

# 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. 60 No. 1 Phone: (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org AUGUST 2015

#### **Religious Calendar**

**August 2 Sunday** 

· Jaya Parvati Vrat Concludes

August 10 Monday

· Kamika Ekadashi

**August 15 Friday** 

· Bharat Independence Day

Rudrabhishek in Mandir

Shravana

**August 17 Monday** 

· Rudrabhishek in Mandir

**August 19 Wednesday** 

Nag Panchami

**August 24 Monday** 

· Rudrabhishek in Mandir

**August 25 Tuesday** 

· Putrada Ekadashi

**August 29 Saturday** 

· Shravan Pournima/ Raksha-

Bandhan/ Shravani Upakarma Prayog/Satyanarayan Katha

September 5 Saturday

· JANAMASHTAMI

September 17 Thursday

Shri Ganesh Chaturthi

#### **Monthly Activities**

Kshama Raghuveer 707-332-3400

August 7, Friday

- Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam @ 8 pm August 22, Saturday
- August 22, Saturday
- Sunderkand Path 10am August 29, Saturday
- Shri Satyanarayan Pooja 6pm

#### Monthly Bhajans

August 21, Friday 8-9pm

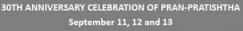
• Satya Sai Baba of Medford P.K. Prabhakar 856-596-3147; Sesha Vemuri 856-751-0867

August 14, Friday 8-9 pm

• Shree Ji Bhajan

Urmi Upadhyay (856) 424-9328; Charu Sheth (856) -662-8754

Dave Ghanshyam





SEPTEMBER 11, FRIDAY AT 6:30 PM BHAJANS AT OUR BERLIN MANDIR

SEPTEMBER 12, SATURDAY AT 9:00 AM PUJA AT OUR BERLIN MANDIR

SEPTEMBER 12, SATURDAY AT 5:00 PM SHOBHA YATRA AND CULTUR-AL PROGRAM AT OUR OWN ICC

SEPTEMBER 13, SUNDAY 10:00 AM TO 1:00 PM RUDRABHISHEK AND 2:00 PM HAVAN AT OUR BERLIN MANDIR

WE WILL PROVIDE MORE DETAILS ON THIS AUSPICIOUS EVENT
VIA SEPARATE BULLETIN AND IN SEPTEMBER SATSANG

This is the oldest temple in our area that has been built by our seniors who settled here in sixties and seventies. It is now time for current generation to solidify their vision and generously support this event.



#### **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.

Amita Desai	Aug 05 Sheth Charu & Jaysukh	Aug 17
Shailendra Desai	Aug 05 Sindvad Snehal	Aug 17
Mahesh Tekrival	Aug 07 Kanzaria Maganbhai	Aug 18
Lingraju Nagraj	Aug 10 Tejas Patel	Aug 20
Khaitan Shree	Aug 10 Patel Babubhai	Aug 24
Dixit Mahesh	Aug 11 Kanzaria Mitul	Aug 26
Desai Kiran	Aug 15 Talati Sangita & Paresh	Aug 27
Patel Akshaykumar	Aug 15	
Shah Nisarg	Aug 15	

Aug 17

#### **Condolences**

The son of Shri Virendra & Madhu Gupta of Cherry Hill, Milan Gupta, age 46, passed away on July 4, 2015. He is survived by his sister Arati Gupta, and wife Monika, and three children 13 year old Meghan, 11 year old Sahil, and 6-year old Shreya. ITA and its board extends its sincere condolences to their family.

#### Hindu Senior Citizens of South Jersey August 2015 Meeting Announcement Venue – ICC www.Hinduseniors.com

#### Thursday, August 13 & Monday August 24

6:30 pm Tea/coffee with snacks, aartii

7:00 pm Meeting starts

7:30 to 8:30 Lecture followed by question-answer period

#### Thursday, August 13

#### **Understanding Technology Devices of Everyday Use**

Dr. Mahesh Kumar will uncover some hidden aspects of technology we use in our everyday life. He has promised to deal with these topics in non-technical language. He will on focus on cellular telephones and GPS technology. How the telephone technology has advanced to connect people anywhere in the world using cellphones, microwave, satellites and fiber optics. He will also explain how GPS works, who developed it and who's voice is it that guides us through our road travels, and how it knows where we are at a particular point in time and how it knows about different routes to our destination The talk will be entertaining and interactive with audience participation.

