



Satsang Sandesh

A monthly news magazine of

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. 48 No. 1 Phone: (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org AUGUST 2014

Religious Calendar

August 1 Friday
· Nag Panchami
August 3 Sunday
· Shitalashtami
August 4 Monday
· Rudrabhishek in Mandir
August 7 Thursday
· Putra Ekadashi
August 10 Sunday
· Shravan Pournima/ RakshaBandhan/ Shrivani Upakarma Prayog / Satyanarayan Katha
August 11 Monday
· Rudrabhishek in Mandir
August 14 Thursday
· Nag Panchami
August 15 Friday
· Bharat Independence Day
August 16 Saturday
· Sheetala Satam Sundarkand Paath
August 17 Sunday
· JANAMASHTAMI
August 18 Monday
· Rudrabhishek in Mandir
August 21 Thursday
· Aja Ekadashi/Aunn-Matyo
August 25 Monday
· Rudrabhishek in Mandir
August 28 Thursday
· Haritalika Trutiya
August 29 Friday
· Shri Ganesh Chaturthi
August 30 Saturday
· Rushipanchami

Monthly Bhajans

August 15 Friday 8-9 pm
· Satya Sai Baba of Medford
P.K. Prabhakar 856-596-3147
Sesha Vemuri 856-751-0867
August 22 Friday 8-9 pm
· Shree Ji Bhajan
Urmi Upadhyay 856-424-9328
Charu Sheth 856-662-8754

Upcoming Programs in August

Entire Shravan Maas (July 27 to August 25)

Please join us for Daily 'Shivaji Dhoon' 30 minutes before evening Aarti

Open Mike Night On Thursday, August 7, from 7-8pm at mandir

Shravan purnima / Satyanarayan Katha

Sunday, August 10 at 3:30 pm followed by mahaprasad at mandir

Sundarkand Paath

Saturday August 16 at 10 am followed by mahaprasad at mandir

Janmashtami Celebrations on Sunday, August 17, at mandir

Bal-Krishna-Leela - Special Program for Children from 3:00-5:00

3:00-3:15 Greet Children; 3:15-3:45 Krishna Leela Stories by Lataji

**3:45-4:00 Baal Krishna Aarti; 4:00-5:00 Matki Celebration and Prasad
5:30-8:00 Bhajans; 8:00 First Aarti; 9:30 Second Aarti; 12:00 Third Aarti**

Shri Ganesh Chaturthi

Friday, August 29 at 7pm in mandir

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
Tejas Patel	Aug 08 Patel Babubhai	Aug 24
Khaitan Shree	Aug 10 Kanzaria Mitul	Aug 26
Lingraju Nagraj	Aug 10 Talati Sangita & Paresb	Aug 27
Dixit Mahesh	Aug 11	
Desai Kiran	Aug 15	
Patel Akshaykumar	Aug 15	
Shah Nisarg	Aug 15	
Dave Ghanshyam	Aug 17	

Hindu Senior Citizens of South Jersey Announcements for August 2014

Thursday, August 14 at ICC

A presentation on Advantages of a Living Trust vs. Will - a Living Trust is easy to set up, avoids probate, and related costs can reduce or eliminate estate taxes. Disadvantages of a Will are probate costs, can be easily contested and can create excess taxes. These issues and more will be covered and you will have an opportunity to ask questions. The presenter is a specialist CPA/Financial Planner Mr. Barry Nelson of RJG Financial Services.

Photography workshop with photography expert Dr. Devkumar Gupta on Sunday, August 3 at ICC upstairs from 9 am to 12:30 pm. For sign up and details, email Dr. Gupta at gupta.devkumar@gmail.com. Free for HSCSJ members. Fun-filled picnic on Sunday, August 24 at Redbank Battlefield Park Gloucester Country from 10 am to 4 pm. Activities include games, food, enjoyment with Nature, and mingling with each other. Contribution of \$7 per head can be deposited with EC members before or after the next meeting on August 14.

Thursday, August 28 at ICC

Activate your brain neurons and expand your memory, concentration, and logic power. This session will activate your neurons and improve your brain performance. In teams, we will play language games, riddles and Jeopardy type questions in areas of Hindu Religion, Hindu Mythology, India's politics, India's geography, America's geography and India's history. Come as much prepared as possible. Winning team will be recognized with congratulations, slogans of hurrah, and much more. Dr. Devkumar Gupta will lead the session.

