



Shrimad Rajchandra Nijabhyas Mandap and Vihar Bhavan Trust

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શ્રીમદ રાજચંદ્ર નિજાભ્યાસ મંડપ તથા વિહાર ભવન ટ્રસ્ટ

Shrimad Rajchandra Nijabhyas Mandap and Vihar Bhavan Trust (Ahmedabad-Vadva-Idar) has organised
 "Shree Atmasiddhi Pratiyogita" (Competition) Commemorating 125 years of Paramkrupaludev

Shrimad Rajchandrajji's magnum opus
 "Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra"

It is a great honour for Shrimad Rajchandra Nijabhyas Mandap and Vihar Bhavan Trust (Ahmedabad-Vadva-Idar) to celebrate the 125th anniversary of Shrimad Rajchandrajji's Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra in a unique way. To commemorate this unprecedented occasion, the Pratiyogita has been organised in the spirit of 'bhakti-satsang', without any insistence of caste, creed, place, religion or sect, with the auspicious intention of being instrumental in turning more and more aspirants and spiritually inclined people within.

Based on Shrimad Rajchandrajji's composition Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra

"Shree Atmasiddhi Pratiyogita"

First Prize :

₹ 1,00,000 +
 Certificate of Appreciation

Second Prize :

₹ 50,000 +
 Certificate of Appreciation

Third Prize :

₹ 25,000 +
 Certificate of Appreciation

Two Consolation Prizes:

₹ 10,000 +
 Certificate of Appreciation

RULES

1. The answers to the questions asked in the Pratiyogita must be based on 'Shri Atmasiddhi Shastra' composed by Shrimad Rajchandrajji.
2. Regardless of religion, caste or creed, every seeker, young or old is eligible to appear for these examinations.
3. The Examination will be conducted in two stages :
 - [i] Preliminary Exam: This will be an open book exam to be given from home. ₹ 1,000 will be awarded to each of the first 50 rankers, of which 5 awards will be reserved for youngsters of the age of 15 or less (as on July 31, 2021). In case of a tie, the positions will be decided by a draw.
 - [ii] Final Exam: The first 50 rankers from the preliminary exam will be considered eligible to appear in the final exam. The first five rankers in the final exam will be awarded prizes as mentioned above.
4. The answers of the preliminary exam (Questions 1- 9 as attached) should be submitted such that they reach latest by 31-7-2021.
5. Answer each question as shown in the format only. Write the answers legibly in the places shown on the answer paper (enclosed). Write in black or blue ink (not in pencil, red ink or fluorescent pen). Do not attach any additional answer papers. Those will not be considered. **We are uploading Atmasiddhi exam link in Google Doc format to facilitate seekers to write exam answers online.**

Supportive Organizations : Federation of Jain Associations in USA and Canada(JAINA) ,

Institute of Jainology (India-Britain), JITO (Ahmedabad Chapter), Arham Spiritual Centre.

Dedicated Organizations of Shrimad Rajchandrajji:

Dharampur, Koba, Sayla, Rajkot, Ghatkopar(Mumbai) , Delhi, Sagodia, Kukma.

6. A Xerox copy of the answer paper will be acceptable.
7. Write your name, complete address, birth date, phone number (landline/mobile) and E-mail id (if you have one) on the answer paper and send it in a sealed envelope. Write 'Shree Atmasiddhi Pratiyogita' on the envelope. Those who are posting an envelope are requested to put the right amount of postage stamps.
8. Final Exam: The final exam will be conducted in October 2021. The exact date, time and place will be informed to the winners of the preliminary exam in a timely manner. They will be required to go to Ahmedabad in person for the final exam. Railway second class sleeper fare will be reimbursed to the participants. Special arrangements will be made for NRI winners.
9. Both exams can be answered in Gujarati, Hindi or English. You are requested to procure the preliminary question paper in the desired language.
10. The decision of the team of examiners will be final and binding. No discussion will be entertained in this matter.
11. Any answer paper received after the last date of submission 31-07-2021 will not be considered.
12. 'Early Bird' Awards: Irrespective of whether one wins or not in the preliminary exam, the first 250 entries securing 75% or more marks will be awarded a prize of ₹ 100 subject to the following conditions. So that the participants do not rush for the 'Early Bird' prizes, it has been decided that all entries received by 31-5-2021 will be considered as received at the same time. If those entries exceed 250, then 250 winners will be decided by a draw.
13. Answer papers received will be immediately acknowledged by SMS. Please keep a copy of your answer paper, as the papers will not be returned. The marks will be informed to all individuals by SMS or e-mail after 31-8-2021.
14. Postal Address for submitting the entry: Shrimad Rajchandra Gnanmandir, Shrimad Rajchandraji Chowk, Jain Nagar, Paldi, Ahmedabad - 380007, Gujarat, India.
15. Entries may be submitted to the following e-mail address : srnm1viharbhavantrust@gmail.com
16. One may download the rules of the exam, question paper and answer paper from the website of the institution that is organising this : www.shrimadrajchandratrust.org or from the Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/aatmasiddhishastra/> After printing it, the answers may be written on the answer paper and sent by post or by e-mail as stated above.
17. One may click the link on the website, and answer in the answer paper that opens, and submit it online.
18. The organisers reserve the right to make any changes in the rules as also the final decision regarding their interpretation.

