**Q.1 Who is our Eastdev (favourite God)?**
A. Bhagawaan Shree Swaminarayan.

**Q.2 What is the aim of Kuchchh Shree Narnaaraayan Dev Baal Yuvak Mandal?**
A. The aim of Kuchchh Shree Narnaaraayan Dev Baal Yuvak Mandal is to serve Bhagawaan, Aacharya, Saint, Temple, Parents and to preserve and uplift Uddhav Sampradaay (Shree Swaminarayan Sampradaay).

**Q.3 Where was Bhagawaan Shree Swaminarayan born?**
A. He was born in a village known as Chhapaiya near Ayodhya which is located in Northern India in a state known as “Kaushal Desh” (Uttar Pradesh).

**Q.4 When did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan incarnate?**
A. He incarnated on 9th day of Chaitra Sud 1837 (2nd April 1781) at 10:10pm.

**Q.5 In which year was Dharmadev born?**
A. He was born on Kartik Sud Ekadashi 1796 at noon.

**Q.6 In which year was Bhakti Maata born?**
A. She was born on Kartik Sud Poonam 1798 at night.

**Q.7 What were the original names of Swaminarayan Bhagawaan’s parents?**
A. Bhaktimaata and Dharmadev, previously known as Baala and Devsharma respectively.

**Q.8 How many brothers did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan have and what were their names?**
A. He had two brothers, His elder brother being Raamprataap and younger brother Ichchhaaaram.

**Q.9. How is our Sampradaay known as, who established it and who then led it?**
A. Our sampradaay is known as “Uddhav Sampradaay”. It was established by Sadguru Shree Raamaanand swami who in previous birth was Uddhavji. It was then led by Bhagawaan Shree Swaminarayan.

**Q.10 In which year did Raamaanand swami establish ‘Uddhav Sampradaay’. Currently how is it known?**
A. It was established in the year Samvat 1811 and currently it is known by the name of the leader as “Swaminarayan Sampradaay”.

**Q.11 When and where was Shree Ramanand Swami born?**
A. He was born in Ayodhya on 8th day of Shraavan vad 1795.

**Q.12 What were the names of Shree Raamaanand swami’s parents?**
A. His mother’s name was Sumati and father’s Ajay Vipra.
Q.13 Who was Shree Raamaanand swami’s guru?
A. Shree Raamaanand swami’s guru was Raamaanujaachaarya.
Q.14 In which Philosophy do we believe?
A. ‘Vishistaadvait’.
Q.15 Who was the Guru to Bhakti maata and Dharmadev?
A. Shree Raamaanand swami was the Guru to Bhakti maata and Dharmadev.
Q.16 Where was Dharmadev born?
A. He was born in a village known as Ittaar.
Q.17 What were the names of Dharmadev’s parents?
A. His mother’s name was Bhaagyavati and father’s name was Baalsharma.
Q.18 Where was Bhakti maata born?
A. She was born in a village known as Chhapaiya.
Q.19 What were the names of Bhakti maata’s parents?
A. Her mother’s name was Bhavaani and father’s name was Krishnasharma.
Q.20 In which caste did Shree Swaminarayan Bhagawaan incarnate?
A. He was born in a Saravariya Braahmin caste.
Q.21 Who performed the naming ceremony (“Naam Karan”) of Shree Swaminarayan Bhagawaan?
A. It was performed by Markandey Muni.
Q.22 What names did Markandey Muni give to Bhagawaan Shree Swaminarayan?
A. Hari, Krushna, Hari Krushna, Nilakanth etc.
Q.23 What was the Ved and Shaakha (Ved’s branch) of Bhagawaan Swaminarayan?
A. His Ved was Saam Ved and Kauthami Shaakha.
Q.24 What was Shree Swaminarayan Bhagawaan’s childhood name?
A. His childhood name was Ghanashyaaam.
Q.25 How old was Ghanashyaaam Mahaaraaj when Dharmadev and his family first moved from Chhapaiya to Ayodhya?
A. Ghanashyaaam Maharaj was Three years old.
Q.26 What was the name of Ghanashyaaam Mahaaraaj’s Bhaabhi (sister in law)?
A. It was Suvaasiniibai.
Q.27 At what age did Ghanashyaaam Mahaaraaj get Yagyopavit (Sacred thread ceremony)?
A. Ghanashyaaam Mahaaraaj got Yagyopavit when He was in 8th year.
Q.28 How old was Ghanashyaaam Mahaaraaj when he gave Divya Gati (salvation) to His parents?
A. Ghanashyaaam Mahaaraaj was 11 years old.
Q.29 Whom did Dharmadev give responsibility to look after Ghanashyaaam Mahaaraaj?
A. To his elder son Raamprataapaji.
Q.30 When did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan leave Ayodhya for ‘Van Vicharan’?
A. He left Ayodhya on Friday, 10th day of Ashaadha Sud 1849 early in the morning.
Q.31 For how long did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan stay home before leaving for ‘Van Vicharan’?
A. He stayed for 11 years 3 months and a day at home.
Q.32 When Bhagawaan Swaminarayan left home, what items did He carry with Him?
A. He carried; Mrigcharm (leather mart), Koupin (loin cloth), Munj Mekhala around waist (type of grass rope worn around waist for tying loin cloth), Maala, Bhikhshaapatra (bowl for alms), Yagyopavit on shoulder (Sacred threads worn from shoulder to waist), Palaas dand in one hand (hand rest made from Palaas tree), Kamandalu on the other hand (wooden water pot), Jal Gaaranu (cotton cloth for filtering water), Shaaligraam, Baal Mukund no batavo (special type of box to keep Shaaligraam) and Pancharatna no Gutako, (summary of five major Scriptures).
Q.33 While on pilgrimage, in which major Tirths (place of pilgrimage) did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan travel?
A. In Himalayas at Pulahaashram, Shirapur, Navalakha Parvat,
Baalava Kund, Kapilaashram, Jagannaath Puri, Shiv Kanchi, and Vishnu Kanchi. From there to Shreerang Kshetra, Setubandh Raameshwar, Bhootpuri, Kanyakumaari, Padmanaabh (Trivendrum), Janaardan (Varkala), Aadikeshav, Mallabaar (Kerela), Pandharapur, Naasik, Tryambakeshwar, crossed Narmada and Saabaramati, to Bhimanaath Mahaadev and Gopanaath to Loj.