It will tremendously help in organizing food arrangements if you RSVP to HSC1914@gmail.com by Monday before the event.

**S. Gambhir
President, HSCSJ**



Monthly Pujas at Mandir



It is a pleasure to perform Satyanarayan puja on Sunday, August 10, at 3:30pm and read Sunderkand Path on Saturday August 16, 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



Open Mike Night

On Thursday, August 7, from 7 pm to 8 pm

Aarti at 8 pm At Our Mandir, Berlin Temple

Please join us and have a pleasant Musical Evening. You are invited to sing Bhajans, Patriotic or Holy songs. Please contact Mr. Danny Saparia, email - dannysaparia@verizon.com for details.

Jai Srikrishna



Let Freedom Ring

Happy Fourth of July!!

by Chetna Giyanani

The east coast was in the shadow of the season's first Hurricane - Arthur. Many were rescheduling Fourth of July celebrations, however no clouds or rain would stop us from celebrating! As soon as the Evesham township officials declared it was safe, we were ready.

The India Temple Association, Indian Cultural Center, Bengali Cultural Society, and Nice Global Inc. joined hands and proudly raised the American Flag at the Evesham Township Independence Day Parade. Our float, donated by Mr. Kapil Patel of Action Auto World, Voorhees, NJ; was beautifully decorated with stars and stripes by Charu Sheth and her set-up team of youth & adult volunteers. The staging area was lined up with teams geared up to participate in the Independence Day celebrations. Dressed in RED WHITE & BLUE, traditional Indian outfits, and our "Let Freedom Ring" t-shirts our team members were eager to show their patriotism!

With American flags in their hands, Jayesh Parikh, K.D. Patel & Indranil Sardar led our team into the parade. The India Temple Associations banner, held by ITA President Sangeeta Rashatwar & Vice President Anoo Joshi, set the parade into motion. The foot tapping rhythm of Jai Ho filled the air. The weather was perfect for our community to dance to the beats of the music managed by Roshan Giyanani.

Members and Trustees of India Temple Association's Blue Team, Indian Cultural Center's White Team & Bengali Cultural Society's Red Team marched with pride at the parade. Children sat on the float waving the American flag to the entire community as we distributed Team USA soccer balls to kids on the sidewalk. Young children & ladies, dressed in traditional Indian clothes, performed to "Jiya Jiya Re" and "Nagada Sang Dhol" with full enthusiasm and showed their true American spirits!

Thanks to the community, and to all the volunteers, who made this event a great success! Event sponsors – BCS; ICC; ITA; NICE; Paradise Biryani of Marlton, NJ; Soccer King of Princeton, NJ; Tobar Cleaners of Marlton, NJ - thank you for your support and generous contributions. Special thanks to the Fourth of July Team of coordinators: Rupananda Chakravarty, Amrita Desai, Chetna Giyanani, Mukund Modi, Dr. Dhiraj Panda, Jayesh Parikh, K.D. Patel, Sangeeta Rashatwar, Indranil Sardar, Charu Sheth.

We hope you join us next year in the celebrations!!!



ITA Scholarship Announcement

Every year, ITA awards scholarships to the current high school graduates, based on their essays, academic performance, community service, and volunteering in ITA related activities. The topics for the essays are given beforehand. This year, we have selected six winners. We wish all the winners a wonderful future as they embark on a quest to uncover their inner potential in colleges and beyond.

The Indian Diaspora: What to preserve and what to let go from our heritage?

By Nikhil Shukla

Despite having departed from their homeland, Indians everywhere are bound together by a common thread... our heritage. This inheritance connects the past to the future and is the bond between Indians around the world. Our Indian Heritage is a vibrant and ancient part of our lives that influences even our day-to-day activities via cultures, traditions, and values. Embodied in our heritage are not just words of wisdom but also powerful beliefs that reach successive generations and instill the most fundamental parts of our religion and lifestyle.