THE BACKGROUND BEHIND ORGANISING THIS PRATIYOGITA

Four years ago, this organisation had successfully conducted a Pratiyogita based on 'Mokshmala', composed by Shrimad Rajchandraji. About 2000 spiritual aspirants had enthusiastically participated in that exam from various parts of India and abroad. Many of them had insisted upon organising a similar Pratiyogita for 'Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra'. We trust that all those who participated in that 'Mokshamala Pratiyogita' will take part in this 'Atmasiddhi Shastra Pratiyogita' with the same enthusiasm. We lovingly invite other aspirants also to join in this Pratiyogita.

EXAMINEE'S COMMITMENT

The reason for endless transmigration is false belief. This results in an illusory identification of the soul as the body, making one forget one's real nature of pure consciousness. Without realising the true nature of the Self, one has been suffering the misery of transmigration since time immemorial. To understand the true nature of the Self and the path to attain it, in Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra, Shrimad Rajchandraji has unfolded the path in just 142 verses in simple Gujarati language. In this scripture, Shrimad Rajchandraji has explained the fundamental truth exactly as preached by infinite Tirthankars. Thus, He has propagated the path of the Tirthankars. The purpose of this Pratiyogita is to be instrumental in inspiring those who are unfamiliar with this scripture to read and reflect upon it; and for those who are familiar with it, to contemplate deeply upon it and understand its true meaning. Therefore, it is expected that each examinee will first read all the verses of Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra at a stretch, once or several times and try to grasp the essence of each verse. After this, one may take guidance from elders, teachers, or other students for clarification and deeper understanding. One may also refer to various expositions and discourses on Atmasiddhi for better understanding. However, everyone must answer the questions themselves to benefit from and give full justice to Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra. You are not allowed to get direct answers from others or copy the answers prepared by someone else. In a nutshell, you must write the answers with your soul as witness.

To commit to the above mentioned conduct, it is mandatory for each examinee to sign the pledge at the beginning of the answer paper.

YUGPURUSH SHRIMAD RAJCHANDRAJI

In Vikram Samvat 1924, on the auspicious day of Kartik Purnima or Devdiwali, a Yugpurush was born. During that period, the society was engulfed in mechanical rituals, hypocritical religious activities and various processions and religious celebrations. At such a time, Yugpurush Shrimad Rajchandraji elucidated the fundamental essence and ultimate goal of true religion. During this period, two great luminaries were born in the land of India. One was like the pinnacle of spirituality, Shrimad Rajchandraji, who propounded the fundamental path of Jainism; and another was Mahatma Gandhiji, who brought complete independence to the country. As time went by, Shrimad Rajchandraji became Mahatma Gandhiji's spiritual mentor. Gandhiji later wrote, "The most I have adopted from anyone's life, is from the life of Shrimad Rajchandraji."

Spiritual practices of lifetimes had instilled extraordinary detachment in Shrimadji. At the tender age of 7, He had the recollection of many previous births which increased His detachment bringing Him closer to the complete state of dispassion. At a very young age, He wrote 'Mokshmala' a veritable ocean of knowledge encompassed in a pot. Its 108 chapters are a clear evidence of His unprecedented Self-realisation. Pandit Sukhlalji, an embodiment of wisdom, has described Atmasiddhi Shastra as the 'Gita of the Jainism.' Shrimad Rajchandraji composed this scripture in just 1½ hours. Through a comparative analysis of all six Indian philosophies, He has shown what true spirituality is to the world.

The life of Shrimad Rajchandraji is akin to the spiritual pinnacle of the soul's power. Like a born Yogi and Saraswati (Goddess of Knowledge) personified, Shrimadji started His schooling at the age of 7½ and learned the alphabets and arithmetic numbers and tables within a month. He began composing poems at the age of 8 and in the same year He composed a poem of 5000 stanzas. At the age of 9, He wrote 'Ramayana' and 'Mahabharata' in a poetic form. By the age of 10, His thoughts were that of a matured, experienced adult. There is no comparable example for His extraordinary powers. He was born with poetic genius, sharp memory, and the knowledge of astrology.

