

# 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. 39 No. 4 Phone: (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org **APRIL 2013** 

#### Religious Calendar

#### Apr 11 Thursday

Chaitri New Year/ Gudi Padva/ Ugadi/ Chetichand

#### Apr 14 Friday

Tamil New Year

#### Apr 19 Friday

- Shri Rama Navami **Celebration in Mandir** Apr 20 Saturday
- Shri Sahajananda Jayanti
- Chetichand celebration at 4:00 pm in Mandir

#### Apr 25 Thursday

Hanuman Javanti in

#### Mandir, Purnima

Apr 27 & 28 Saturday & Sunday

Akhand Ramayana/ Kamada Ekadashi

**Celebration in Mandir** 

#### May 05 Sunday

Varuthini Ekadashi, Shri Vallabacharva celebration in Mandir

#### **Monthly Activities**

#### Apr 05, Friday

Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam: Kshama Raghuveer (610) 642-2875

#### Apr 25, Thursday

Shri Satvanarayan Puja/ Katha on Purnima Day @6:00 PM in our

#### Mandir

Kshama Raghuveer (610) 642-2875

#### **Monthly Bhajans**

Sesha Vemuri (856) 751-0867

Apr 26, Friday, 8-9 pm Shree Ji Bhajan Group

Urmi Upadhya (856) 424-9328 Charu Sheth (856) 662-8754

### Sri Rama Navami Celebration



Sri Raghavam Dasharadhatmajam aprameyam Sitapathim Raghukulanvaya Ratna Deepam

Aajanubahum Aravinda Dalayathaksham Ramam Nishachara Vinashakaram Namami

Date: Friday, April 19

Akhand Ramayana Path will commence from Saturday, April 27 at 11:00 AM and will continue through the night into next day morning, Sunday, April 28 12:00 Noon. ITA invites everyone to come and participate in reading of Ram Charita Manas. Shri Rama Navmi will also be celebrated as a part this program on 28 th April with special Pooja of Rama Parivar followed by Maha-Prasad at noon on April 28, 2012.

Those who want to help in this observance of Ram Navami Pooja can call: Meena Bhatnagar, <u>856-424-2581</u>, Rano Vasisht, <u>609-926-0142</u>, or Ritu Pandya 856-435-6577.

#### **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 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.

•	Babaria Ashok	Apr 02	Brunt Arpana & David	Apr 19
•	Gujrathi Urmila	Apr 02	Desai Shailendra	Apr 19
•	Bhatt Narendra	Apr 03	Patel Arny & Deepal	Apr 20
•	Gandhi Kevin	Apr 03	Choksi Yogendra B.	Apr 22
•	Sheth Surendra	Apr 04	Jain Nimisha & Rajen	Apr 22
•	Patel Savitaben	Apr 06	Khurana Samir	Apr 22
•	Pandya Dipti	Apr 08	Dube Neal	Apr 23
•	Shah Upen	Apr 12	Rao Ramachandra	Apr 25
•	Patel Vaishali	Apr 13	Kothari Hansa H.	Apr 28
•	Vasa Siddhi	Apr 15		

Apr 16

Goel Savitri

#### **Condolences**

Babulal Sheth, husband of Ramila Sheth passed way on March 8.

ITA and its Board extend their sincere condolences to Sheth family.

#### **Senior Citizens' Program**

#### Thursday April 4, 6:30 pm to 9:15 pm and Thursday April 18, 6:30 pm to 9:15 pm

The Art of Photography: Photography is a popular art to express ourselves. The camera captures the beauty and grandeur of nature and records and preserves events and places for ever. With a camera in hand, you learn to look and see and discover the visual wonders and beauty around you. The recent digital revolution in photography has also changed profoundly how the photos are taken, printed, and shared. We have invited Dr. Devkumar Gupta, a physician by profession and our member, to talk about photography. He will help us in the proper techniques for creative experimentation and in taking dynamic pictures. The art involves the technical mastery of the camera and the knowledge of composition, focus, exposure, light, lenses, filters, depth of field, shutter speed etc. Dr. Gupta will give us some pointers as to how you can improve your photographic techniques to create good photographs and to really make a difference in the images you create. With his help you can become a better photographer without too much stress!

**Lung Problems in seniors:** We have invited Dr. Prahlad Patel, MD, a board-certified internist, to present the important topic of respiratory problems in seniors. He will cover prevention, management, complications etc. As you may know, Dr. Patel is also deeply involved in the India Cultural Center project and he will provide us with the current status and future plans of this great community resource.