Q.34 When did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan reach Loj?
A. He reached on 6th day of Shraavan Vad 1856 wednesday morning at 10 a.m. and sat by a well.

Q.35 For how many years did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan Pilgrimage?
A. 7 years, a month and 11 days.

Q.36 Whom did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan first meet in Loj?
A. Sukhaaanand swami.

Q.37 What did Sukhaaanand swami ask Bhagawaan Swaminarayan, and what was His reply?
A. Politly, Sukhaaanand swami asked Varni sitting near the well, where was He coming from? Bhagawaan Swaminarayan replied, “I am coming from Brahmaapur (Akshardham) and will return back. “That’s fair enough but tell me according to this world,” said swami. Bhagawaan Swaminarayan replied back, “I am coming from Kaushal Desh (Northern India) but have not decided where to go henceforth.

Q.38 Which five questions did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan ask Muktaanand swami in Loj?
A. He asked swami to explain the qualities of Jiva, Ishwar, Maaya, Bhrahm and Parabrahm.

Q.39 How did Muktaanand swami reply to the questions?
1. Qualities of Jiva (soul): Souls is separate from three forms of body, Sthool (gross), Sukshma (subtle) and Kaaran (Causal). It resides within Sthool body and functions through the senses. It is eternal and indestructible by fire. It has neither birth nor death and discards old sthool body and gets a new body.

2. Qualities of Ishwar (here Ishwar do not mean God but greate soul):
   - It enters into the three types of body namely Viraat, Sutraatma and Avyaakrit and does the work of construction, maintainance and destruction of universe.
   - 3. Qualities of Maaya (Illusion): Maya is full of darkness and is the cause of birth and death. It consists of three qualities of nature, Satvagun (purity), Rajogun (passion) and Taamogun (ignorance) and is the power of Bhagawaan (God).
   - 4. Qualities of Brahm (here Brahm do not mean God but extra ordinary soul): Brahm is truth and knowledge. Infinite, perfect, eternal, sustains and lights Akshar and the rest of all. He is pure, eternal and non-deterioratable.
   - 5. Qualities of Parabrahm (God): He is called as Naaraayan, Krishna, Vaasudev, Vishnu. He is omniscient, truth, totally independet and have divine form. He is blissful, all knower, rewarder of all endeavours/actions, almighty. He is also known as Parameshwar. Though He resides in all, still He is un-attached. He is the controller of Kaal (time) and Maaya (delusion) etc. and is root cause of all. He is to be devoted by all.

Q.40 Who was the Guru to Muktaanand swami?
A. Shree Raamaanand swami.

Q.41 Where was Raamaanand swami when Bhagawaan Swaminarayan meet Muktaanand swami?
A. He was residing at Gangaaraam’s home in Bhuj Kuchchh.

Q.42 What time limit did Muktaanand swami give Bhagawaan Swaminarayan when He desired to meet Raamaanand swami at bhuj.
A. Muktaanand swami gave time limit up to the month of Vaishaakh while trying to convience Him as, “Oh Nilkanth Varni, on the way to Kuchchh comes a deep salty creek, therefore, the route is very difficult. Hence, stay here happily and wait for Raamaanand swami to come back”.

Q.43 To whom and where did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan write His first letter?
A. He first wrote to Raamaanand swami at Bhuj.
Q.44 What miracle took place when Mayaaraam Bhatt gave the letter to Guru Raamaanand swami?
A. When the letter was opened, a bright light glew out of it and the whole congregation was amazed.

Q.45 After reading the letter, what did Raamaanand swami proclaim to the congregation?
A. “Wasn’t I saying that I am just a subordinate and the chief contestant will come later. He has come in the satsang”. Saying this, Raamaanand swami got off the throne.

Q.46 Who was the Guru to Bhagawaan Swaminarayan?
A. Shree Raamaanand swami.

Q.47 Where did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan and Raamaanand swami first meet?
A. They met in Pipalaana.

Q.48 Where did Raamaanand swami give the Diksha (initiation) to Bhagawaan Swaminarayan and what names was He given?
A. Bhagawaan Swaminarayan got Diksha in Pipalaana and was named Sahajaanand Swami and Naaraayan Muni.

Q.49 Where did Raamaanand swami enthrone Bhagawaan Swaminarayan?
A. In Jetpur.

Q.50 How old was Bhagawaan Swaminarayan when He sat on the throne?
A. He was 21 years old.

Q.51 Which two boons did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan ask from Guru Raamaanand swami when He was enthroned?
A. 1. If at all your devotee were to suffer as littles as a bite from a scorpion, may I suffer ten million times more but not your devotees.
   2. By the fate, if your devotees had to beg, let I become a begger for their sake but do not let your devotees suffer for meal and clothing.

Q.52 From where did Raamaanand swami depart to Aksharadham?
A. He departed from Faneni.

Q.53 What were the names of the first two Aachaaryas?
A. Ayodhyaaprasaadji mahaaraaj for Northern region (Amadaavaad), while Raghuvirji mahaaraaj for Southern region (Vadataal).

Q.54 Where and when did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan write the Shikshaapatri?
A. He wrote in Vadataal on 5th day of Mahaa Sud 1882, (vasant panchami)

Q.55 How many Slokas (verses) do Shikshaapatri contain in total?
A. 212 slokas.

Q.56 How many Adhyaays (chapters) and Slokas (verses) do Bhagavat Gita contain?
A. 18 Adhyaays and 700 Slokas.

Q.57 How many years did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan live on this Earth?
A. 49 years 2 months and a day.

