



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. 43 No. 2 Phone: (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org FEBRUARY 2017

Religious Calendar

February 1, Wednesday
Vasant Panchami—Shri
Saraswati Puja

February 7, Tuesday
Jaya Ekadashi

February 22, Wednesday
Vijaya Ekadashi

February 24, Friday
Maha Shivratri Celebration

February 27, Monday
Falgun

Monthly Activities
Kshamatemple@gmail.com

February 03, Friday
Vishnu Sahasranaam

February 10, Friday
Shri Satyanarayan Pooja
6pm

February 18, Saturday
Sunderkand Path 10am

Monthly Bhajans

Shriji Bhajan
Winter Recess till April
Urmi Upadhyay 856-424-9328
Charu Sheth 856-662-8754

February 17 Friday 8-9 pm
· Satya Sai Baba of Medford
P.K.Prabhakar 856-596-3147
Sesha Vemuri 856-751-0867

Please join us for all our programs!

February 5, Sunday Vasant Panchami—Shri Saraswati Puja by children at 11am

Satyanarayan puja on Friday February 10, at 6pm

Sunderkand Path on Saturday February 18, at 10am

MAHA SHIVARATRI is Friday February 24, 2017 at 9am-12pm and 4-8pm in Mandir

"Akhand Ramayana" starts on Saturday April 1st followed by Maha-Aarti and Mahaprasad on Sunday April 2nd.

Chaitri Navaratri Havan Tuesday April 4th, 4-6pm at temple

Shri Rama Navami Celebration at temple on Wednesday April 5

Holika Dahan April 30 Sunday 2pm at ICC

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.

• Sushil Bhatnagar	Feb. 03 Neel Kadakia	Feb. 17
• Akshay Amin	Feb. 06 Surendra Bagaria	Feb. 19
• Narendra Amin	Feb. 06 Ghanshyam Dave	Feb. 20
• Kiran Doshi	Feb. 07 Maya & Mason Doshi	Feb. 20
• Naresh Talati	Feb. 07 Gopal Patel	Feb. 23
• Rushikesh Parghi	Feb. 13 Priti Patel	Feb. 23
• Jadev Gajera	Feb. 14 Champak Patel	Feb. 25
• Vaishali & Rajubhai Patel	Feb. 16 Manoj Shah	Feb. 26
• Jagdish-Maya Shah	Feb. 16 Samit Desai	Feb. 28

Condolences

Long time active ITA Balvihar volunteer and Voorhees resident Shri Rajubhai Desai's father Shree Chandranand Navnitlal Desai passed away on Thursday 26 January 2017 in Pennsylvania, USA. He is survived by wife Hemlataben, sons Rajubhai and Nehalbhai and grandchildren Pratham, Mahek and Heeti. He was 79 years old. May his soul rest in peace. ITA and its Board extend their sincere condolences to their family.

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.

YOGA Classes at Berlin Mandir FREE YOGA CLASSES FOR ALL

Please see our WEB CALENDAR on www.indiatemple.org and see schedule day and time for this class on Saturday Mornings. It will cover soft but complete exercise, pranayama and short meditation. There may be another YOGA CLASS FOR BACKACHE for an hour in weekday morning, provided there is enough interest.

Please call Dr. Veena S. Gandhi at 856-435-9148.

Although classes are free, participants can donate money to ITA for Dr. Gandhi's valuable time.

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

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

We will have one meeting on February 16, 2017 at 6.30 PM

Rich Greenburg and Barry Nelson, CPA of RLG Financial Svcs will talk about Retirement Investing, New Tax Laws, New Social Security Laws, Risk vs Safety and New Streams of Income.

Ram Arora, President

If you want to sponsor for snacks ,please contact Manju Goel at 856-424-9028



Monthly Pujas at Mandir

SATYANARAYAN PUJA

Friday, February 10 @ 6:00 PM

Anyone can sit in this Puja and receive blessings of Lord Satyanarayan.

