



Satsang Sandesh

India Temple Association, Inc.

Hindu Temple, 25 E. Taunton Ave, Berlin, NJ 08009
(Non-Profit Tax Exempt Organization, Tax ID # 22-2192491)

Vol. 47 No. 7 (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org JULY 2020

Religious Calendar

- 1-July** Devshyani Ekadashi / Gauri Vrat Starts
- 3-July** JayaParvati Vrat Starts
- 5-July** Guru Purnima / Satyanarayana Puja / Gauri Vrat Concludes
- 8-July** JayaParvati Vrat Concludes
- 16-July** Kamika Ekadashi
- 21-July** Shravana, 1st Day
Shravan Maas, Rudrabhishek
10am-12pm, 4pm-730pm
- 25-July** Nag Panchami
- 27-July** Rudrabhishek 10am-12pm, 4pm-730pm
- 30-July** Putrada Ekadashi

Temple Hours

Closed
Until further notice
Phone: (856) 768-3134

Satyanarayan Puja

July-5 Sunday (Online)

Sunderkand Path

July-18 Saturday (Online)

VIKRAM SAMVAT 2076 / 2020 CALENDAR AVAILABLE ONLINE AT
<https://www.indiatemple.org/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

The risks associated with Covid-19 / Corona virus continue to increase as the prevalence of cases grows. The Temple is currently closed and we will reopen the temple when it is safe to do so. The pujaris will also not be performing any pujas at the Temple or outside of the Temple. In the meantime we will continue to stream various events over the internet and provide access to event recordings on ITA's YouTube channel. These actions are being taken to protect the community. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation during these uncertain times. We will continue to update the Temple community via emails.

Special Prayers

ITA has a program whereby you can have prayers performed on your behalf every year on a special day in your life by pledging \$301. Also, at your request, Shri. Bhupendra Shuklaji or Shri Sudhir Jhaji will perform a special puja on your behalf, or the regular temple puja performed on the designated day will be dedicated in your name. Below are the donors for this month.

Vinu Patel	1-Jul	Pratima Parikh	19-Jul
Krishnasankar Shastriji	11-Jul	Vijay & Asha Gupta	22-Jul
Vinod Mehta	12-Jul	Kiran Bhatt	24-Jul
Ramesh Upadhyay	13-Jul	Mahesh Dixit	24-Jul
Asha Gupta	18-Jul	Amardeep Patel	24-Jul
Arun Maheswari	18-Jul	Hariprasad K Jani	30-Jul

SAVE THE TEMPLE MONEY! GO DIGITAL!

Email: vpinfo@indiatemple.org to convert to a digital only subscription.

PROGRAMS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH, HEALTH, HAPPINESS & GOD REALIZATION

See ITA Website to Join Prayer Meetings Online

Vishnu Sahasranamam and Lalitha Sahasranamam will be recited on 1st Friday of each month starting at 10:30 AM.
Please recite from home to receive blessings

Satya Sai Baba of Medford Bhajans 3rd Friday of each month from 8-9pm on Zoom
Contact P.K. Prabhakar (856) 596 3147/ Sesha Vemuri (856) 751 0687 for details.

Bhajan Sandya by SJ Bhajan Mandali Group led by Venu Gopal Verma.

Bhagavat Gita Study organized by Sharad Pimplaskar (856) 466 1430.

ITA Senior Social Group

Contact Vinita Ganju (609) 744 8558 to learn about online activities.

Yoga and Pranayama Classes at Berlin Mandir

Program currently cancelled

Contacts: Dr. Veena Gandhi (856) 816 4095 & Hina Desai (856) 435 9148

Condolences

Shri Premal P. Parekh, age 58, of Cherry Hill, NJ, passed away on Friday, June 26th, 2020 due to cardiac arrest. He is survived by his Mother - Bhartiben Parekh; Wife - Reshma P. Parekh; two Sons - Jigar & Preet; Brother-in-Law & Sister-in-Law. May his soul find peace and God give strength to his family and friends to cope up with this unexpected loss. ITA and its Trustees extend their sincere condolences to the Parekh family.

Shrimati Deviben K. Patel, age 90, of Voorhees, NJ, passed away on Monday, June 1st, 2020. She is survived by her son, Kantilal Patel; daughter-in-law, Savitaben; two grandsons and four great-grandchildren. May her soul find peace and God give strength to her family and friends to cope with this unexpected loss. ITA and its Trustees extend their sincere condolences to the Patel family.

PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS BY HSC OF NJ

The 2 HSCSJ meetings in the month of June have been cancelled due to Corona Virus (COVID 19) concerns and advisory from the Government Agencies - Virendra K. Gupta & HSC EC Team

ITA Balvihar Program Enrollment for 2020/21 Year Started May 16th

Purpose: To teach Vedic Heritage and Indian Culture to children (Pre-K to 8th Grade).

Additional Program Details: https://www.indiatemple.org/bal_vihar.php

Timing: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM two Sundays a month starting on September 20th and ending on May 2nd

Location: Marlton Middle School (150 Tomlinson Mill Road, Marlton, NJ)

Fees / Enrollment: (ITA MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED)

After June 1st: Regular Enrollment: \$211

Space in the program is **VERY** limited. We encourage community members to enroll early. Please explore the Balvihar webpage for the calendar, curriculum and greater program details.

The website is https://www.indiatemple.org/bal_vihar.php

Questions? Email bvadmin@indiatemple.org or call Samir Patel at 201-657-8661.

PRESIDENT'S NOTE

Jai Shri Krishna!