#### Dr. Mahesh Kumar

Dr. Mahesh Kumar is a professional who deals with high levels of technology in his professional career. He has a PhD in radar and communication from Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur (India). He was on the IIT faculty for two years before migrating to the United States where he has worked mostly for companies that develop the radar technology and products necessary for the defense of the United States. Dr. Mahesh Kumar is a respository of varied information.

**Monday, August 24** (Please mark the weekday of this meeting – it's Monday)

#### **Power of Subconscious Mind**

Dr. Anju Nayar will analyze human mind in non-technical terms. She will talk about human mind how it stored our prior experiences and how it influences our current ideas and impressions of day to day life. For example, a traumatic experience of our past can influence our actions of today. It is our mind that drives us into positive or sometimes into undesirable directions in life. Although mind divides into conscious mind, subconscious mind and uncosious mind, the impact of our subconscious mind on our defense mechanisms, what we have become and how we are shaping our day to day lives is very powerful. Subconscous mind is outside our conscoius awareness and reaching our subconscious mind and digging out what is there can be a potent tool for professional help as well as self-help.

#### Dr. Anju Nayar

Dr. Anju Nayar graduated from LLRM medical college Meerut UP (India) and did her psychiatric residency at Cooper Hospital and Medical Center in South Jersey. She is a board certified in psychiatry and neurology, a board certified disability analyst and a certified hypnotherapist In private practice in Cherry Hill since 1995. She is an active member in ICC activities and has generously contributed her time and money for social causes.

\*

S. Gambhir: President, HSCSJ

#### **Purushottam Mass Celebration on July 15**

We sincerely thank Women Volunteers of our Temple for all their hard work and dedication in putting up a great evening of Puja and Bhajans. It was a very pleasant evening, everyone prayed to Lord Purushottam(Vishnu) to attain good health, peace and prosperity.

The evening ended with Aarti and Mahaprasad.

Special thanks to Dakshaben and Arvindbhai Khatiwala for sponsoring the Mahaprasad which was very delicious. Special thanks to Shanti and Raja Pawar, Ramillaben Mistry and family for sponsoring the beautiful Garlands.

#### Monthly Pujas at Mandir

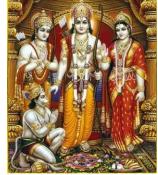
It is a pleasure to perform Satyanarayan puja on Saturday August 29, at 3:30 pm and read Sunderkand Path on Saturday August 22, at 10 am at our Temple with family and friends.



We invite you to join us and perform Satyanarayan puja every Purnima day with family and friends and receive the blessings of Almighty God. Donations are welcome. Suggested donation is \$ 31. It is followed by Mahaprasad generously sponsored by Indian Villa.

Please join us for Sunderkand Path held on third Saturday of every month. Mahaprasad generously sponsored by Gagan Palace.

Jai Krishna, Kshama



#### From Me to You

From Mumbai (on vacation), the place where I was born and brought up:

Today, I was taking a ride in the B.E.S.T bus, when I heard one of the student passengers remarking to his friend, 'Sab Chalta Hai' ('Everything is OK'). I smiled to myself as I heard this and I was thrown back in time in an instant, when this sentence was used so causally by me and my friends; later on when I moved to a hostel (dorm in the US), I observed the usage of another word from Tamil (my mother tongue) 'Chumma' ('Simply', 'Just like that') by most of my hostel mates irrespective of their mother tongues. The philosophical import of these four words hit me with full strength as I was reminiscing the good old days. Sab Chalta Hai => Take it easy, this too shall pass; it does not matter whether you are insanely happy over some event that has just transpired or you are totally dejected about some happening. Both will pass and soon you will be back to where you were - the equilibrium state. Be Chumma - Just Be. Be a witness to what is happening around you, to you, within you, and outside (of) you. That should be the attitude. Unstable equilibrium is never sustainable and that is what happens when one is very happy or really sad. One is guaranteed to reach a steady state soon. Let us be a true witness as we work towards the betterment of our Mandir, with the knowledge that everything shall pass - Sab Chalta Hai and be Chumma.

From Mumbai (still Bombay to me!)