Contact: Suraj Bhan Singh sbsingh1@hotmail.com (856) 582-5035

#### "CHETI CHAND" Sindhi New Year Celebrations at Hindu Temple, Berlin NJ on Saturday, April 20, 2013, 4pm onwards

Cheti Chand is celebrated on the second day (Chand - new moon day) of the 1<sup>st</sup> month in the Hindu New Year - Chaitra (Chet in Sindhi).

It is also the birthday of Jhulelal or Dariyalal or Jinda Pir - the *Ishta Dev* of Sindhi Hindus. This is the most significant day for the Sindhi community and is celebrated all over the world with traditional pomp and gaiety. On this day Jhulelal is worshipped. Rice and sugar are offered to the habitants of the ocean as Jhulelal came from the ocean on a whale and protected the community from the cruel rulers of Sindh.

The Sindhi community of South Jersey will celebrate New Year/Cheti Chand at the Hindu Temple in Berlin on Saturday, April 20th 2013. We will have bhajans starting at 4 pm, followed by langar prasad at 6 pm. All are welcome to attend.

RSVP to Sheela Alwani at 856-768-5351 or Deepa & Hiroo Pahilajani at 856-424-1365.

#### ITA GENERAL BODY MEETING

The ITA General Body will meet on April 21st 2013 at 5:30 pm at Hindu Mandir on 25 E Taunton Road. Agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. A melodious music program from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

- 2. Rina Patel, Parliamentarian, will move to ratify the following changes in the By-Laws:
  - Article I Membership. Changes to this article were made in 2010. Changes simplify membership structure. The full details are available on the ITA website, <a href="www.indiatemple.org">www.indiatemple.org</a>.
  - Article VIII Advisory Board Changes to this article were made in 2012. Changes define role of Advisory Board. The full details are available on the ITA website, <a href="www.indiatemple.org">www.indiatemple.org</a>.
- 3. Aarti and Dinner.

#### **Bal Vihar Program**





We had the new priest Shri Sudhir-ji conduct the Maha Shivaratri Pooja for the children and the adults. Prior to this Lata-ji talked about the significance of the Pooja. Sudhir-ji's chanting of the Mantras created positive spiritual vibrations. The Pooja was followed by a scintillating Bharata Natyam performance by Smt. Bala Saraswathi's students. The dance items pertained to Lord Nataraja's Nrithyam. And to cap it all, we had delicious Indian food!

Come one, come all! Friends and family are invited to attend the Bal-Vihar Annual Day, an amalgam of dances, skits, and shlokas performed by the Bal-Vihar students to exhibit what they have learned throughout the year. Annual Day will be held on Sunday, May 19th, 2013. Details are forthcoming.

## Youth Program Yamini Nalla

On February 23, the youth had their wondeful annual ski trip at Shawnee Mountain ski resort. Around 6:15 AM, the 40 ITA members including the youth boarded on the bus from Voorhees Middle School. Shawnee Mountain was extremely fun and a sight to behold with all the snow covered mountains; it was like a winter wonderland. Everyone had an awesome time skiing and many people had the opportunity to learn to ski which was great. Overall, this was a great experience and one we will always remember. The ski trip was also a great way for the vouth and ITA members to bond and get to know each other. Thanks a lot to all of our generous food sponsors: Dhirubhai Saparia, Gopal Saraiya, Hashmukh Patel, Hina Patel, Naresh Patel for providing us with the refreshing snacks and drinks. Although there were a couple injuries that happened to youth participants, they were both nothing serious. We left around 5:30 PM from the ski resort (Shawnee Mountain) and stopped by at local hospital to pickup the injured who were taken to hospital for precautions. We were back in town at 8:15 PM. The ITA Youth are very thankful to all the parents and volunteers for making this trip possible and successful. All the participants enjoyed the trip immensely and are looking forward to it again next year! \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

#### Maha Shiva Ratri Celebration

We celebrated Maha Shivratri at our Temple on Sunday, March 10. Abhishek and Rudrabhishek were performed. Sanskrit shlokas were recited. We had melodious bhajans in the evening as devotes patiently performed the Abhishek.

Our thanks to all the devotees who came and participated with family and friends and made it a great day. It was a pleasure to see children being a part of the celebrations.

