



Satsang Sandesh

India Temple Association, Inc.

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

Vol. 44 No. 12 Phone: (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org DECEMBER 2017

Religious Calendar

December 3, Sunday
 Purnima, Shri Duttetrey
 Jayanti
 December 13, Wednesday
 Safia Ekadashi
 December 19, Tuesday
 PAUSH
 December 29, Friday
 Putrada Ekadashi

**December 3, Sunday
 Shri Satyanarayan Puja
 is at 3:30 pm**

**December 16, Saturday
 Sunderkand Path 10am**

UPCOMING EVENTS

**ITA GENERAL BODY MEETING & TRUSTEE ELECTION
 Saturday December 9th at 1:30 PM in Berlin Temple**

**Bhajans by Little Stars of South Jersey
 December 9, 2017– 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM**

Head Start Event

Topic: Stock Market Basics & Investment Competition

Speakers: Samir K. Patel / Zeel Patel

Date: Sunday, December 10th, 5pm @ ICC

**VIKRAM SAMVAT 2074 CALENDAR- ONLINE
 HAPPY NEW YEAR 2018 AND BEST WISHES ALWAYS!**

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.

• Akshaybhai & Savitaben Patel	Dec 01	Nayan Shah	Dec 21
• Pravina Gohel	Dec 05	Jagdish Shah	Dec 22
• Snehlata Jani	Dec 09	Nagindas/Champaben Shah	Dec 23
• Maya & Mamta Kanzaria	Dec 09	Vijay & Asha Gupta	Dec 25
• Arun Maheswari	Dec 09	Satish Shah	Dec 25
• Rajendra Pandya	Dec 09	Natwar Desai	Dec 28
• Dev Dani	Dec 12	Panambur & Mitra Kini	Dec 28
• Akshay Nandakumar	Dec 12	Mahendra Topran	Dec 28
• Jelabhai Patel	Dec 13	Kavita Gupta	Dec 30
• Rukhmanidevi Tekrival	Dec 15	Amita and Naresh Talati	Dec 31
• Jaysinh Chandriani	Dec 18	Navin K. Gupta, Pramila Mitra	One Day
• Sheela Kapoor	Dec 18	Manibhai Patel, Raj Patel	One Day
• K.S. Krishnan	Dec 18	Rajiv Verma	One Day



ITA GENERAL BODY MEETING & TRUSTEE ELECTION

Saturday December 9th at 1:30 PM in Berlin Temple

We encourage all ITA members to participate in our upcoming General Body Meeting and Trustee Election. Based on members' feedback, we have made changes to the meeting and election format. Members will be able to vote at any time during the meeting in the downstairs social hall. There will be significant amount of time for members' Q&A. We are mindful of the fact that everyone's time is valuable and will start promptly at 1:30 pm. The speakers have been asked not to exceed their allocated times. The Agenda for the General Body Meeting is below:

- Welcome: Pankaj Desai, ITA Vice President
- Election Guidelines: Rina Patel, Election Committee Chair
- Trustee Candidate Speeches
- President's Update & 2018 Priorities: Lalit Patel, President
- Financial Update: Shobna Daga, Treasurer
- New House and Parking Lot Update: Divyakant Parikh, Temple Manager
- Events Committee Report: Charu Sheth, Trustee
- By-Laws Summary: Samir Patel, Trustee
- Member Q&A

Trustee Election Information

Candidates: The Eligible Candidates for the 2018-2020 Trustee Term are below (listed alphabetically by last name). Eligible voters will be asked to vote for their top 7 choices.

1. Dalwadi, Nilang
2. Giyanani, Chetna
3. Gupta, Kavita
4. Joshi, Anoo
5. Saparia, Danny
6. Shah, Naylesh
7. Vasisth, Vishal
8. Viswanathan, Ramesh

Members are requested to be in time to listen to prospective candidates about their experience, involvement in temple activities and what they can do for the temple and community.

Voting: Members will have the ability to receive and cast ballots any time from 1:30 to 3:00 or 15 minutes after the conclusion of the General Body meeting whichever is later. Ballots must be cast by 3:15 or 30 minutes after the conclusion of the General Body Meeting, whichever is later. Please bring a photo ID

Voter Eligibility: In order to vote at the December 9th, 2017 General Body Meeting and Trustee Election, individuals must have been continuous paid ITA Members from August 1, 2015 to October 31st, 2017. For Family Membership holders, both the husband and wife are individually eligible to vote. Members must be present to vote. There is no proxy voting. If you have questions regarding your eligibility please contact: Vidya Shukla- Vidyshukla@gmail.com; Harshad Patel Harshad41@aol.com; or Govind Modi- Govindmodi@msn.com.

Highlights of 2018

Jan.14th 2018 - Sunday

Makar Sankranti, Uttarayan, Pongal

Feb.13th - Tuesday

Maha Shivaratri Celebration in Temple

Mar.02nd - Friday

Dhuleti / Holi

Mar.18th - Sunday

Chaitri New Year/Gudi Padavo/ Ugadi

Chaiti Chand

Mar.24th -Saturday

Akhand Ramayan Paath Starts

Mar.25th - Sunday

Shri Rama Navami Celebration in Temple

Shri Sahajananda Jayanti

Akhand Ramayan Paath Conclude

Condolences

Umesh Desai's Mother at age 91, Vilasben passed away on November 3, 2017.

Ankit Desai's Father at age 84, Ajitkumar's passed away on November 4, 2017.

Dr. Surendra Bagaria's father Brijmohan Bagaria passed away on November 23 and he was 86 years old.

ITA and its board extend their sincere condolences to their families.

PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS BY HSC OF NJ ICC, 820 RT 73, MARLTON, NJ

HSCSJ will have its 12th Annual Function on December 10, 2017 at ICC from 5.00 PM till 9.30 PM. We will serve appetizers between 5.00 PM till 6.00 PM. Our regular meeting will start at 6.00 PM till 6.45 PM. Rhythm Group will entertain us with their best Bollywood songs from 6.45 PM till 8.30 PM. We will have our dinner at 8.30 PM till 9.30 PM. The tickets for this event are \$15 per member but they are discounted to \$13 per member to early bird specials till November 30th.

We are looking forward to have large number of our members attending this event. So ,please come early and enjoy socializing and a wonderful Bollywood songs program by the Rhythm Group.

Ram Arora , President

Bhajans by Little Stars of South Jersey December 9, 2017- 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM

Please come join this team of young children who will perform their own way to please you all.

These children are the students of Chandan Modi and have been trained for last several years.



Thank YOU!

Thanks to all volunteers and donations, specially to Khurana family for donating chandeliers.

ITA appreciates the support given by community at large during Navratri 2017 specifically following major donors from our community

\$1000 to 4999

Chheda Mittal and Anjaki

Chudasama Mahavir and Vershaba

Dahya Thakor and Neema

Patel Asvin and Aruna

Patel Gopal and Geeta

\$5000 and up

Gora Gandhi Rishi and Avani

Head Start Event

Topic: Stock Market Basics & Investment Competition

Speakers: Samir K. Patel / Zeel Patel

Date: Sunday, December 10th, 5pm @ ICC

Program Coordinators: Parth Chauhan (856)304-7345 & Samir Patel (201)657-8661

Topic Detail: Learn about investing and the stock market in the first installment of Head Start's financial literacy series. In an interactive session, the speakers will cover the basic concepts associated with understanding the stock market and kick off a Stock Market Investing Competition. Each contestant will receive a **mock \$100,000 online** account to put their learnings to work in a practical environment. The top 3 contestants with the largest portfolio **gains** will win a **cash prize** (1st \$100 / 2nd \$75/ 3rd \$50).

Speaker Bio:

Zeel Patel: Zeel has 5 years of experience working on IT and operations strategy for two NJ based companies. At his last position, Zeel helped a Mount Laurel based management firm achieve their operations goals and currently works for an international logistics firm, Thomas Foods International, as their Manager of Information Technology and Analytics. Over the last year, Zeel in conjunction with Parth Chauhan, started HomeGrown Farms. HomeGrown Farms was born to provide clean, sustainable produce to his local community. Zeel has an education background in accounting and business management.