We hope that you are well and remaining safe. Over the past month, NJ COVID cases have continued to thankfully decline and government restrictions on places of worship have been loosened. As a result we are actively working to reopen the Temple. We hope to announce a phased opening plan in the next few weeks. Given the age of the average visitor to the Temple, we will be erring on the side of caution. Also please remember that should cases increase or guidance from governmental agencies change, the opening of the Temple could be further delayed.

In the meantime, we will continue to serve the community through online channels. We are working on additional social and religious programs to be broadcasted through Zoom and our YouTube. We know that many Members enjoyed the Father's Day event. We will also continue to offer online pujas to the community. The initial online pujas that were performed in June have been well received. If you are interested in having a puja performed, please reach out to Anoo Joshi at (856) 577 3631.

Our COVID related community outreach efforts continue to go well. In June, we fund raised for the Berlin First Responders and have raised approximately \$4500 at the time of writing this note. For the month of July, we will be fund raising for the Boys & Girls Club of Camden. We again have \$2500 of matching funds and hope to raise at least \$5000. You will receive an email with additional details soon.

This month I want to take a moment to discuss the importance of racial equality. The African American community has continually faced systemic racism and unequal treatment which has been brought to the forefront by recent events. As Hindus and Americans, it is important for us to be aware of these issues and recognize the challenges and inequity that they create. I believe that we need to support the peaceful efforts to bring about change and end racism.

We are going through a challenging and frustrating time. If you are in need of assistance or know someone that is, please have them reach out to any member of the Executive Team and we will do our best to support them or connect them to helpful resources in a confidential manner. Regardless of the duration of these extraordinary circumstances, the ITA will continue to do our best to serve the community and fulfill its mission. If you have any concerns or are interested in joining us in service, please feel to reach out to me.

Sincerely,

Pankaj Desai,
ITA President
psdyes1961@gmail.com / (609) 332-3947

ITA 2020 Scholarship Award

We are proud to announce Kaxa Prajapati as the 2020 ITA scholarship winner. The ITA scholarship is awarded every year to a graduating high school senior within the South Jersey community for their dedication towards the ITA, Hindu community and Indian culture. Kaxa has displayed this dedication since childhood. She is a graduate of the Balvihar program and has been actively serving the community. She has volunteered much of her time at various ITA functions including Janmashtami, Holi and Relay for Life. Kaxa will be attending Arcadia University in the fall as part of its "2+2" pre-nursing program which is affiliated with Jefferson University.

2020 YOUTH SERVICE AWARDS

The ITA is proud to announce 2020 Youth Service Award recipients. This award is given to Student Leaders that have volunteered at every session of the 2020 Balvihar Program. Student Leaders are Balvihar graduates that have returned to serve as assistant teachers in the program. Student Leaders have helped improve the Balvihar by bringing new ideas, enthusiasm and a better understanding of how to engage students. This year's award recipients have contributed more than 50 hours of service. The ITA is truly appreciates the hard work and dedication of these volunteers.

AWARDEES

Mahek Jhaveri
Himani Patel

Riya Joshi
Riti Patel

Yash Joshi
Aiswaryaa Prabaharan

Gowri Manem
Medha Shinde

Mehul Malik
Sengathir Rajagopal



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Audit / Compliance
Bhumika Kundu

856-577-4925
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Temple Hours

Monday - Friday

9 am - 1 pm

4 pm - 8:30 pm

Saturday & Sunday

9 am to 9 pm

Aarti

12 pm & 8 pm

Times may change during
special occasions

**If back door is locked,
please try front door, ring
bell or call
(856) 768-3134.**

Send address changes or Membership renewals to:

ATTN: VP of Information at 25 E. Taunton Ave. Berlin, NJ 08009 or email vpinfo@indiatemple.org

PUJA SERVICE & TEMPLE RENTAL FEES

Shri Shuklaji /Shri Sudhirji perform religious services on request. Please contact Anoo Joshi at (855) MY-MANDIR Ext 715 to schedule a Puja Service or Rental of Temple facilities.

<u>Puja Services</u>	<u>MEMBER</u>		<u>NON-MEMBER</u>	
	Inside Temple	Outside* Temple	Inside Temple	Outside* Temple
Archana	\$11		\$11	
Vahan Pooja	\$25		\$25	
Namkaran/Annaprashan	\$51	\$101	\$101	\$151
Birthday	\$51	\$101	\$101	\$151
Shradha	\$51	\$101	\$101	\$151
Anniversary Celebration	\$101	\$151	\$151	\$201
Kesh Mundan	\$101	\$151	\$151	\$201
Satyanarayan Pooja	\$121	\$151	\$201	\$251
Engagement Ceremony	\$101	\$201	\$151	\$251
Havan/Graha Shanti	\$201	\$251	\$251	\$301
Vastu Pooja-Outside Only		\$251		\$301
Wedding per day	\$401	\$501	\$501	\$551
Upanayan/Yagnopavit	\$251	\$301	\$301	\$351
Uttarkriya Per day -Outside Only		\$151		\$201
Yagna/laghu rudra-Outside Only		\$351		\$401
Navchandi Yagna-Outside Only		\$651		\$701
Antim Kriya		No Charge		No Charge

*\$.58/ mile charge applied when puja requires greater than 20 miles of travel.

In addition to their base salary, Pujaris receive 50% of Outside Puja Services payment as compensation.

Facility Rental Fees

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>
Prayer Hall Rental	\$201	\$251
Social Hall Rental	\$301	\$351