Our thanks to priests Shuklaji and Sudhirji for their dedication and hard work. Our thanks to all the volunteers for their tireless effort and hard work without which this would not have been possible.

Please join us with friends and family and take part in the Events at our Temple in May.

#### **Upcoming Programs in May**

Sunderkand Path - Saturday, May 4th 2013 @ 10am Balvihar Annual Day - Sunday May 19th Youth Annual Day - Saturday May 18th Monthly Satyanarayan Puja - Friday May 24th, 2013 @ 6pm

#### **Shat Chandi Celebration**



# Shat-Chandi Yagna for Benefit of ALL Sponsored By Bijee and Arun Maheshwari Please, Join us for ITA\_ICC Community Event

At Hindu Mandir, Berlin

From: Thurs April, 11th through Fri April 19th

#### **Daily Program details**

10:00 AM - 18:80 PM PUJA

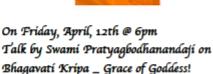
18:50 PM - 1:50 PM FAL HARI LUNCH

8:00 PM - 6:00 PM HAVAN

6:00 PM - 6:80 PM BHAJAN

6:80 PM - 7:80 PM DINNER







Chandi Homam & the DeityChandi is a very fierce and powerful deity - She is the primordial energy that is responsible for the creation, sustenance and destruction of this entire universe. She is the sum total of the energies of all beings of this universe. By performing the Maha Chandi Homa, one can become free of obstacles and they are also blessed with a lasting health, wealth and prosperity. The Worship of Goddess Chandi highlights the importance of feminine energy and this is reflected in many of its spiritual worships. Problems are a part and parcel of every human's life. But the problem is we can only do what we can control but there are many unknown factors we can't control. This is certainly not something calls for divine intervention. This divine intervention can be accessed by offering your fervent prayers to the remover of obstacles - Maa Durga. also called Maa Chandi..

To participate in PUJA and HAVAN please contact

 Dr.Prahlad Patel
 856 875 5152

 Dr.Manu Dadhania
 856 751 8117

 Mr.Ashvin Patel
 609 313 5673

 Dr.Dhiraj
 Panda

 856 751 1665



#### **Camden District**

#### 2013 Sites Schedule

<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Friday</u>
Feb 4-Apr 15	Feb 5-Apr 9	Feb 6-Apr 10	Feb 7-Apr 11	Feb 1-Apr 12
•	•	•	·	'
*Barrington 10-1	Bellmawr 11-2	Pennsauken 1-4	Pennsauken 1-4	Blackwood 10-1
*Haddon Heights 12-3	Cherry Hill 10-2	Winslow 10-1	Runnemede 11-2	Collingswood 12-4
Winslow 10-1	Voorhees 11-2		Voorhees 11-2	*Cherry Hill 10-2
*closed Feb 18	Westmont 12-4			* closed Mar 29
		0042 Cita I aaati.		

#### 2013 Site Locations

Barrington	Municipal Building - Council Chambers	229 Trenton Ave	547-0706
Bellmawr	Public Library	35 E. Browning Road	931-1400
Blackwood	Public Library	15 S, Black Horse Pike	228-0022
Cherry Hill	Municipal Building	820 Mercer Street Room 208	488-7868
Collingswood	Public Library	771 Haddon Ave	858-0649
Haddon Heights	Public Library	608 Station Ave	547-7132
Pennsauken	Public Library	5605 Crescent Blvd	665-5959
Runnemede	Senior Center	2 Broadway & Black Horse Pike	939-4688
Voorhees	Public Library	203 Laurel Road	772-1636
Westmont	Public Library	15 MacArthur Blvd	854-2752
Winslow	Public Library	35 Coopers Folly Road	753-2537

AARP TAX-AIDE OFFERS <u>FREE</u> TAX HELP TO LOW AND MODERATE INCOME TAXPAYERS, ESPECIALLY THOSE 60 AND OLDER.

AARP TAX-AIDE IS A 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 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.

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

TAXPAYERS MUST BRING <u>SOCIAL SECURITY CARDS</u> FOR THEMSELVES AND ALL DEPENDENTS, A PHOTO ID FOR THEMSELVES 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.