Ramesh Viswanathan

\*

## Om Namo Bhagavaté Vasudevaya Namah

Remember, our Vedic Rishis words, "All be Happy and be Prosperous". If maximum numbers of people in a society (city, state, or country) are happy, then that society is happy and prosperous. One easy way is to chant Sri Vishnu Sahasranama and do good work. Experience has shown that an individual chanting VSN alone makes him/her calm and happy. If this chanting is done as a part of a Satsang, then one feels his/her happiness elevated to another level, and the satsang group feels very positive and happy (multiplying effect). By spreading the word, collectively we all can do Sri Vishnu Sahasranama chanting across the Globe for world harmony and peace. In this connection, on Oct 17, 2015, we all get a chance to participate in the Same Time Satsang across different countries in the world.

Thanks for your time and help, and please spread the word.

Be well, do good work, and extend a helping hand.

Sarvé jaynaa sukhino bhavanthu,

Samasta summangalani santhu.

With the blessings of Sri Lord Venkateswara. We will be having our program at 9:30 on Saturday October 17 in our mandir. Please join us!



## ITA invites you to celebrate Ganesh Utsav

September 17<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Receive blessings, remove obstacles
2 FEET-TALL GANPATI MOORTI

## Ganesh Sthapan & Pooja: September 17th at 6:00 pm

Sthapana procession from parking lot to temple at 6:00 pm followed by Pooja, Arati and group chanting of Atharva Shirsha.

## Arati: September 18<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>

Arati will be performed at 11:00 am and 7:00 pm each day

## Visarjaan: September 27<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am

Visarjaan will begin at the Berlin Temple and be done at Cherokee High School with our Bal Vihar children at 11:30 am

#### **Donations** are welcome.

To sponsor Prasad, please contact Charuben Sheth at (856)-662-8754 or at: sheth charu@yahoo.com

For more information, please contact:

Anuradha Joshi: anootemple@gmail.com

Sangeeta Rashatwar: sangeetarashatwar@gmail.com

#### **Senior Social Group**

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

## Janamashtami Celebrations on Saturday, September 5.





Bal-Krishna-Leela-Special program for children from 3:00pm - 5:00pm. Children will come dressed in Indian Clothes.

Please contact Charu Sheth at sheth\_charu@yahoo.com or Dhiru Saparia at dannysaparia@verizon.com for details.
3:00pm - 3:15pm, Greet Children
3:15pm - 3:45pm, Krishna Leela Stories and Dances. \*\* Krishna dance performance participants.
3:45pm - 4:00pm, Baal Krishna Aarti

4:00pm - 5:00pm, Matki Celebration and Prasad.

5:30pm-6:15pm, Puja of Lord Krishna.

6:15pm-7:30pm, Bhajans 7:30pm-8:00pm, Utsav 8:00pm- First Aarti 9:30pm- Second Aarti

12:00am, midnight Krishna Pragtya

If you would like to participate in Bhahjans, please contact Dhiru Saparia at dannysaparia@verizon.net If you would like to participate in Lalla festivities, please contact Binduben at 8569965644 or Charuji at 8566628754.

Sponsorship is also welcome.

Save the Date!

Ekal Vidyalaya is organizing once again this year's Walk-A-Thon on Sunday September 27th from 8:30 AM to Noon at Cooper River park in Pennsauken.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR TO JOIN A WALK FOR A WORTHY CAUSE

#### ITA Balvihar program will begin on Sept 27, 2015

Time: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM; Location: Cherokee High School

#### Teaching Sanatana Dharma and Vedic Heritage - Giving Our Children Positive Identity!

The Balvihar Team is excited to begin registration for the 2015-16 school year. Our online registration is open now and we encourage you to enroll your child(ren) ASAP. Please explore the Balvihar webpage for the calendar, curriculum and overall program details. The website is <a href="https://www.indiatemple.org/bal\_vihar.php">https://www.indiatemple.org/bal\_vihar.php</a>

We have received feedback from parents and students and are making modifications to the schedule that will enhance the large group and classroom experience as your children learn about religion and culture.