Q.58 How many years did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan stay in Satsang?
A. 30 years 9 months and 19 days.

Q.59 For how long did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan travel in Kuchchh?
A. 7 years.

Q.60 Which place was most liked by Raamaanand swami?
A. Raamaanand swami liked Bhuj.

Q.61 In which year did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan conclude His human mission and depart back to Aksharadhaam?
A. He departed on 10th day of Jeth Sud 1886.

Q.62 Under Shree Narnaaraayan Dev Gaadi (Amadaavaad), how many Aachaaryas have led Swaminarayan sampradaay to date and what are their names?
A. To date, under Shree Narnaaraayan Dev Gaadi, there have been seven Aachaarya, they are:
   1. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Ayodhya Prasaadaji mahaaraaj.
   2. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Keshav-prasaadaji mahaaraaj.
3. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Purushottam-prasadji mahaaraaj.
4. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Vaasudev-prasadaji mahaaraaj.
5. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Devendra-prasadji maharaj.
6. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Tejendra-prasadji mahaaraaj.
7. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Kaushaledra Prasaadji mahaaraaj.

Q.63 Under Shree Laxmi Naaraayan dev Gaadi (Vadtaal), how many Aachaaryas have led Swaminarayan Sampradaay and what are their names?

A. To date, under Shree Laxmi Naaraayan Dev Gaadi, there have been nine Aachaarya, they are:
1. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Raguvirji mahaaraaj.
2. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Bhagavatprasadaji mahaaraaj.
3. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Vihaarilaalaji mahaaraaj.
4. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Laxmiprasaadaji mahaaraaj.
5. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Shreepatiprasaadaji mahaaraaj.
6. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Aanandaprasaadaji mahaaraaj.
7. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Narendraprasaadaji mahaaraaj.
8. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Ajendraprasaadaji mahaaraaj.
9. His Holiness Aachaarya 1008 Shree Rakeshprasaadaji mahaaraaj.

Q.64 In Swaminarayan Sampradaay how many foremost principles are there?

A. There are 11 foremost principles namely: (1) Non-violence, (2) Non-adultery, (3) Avoidance of any kind of flesh (pure vegetarianism), (4) Avoidance of Alcohol, (5) Non-touching to women, (6) Not to Suicide, (7) Non-stealing, (8) Not to blame, (9) Not to descriminate Devs, (10) Avoiding eating from whom we do not want and (11) Not to hear katha from Vimukh (secular) or atheist.

Q.65 Which work should be done immediately?

A. Anything related to religious activity should be done immediately.

Q.66 What work shouldn’t be undertaken without careful consideration?

A. Worldly activities (daily affair) should not be performed without careful consideration.

Q.67 What kind of clothes should humans not wear?

A. Anti-social clothes which expose our body parts.

Q.68 With whom shouldn’t we argue?

A. One’s Aachaarya, Politicians, Government officers and Women.

Q.69 Who shouldn’t be humiliated?


Q.70 Where shouldn’t we go empty handed?

A. When going to meet Guru, God (deities in temples) and President (politicians).

Q.71 How many types of bhakti (devotion) are there?

A. There are nine types of Bhakti, namely:
1. Shravan Bhakti (Listening).
2. Kirtan Bhakti (singing, chanting etc.).
3. Smaran Bhakti (Remembering).
4. Seva Bhakti (Service).
5. Pujan Bhakti (Ritual Worship).
6. Namaskaar Bhakti (Bowing).
7. Daas Bhakti (Servant).
8. **Sakha Bhakti (Friendship).**

9. **Aatmanivedan Bhakti (Self surrender).**

**Q.72 What do we mean by Shravan (Listening) bhakti?**

A. Shravan bhakti means listening to Bhagawaan’s biography, spiritual discourses, spiritual songs, God’s character qualities, God’s greatness and God’s Lila (God’s day to day activities).

**Q.73 What do we mean by Kirtan (singing) Bhakti?**

A. Kirtan bhakti means singing devotional songs, reciting holy scripture, reciting features of Bhagawaan, and praying.

**Q.74 What do we mean by Smaran (remembering) bhakti?**

A. Smaran bhakti means whole heartedly remembering Bhagawaan while performing mala, pondering over God’s name and His Lila (God’s day to day activities).

**Q.75 What do we mean by Paad Sevan (massage) bhakti?**

A. Paad Sevan bhakti means massaging Bhagawaan’s charan (legs).

**Q.76 What do we mean by Pujan (ritual worship) Bhakti?**

A. Pujan bhakti means applying sandal wood paste, flower garlanding, applying kumkum chaandlo (O mark) on forehead, giving gifts, putting on cloths, jewellery and performing Aarti to God.

**Q.77 What do we mean by Vandan (bowing) bhakti?**

A. Vandan bhakti means bowing in front of God.

**Q.78 What do we mean by Daasatva (servantness) bhakti?**

A. Daasatva bhakti mean, like a servant, one should follow the commandments of Bhagawaan, clean temples, cook meal for God and then offerig, give water to drink and wash hands and make Him to sleep on a comfortable bed.

**Q.79 What do you mean by Sakha (friendship) bhakti?**

A. Sakha bhakti means making friendship with God. We should joke and laugh with God. Politely annoy Him just like one does with a friend but enmity should not form.

**Q.80 What do we mean by Aatmanivedan (Self surrender) bhakti?**

A. Atmanivedan bhakti means self surrendering including one’s family, property, wealth and then serving God. Anykind of service to God should be done by self (not by paid servants) which includes: preparing *Thaal* (food), fetching water, washing utensils, cleaning temple etc. Atmanivedi devotee never consumes food nor water without first offering to God.