- THIS SERVICE IS FOR PERSONS OF ANY AGE (AARP DOES NOT MEAN OLD.)
- PERSONAL ASSISTANCE IS AVAILABLE FOR LANGUAGE AND OTHER BARRIERS
- HOUSE CALLS AVAILABLE FOR HANDICAP OR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
- PLEASE CONTACT MR. KIRAN DOSHI AT <u>SRIJIDOSHI@GMAIL.COM</u> FOR ANY QUESTIONS OR CLARIFICATIONS

#### ITA SEVA SAMITI UPDATE

Seva Samiti held the first meeting for 2013 at our Mandir, on Sunday February 24th.

This Open House began with a 'meet and greet' to get things going on a chilly winter evening to welcome existing and new faces. Members of Seva Samiti brought everyone up to date with reports on their continuing efforts and future plans for their ongoing projects. There was also discussion on re-energizing the group and ways to bring a fresh perspective and new ideas for 2013. The event concluded after Aarti and Mahaprasad.

New year and new efforts include:

**Distribution of sandwiches** to the homeless in conjunction with the Sai Group – this is a concrete way to help the disadvantaged and you will see immediate results of your hard work. Contact Hina Desai at <a href="https://hinamdesai@hotmail.com">hinamdesai@hotmail.com</a> or 856-424-1934.

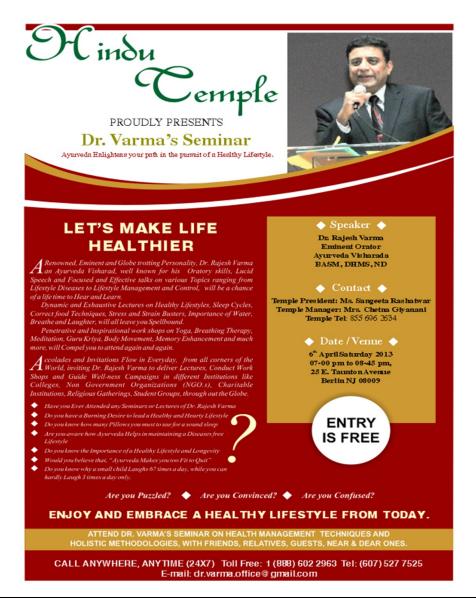
**Youth Volunteer Program** – contact Chetna Giyanani at <a href="mailto:chetnatemple@gmail.com">chetnatemple@gmail.com</a> or 856-520-8706. We need our youths to volunteer at Adult Day Care Centers to interact with seniors by playing games and doing activities like painting, making ornaments or putting on mini skits/shows for their enjoyment. This is a great opportunity for young people to understand and appreciate the older generation and don't forget, this will count toward school credit.

· Working with **American Red Cross** as part of their volunteer force – further details will be published in upcoming issues. **Community outreach** – a day set aside to provide information on the ways we can support those in our community who are going through a difficult period.

Just as a reminder, Seva Samiti invites new volunteers to assist in any capacity. Please contact Lata Pimplaskar at <a href="latap@comcast.net">latap@comcast.net</a> or 856-985-4785 to sign up or if you have any questions or suggestions. Our community is multi-talented and very capable of contributing their time, ideas and skills to help those in need. When we step up as a community, it bolsters our standing and exemplifies our willingness to serve and give back to the larger society.

'No one can do everything, but everyone can do something' Author Unknown

#### Sadhna Kothari



#### **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: Lata Pimplaskar (856) 985-4785, 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: Sharad Pimplaskar at (856) 985-4785 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 <a href="https://www.indiatemple.org">www.indiatemple.org</a>; Click on "CALENDAR tab" and, from drop-down menu, Click on "EVENT/RENTAL CALENDAR". Please contact Smt. Chetna Giyanani 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	
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. Chetna Giyanani 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**

Sangeeta Rashatwar 1-855-my-mandir x 710 president@indiatemple.org

#### **Vice President**

Ramesh Viswanathan 1-855-my-mandir x 711 vp@indiatemple.org

#### **General Secretary**

Anuradha Joshi 1-855-my-mandir x 712 gs@indiatemple.org

#### Treasurer

Harshad J Patel 1-855-my-mandir x 713 treasurer@indiatemple.org

#### Religious Services Facility Rental Temple Manager

Magan Kanzaria Chetna Giyanani Harish Shelat 1-855-my-mandir x 1 manager@indiatemple.org

#### **Darshan Schedule**

#### **Morning**

7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

#### **Evening**

6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

#### **Aarti**

12 p.m. & 8 p.m.

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:

Ramesh Viswanathan

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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 (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
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:
Telenhone: F-mail: