

# 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)

Phone: (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) Vol. 39 No. 1 www.indiatemple.org

**JANUARY 2013** 

#### **Religious Calendar**

#### Jan 01 Tuesday

Satyanarayan Pooja •

#### Jan 08 Tuesday

Safala Ekadashi •

#### Jan 14 Monday

Makar Sankrant / . **Pongal Celebration in** Mandir

#### Jan 22 Tuesday

Putrada Ekadashi •

#### **Jan 26 Saturday**

Purnima / Satyanarayan Katha

#### Feb 06 Wednesday

Shat Tila Ekadashi

#### **Monthly Activities**

#### Jan 04, Friday

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

#### Jan 26, Saturday

Shri Satvanaravan Puja/ Katha on Purnima Day: Kshama Raghuveer (610) 642-2875

#### **Monthly Bhajans**

#### Jan 18 Friday, 8-9 p.m.

Satya Sai Baba of Medford P.K. Prabhakar (856) 596-3147 Sesha Vemuri (856) 751-0

#### Satyanarayan Puja Tuesday January 1, 2013 at 3:00 pm RSVP Kshama Raghurveer (707) 332-3400

We will have Shri SatyaNarayan Puja/Katha on New Year's Day, Tuesday, January 1st, 2013 from3:00 PM to 5:00 PM, followed by Maha-Prasad. If you would like to participate in the this puja, please contact Kshama Raghuveer at (707) 332-3400. Participation is open to all. We suggest a donation of \$51.00

#### Marathi Saad celebrates Makar Sankranti - Haldi KumKum Saturday February 2, 2013 at 4pm at Hindu Temple RSVP Sumedha Nadkarni (856)986-6355

Makar Sankranti festival, unlike other Hindu festivals, is not dependent on the position of the moon, but on position of the sun. On this day, the sun enters the zodiac sign of Capricorn.

#### Marathi Saad Haldi Kunku Celebration

Marathi Saad are proud to announce its very first 'Haldi-kunku' celebration for ladies and young girls. Also along with Haldi Kunku we have few other fun activities to make this day enjoyable for every lady. All ladies interested in participating are expected to bring a single gift for exchange ritual. Due to time restrictions we will have only one exchange per lady. The gift for exchange should be \$5+. RSVP is extremely important in order to ensure food arrangements. Please email Sumedha Nadkarni in order to receive evite for the Haldi Kunku at sumitush5@gmail.com

#### **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.

- **Dilip Guharoy** •
- Mulchand Giyanani •
- Milan & Monica Gupta
- Kusum Kumar
- Divyakant Parikh
- Ashvin-Deviyani Shah

Jan 02	Anil Desai	Jan 20
Jan 05	Vinod Patel	Jan 20
Jan 14	Shailen Patel	Jan 24
Jan 14	Narendra Amin	Jan 28
Jan 14	Ravin Patel	Jan 31
Jan 18		

#### Condolences

Samir Desai passed away of heart attack at the age of 59 in the last week of November. Sujata Mathur Age 52 passed away of Breast Cancer, also in the last week of November.

ITA and its Board extend their sincere condolences to Desai and Mathur families.

#### Senior Citizens' Program

#### Thursday January 10, 6:30 p-m to 9:15 pm

In our latest technology series, we have tried to cover, in December, **iPad** and how best to use it. The response from the audience was very encouraging; many seniors were seen playing with their iPads! Our speaker, Sri Natubhai Desai, used an HDMI cable connection for mirroring iPad screen shots on big screen TV so all in the Social Hall could view the iPad displays clearly. Also, the temple's Wi-Fi was useful to connect to the Internet. In the amount of time allotted, Sri Desai presented the basics very clearly. Hopefully, we may have another session soon on other important iPad applications.

#### **SKYPE** and **GOOGLE TALK**: Presented by Sri S. "Laku" Lakshmanan

Now we are going to present two other exciting and innovative technologies – SKYPE and Google Talk (Chat) for communicating with families, friends, and colleagues here and abroad.

- Skype can be defined as a Voice over IP service (i.e., using Internet). This service lets you communicate with others by voice using microphone, video using a webcam, and instant messaging over the Internet. Skype has about a billion registered users and has recently become the largest international voice carrier. The free version is being used quite frequently by many Indian families using internet to communicate between PC to PC. Skype also allows you to make calls to land lines and cell phones starting 3 cents per minute.
- **Google Talk** can be defined as computer to computer voice chat; it is a free downloadable chat application. You can either use your existing Google account or create a new one. Face to face communication using the free voice and video chat feature is also available.

We have invited Sri S. "Laku" Lakshmanan, BE (Mechanical), to present these technologies to our senior citizens lest they fall behind in adopting newer applications of communication. He will demonstrate, step by step, the setting up of the system and we will use these technologies during our meeting. If you would like to personally use these, please bring your laptop computer with you. **Contact Info**: Suraj Bhan Singh; <u>sbsingh1@hotmail.com</u> (856) 582-5035.