This divine, rare, personality performed 100 avdhans in public before the age of 20, and demonstrated the unfathomable power of the soul. Equally soon, He gave up the activity of performing of avdhans, just as a snake sheds its old skin. This Great One who said, 'If there was no ego in the world, liberation would be right here,' proved His state of detachment through His very conduct.

Quenching the spiritual thirst of Mahatma Gandhiji, Shrimad Rajchandraji had reinforced Gandhiji's faith in Hinduism, and inculcated truth, non-violence, self-restraint and detachment in him. With the focus on the fundamental path, Shrimad Rajchandraji imbibed the scriptures and authored spiritual prose and poetry encompassing the essence of Jainism. His spiritual poems and philosophy came forth as such a tuneful symphony that even today it reverberates in the hearts of countless aspirants.

Shrimad Rajchandraji's life itself became a message. It provided a cool shade of equanimity to people living amid external problems and physical suffering. Living as a householder, He showed the path of spiritual practice to scale the highest peaks of one's spiritual welfare. His words had the silent power to transform. His soul-focused reflections were a clarion call for people wandering in the external world to turn inwards, and explore within.

'No one has attained liberation by maintaining differences of opinion.' So saying, Shrimadji challenged one to give up his own opinion and insistence and embrace the path of spiritual welfare. Negating dry intellectualism and mechanical rituals, He described the path of devotion and surrendership as the highest path. Shrimad Rajchandraji has emphasised the unparalleled importance of a Sadguru by saying 'Look for nothing else, seek only an Enlightened One.'

Shrimad Rajchandraji's personality itself inspired detachment and His powers were extraordinary. He often went into solitary retreats, spending His time in self-study, contemplation and meditation. Far away from the human crowd, He meditated in forests, mountains, and secluded places or under a tree.

The light of Shrimad Rajchandraji's life has so illumined the world that through it, each one is able to see the rare path and embark on the higher journey in their lives. Today, the path shown by Shrimad Rajchandraji has become the royal highway for spiritual aspirants.

SHREE ATMASIDDHI SHASTRA

In Vikram Samvat 1952, on Aso Vad Ekam in Nadiad, Shrimad Rajchandraji composed Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra, the essence of the six philosophies. It was composed in a short span of 1½ - 2 hours in one sitting. From the pen of spiritual thoughts and ink of profound contemplation were composed verses to awaken and realise the soul.

In just 142 verses, Shrimad Rajchandraji put the vast ocean of scriptural knowledge in the small pot of Atmasiddhi. Anekantvad - Principle of Multiplicity of Viewpoints, is a unique specialty of Jainism and 'Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra' because of its style of Syadvad - principle of relativity, incorporates the essence of all philosophies; thus, a kin to an ocean in a pot. It is composed as a dialogue between a disciple's queries and their replies by a Guru. Thus, through the disciple's doubts and the Guru's solutions of those doubts, it provides the essence of the six philosophies and the excellence of Jainism. Instead of refuting any religious beliefs, their views are put forth without naming any of them. Thus, the beliefs of various philosophies have been depicted. In this small composition, the importance of soul is sung for the followers of all religions. It contains the quintessence of the principles of absolute truth and the gist of spiritual knowledge.

Thus it is that 'Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra' is recognised as 'Atmopnishad' - Upanishad of the soul.

The highly scholastic Pandit Sukhlalji has said about Atmasiddhi: Shrimad Rajchandraji has exhibited the essential and complete secret of the soul in this small creation. The Atmasiddhi is indeed an 'Atmopnishad' and equivalent to the 'Gita' for a Jain aspirant.

The nectar of the path of liberation is obtained in this scripture. Therefore, one will naturally experience a religious and spiritual awakening in his heart by studying and contemplating upon it and through writing the answers. Although it is a profound scripture, its style is such that each one can gain something from it as per his worthiness. The more it is studied, the more one will be able to realise its greatness. Written at the age of 29, in one sitting, in only 1½ hours, this composition is a path to a higher life for every religious person.

On the auspicious occasion of the 125th anniversary of the creation of Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra, let us study this jewel-like text arising from the heart of a Yugpurush, lovingly experience it, and be a part of this Pratiyogita.

AVAILABLE PUBLICATIONS OF EXPOSITIONS ON SHREE ATMASIDDHI SHAstra

Expositions by scholars on Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra have been published as books. A list of a few of them has been given below. The examinees may find them useful reference for further reading, reflection and study.