Please contact Charuben at 856-662-8754 or Kshamaji at 707-332-3400

if you are planning to be Puja Participant. Suggested Donation of \$31 or more from Puja participants will be appreciated.

Mahaprasad sponsored by Indian Vila will be served at the conclusion of Puja

SUNDARKAND PAATH

Saturday, February 18 @ 10 AM to 12:00 Noon



HEAD START SPEAKER SERIES

The ITA & ICC are co-sponsoring a monthly speaker series for community youth focused on enhancing their professional and academic knowledge. Our goal is to create a forum where the next generation can benefit from the experiences, relationships, and mentorship of successful individuals. Once a month we will have speakers that present on a specific topic or discuss their career path. The speakers will be individuals of diverse backgrounds that are interested in serving as mentors and advisors. We hope that this information transfer and mentor relationships will help them make better career decisions.

FEBRUARY EVENT DETAILS

Topic: Taking Advantage of Summer Break

Date: February 27th, 2017

Time: 7 – 8:30PM

Location ICC

Cost: Free

Program Coordinator: Samir K. Patel- (201) 657 8661 / samirkpatel@yahoo.com & Parth Chauhan (856) 304 – 7345 / parth@hgfarms.org

Shri Saraswati
February 5, Sunday
Vasant Panchami—Shri Saraswati Puja by children @ 11am at temple

Goddess Saraswati is the Hindu goddess of speech, learning, wisdom, arts, science, music, knowledge and more. In India, goddess Saraswati is worshiped at educational institutions in societies mostly from Eastern and Northern Parts of India on Vasant Panchami day (Magh Shukla Panchami). The very famous educational institution in modern India, Banaras Hindu University was founded by Shri Mahamana Madan Mohan Malviya Ji on Vasant Panchami Day. Goddess Saraswati, she is the consort of the lord Brahma. First Rigveda talks about goddess Saraswati and afterwards Upanishads and Puranas also describes goddess Saraswati.

People worship Goddess Saraswati to attain enlightenment through knowledge and to rid themselves of lethargy, sluggishness and ignorance. Word of “Sara” means essence, and “sva” means one self, has the fused words meaning "essence of one self", and Saraswati meaning is one who leads to essence of self-knowledge.

The goddess Saraswati is often depicted as a beautiful woman dressed in pure white often seated on a white lotus, which symbolizes light, knowledge and truth. She not only embodies knowledge but also the experience of the highest reality. Her icon is typically in white themes from dresses to flowers to swans – the color symbolizing Sattva Guna or purity, without any discrimination for true knowledge, insight and wisdom.

She has four hands that hold items with symbolic meanings - a pustaka (book or script), a mala (rosary), a water pot and a musical instrument (veena). The book she holds symbolizes the Vedas representing the universal, divine, eternal, and true knowledge as well as all forms of learning. A mala of crystals represents the power of meditation, inner reflection and spirituality. A pot of water represents the purifying power to separate right from wrong, the clean from the unclean, and the essence from the inessential. The most famous feature on goddess Saraswati is a musical instrument called a veena, representing all creative arts and sciences and her holding the veena symbolizes the expression of knowledge that creates harmony. Goddess Saraswati is also associated with anuraga, the love for and rhythm of music, which represents all emotions and feelings expressed in speech or music.

A hansa or swan is often located next to her feet. In Hindu mythology, the hansa is a sacred bird, which if offered a mixture of milk and water, is said to be able to drink the milk alone.

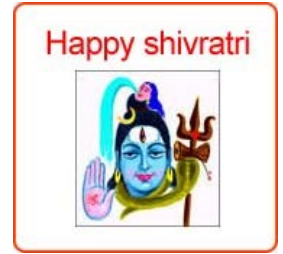
It thus symbolizes the ability to discriminate between good and evil, essence from outward show, and the eternal from the evanescent. Due to her association with the swan or hansa, goddess Saraswati is also referred to as Hansvahini, which means "she who has a hansa as her vehicle". The swan is also a symbolism for spiritual perfection, transcendence and moksha. A mayura or peacock is shown beside the goddess. The peacock symbolizes colorful splendor, celebration of dance, and - as the devourer of snakes - the alchemical ability to transmute the serpent poison of self into the radiant plumage of enlightenment.