As the world has modernized, the Indian Heritage has stood the test of time. The teachings that are stated in our holy scriptures have lasted well over 5,000 years and continue to be taught today. The idea of dharma as stated in the Mahabharata, the practice of respecting your elders as seen in the story of Shraavan Kumar, and the emphasis on education as seen in nearly all the writings, are laudable parts of our heritage. These values, no matter how modern the world becomes, are parts that must be preserved for they are the driving force behind the continued success of Indian diaspora.

It is not only ideals that must be preserved but also our behaviors. The foundation of Indian heritage is based on a strong sense of family and community. As the saying goes, "a child in India is not raised by one person, but an entire village". Everyone becomes an "Aunty" and "Uncle". Our families extend far beyond direct blood-relations and community closeness is evident as we celebrate holidays like Holi and Diwali. Our actions reflect support for one another that makes our communities famous for their extensive networks. We prioritize the needs of others in renowned displays of hospitality. Our focus on moral righteousness and emphasis on good karma help us excel in all fields. As long as we preserve these actions we perpetuate the strength of our heritage.

There are, however, certain parts of the Indian heritage that have room for improvement. One of the stereotypes associated with our background is an overwhelming pressure to pursue academic success in a few choice fields such as engineering or the medical field. Although it is important for elders to play a guiding role in the lives of their children they must create an environment that allows, at the very least, for individuals to discover a passion even if it is not worthy of pursuit. It is in this way that we can enrich the lives of others rather than stifle their creative impulses.

Additionally, one of the toughest problems with our Indian Heritage lies in our identity. We identify ourselves first by the geographic location from where we come rather than identifying ourselves as a unified "Indians". As a result we have divided ourselves into small niche groups like Gujuratis, Jains, South Indians, etc. and by doing so have weakened the bonds that would otherwise tie us together as a strong community. For example one of the most attractive parts of the American experience lies in bonding despite diversity. We do not place precedence on identifying ourselves as individuals from the east coast over identifying ourselves as Americans. As a result there is the America becomes a place where diversity can be celebrated, ideas can be exchanged, and society can become more progressive. It is imperative that we Indians also work to accomplish this among our own communities and to shatter the walls that currently hinder our unified development.

The Indian Heritage is truly a magnificent ideal. It brings us together to form a society that pushes us to be successful while also passing on strong morals and values. Even though our heritage has been around for a few millennia there is room for improvement ranging from education to parenting. When we finally put aside the stereotypes, pride, and differences that currently divide us we will be able to form a community that will push on to a new era of development and success.

Bal-Vihar and Youth Update

ITA Bal Vihar Program will begin on Sept 14th 2014

Time: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Location: To be finalized

Teaching Vedic Heritage Giving Our Children Positive Identity!

Registration will begin July 1st, 2014, and will be on first come first served basis. Registration is limited to 250 children. There will be a nominal fee of \$151.00 per student. The parents must become ITA members to enroll their children. We humbly request lunch and annual day sponsorships. The fees do include cost of lunches, Pujas and festivals. There will be additional cost for the Annual Day. All donations are welcome.

Groups	Subjects
Pre-K (Prithvi)	Hindu Art, Shlokas/Songs/Story
KG-A (Megha A)	Stories from Panchatantra
KG-B (Megha B)	Stories from Puranas
1st (Saagar)	Moral Stories
2nd-A (Vaayu A)	
2nd-B (Vaayu B)	Stories of Saints, Bala Bhagvatam
3rd (Pavan A)	
3rd (Pavan B)	Ramayana - Stories
4th (Aakash A)	Stories of Ten Avataaras of Lord Vishnu, Mahabharata - Stories
5th (Aakash B)	Mahabharata - Stories
6th (Agni A)	Values
7th (Agni B)	Principles of Hinduism, Isvara and Religious Disciplines
8th grade (Medha)	Vedic Chanting, and open ended Discussion about Hinduism.

Note- 8th grade students have an option to join Bal Vihar, or join Yuva Darshan (Youth) group

Registration requirement: Parents must be an ITA member in order to participate in Balvihar. Registration will be on first come first served basis and capacity is limited to 240 students only. There will be nominal fee of \$151. The fee covers Balvihar cost including Annual day celebration.