Samir K. Patel: Samir has 20 years of experience in investment management and advisory services. For the past 6 years, Samir has been a private investor that has been managing his own capital in a variety of public and private investments. Previously, he was Managing Director at Tremblant Capital, long/ short hedge fund. His other prior experiences include serving as an Associate with JP Morgan Partners focused on growth equity investments; VP of Corporate Development at Intellispace and Associate at McKinsey & Company. Samir has a MBA from Harvard Business School, a MSE & BSE in Systems Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and a BS in Economics from the Wharton School.

Prayers



We will be reciting Vishnusahasranamam and Lalithasahasranamam on Friday December 1 at our Berlin Temple. We will start at 10am. This will be followed by Aarti at 12 noon. Please join us with family and friends.



**Happy New Year 2018
And
Happy Vikram Samvat 2074!**

**Wish you good health, much wealth
and lots of prosperity in the new year
and always!**





**Monthly Pujas at Mandir
SATYANARAYAN PUJA
Sunday, December 3 @ 3:30 PM**

Followed by Mahaprasad sponsored by Indian Vila

Anyone can sit in this Puja and receive blessings of Lord Satyanarayan. Please contact Charuben at 856-662-8754 or Kshamaben at 707-332-3400 if you are planning to be Puja Participant. Suggested Donation of \$31 or more from Puja participants will be appreciated.

SUNDARKAND PAATH

Saturday, December 16 @ 10 AM to 12:00 Noon

Followed by Mahaprasaad sponsored by Gagan Palace



Sunday January 21, 2018.

**A Vasant Panchami
(Saraswati Puja)**

by children will be at the temple.

More details will be given in next Satsang.



Senior Social Group

Senior Social Group (SSG) will meet every Tuesday at 1pm in the Social Hall at Berlin Temple. Please contact Mr. Bhulabhai Bhaktaji at 8569830769 for details.

Free Notary Service Notary Service by our ITA Members—

The following ITA members provide Free Notary Service to our community:

Ghanshyam Dave.:856-596-7531; Raman Modhera: 856-528-2863 and Dalapat patel: 609-298-2724

ITA RECOGNITION FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION EQUAL TO OR IN EXCESS OF \$1000 AS PER ITA GUIDELINES

Please note that ITA will recognize your well deserved support of \$1000 and up during calendar year of 2017 in publication of February 2018 Satsang

Please take this opportunity of making up any shortfall you may have before December 31 2017 to be recognized and may take an additional income tax deduction



India Temple Association SEVA SAMITI

is collecting your old BUT CLEAN and good conditioned or NEW winter jackets and sweaters to distribute to those who are in need of the warmth of your heart

Drop Off at the Temple

Drop by Dec. 19th, 2017

For Info Call Hina Desai @ 856-495-5864 or Email hinadesai@hotmail.com

This Winter Comfort Someone With the Warmth of Your Unwanted Jackets and Sweaters!



Antahkarana Shuddhi (Part 3 of 3)

By Sharad Pimplaskar

It was said that just becoming an adult is not enough, one has to cultivate a mature Ahankara. Though Ahankara is an essential function of the mind, we mistakenly lend our identity and free-will to it because we don't know our true self. So, this Ahankara, our ego based identity, owns up our emotions, thoughts and even reason. As a result, our behavior becomes purely mechanical rather than contemplative. Our 'instrument' of reason and thinking works against our own good and leads down the path of despair and destruction. If we did exercise restraint, in spite of thinking or feeling opposite, it is more due to civic laws or peer pressure than out of conviction. It does not resolve basic issues inherent to our ego. To say, "Give up your ego" does not work either, because the one who has to give up the ego is ego itself! Thus, we get caught in the web of our own mind. So, it is obvious that in order to free ourselves from the hold of our ego and to gain maturity of the mind, we need help from outside.