**Saraswati Vandana: Yaa Kundendu tushaara haaradhavalaa,
 Yaa shubhravastraavritha.
 Yaa veenavara dandamanditakara,
 Yaa shwetha padmaasana.
 Yaa brahmaachyutha shankara
 prabhritibhir Devaihsadaa Vanditha,
 Saa Maam Paatu Saraswatee
 Bhagavatee Nihshesha jaadyaapahaa.
 Om Tat Sat**



MAHA SHIVARATRI

**Friday, February 24, 2017 at 9am-12pm and
4-8pm in Mandir
Maha Shivaratri Hindu festival celebrates
marriage of Lord Shiva with Goddess Parvati**



**RANG BARSEY
CELEBRATING HOLI—FESTIVAL OF COLORS
IN BOLLYHOOD STYLE WITH MUSIC FOOD AND HOLIKA BONFIRE
WHEN: APRIL 30 SUNDAY
DANCE AND COLOR PLAY
WHERE ICC PARKING LOT**

CHAITRA NAVRATRI JAI MATA DE

As this Navratra coincides with Ram Navami, it also referred as Ram Navratri. These nine festive days would be including "Akhand Ramayana" starting on Saturday April 1st followed by Maha-Aarti on April 2nd.

Sri Rama Navami

Sri Raghavam Dasharadhatmajam aprameyam Sitapathim Raghukulanvaya Ratna Deepam; Ajanubahum Aravinda Dalayathaksham Ramam Nishachara Vinashakaram Namami

Akhand Ramayan Patth Date : Saturday, April 1 starting at 11am

Temple observances will begin on Saturday April 1st at 11 am by reading of Ramayan. The Mahaprasad will be provided after the Poorna Ahuti on Sunday. Anyone interested helping, please call: Meena Bhatnagar(856-424-2581), Rano Vasishta(609-926-0142), Ritu Pandya(856-435-6577). It will be helpful if you bring your Ramayan.



:
in
or

Ram Navmi Celebration includes Chaitri Navaratri Havan Tuesday April 4th, 4-6pm and Shri Rama Navami Celebration at temple on Wednesday April 5

Join ITA Seva Samiti's February Food Drive supporting the South Jersey Food Bank

Most Needed items

Peanut Butter, Jelly, Macaroni and Cheese Boxes, Breakfast Cereal Boxes, Canned Vegetables & Fruit, Pasta Boxes (Please No Glass Containers)



Please DROP OFF your food donations
in Temple Foyer, Hindu Temple, Berlin, NJ

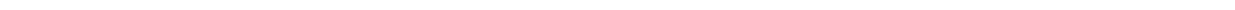
Balvihar/youth students, we have set aside special food drive days just for you. So here's your chance to give back to the community, and rack up some community service hours.

Balvihar/Youth Students DROP OFF food donations on the following sessions:

- Feb 5th Balvihar Vasant Panchami @ Hindu Temple
- Feb 12th – Balvihar/Youth Session
- Feb 26th – Balvihar/Youth Session

For more details contact

Charu Sheth:(856)662-8754 sheth_charu@yahoo.com
Chetna Giyanani:(732)322-6212 chetnatemple@gmail.com



Recognition For Major Donors of ITA

ITA appreciates donations of \$1000 or more in year 2017 from the following donors. After our last publication, ITA wish to appreciates following family for their generous support of \$1000 or more.

Ramanunj and Versha Bangad.

Additional names for donations received in excess of \$1000 (total contribution in 2017) by the end of February 2017 will be published in March Satsang. Please be generous and take advantage of year end tax deduction

AARP TAX-AIDE IS A FREE SERVICE PROVIDED BY VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE BEEN TRAINED AND ARE CERTIFIED

BY THE IRS AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO PREPARE INDIVIDUAL INCOME TAX RETURNS, INCLUDING HOME-STEAD REBATE AND PROPERTY TAX REIMBURSEMENT (PTR) APPLICATIONS.