**Q.81 In which year did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan install Shree Narnaaraayan Dev in Amadaavaad?**

A. Bhagawaan Swaminarayan installed Shree Narnaaraayan Dev in Amadaavaad on 3rd day of Faagan Sud 1878.

**Q.82 In which year did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan install Shree Narnaaraayan Dev in Bhuj?**

A. Bhagawaan Swaminarayan installed Shree Naraaraayan Dev in Bhuj on 5th day of Vaishaak Sud 1879.

**Q.83 In which year did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan install Shree Laxminaaraayan Dev in Vadataal?**

A. Bhagawaan Swaminarayan installed Shree Laxminaaraayan Dev in Vadataal on 12th day of Kaartik Sud 1881.

**Q.84 In which year did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan install Shree Madanamohan Dev in Dholera?**

A. Bhagawaan Swaminarayan installed Shree Madanamohan Dev in Dholera on 13th day of Vaishaakh Sud 1882.

**Q.85 In which year did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan install Shree Raadhaaraman Dev in Junaagadh?**

A. Bhagawaan Swaminarayan installed Shree Raadhaaraman Dev in Junaagadh on 2nd day of Vaishaakh Vad 1885.

**Q.86. In which year did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan install Shree Gopinaathaji Mahaaraaj in Gadhada?**

A. Bhagawaan Swaminarayan installed Shree Gopinaathaji Mahaaraaj in Gadhada on 12th day of Aaso Sud 1885.

**Q.87 Who was given the title of a mother in satsang?**

A. Shree Muktaanand swami.

**Q.88 Who was called as Vairaagya murti?**

A. Shree Nishakulaanand swami.
Q.89 What are the childhood names and birth places of these Nand Santos, Gopaalaanand swami, Brahmaanand swami, Muktaanand swami, Nityaanand swami.
A. Diksha name   Childhood name   Place of birth
Gopaalaanand swami   Khushaal Bhatt   Todala
Brahmaanand swami   Laadudaan Ghadhavi    Khaan
Muktaanand swami   Mukund Daas    Amaraapur
Nityaanand swami   Dinamani Sharma    Dattiya

Q.90 Give the different names of Shree Sahajaanand Swami.

Q.91 Who was the first Mahant swami of Bhuj Temple and where was he born?
A. The first Mahant swami of Bhuj Temple was sadguru swami shree Achyut daasaji, born at Dhufi.

Q.92 Who is the current Mahant swami of Bhuj Temple?
A. The current Mahant swami of Bhuj Temple is sadguru puraani swami shree Dharmanandan daasaji.

Q.93 In which lake did Santdaasaji submerge and came out at Badrikaashram?
A. Santdaasaji submerged into Hamirsarovar (Lake Hamir) at Bhuj and came out at Badrikaashram.

Q.94 Who proved good characteristics of a servant?
A. Sundaraji Suthaar proved good characteristic of a good servant.

Q.95 Whom did Swaminarayan Bhagwaan choose as a sculptor to sculpt the murti (idol) of Gopinaathaji Mahaaraaj at Gadhada Temple?
A. Swaminarayan Bhagwaan chose Naaraayanajibhai Sutaar of Bhuj as a sculptor to sculpt the Gopinaathaji Maharaj murti (idol).

Q.96 Who was the first person to sketch a portrait of Bhagawaan Shree Swaminarayan?
A. The first person to sketch the portrait of Bhagawaan Shree Swaminarayan was Naaraayanaajibhai of Bhuj.

Q.97 Where did Brahmaanand swami learn Pingal language?
A. Brahmanand Swami learnt Pingal language at Bhuj and became a great poet thereafter.

Q.98 Who headed the construction of old Bhuj temple with an order from Shree Swaminarayan Bhagwaan?
A. Vaishnavaanand swami.

Q.99 What is ‘Shree Swaminarayan Dharma Sandesh’?
A. ‘Shree Swaminarayan Dharma Sandesh’ is a monthly magazine published by Bhuj Temple.

Q.100 How should Bhagwaan’s Bhakti be done?
A. Bhagwaan’s Bhakti should be done together with the Dharma.

Q.101 While at Temple, how should one behave?
A. While at Temple, none should make any body contacts whatsoever with the opposite sex.

Q.102 What should one do after becoming a devotee of Shree Swaminarayans Bhagwaan?
A. After becoming a devotee of Shree Swaminarayan Bhagwaan, Braahmin, Kshatriya, Vaishya, Shudra by caste should wear a Double Tulasi Kanthi (Tulasi bead necklace) and should paste the urdhvapundra tilak(t) and kumkum chaandalo (*.)

Q.103 What should a devotee of Shree Swaminarayan Bhagwaan do in the morning?
A. In the morning the devotee of Shree Swaminarayan Bhagwaan should: (1) wake up before sunrise, (2) Should do Bhagwaan’s Dhyaan (meditate upon the Lord), (3) Should sing and chant Bhagawan’s Name, (4) Answer the call of nature, first, wash the left hand 10 times and thereafter wash both hands together 7 times with sand/soap and water, (5) Should sit silent in one place and brush the teeth, (6) Bathe with pure water, (7) Wear a clean pair of clothing, upper & lower, (8) Should sit at one place on an Aasan (clean mate)
facing North or East, do the tilak and chaandalo and commence pooja, (9) Go to the temple for Darshan and (10) Theafter engage in daily work.

Q.104 Which and when should a thing be accepted?
A. Edible and Drinkable things should be accepted only after offering it to Bhagawaan.

Q.105 What should a devotee do in the evening?
A. A devotee of Shree Swaminarayan Bhagawaan should attend temple where he/she should chant loudly Bhagawaan’s Name and sing His Kirtans in the evening.

Q.106 Where should one not sit with one leg over the other?
A. One should not sit with one leg over the other in front of a Guru, Dev, King or while in Sabha (spiritual gathering).

Q.107 How should one address another?
A. One should be addressed according to his/her status and character.

Q.108 Who should be given a warm welcome?
A. A warm welcome should be given to a Guru, a King, an Elderly person, a Saint, a Scholar and an Ascetic.

Q.109 Which Devs (gods) should be devoted?