The Upanishad that was quoted as saying, "Mind is the cause for bondage," also declares that mind alone can help to liberate when exposed to the scriptures and guided by a teacher. With unmistakable clarity, scriptures appeal to our reason, Buddhi. In their vision each one of us is an indivisible part of one consciousness, Ishvara, who is omniscient and all-powerful. Just as the infinite waters of the ocean is the truth of every wave and bubble rising from it, Ishvara is the Self of every individual, called Jiva. When Jiva recognizes this truth about himself and sees that the mind and Ahankara are meant to serve him, he discovers true happiness and freedom within. In Bhagavat Gita, Lord Krishna refers to this knowledge as Buddhi Yoga. He says, "Learn this from a wise teacher through service and proper attitude." This knowledge necessitates, and also facilitates, Antahkarana Shuddhi, cleansing of the mind. When guided by a kind teacher, you gain maturity through deliberate and honest reflection of the mind. It has to be deliberate because it is based on our free will, and it must be received with an honest and open mind.

When I am committed to Buddhi Yoga, the life becomes meaningful. Listening to the teacher invokes Ishvara within me. By understanding the teachings, I spontaneously follow Dharma, universal values, in everything I do. Following Dharma makes me sensitive to the fact that what is right and wrong for me is universally true for everyone else. I then deliberate and weigh my actions to do right with others or avoid doing wrong to them. If by mistake or habit I hurt someone, I take extra steps to compensate for it or, deny myself something of equal value. I become conscious of my emotions and instincts that prevent me from following Dharma. I take the help of a wise person to sort out my inner struggles or inhibitions and provide an antidote, like a doctor would give a medicine. With honesty and diligence, I resolve negative tendencies and bring out my true goodness.

It is like washing your clothes with soap and water to remove dirt. The mind, like a piece of cloth, picks up dirt in the form of impressions, habits and beliefs born of Ignorance. Some are there from birth, some take place due to upbringing, while others are gathered over time unconsciously. They won't go without effort, much less can the dirt be removed without scrubbing over time. Lord Krishna says that this effort can either be "(easy) like clearing the smoke, (hard) like wiping the mirror or, (long and laborious) like nurturing a fetus in the womb." Just reading the scriptures with a 'Do-It-Yourself' attitude, like applying soap but no water, will not help. You need someone with a pure mind to show you the fallacies of the ways of the mind.

Only when you dedicate your mind to the Scriptural vision revealed by a teacher, can you be sure to gain in time Antahkarana Shuddhi.

I will appreciate your feedback, comments, or questions.

Please contact: Sharad.Pimplaskar@gmail.com

Thank you.

**PROGRAMS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH
YOGA ABHYAS FOR HEALTH, HAPPINESS &
GOD REALIZATION:**

Contact: Veena Gandhi at 856-435-9148

GITA STUDY GROUP:

Every Tuesday 8-9 pm at our Mandir

Contact: Sharad Pimplaskar @ (856) 985-4785

BHAJANS & STUTI:

Every Friday, 7:30-9 pm

Contact: Shree Shuklaji(856) 768-6785

REGULAR PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

BALVIHAR: For children (PRE-K to 8th Grade) teaches Sanatana Dharma, Vedic Heritage and Indian Culture. Two Sundays a month from 10 am - 1 pm @ Marlton Middle School Contact: Malathi Shankar (856) 424-7849 or Bhavesh Patel 1-855-my-mandir ext 3.

YOUTH PROGRAM: A program for young adults (8th to 12th Grade) and parents. Two Sundays a month from 9:45 am - 1 pm at our Mandir. Contact: Praveen Garg (856) 783-4692 or Sangeeta Rashatwar (856) 424-4211

CREATIVE ART WORKSHOP

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday @ 9:30 am at our Mandir

Contact: Sudha Patel (856)489-4065

PUJA SERVICE CHARGES, TEMPLE FACILITIES USAGE FEE AND OTHER CHARGES:

The following provides list of applicable charges and fees. Shri Shuklaji /Shri Sudhirji will be available for religious services on request. Please note that 50% of the listed cost of Puja performed outside the temple goes to Pujari in addition to his regular salary. Please check temple availability at www.indiatemple.org; Click on “CALENDAR tab” and, from drop-down menu, Click on “EVENT/RENTAL CALENDAR”. **Please contact Shri. Divyakant Parikh at 1-855-MY-MANDIR Ext 1 for the booking of the Temple Facilities and/or scheduling of Puja Services by Shuklaji or Sudhirji.**

Please note that 50% of the listed cost of Puja performed outside the temple goes to Pujari in addition to his regular salary.