1. Atmasiddhi Vivechan	Pujya Shri Brahmachariji
2. Shri Atmasiddhishastra Par Pravachano	Pujya Gurudev Shri Kanjswami
3. Shrimad Rajchandra Pranit Atmasiddhi Shastra (Vishesharth Sahit)	Shri Bhogilal G. Sheth
4. Hu Atma Chhu	Dr. Tarulatabai Mahasatiji
5. Shrimad Rajchandra Pranit Atmasiddhishastra (Rajjyoti Mahabhashya)	Dr. Bhadwandas Mehta
6. Shrimad Rajchandra Pranit Atmasiddhi Shastra	Pandit Varya Sukhlalji
7. The Self-Realization	Shri Dinubhai Patel
8. Philosophy of Shrimad Rajchandra	Shri Shantilal Maganlal Patel
9. Philosophy and Spirituality of Shrimad Rajchandra	Dr. U.K. Pungalia
10. Shrimad Rajchandra pranit Atmasiddhi Shastra Sankshipt Arth	Pujya Gurudev Shri Rakeshbhai
11. Atmasiddhi Shastra II Pravachan Mala Bhaag 1-3	Pujya Munishri Bhanuvijayji Maharaj Saheb

PUJYA SADHU-SADHVI BHAGWANTS' EXPRESSIONS

Shri Atmasiddhi Shastra is miraculous, filled with divine powers, it is like a mantra...O Lord! By placing before me these unparalleled words, blessing me with the nectar-like teaching of enlightenment, you have bestowed upon this servant the rarest of rare benefits.

Pujya Muni Shri Laghuraj Swami

Shrimadji, through His thoughts and conduct has imparted to people, the teaching of being ethical and honest. He has also offered flowers of thoughts and reflections on the preliminary ways to progress in life. He has performed a great benevolence on people, by presenting the message of the Jinas in the simple language of the masses.

-Gacchadhipati Acharya Padmasagurishwarji

The words of wisdom of Enlightened One's like Shrimad Rajchandraji are supremely beneficial for all souls. They defeat the great wrestler, delusion and are instrumental in attaining liberation. Studying them destroys false beliefs. One attains one's supreme Self.

-Gacchadhipati Acharya Vijay Nityanandsurishwarji

Really, seeing Shrimadji's words, one can see what an exalted spiritual state He had. Not only that, His words have been a guiding force in the lives of thousands of people. His words have a wondrous vitality, radiance, penetration and depth. There is fluidity in them. One can see how immersed He Himself was in the Jinas. His words being exceedingly simple and heart felt, have been extremely effective for thousands of Jains and others.

-Pujya Muni Shri Jambuvijayji Maharaj Saheb

(Pujya Acharyashri Bhuvanbhanusurishwarji Maharaj saheb's worldly son and disciple)

Anyway! To one giving up dogmatism, attachment to one's opinions, obstinacy and steadily pursuing Shrimadji; there is the complete possibility of attaining the true path.

-Pujya Acharya Shri Anandghansurishwarji and Pujya Acharya Shri Pradipchandrasurishwarji

'Shrimadji's birth on this land is an immense blessing to humanity. He achieved His own spiritual end and illuminated the path for the others. His great benevolence is simplifying, in terms of language, the fundamentals propounded by the Jinas— this scripture is extremely profound, with deep significance. Each word of the One who has composed this scripture, emanating from His Self-realisation, is invaluable.'

- Tarulatabai Mahasatiji

'Descending from the spiritual Yugpurush Shrimad Rajchandraji's effortless state of Self-realisation, the unparalleled spiritual jewel of a scripture 'Atmasiddhi' is the essence of 12 Agams and 14 Purvas.'

-Pujya Munishri Bhanuvijayji Maharaj Saheb

'Bhagawati Sutra has elucidated the six fundamental truths. In 'Atmasiddhi' Shrimad Rajchandraji has written the same six fundamentals in simple Gujarati.'

-Pujya Vanitabai Mahasatiji

'Atmasiddhi' is an ocean. Its main aim is purification and attainment of the soul. This scripture contains the path of Jineshwar Bhagwan. Shrimad Rajchandraji was a divine being.

-Paramdarshanik Pujya Jayantmuni

EXPRESSIONS OF GREAT PERSONALITIES

Shrimad Rajchandraji was an extraordinary man. His writings are droplets of His experiences. To the one who reads, contemplates and practises them, liberation will come easily. His passions will weaken, he will get detached from the world, he will forgo bodily attachments and become a spiritual aspirant.

-Mahatma Gandhiji

Krupalu Dev churned the knowledge He had of several lifetimes, giving rise to its essence in the form of Atmasiddhi.