The registration fee is \$151 if you register by July 31; the fee is \$201 on August 1 and thereafter. This fee covers all material and facility costs as well as the Balvihar Annual day celebration. We **ENCOURAGE YOU TO REGIS**-

**TER EARLY** as it makes it easier for us to plan classroom sizes and order supplies.

For registration questions, please email <u>ita.balvihar@gmail.com</u> or contact Shashank Sheth at 732-604-8956

Pre-K (Prithvi) - Hindu Art, Shlokas/Songs/Story

KG (Meghaa) - Stories from Panchatantra, Indian Festivals

1st (Saagar) - Stories from Puranas, Introduction to Gods/Goddess(coloring and explanation), Introduction to India(States/Languages/rivers/mountains/animals)

2nd (Vaayu) - Bala Bhagavatam, Stories of Saint, India neighbors/religions/diversity/arts(music, dance, rangoli etc.)

3rd (Pavan) - Ramayana, Important people/leaders from Indian History

4th (Aakash) - Mahabharata I, Indian History I (Mauryan dynasty)

5th (Gagan) - Mahabharata II, Indian History II (Gupta dynasty/ South Indian Empires)

6th (Agni ) - Values, Analysis of Ramayana/Mahabharata characters, Indian History III (Mughal dynasty)

7th (Maruth) - Principles of Hinduism & Ishvara, British Rule in India and the after effects

8th (Medhaa) - Religious disciplines, Culture, Tradition, Vedic Chanting, Evolution of civilization

#### Runner-up - Hindu Concept of God By Lokesh Shah

The concept of God is a basic tenet of religion throughout the world. While everyone can agree on God's importance, there are few who truly understand the concept of god in Hinduism; and rightfully so, as it is a confusing subject to say the least, causing bewilderment even among Hindus (and especially young scholarship essay writers...). Yet while this is an immensely confusing subject, one will find that if one takes the time to understand the concept of God and the beliefs that accompany it, one will reap the rewards in life.

While Hindus are primarily characterized as polytheistic, this is not necessarily the case. Contrary to predominant misconceptions, Hindus worship one all-pervasive Supreme Being. An important aspect of god, unique to Hinduism, is that God is not some being residing in a secluded heaven, detached from our lives. There is a small part of God in each and every one of our souls, in our hearts, our minds, and our consciousness. God truly is always with us, simply waiting to be uncovered. This concept of God's pervasiveness in human and all life constitutes the fundamental core of Hindu spirituality. The Upanishad and Vedas, old texts detailing the entirety of the Hindu philosophy, go into great detail of God's omnipresence. The Upanishad says, roughly translated: "Brahman (God) is the only truth, the world is unreal, and there is ultimately no difference between Brahman and Atman, individual self." Here, God's presence in our soul is clear, and it seems that only thing separating us from God, is our worldly limitations. The Upanishad's go on to describe God, or Brahman, as all-pervading, unlimited, infinitely great and infinitely small, thus further emphasizing his omnipresence, and presence in our soul.

And finally, we now have some superficial understanding of our concept of God; however, this is merely a stepping stone in truly understanding our religion. Understanding God serves no purpose if we do not use that knowledge to emulate him. The vedas show that what is preventing us from realizing our true Brahman self are these "veils" over our eyes, covering our inner truth. The Vedas state: "The first veil to vanish is ignorance; and when that is gone, unskillful behavior goes; next desire ceases, selfishness ends, and all misery disappears." The vedas go on to state that this termination of ignorance can only come when one realizes that "God and I are ONE." And here lies the key to achieving eternal bliss, and understanding the nature of Hinduism and God. This shows that one must identify with their true Atma, not with human limitations. We should practice selflessness, working to forgo our human desires and instead adopt credence of service towards our community, towards humanity, and towards God. By embracing humanity, we can truly embrace God. I believe these are the fundamental principles of Hinduism. Thus, simply worshiping god is not enough; we must work to emulate the principles surrounding the concept of God so that one day we can truly achieve moksha.

So although the Hindu concept of god is confusing, the principle is very simple. God is in us all, and only through selflessness can we reach our ultimate goal: to unite with God and achieve Moksha. Taking the time to understand God's credence, his beliefs, and his importance, is vital in truly understanding the religion and lifestyle that is Hinduism.

#### **Programs for Your Spiritual Growth**

#### YOGA ABHYAS FOR HEALTH, HAPPINESS & GOD

**REALIZATION:** A program for adults on

Yogasana, Pranayam & Meditation.