Q.110 State Dharmas for Brahmins.
A. Brahmins’ Dharmas are: Sham, Dam, Kshama, Shantosh etc. (to cultivate the qualities of tranquillity, self-restraint, patience and contentment).

Q.111 State Dharmas for Kshatriyas.
A. Kshatriyas’ Dharmas are: to cultivate the qualities of bravery, patience etc.

Q.112 State Dharmas for Vaishyas.
A. Vaishyas’ Dharmas are: farming, trading, banking etc.

Q.113 State Dharma for Shudraas.
A. Shudraas’ Dharma is to serve the rest of the 3 castes.

Q.114 What should one do when they have intentionally or unintentionally committed a sin?
A. One should redeem intentionally or unintentionally committed sins by doing Praayaschit (penance) according to one’s ability.

Q.115 What should be avoided during fasting?
A. Day time sleeping during the day of fasting should be avoided.

Q.116 During the 4 months of Chaaturmaas, which extra Niyamas (pledge) should one take?
A. During Chaaturmaas one should take the following as niyamas (pledge): Listening to Katha (hearing discourses from scriptures), Reading Satshaatras (scriptures), Singing Bhagawaan’s Kirtans, Performing Mahaapooja, Mantra Jaap (chanting), Stotra paath (repetition of Praise verses), Pradakshina, Shashtaang dandavat pranaam (to prostrate).

Q.117 Which observances should one observe?
A. One should observe the following observances: Ekaadashi, Janmaashtami, Raamanavami, Shivaratri, Vaaman Jayanti etc.

Q.118 What should one do in the event of afflictions caused by ghosts and evil spirits?
A. In the event of afflictions caused by ghosts and evil spirits, the ‘Naaraayan Kavach’ or ‘Hanumaan Mantra’ should be recited.

Q.119 Which Devas’ (demigods’) mantras should not be recited?
A. The Devas’ (demigods’) who fall under lower stratum and whom in front animal sacrifice is done.

Q.120 Which are the eight scriptures authenticated by Swaminarayan Bhagawaan?

Q.121 What is Dharma?
A. Dharma is the right conduct which has been described in Shruti and Smritis.
| Q.122 What is meant by Gyaan (knowledge)? | A. **Gyaan (Knowledge) is to know the characteristic of Jeev (soul), Ishwar (God) and Maaya (illusion).** |
| Q.123 What is Bhakti? | A. **The limitless love to Bhagawaan with realization of His glory and greatness.** |
| Q.124 What is Vairaagya? | A. **Vairaagya is dislikeness towards everything except Bhagawaan.** |
| Q.125 What is the duty of virtuous person? | A. **To do Bhakti and Satsang.** |
| Q.126 How should one engage in Bhakti? | A. **By thinking that the soul is a Brahm swaroop and separate entity from the three types of body.** |
| Q.127 Who should be meditated upon? | A. **Bhagawaan, His incarnations or His murtis (idols).** |
| Q.128 Who shouldn’t be meditated upon? | A. **Any soul may it be a human or a demi-god shouldn’t be meditated upon even though they have become one with God.** |
| Q.129 What should Grihasta (householder) satsangi accumulate? | A. **A Grihasta (householder) satsangi should accumulate food and money and those who own livestock should also store sufficient fodder.** |
| Q.130 What should we do when receiving guests? | A. **We should welcome and satisfy them by giving food, drink etc.** |
| Q.131 What shouldn’t be given as a donation? | A. **One’s own wife shouldn’t be given as a donation.** |
| Q.132 To whom and how should one deal? | A. **One shall not undertake any sort of dealings pertaining to land or money even with one’s own son or a friend without a written document duly witnessed.** |
| Q.133 What should be done when faced by natural or man-made disaster, an outbreak of a disease or plague? | A. **One should protect oneself and the rest accordingly.** |
| Q.134 With whom shall one not reside in a secluded place? | A. **One shall never reside in a secluded place with one’s mother, sister or a daughter. (Vice versa for female)** |
| Q.135 When should one perform Ganapati Pooja? | A. **It should be performed every year on the 4th day of Bhaadarava Sud (Ganesh Chaturthi).** |
| Q.136 When should one perform Hanumaanaji pooja? | A. **It should be performed every year on the 14th day of Aaso Vad (kaali chaudas).** |
| Q.137 When and how is Mahadevji poojan performed? | A. **It is performed every year in the month of Shraavan with Bilva-Patra (Bilva Leaves) and other pooja items.** |
| Q.138 What are Jangam Tirths? | A. **Jangam Tirths are places where sadhus or staunch devotees reside.** |
| Q.139 What are Sthaavar Tirths (non-moving holy places of pilgrimage)? | A. **This are holy places where one can have bathe (in rivers, lakes etc), and where there are holy temples (mostly ancient or which were visited by great saints or Bhagawaan.).** |
| Q.140 How can one recognise Naimishaaranya Thirth? | A. **One can recognise Naimishaaranya Thirth where one’s senses become desireless.** |
| Q.141 How should Grihast (householders) run their business affairs? | A. **Grihast (Householders) should always spend according to their income and keep their accounts in a clear writing.** |
| Q.142 How much should one donate as Dharmaado? | A. **One should donate 10% or 5% of the total net income to temple as a Dharmaado. (for kuchchh satsangis, only at Bhuj temple)** |
| Q.143 State Dharmas for a Suvaasini baais (married women)? | A. **If a married woman’s husband is blind, ill, poor or impotent, she must serve him like she would serve God and shall never...** |
associate even casually with any handsome or virtuous man (other than her husband). She should never dress in a way that her body parts (naval, thighs, breasts etc.) are exposed. She should not watch obscene drama or gestures, pornography films etc. and should not associate with crook females.

Q.144 When a husband of a married woman is gone out of town, how should she act?
A. When a husband of a married woman have gone out of town, she should neither wear luxurious cloths nor jewellery, shall not visit other peoples homes (none-relatives) and should avoid merriment.

