all of which we are happy.

109. How did Ajamil get moksha?

- A. Ajamil was liberated due to the glory of God's name. Ajamil was a sinner, but Naradji named Ajamil's youngest son 'Narayan'. He was liberated since he called Narayan, his youngest son, by name on his deathbed.

110. Why did Shriji Maharaj call Sura Khachar a yati (celibate)?

- A. Because Sura Khachar remained untainted despite a woman trying to seduce him in private.

111. What should one think to transcend fear?

- A. I am atma, immortal. Why should I fear? – One should perform such contemplation on one's atma (atmavichar).

112. How did Mulji explain to his father that one should perform the bhakti of God from one's childhood?

- A. Mulji gave the following answer to his father, "Who knows when one will die? So, one should chant the name of God from one's childhood."

113. Explain the power of the Swaminarayan mahamantra through an incident.

- A. The mandir in Gondal was under construction. One night, a big, black, poisonous snake bit Yogiji Maharaj's finger. Shastriji Maharaj said, "Chant the dhun in the [Akshar] Deri." Therefore, everyone started chanting the dhun. The Maharaja of Gondal came to know about the matter. So, he sent his own doctor to Swami to provide the medication. But by the time the doctor arrived, the effect of the poison had worn off.

114. What did Sagram's wife say when Sagram covered the silver anklet with sand?

- A. She said, "Oh! Why did you cover the sand with the sand? I consider someone else's things as sand only."

115. What is uttam nirvikalp nishchay?

- A. To remain in the state of brahma and offer upasana (devotion) to Parabrahma.

116. Who is called a guru?

- A. 'Gu' means darkness and 'ru' means light. One who destroys darkness in the form of ignorance and provides light in the form of knowledge is a guru. In the Vedras, Shriji Maharaj says, "Guru is Brahma."

117. What are the characteristics of a disciple?

- A. Intense love for one's guru, and profound faith and conviction in his word.

118. What promise did Shriji Maharaj give to Kashidas?

- A. "Here [in Bochasan], I will reside together with my Akshardham."

119. Why did Shriji Maharaj hail 'Victory to Gopinath Maharaj' when Dubli Bhatt donated 13 dokdas?

- A. Because others had donated only a portion of their wealth, while Dubli Bhatt gave all his wealth to Shriji Maharaj.

120. What happens by observing vows/fasts (vrat)?

- A. Purification of one's atma (soul).

121. Which month and tithi is the Annakut festival observed on?

- A. Kartik sud 1.

122. What is known as dhor-langhan?

- A. One who lets one's eleven senses enjoy the sensual objects and remains hungry for the sake of it is known as dhor langhan.

123. How are viveki (discerning) and aviveki (undiscerning) individuals known?

- A. A viveki individual sees one's own faults and sees only the virtues in God and his devotees; an aviveki individual perceives virtues in oneself and construes faults in God and the Sant.

124. What did Prabhashankarbhai of Piplav renounce on receiving Shriji Maharaj's letter?

- A. He was going for getting married. But, on receiving the letter from Shriji Maharaj. he cancelled his marriage and went to Vadtal instead.

125. Why is an idol (murti) of marble considered sacred and worshipped?

A. Currency notes transform into money once the government's stamp is applied on it. Similarly, the idol (murti) becomes divine due to the divine power of the Satpurush. Hence, while worshipping it, devotees do not believe it to be merely stone, but God himself.

126. In whose service (seva) do we have to keep our senses?

A. In the service of God and his Gunatit Sant.

127. Gunatitanand Swami says, "What sort of intense desire should one have to attain moksha?"

A. It should be like the paupers who came to Bhimnath mandir (in Saurashtra, Gujarat) during the famine of 1869 (1813 CE) to beg for food. They would plead for food and were pushed around, yet they did not go away. This is the type of intense desire one should have for moksha.

128. Gunatitanand Swami says, "Despite getting one crore rupees, one does not attain any fruits." Why?

A. Because one cannot eat more than a rotlo.

129. What message do we learn from the incident of Satyakam Jabali?

A. To follow the commands (agna) of the guru without any doubts.

130. What are the characteristics of a jiva?

A. Jiva has limited knowledge, is as small as an atom, is sentient, and pervades the entire body.

131. What is vairagya (detachment)?

A. To not have attachment with anyone or anything except Parabrahma and Aksharbrahma is vairagya.

132. What is bhakti?

A. Love for Shriji Maharaj with an understanding of his glory (mahima) is bhakti.

133. What benefit does one who has an addiction to do service (seva) like Uka Khachar gai?

A. The desires (vasana) of one who is addicted to doing service (seva) like Uka Khachar are immediately destroyed.

- 134. Despite not being mentioned in the letter addressed to 18 devotees by Shriji Maharaj, why did Kalyanbhai become a sadhu?**
- A. By recognizing the inner wish of Shriji Maharaj, Kalyanbhai became a sadhu.
- 135. What level of liberation was the courtesan of Jetalpur granted?**
- A. The courtesan of Jetalpur was granted the same level of liberation as Muktanand Swami.
- 136. Who composed the Bhaktachintamani and Nishkulanand Kavya?**
- A. Nishkulanand Swami.
- 137. What are the eight steps of ashtanga yoga?**
- A. Yama, Niyam, Asan, Pranayama, Pratyahar, Dharna, Dhyan, Samadhi.
- 138. How many times should mansi puja be performed in a day?**
- A. Five.
- 139. When does the gateway to moksha open for the jiva?**
- A. If one has profound love towards the ekantik Sant of God just as resolutely as one has profound love towards one's relatives, then the gateway to moksha opens for that jiva.
- 140. During the Fuldol festival in Sarangpur, what boons did the devotees ask for from Shriji Maharaj?**
- A. That maya, which hinders in offering the devotion to God, does not affect us; we do not attribute manushyabhav to you; we do not experience ill will for the devotees; our intent does not change, etc.