First Sunday: 9:30 -11:30 am at our Mandir Contact: Surendra Sheth@ (856) 985-3700

#### **GITA STUDY GROUP:**

Every Tuesday & Wednesday, 8-9 pm at our Mandir Contact: Sharad Pimplaskar @ (856) 985-4785

#### **BHAJANS & STUTI:**

Every Friday, 7:30-9 pm

Contact: Shree Shuklaji or Shri Sudhirji (856) 768-6785

#### **Regular Programs for Children and Youth**

**BAL VIHAR**: For children (ages 4-13), to promote a positive Hindu identity within the diverse U.S. culture.

2nd & 4th Sunday @ 10 am - 1 pm

Contact: Malathi Shankar (856) 424-7849, Bhavesh Patel 1-855-my-mandir ext 3, Rina Patel (856) 313-5235 for regis-

tration and location

**YOUTH PROGRAM:** A program for young adults (ages 13-18) and parents. 2nd & 4th Sunday, 9:45 am - 1 pm at our Mandir.

Contact: Praveen Garg at (856) 783-4692 or Sangeeta

Rashatwar at (856) 424-4211

#### CREATIVE ART WORKSHOP

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

Contact: Narendra Amin (856) 429-8761

#### 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.

PUJA SERVICE	INSIDE TEMPLE	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	TEMPLE FACILITIES USAGE FEE
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	OTHER CHARGES
Satyanarayan Puja	\$121	\$151	
Engagement Ceremony	\$101	\$201	MILEAGE AND TRAVEL TIME TIER
Havan/Grah Shanti	\$201	\$251	
Vastu Puja - outside service only	N/A	\$251	\$0 for 1 - 25 mile radius
Sunderkand Path	\$151		
Wedding Grah Shanti	\$201	\$301	\$51 for 26 - 100 mile radius
Wedding Ceremony per day	\$301	\$351	\$101 for 101 - 150 mile radius
Upanayan/Yagnopavita	\$251	\$301	
Antim Rites (Funeral Service)	Voluntary Don	ation	\$151 for 151 - 200 mile radius
Uttar Kriya per day - outside service only	N/A	\$101	NON-MEMBER
Yagna/Laghu Rudra - outside service only	N/A	\$351	
Navchandi Yagna - outside service only	N/A	\$651	\$51 for non-member surcharge

NOTE: Charges and availability of other Puja Services not listed above may be discussed with Smt. Charu Sheth at 1-855-MY-MANDIR Ext 1

#### DIRECTION TO BERLIN TEMPLE

#### A. From Tacony Bridge:

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

#### B. From Ben Franklin Bridge:

Take route 30E to NJ route 70E to NJ route 73S, drive for about 7 miles and follow signs for East Taunton Avenue. Temple is 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 Avenue

#### D. From Central and North Jersey:

Take NJ Turnpike South. Exit 4 for route 73S. Drive for about 10 - 11 miles and follow signs for East Taunton Avenue on your right



#### **President**

Ramesh Viswanathan 1-855-my-mandir x 710 president@indiatemple.org

#### **Vice President**

Lalit Patel 1-855-my-mandir x 711 vp@indiatemple.org

#### **General Secretary**

Bhavesh Patel / Govind Modi 1-855-my-mandir x 712 gs@indiatemple.org

#### Treasurer

Shobna Daga 1-855-my-mandir x 713 treasurer@indiatemple.org

#### Religious Services Facility Rental Temple Manager

Charu Sheth
Divyakant Parikh
1-855-my-mandir x 1
manager@indiatemple.org

#### **Darshan Schedule**

#### **Morning**

7:30 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

## India Temple Association, Inc.

25 E. Taunton, Berlin, NJ 08009

EDITOR:

Brinda Raghuveer

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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

#### 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	J
(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 a	are
emitting the membership dues	
(please select one) Individual or Family Five year (\$25)	
Life (\$101)	
I am adding additional donations:	
Scholarship FundLifetime Seva (\$301)Temple Renovations	
Seva Samiti Fund Bal Vihar Fund Youth Fund	
I am relocating to the following address	
Last Name: First Name:	
Address:	
Talanhana: E mail:	