Q.145 State Dharm for Vidhavaas (Widows)?
A. They shall serve Bhagawaan Swaminarayan as they would have served their husband.

Q.146 What should Braahmin, Kshatriya, Vaishya avoid in addition to their dharmas?
A. Braahmin, Kshatriya and Vaishya should neither eat meat (non veg food), onions, garlics nor drink alcohol, water from leather bag.

Q.147 What shouldn’t be borrowed from temple for personal use?
A. Money, utensils, ornaments or clothings should not be borrowed from temple for personal use.

Q.148 What should wealthy people do?
A. Wealthy people should perform Ahimsaamay (non-violent) Yagyaaas, shall feed Sadhus and Brahmins in places of pilgrimage and also on religious auspicious days, shall build temples, shall organise festivals in temples and make donation to worthy people.

Q.149 When should one go away (escape) from one’s own native land?
A. When one’s livelihood, shame (dignity), wealth or life is at stake, in a severe famine or when enemies, rulers ruin livelihood.

Q.150 Name some the scriptures of our Sampradaay.
A. Satsangijivan, Shikshapatri, Vachanaamrit, Satsangi Bhusan, Bhaktchintaamani, Nishkulaanand Kaavya, Muktanand Kaavya, Ghanashyaam-lilaamrit Saagar etc.

Q.151 How many Vartamaans (vows) are there for Tyagis (sadhus)?
A. There are five Vartamaans (vows) namely: (1) Nirlobh (Non-greediness), (2) Nishkaam (Non-desireness/Non-lustfulness), (3) Nirmaan (Non-egoness), (4) Nihsvaad (tastelessness), (5) Nihsneh (Non-affection).

Q.152 How many Vartamaans (vows) are there for Grihasth (householders)?
A. There are five Vartamaans (vows) namely: (1) Daaru (No alcohol), (2) Maams (no meat), (3) Chori (no stealing), (4) Averi na karavi (no adultery), (5) Vatalavu nahi ane vatalaavavu nahi (not to defile self or make others defile).

Q.153 What is the difference between a Satsangi and a Kusangi (secular) and how should a Satsangi be regarded if he indulges in black magic, charm, an amulet or incantation?
A. A Kusangi (secular) is carried away by black magic, charm, an amulet, incantation or by anyone who may give him wealth, child or any sort of things while a Satsangi will not and believes only in God. If a satsangi believe in black magic, charm, an amulet or incantation, he is regarded as half Satsangi.

Q.154 How do you regard a person who believes Bhagawaan as Niraakaar (formless)?
A. To believe Bhagawaan as Niraakaar (formless) is the biggest sin out of the five major sins and there is no penance for this sin and thus he should be regarded as the biggest sinner.

Q.155 Whom has Bhagawaan said the greatest devotee among the devotees?
A. The one who has overcome the pride (Maan) and worships God (Bhagawaan).

Q.156 Where is Kali (the last of Yugaas) found?
A. According to the Shreemad Bhagavat, Kali is found in gold.

Q.157 What is the reason where someone’s good happen and other’s
Q.158 What are the foundation principles of Dharma upon which it is based?
A. The foundation principles of Dharma are: Ahimsa (non-violence), Brahmacharya (celibacy), Varnaashram (dharm of caste) and Saakaar Upaasana (worshiping or believing that God exist in human foam).

Q.159 Who is the Controller of this Brahmaand (universe)?
A. Bhagawaan Shree Swaminarayan is the controller of the whole universe.

Q.160 When does Bhagawaan become happy with a devotee?
A. Bhagawaan becomes really happy when a devotee acts accordingly with His commands.

Q.161 In what two things should one be staunch with?
A. One should remain staunch in Aatmanishtha (staunchly believing self as a soul) and Bhagawaan’s mahaatmya (having the knowledge/understanding in the infinite greatness of God).

Q.162 Which is the biggest fault in a devotee?
A. The biggest fault in a devotee is that even though he has found Bhagawaan Purushottam Naaraayan, still does not experience infinite ecstasy. Although he has attained ultimate fulfilment but does not feel it.

Q.163 What are the attributes of Bhagawaan?
A. Bhagawaan is beyond Maaya (untouched by illusion) and it’s three qualities (satva, raj and tam). He is free from any degradation or deterioration, eternal (deathless) etc.

Q.164 When a male and a female meet (at a secluded place), is there any possibility that their dharm (religious principles) will be kept intact?
A. There is no way that their dharm will be kept intact.

Q.165 Which scriptures nourishes one’s own sampradaay?
A. The scriptures which contain one’s own Ishtadev’s lifethood stories from birth to death may it be in Samskrit, local language or in vernacular.

Q.166 Who can be called a staunch devotee of God?
A. The one who thinks that only God is a source of bliss and acts as by the wish of God. He is called the surrendered one and is referred to as a true devotee.

Q.167 How would you call the egoist Bhakti (devotion) and which bhakt can be called as an Asoor (demon)?
A. Egoist bhakti (devotion) is called as demonic bhakti and the one who scares Bhagawaan’s devotee is categorised as Asoor even though he/she may be a devotee.

Q.168 Which is the difficult attainment of all?
A. To get rid of all the Vaasana (worldly desires).

Q.169 When does a devotee completely get rid bad thoughts?
A. When a devotee is definite in God and His greatness.

Q.170 When doesn’t one topple off from his Dharm (religious principles)?
A. When one has absolute faith in the words of scriptures and has firm faith in Bhagawaan’s eternal divine form.

Q.171 What is the reason for Moh (affection) to grow?
A. A sever desire in the wants and needs.

Q.172 Which is the greatest sin of all?
A. Not to love God.

Q.173 What are the ways of overcoming senses and mind?
A. Senses are overcome by four means: Vairaagya (Detachment), Swadharma (one’s duty), Tap (austerity) and Niyam (principles) while the mind by doing nine fold Bhakti with consciously knowing the greatness/glory of God.

Q.174 When should truth be avoided?
A. When it is insulting or harming oneself or other.

Q.175 What doesn’t God like?
A. By not feeling shameful and lazy in engaging worldly affairs
but feeling shameful and lazy whilst delivering God’s message, doing katha or singing kirtans.

Q.176 What sort of Bhakti has been said to do if one wants to please Bhagawaan?
A. Bhakti should not be done out of jealousy, to show off or for praises but rather for the sake of one’s own Moksha (liberation).

Q.177 How many substances make up our body?
A. Our body is made up of twenty four substances.

Q.178 What are the twenty four substances that make up the body?
A. Five elements, five types of breath, ten sense organs and four composite forms of the mind.

Q.179 What are the five elements?
A. The five elements are: (1) Prithvi (earth-land), (2) Jal (water), (3) Tej (light), (4) Vaayu (air) and (5) Aakash (the sky).

Q.180 What consist in the earth element?
A. The earth element consists: bones, flesh, nerves, skin and hairs.

Q.181 What consist in the water element?
A. The water element consists: blood, semen, urine, sweat and saliva.

Q.182 What consist in the light element?
A. The light element consists: laziness, brightness, hunger, thirst and sleep.

Q.183 What consist in the air element?
A. The air element consists: contraction, motion, progression, and spredness.

Q.184 What consist in the sky element?
A. The sky element consists: kaayaakaash, udaraakaash, hridayaakaash, kanthaakaash, shiraakaash (space/vacuity in the body, stomach, heart, throat and head respectively).

Q.185 Name five praans (vital breaths).
A. (1) Praan (pumps the heart), (2) Apaan (helps in excretion), (3) Vyaan (circulates blood), (4) Udaan (helps in speaking) and (5) Samaan (functions at naval).

Q.186 What makes the ten sense organs?
A. Five knowledge sense organs and five action sense organs.

Q.187 Name the five knowledge sense organs.
A. They are: (1) Shrotra (ears), (2) Tvak (skin), (3) Chakshu (eyes), (4) Rasana (tongue) and (5) Ghraan (nose).

Q.188 Name the five action sense organs.
A. They are: (1) Vaak (speech), (2) Paani (hands), (3) Paad (legs), (4) Paayu (anus) and (5) Upasth (genitals).

Q.189 How many types of bodies (Deh) are there?
A. There are three types of bodies namely: (1) Sthool (gross), (2) Sukshma (subtle) and (3) Kaaran (causal).

Q.190 How many avastha (states) are there and what are their names?
A. There are three avastha (states) namely: (1) Jaagrat (the stage of waking; conscious mind), (2) Swapna subconscious realm of mind; state of dreaming, (3) Sushupti (unconscious realm of mind; state of deep sleep).

Q.191 How many Casts (varnas) are there?
A. There are 4 varnas: (1) Braahman, (2) Kshatriya, (3) Vaishya and (4) Shudra.

Q.192 How many Aashrams (stages of life) are there?
A. There are 4 Ashrams: (1) Brahamcharya (celibate for 25 yrs since birth), (2) Ghrihastha (house holders from 25-50 yrs ), (3) Vaanprasth (house-hold renouncer from 51-75 yrs), (4) Sanyaas (iniciated hermit from 76th yrs till death).

Q.193 What is Mukti (ultimate liberation)?
A. Serving God by assuming self as a Brahmoop.

Q.194 How many types of Muktis are there?
A. There are four types of mukti: (1) Saalokya (to live in God’s abode with Him), (2) Saarshti (to possess the same power as God), (3) Saamipya (to live together with God) and (4) Saarupya (to attain similar beauty as God).

Q.195 Who is a Satsangi?
A. The one who associates with the ‘Sat’(truth), which means
Q.196 Which are the 7 Loks (divine planets or regions of universe) underneath Earth?
A. (1) Atal, (2) Vital, (3) Sutal, (4) Talaatal, (5) Mahaatal, (6) Rasaatal and (7) Paatala. (These are regarded as lower loks)
Q.197 Which are the 6 Loks (divine planets or regions of universe) above the Earth?
A. (1) Bhuvarlok, (2) Swarglok, (3) Maharlok, (4) Janlok, (5) Taplok and (6) Satyalok. (These are regarded as upper or higher Loks including Earth (Bhoolok) which makes 7 higher Loks)
Q.198 Which are the eight Aavarans (sheaths) of the universe which consists of 14 Loks?
A. They are: (1) Prithvi (earth/land), (2) Jal (water), (3) Tej (light), (4) Vaayu (air), (5) Aakash (the space), (6) Ahankaar (egoism), (7) Mahatattva (primordial element) and (8) Prakruti (nature).
Q.199 How many Vedas are there?
A. There are 4 Vedas namely: (1) Rigved, (2) Saamved, (3) Yajurved and (4) Atharvaved.
Q.200 How many types of incarnations (avataar) are said in the Scriptures?
A. There are 6 types of incarnations, namely: (1) Amshamsh Avataar, (2) Amsh Avataar, (3) Kalaa Avataar, (4) Aavesh Avataar, (5) Poorn Avataar and (6) Paripoorn Avataar.
Q.201 Why does Bhagawaan incarnate on the earth?
A. To establish Bhagavat Dharm, to fulfil the wishes of His beloved devotees, to defend the pious people and to terminate evil people.
Q.202 In which Yuga (period of time) and when does Bhagawaan incarnate?
A. He incarnates in all four Yugas at any time when Dharm declines.
Q.203 When can Bhagawaan be seen in our soul?
A. When our soul is free from lust (kaam), anger (krodh), lobh (greed) and other inner enemies.
Q.204 How can one overcome Faults (inner enemies)?
A. When one understands the glory of the Bhagawaan.
Q.205 What do we mean by Upaasana?
A. It means firmly realising that Bhagawaan Swaminarayan is ever divine form and then thinking upon the relation of Master-servant to serve him.
Q.206 How many human years make Brahma’s day?
A. When four Yugas elapses thousand times (a cycle of 4 Yugas is called a Chokadi which takes 4,320,000 years). Our human 4,320,000,000 years.
Kali Yuga 432,000 human age 100 yrs
Dvaapar Yuga 864,000 human age 1,000 yrs
Treta Yuga 1,296,000 human age 10,000 yrs
Satya Yuga 1,728,000 human age 100,000 yrs
Total 4,320,000
Q.207 State the classification of 8.4 million types of species (life form).
(1). Human - 400,000. eg. Man, monkey, bear etc.
(2). Insects- 1,100,000. Bee, mosquito, lice etc.
(3). Nature- 2,000,000. eg. Trees, plants, mountains etc.
(4). Animals- 3,000,000. eg. Cow, elephant, lion etc.
(5). Birds- 1,000,000. eg. Peacock, peagon, nightingale etc.
(6). Aqua- 900,000. eg. Fish, crocodile, turtle etc.
Q.208 What is the meaning of Tilak and Chaandalo?
A. Tilak (U) symbolises Bhagawaan Naaraayan and the Chaandalo (O) symbolises Laxmiji.
Q.209 Why do we wear a double strand of rosary beads (kanthi)?
A. Because we believe in dual worship.
Q.210 How many Puraans did Vyaasji write?
A. He wrote 18 Puraans.
Q.211 In the year Samvat 1957, where did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan start separate assemblies for men and women?
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<th>Q.</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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<td>212</td>
<td>In Swaminarayan Sampradāya, where was the first Aarti sung and who sang it?</td>
<td>A. The first aarti ‘Jay sadguru swami Sahajaanand dayaalu’ was sung by Muktaanand Swami at Kaalvaani.</td>
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<td>213</td>
<td>How many foremost Paramahams (sadhu) were there during Bhagawaan Swaminarayan’s era?</td>
<td>A. There were 500 foremost Paramahams (sadhu).</td>
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<tr>
<td>214</td>
<td>How many major Tils were there on Bhagawaan Swaminarayan’s body?</td>
<td>A. There were 63 major Tils.</td>
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<td>215</td>
<td>Where does Bhakti and Dharma dwell together?</td>
<td>A. They both dwell where they find: (1) sacred place, (2) sacred time, (3) sacred actions, (4) association of spiritual people, (5) right mantra initiation, and (6) where reading of holy books is done.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>216</td>
<td>When does anger arise?</td>
<td>A. When someone interferes in our needs or in intense desires.</td>
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<td>217</td>
<td>What is the form of Vaasana?</td>
<td>A. When wish or desire develops in our inner consciousness (antah karan) for whatever materialism we have enjoyed or have heard about it in the past.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>218</td>
<td>What makes humans to suffer?</td>
<td>A. Taste, affection, ego, greed and an eager desire for materialism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>219</td>
<td>What should humans give up?</td>
<td>A. Lust, anger, affection, greed, hypocrisy, ego, arrogance, envy, jealousy etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>220</td>
<td>What can be done to avoid mind turning evil?</td>
<td>A. By avoiding anger, ego, jealousy and treachery towards God or His saints.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>221</td>
<td>Who is a Nishkaam (desireless) devotee?</td>
<td>A. The one who does not desire even Dharm (virtue), Aartha (wealth), Kaam (pleasure) Moksha (liberation) other than Shree Hari (God).</td>
</tr>
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<td>222</td>
<td>What should be done so that negative thoughts (avgun) don’t arise?</td>
<td>A. To have maximum faith in God, respect His devotees and become their servant (das no das).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>223</td>
<td>Who shouldn’t be insulted?</td>
<td>A. God, devotees, Braahmin and the poor.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>224</td>
<td>When does God become happy?</td>
<td>A. When one does not insult God, thinks of Him as the all doer of the world and knows Him as having a divine human form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>225</td>
<td>What did Bhagawaan Swaminarayan use to say when arising from sabha (assembly)?</td>
<td>A. He used to say, “Jay Sachchhidaanand or Jay Swaminarayan,” while bowing to saints.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>226</td>
<td>How can one know Satyug in Kaliyug?</td>
<td>A. When majority of the population become God’s ekaantik bhakt (devotee).</td>
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<tr>
<td>227</td>
<td>Why is the Gyaani (learned) one considered greater in the four types of devotees?</td>
<td>A. Because the Gyaani (learned) lives in a state of Brahmswaroop and knows the glory of the God.</td>
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<td>228</td>
<td>Which one sense can we overcome that will help to overcome rest of the senses?</td>
<td>A. Ras indriya (taste sense).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q.233 Name the Panchaang pramaam.

Q.234 Name the Saptarshi (7 Rishis).

Q.235 Name six branches of the Veda.

Q.236 Name six parts of the Satsang.
A. (1) Dev (Bhagawaan), (2) Mandir (temple), (3) Shastra (sriptures), (4) Aachaarya, (5) Sant (saints) and (6) Satsangi (devotee).

Q.237 Name six Indian seasons.
A. (1) Vasant (spring), (2) Grishm (summer), (3) Praavrut (rainy season) (4) Sharad (autumn) (5) Hemant (winter) and (6) Shishir (winter).

Q.238 Name the six types of taste.
A. (1) Kalavo (bitter), (2) Tikho (chilly), (3) Mitho (sweet), (4) Turo, (5) Khaato (Sour) and (6) Khaaro (salty).

Q.239 Name six types of Urmi’s.
A. (1) Kshudha (hunger), (2) Pipaasa (thirst), (3) Shok (grief), (4) Moh (affection), (5) Jaraa (old age) and (6) Mrutyu (death).

Q.240 Name Panchaamrut.

Q.241 Which five things are like a poison.
A. (1) Sinful money, (2) God’s or temple’s money, (3) Deposit money, (4) Widow’s money and (5) Daughter’s money.

Q.242 Name five Aarti’s.
A. (1) Mangala, (2) Shringaar, (3) Raajabhog, (4) Sandhya and (5) Shayan