Additional donations are welcome. Some of your ITA memberships may be expiring. For all those seeking a first membership or renewing an existing one, I encourage all to consider a five-year member (\$151.00) or even becoming life members (\$1,001.00). Many of you with children in Sunday school would benefit from a longer membership renewal since your kids may potentially have eight years of Bal Vihar and five years of youth program participation ahead of them. New life members will receive two free season tickets for Navratri for the year in which they become life members. New 2014 life members will also receive a free Pran Pratishtha 25th Anniversary silver coin and free registration for one student in Bal Vihar or the youth program. Yearly membership for singles or family is \$51; five-year single or family membership will be \$151; and life membership will be \$1,001. Membership is based on actual enrollment date rather than by calendar year. I strongly encourage you to promote ITA activities and events and to encourage non-members to join ITA. I also encourage everyone to please renew your membership before it expires, and make a powerful effort to become more active in community events. Together we can preserve our religious and cultural heritage, and pass it on to our children, and our children's children

ITA Gita Vichara Group

Gita Vichara Group in Marlton just completed their studies of Bhagvad Gita and now ready to begin the new text, Tattvabodha, on Tuesday, March 3rd, 2014 at 8:00 PM at Sandhya and Nitin Motiwala residence at 2 Elizabeth Court, Marlton, NJ 08053. Though the group meets in a private home the class is open to community members. If you are interested, please contact Lata Pimplaskar who is the moderator of the class at 856-985-4785 or latap@comcast.net.

Tattvabodha: Bodha means knowledge. tattva means the essence or the Truth. The text covers the vision of the essence of everything. "The Truth of everything" - gross, subtle and causal body, Atma, Devatas, and Karmas and it's results with cycle of birth and death. Join us! Hari Om! Lata Pimplaskar

Spiritual Celebration



Janmashtami Celebrations on Sunday, August 17

Bal-Krishna-Leela - Special program for children from 3:00-5:00

Children will come dressed in Indian Clothes. Please contact Charu Sheth at sheth_charu@yahoo.com or Dhiru Saparia at dannysaparia@verizon.net for details

3:00-3:15 Greet Children

3:15-3:45 Krishna Leela Stories by Lataji

3:45-4:00 Baal Krishna Aarti

4:00-5:00 Matki Celebration and Prasad

5:30-8:00 Bhajans

5:30-6:30 Bhajans by Local Artists. Please send in your names if you would like to sing. Please contact Dhiru Saparia at dannysaparia@verizon.net, Kshama Raghuveer at kshamatemple@gmail.com for details.

6:30-8:00 Bhajans by Chandan Modi and Children

8:00 First Aarti

9:30 Second Aarti

12:00 Third Aarti



Venue: Hindu Mandir India Temple Association, 25 East Taunton Avenue, Berlin, NJ 08009

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 a.m. at our Mandir

Contact: Virendra Gupta @ (856) 424-9313

GITA STUDY GROUP:

Every Tuesday & Wednesday, 8-9 p.m. at our Mandir

Contact: Sharad Pimplaskar @ (856) 985-4785

BHAJANS & STUTI:

Every Friday, 7:30-9 p.m.

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 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Contact: Ramesh Viswanathan (856) 489-1830, Bhavesh Patel 1-855-my-mandir ext 3, Rina Patel (856) 313-5235 for registration and location

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

Contact: Praveen Garg (856) 783-4692 or Sangeeta Rashatwar at (856) 424-4211

CREATIVE ART WORKSHOP

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday @ 9:30 a.m. 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 check temple availability at www.indiatemple.org; Click on "CALENDAR tab" and, from drop-down menu, Click on "EVENT/RENTAL CALENDAR". **Please contact Smt. Charu Sheth or Shri. Harish Shelat 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	<p><u>TEMPLE FACILITIES USAGE FEE</u> Prayer Hall: \$200 Social Hall: \$300</p> <p><u>OTHER CHARGES</u></p> <p><u>MILEAGE AND TRAVEL TIME TIER</u> \$0 for 1 - 25 mile radius \$51 for 26 - 100 mile radius \$101 for 101 - 150 mile radius \$151 for 151 - 200 mile radius</p> <p>NON-MEMBER \$51 for non-member surcharge</p>
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	
Sunderkand Path	\$151		
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	

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



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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**

**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
(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: _____