PUJA SERVICE **	INSIDE TEM- PLE	OUTSIDE TEMPLE	Following listed fees and charges are in addition to the charges listed for Puja Services
Archana(Panchopachar)	\$11	N/A	
Vahan (Vehicle) Puja	\$21	N/A	
Namakaran/Annaprashan	\$51	\$101	
Birthday	\$51	\$101	
Shraddha	\$51	\$101	
Anniversary Celebration	\$101	\$151	
Seemant	\$101	\$151	
Kesh Mundan Puja	\$101	\$151	
Sodashopchar, Kalash Puja, Punyah-Vachan or Blessings	\$101	\$151	
Satyanarayan Puja	\$121	\$151	
Engagement Ceremony	\$101	\$201	
Havan/Grah Shanti	\$201	\$251	
Vastu Puja - outside service only	N/A	\$251	
Wedding Grah Shanti	\$201	\$301	
Wedding Ceremony per day	\$301	\$351	
Upanayan/Yagnopavita	\$251	\$301	
Antim Rites (Funeral Service)	Voluntary donation		
Uttar Kriya per day-outside service only	N/A	\$101	
Yagna//laghu rudra - outside service only	N/A	\$351	
Navchandi Yagna—outside service only	N/A	\$651	

TEMPLE FACILITIES USAGE FEE:

Prayer Hall: \$200

Social Hall: \$300

OTHER CHARGES

\$51. travel charges for 25 to 50 miles

\$101 travel charges for 51 to 100 miles

\$51 Non-member charges

NOTE: Charges and availability of other Puja Services not listed above may be discussed with Divyakant parikh @ (856) 745-9676

DIRECTION TO BERLIN TEMPLE

A. From Tacony Bridge:

Take NJ route 73S; drive about 12-13 miles and follow sign for East Taunton Ave. Temple on your right

B. From Ben Franklin Bridge:

Take route 30E to NJ route 70E to NJ route 73S, drive about 7 miles and follow sign for East Taunton Ave. Temple on your right

C. From Walt Whitman Bridge or Delaware Memorial Bridge:

Take I-295N to Exit 29-A for route 30E to Berlin Twp. Turn left on East Taunton Ave.

D. From Central and North Jersey:

Take NJ turnpike south, Exit 4 for route 73S. Drive about 10-11 miles and follow sign for East Taunton Ave. on your right.



India Temple Association, Inc.

25 E. Taunton, Berlin, NJ 08009

1st Class Presort
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PLEASE REVIEW YOUR ADDRESS LABEL AND RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BASED ON EXPIRATION DATE OR SUPPORT ITA WITH YOUR ENROLLMENT IF YOU ARE NOT IDENTIFIED AS A MEMBER

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Jagdishbhai Shah

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Facility Rental

Temple Manager

Charu Sheth

Divyakant Parikh

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manager@indiatemple.org

Darshan Schedule

Morning

9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Evening

3 pm - 9 pm

Aarti

12 pm & 8 pm

Times may change during
special occasions

***Please use the front door
and ring the bell if locked***

**Please check appropriate items from the following, and mail it to
Hindu Temple, 25 East Taunton Ave., Berlin, NJ 08009 Attn: Mr. M. Kanzaria**

I/We would like to join India Temple Association and I/We are remitting the membership dues (please select one) Individual or Family one year (\$75) _____
Individual or Family three year (\$111) _____
Individual or Family five year (\$161) _____
Life (\$1,001) _____

I/ We are seniors, age 65 and above and would like to join India Temple Association. I am/We are remitting the membership dues
(please select one) Individual or Family Five year (\$25) _____
Life (\$101) _____

I am adding additional donations:
_____ Scholarship Fund _____ Lifetime Seva (\$301) _____ Temple Renovations
_____ Seva Samiti Fund _____ Bal Vihar Fund _____ Youth Fund

I am relocating to the following address

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Spouse Last Name: _____ Spouse First Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Spouse Telephone: _____ Spouse E-mail: _____