TAXPAYERS FILING PTR SHOULD HAVE THEIR FORM CERTIFIED BY THE APPROPRIATE TAX ASSESSORS OFFICE PRIOR TO COMING TO THE AARP SITE.

AARP TAX-AIDE IS AVAILABLE TO ALL TAXPAYERS WITH MIDDLE OR LOW INCOME, WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION TO

TAXPAYERS AGE 60 AND OLDER.

COMPLEXITY OF A RETURN WILL DETERMINE OUR ABILITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE.

TAXPAYERS MUST BRING SOCIAL SECURITY CARDS AND PHOTO ID FOR THEMSELVES AND ALL DEPENDENTS, ALONG WITH A COPY OF THEIR PRIOR YEAR RETURN AND ALL RELATED AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR BOTH INCOME AND EXPENSES.

RETURNS ARE PREPARED AND FILED ELECTRONICALLY.

Locations and Timing:

Barrington Municipal Bldg, 229 Trenton Ave, 856-547-0706 Every Monday 10 AM-1 PM , Feb 6 to April 17
Bellmawr Public Library, 35 E. Browning Rd, 856-931-1400, Every Tuesday 11AM tto 2PM, Feb 7 to April 11
Blackwood Public Library, 15 S Black Horse Pike, 856-228-0022, Every Friday 10AM to 1PM, Feb 3 to April 14
Cherry Hill Municipal Bldg, 820 Mercer St, 856-488-7868, Every Tuesday and Friday 10AM to 2PM, Feb3 to April 14
Collingswood Public Library, 771 Haddon Ave, 856-858-0649, Every Friday 12PM to 4PM, Feb 3 to April 14
Camden Ferry Ave Public Library, 852 Ferry Ave, 856-342-9789, Every Monday 10:30AM to 1:30PM, Feb 6 to April 17
Haddon Heights Public Library, 608 Station Ave, 856-547-7132, Every Monday 12PM to 3PM, Feb 6 to April 17\
Pennsauken Public Library, 5605 Crescent Blvd, 856-665-5959, Every Wednesday and Thursday 1PM to 4PM, Feb 1 to April 13
Runnemede Senior Center, 2 Broadway and Black Horse Pike, 856-208-9983, Every Thursday 11AM to 2PM, Feb 2 to April 13
Voorhees Public Library, 203 Laurel Road, 856-772-1636, Every Tuesday and Thursday 11AM to 2PM, Feb 2 to April 13
Westmont Public Library, 15 MacArther Blvd, 856-854-2752, Every Tuesday 12PM to 4PM, Feb 7 to April aa
Winslow Public library, 35 Coopers Folly Road, 856-753-2537, Every Monday and Wednesday 10AM to 1PM, Feb 1 to April 17

CALL KIRAN DOSHI AT 856-424-8046 OR 609-405-2641 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, INCLUDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HANDICAP AND/OR INDIAN LANGUAGES

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

Contact: Vina 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	<u>TEMPLE FACILITIES USAGE FEE:</u>
Shraddha	\$51	\$101	Prayer Hall: \$200
Anniversary Celebration	\$101	\$151	Social Hall: \$300
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	<u>OTHER CHARGES</u>
Vastu Puja - outside service only	N/A	\$251	\$51. travel charges for 25 to 50 miles
Wedding Grah Shanti	\$201	\$301	\$101 travel charges for 51 to 100 miles
Wedding Ceremony per day	\$301	\$351	\$51 Non-member charges
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	

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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president@indiatemple.org

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Religious Services

Facility Rental

Temple Manager

Charu Sheth

Divyakant Parikh

1-855-my-mandir x 1
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 (\$51) _____
Individual or Family five year (\$151) _____
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: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____