-Pujya Shri Brahmachariji

For Jain aspirants, 'Atmasiddhi Shastra' is equivalent to the Gita.

-Pandit Shri Sukhlalji

'Jainism has been glorified by the composition of Atmasiddhi in Gujarati. The realisation of the soul as expounded in it, is exactly so, one must study it.'

-Pujya Shri Kanjiswami

'Awakening one from the slumber of delusion since time immemorial, reminding one of what he has forgotten, bringing to light what has remained invisible, and unearthing the secret of defeating the armaments of delusion with the infallible weapon of Brahma; this is a supremely pure, pious, unsullied scripture.'

-Shri Bhogilal G. Sheth

'Atmasiddhi Shastra is filled with virtues. Every verse is endowed with extraordinary power.'

-Alpashruti

'Each word is a scriptural work of art that has spiritual essence woven into it. Truly! Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra is an incomparable scripture to attain Self-realisation.'

-Dr. Bhagwandas Mehta

'Atmasiddhi Shastra is the quintessence of the Jain regime, the invaluable fragrance of the flower-like Canons, the heart of the six philosophies. Shrimadji had attained the supreme state of enlightenment. An outcome of His spiritual absorption, it is the path of liberation unfolded for all beings so they may attain Self-realisation.'

-Puja Shri Rakeshbhai

'It is perceived in every word of Shrimad Rajchandraji that without refuting other philosophies, He elucidates the greatness of the Jain philosophy. Shree Atmasiddhi Shastra is an excellent example of this.'

-Padmashri Kumarpal Desai

By studying Atmasiddhi Shastra, doubts regarding the soul are dispelled, one's faith is strengthened and one's interest increases greatly.

-Shri Dheerajlal Dhayabhai Mehta

AVAILABILITY OF 'SHREE ATMASIDDHI SHASTRA'

'Shrimad Rajchandra' Vachanamrut includes 'Atmasiddhi' and its meanings. Vachnamrutji and independent booklets on Shri Atmasiddhi Shastra may be obtained from the following places:

- (1) Ahmedabad : Shrimad Rajchandra GnanMandir, Jain Nagar, Paldi, Ahmedabad, 380 007. Tel : 079-26631396, 079-26602493, 9714441357, 70964 41357
- (2) Available in all Shrimad Rajchandra Ashrams, Gnan Mandirs and Kendras throughout India and outside India.
- (3) It can be downloaded from the Organising Institution's Website :www.shrimadrajchandratrust.org

શ્રી આત્મસિદ્ધિશાસ્ત્રની સ્તુતિ

પતિત જન પાવની, સુર સરિતા સમી, અધમ ઉદ્ધારિણી આત્મસિદ્ધિ, જન્મ જન્માંતરો જાણતા જોગીએ, આત્મ અનુભવ વડે આજ દીધી; ભક્ત ભગીરથ સમા, ભાગ્યશાળી મહા, ભવ્ય સૌભાગ્યની વિનતીથી, ચાલ્ણતર ભૂમિના, નગર નડીયાદમાં, પૂર્ણ કૃપા પ્રભુએ કરો 'તી. પતિં...

યાદ નદીની ધરે, નામ નડીયાદ પણ, ચરણ ચૂમી મહાપુરુષોના, પરમફક્યાળુની ચરણારજ સંતની, ભક્તિભૂમિ હરે ચિત્ત સૌનાં; સમીપ રહી એક અંબાલાવ તરી, ભક્ત કરી દીપ હાથે ધરીને, એક કલમે કરી પૂરી કૃપાળુએ, આસો વદ એકમે સિદ્ધિજીને. પતિત...
- પુ. શ્રી બ્રહ્મચારીજી

SHRI ATMASIDDHI STUTI (ENGLISH TRANSLATION)

Atmasiddhi Shastra is like the heavenly river that purifies the downtrodden and uplifts those fallen to the low level; It was brought out of his self experience by the ascetic, who knew many of his previous births.

He extended that utmost favor at Nadiad in the region of Charotar at the request of the worthy and highly fortunate Saubhagyabhai, who was like the king Bhagirath.

At the banks of a river the town of Nadiad steals the hearts of all due to the devotional atmosphere pervading there. It has been sanctified by the footsteps of many Great Ones including Shrimad Rajchandraji, and thus acts as a source of attraction for all. Shri Ambalalbhai devotedly held a lamp in the light of which Shri Atmasiddhi Shastra was written. In just one sitting, this magnificent scripture was composed on the auspicious day of Aso Vad 1.

"May the grace of the Enlightened Ones uplift the world"

Further Contact: Arvind P. Shah, President - 93748 94071 - Whatsapp Message Only
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