#### **ITA Scholarship Guidelines**

India Temple Association (ITA) will award five scholarships to high school seniors whose parent(s)/guardian(s) are current ITA members of good standing. Applications will not be considered for students whose parents are not ITA members. At its discretion, the committee may change the number of available scholarships and the value of each scholarship based on the number of qualified applicants. All ITA Board/Scholarship Committee decisions will be final and not subject to any questions or litigation. All submissions must be postmarked by **March 31, 2013**. Please mail the following information and supporting documents to: Scholarship Committee, 25 East Taunton Ave., Berlin, NJ 08009. Alternatively, you can also submit online by going to http://www.indiatemple.org/scholarship.php or email the documents to Ramesh Viswanathan, email: rameshv99@gmail.com

- Completed application form.
- Grade Point Average (GPA) 15% weight points.
- In-school extracurricular activity summary i.e. music, dance, leadership, student council, sports, cultural groups, etc. 15% weight points.
- Participation in activities related to Indian culture, i.e. participation in ITA-sponsored activities such as the youth program, painting etc. A consistent attendance record will be given preferential treatment among equally qualified candidates) 15% weight points.
- Community services i.e. volunteering at nursing homes, hospitals, walkathon, etc. 15% weight points.
- Please choose one topic and submit three duplicate copies (typed and double spaced), not exceeding two pages 40% weight points.

#### The topics are:

- Role of Hindu Temples in USA
- Science Versus Religion Can they Co-exist?
- A conundrum Religion versus Spirituality

#### <u>Rubric</u>

Essays must be written by students in their own words using correct grammar and syntax. They should be thoughtful, articulate, well developed and persuasive. Students should provide relevant details in support of their viewpoint. Plagiarism will result in immediate disqualification. If you have any questions, please contact Ramesh Viswanathan at (856) 489-1830.

#### **Bal Vihar Program** By Kayla A. Patel, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, Aakash

Last session, Lata Auntie told us about how much children love animals. She asked a few of us why they thought this was so. Some kids said that animals were cute and cuddly (well, most of them!), that they helped us, and gave us food. Lata Auntie told us a story about Sage Vashista. Vashista had a calf named Nandini, who was the calf of Indra's cow. One day, a King named Kaushika (later on, came to be known as Brahma Rishi Vishwamitra) was passing. "Can you help me feed my army," he asked. Vashista said fine. When Vishwamitra returned with his army, there wasn't just a meal, but a feast! Vishwamitra asked how Vashista did it, and Vashista said he did it with the help of Nandini. Vishwamitra wanted Nandini, so he asked his army to seize her, but Nandini fought the army and set herself free. Vishwamitra tried to get Nandini again, by attack, but Nandini blew his army down. Vishwamitra realized that Nandini and Vashista were more powerful than him, so he gave up his whole kingdom and became a rishi. He prayed for thousands of years, but his anger remained. Indra sent Apsaras down from heaven and Vishwamitra fell for the trick. He was angry. Lata Auntie said the story was longer, but the moral was not to hurt or do anything cruel to animals, fish, or insects, for they would only suffer more.

Well, Happy Holidays, and see you in 2013!

#### ITA Seva Samiti

Dear Friends,

Namaskar! A year has gone by and I realised that when we push ourselves a little more, we can always find ways and time to do a little more. Living a human life is dynamic yet it can be filled with senseless activities that, at the end of the day, can beg a question, 'What have I done?' And, unless we find time for an act of kindness, our heart will always remain empty, longing to feel the void that can haunt us every day. Join us in coming year to make a difference in your life!

ITA provides our community, a platform to carry out the works of service and I thank ITA Board to be supportive of the works Seva Samiti undertakes. It wouldn't be possible without it! This year we completed some interesting projects:

- India Day Festival, where we showcased East, West, South and North India with its rich culture in terms of history, art, literature, and music. And, of course, no festivities would be complete without the delicious culinaries from each state. While showcasing various parts of our culture, we raised funds for an organization that runs an after-school program for children called, Kid's Alley. This project was led by Kishor, Shobna Daga and Dinesh Depani.
- 2. Cancer Walk-a-Thon, is the first South-Jersey event where ITA Seva Samiti participated with a big organization like American Cancer Society. Many of our youths took part in this fund raising event. It was a successful event in terms of community participation and the funds raised for a very valid cause. This project was led by Chetna Giyanani.
- 3. Raksha-bandhan for Sikh community was a prayer meeting, held in support of and solidarity with the members of our Sikh community after having experienced one of the saddest events of violence in Wisconsin.
- 4. Sandy Relief Prayer and Fund Raising was organized, as we also coped at home to house our friends and family, where we called a gathering of ITA community for prayers and fund raising for this unfortunate event that crushed shores of our and the neighboring states. This was not a well attended meeting and I urge our community to find time to attend such meetings in the future with other families to show your concerns for peace, prayers for those aching hearts who lost everything they had worked all their lives. These are the times we should put aside our reservations and come together as a community to show that we care. The community that cares will create positive bonds on this soil.
- 5. Helping One Life at a Time, this type of help is not planned for but carried out when individuals or families contact ITA Seva Samiti to seek help for spiritual, family or mental health counsel. It helps to end an abusive relationship or guidance for further education because they know there is a community that is not only willing to help but can be part of their family.
- 6. Computer Training project was run by our Seva Youth Team where they taught our seniors including our priests, the use of computers.
- 7. Senior Day Care Visit by our Youth Team has planned a trip to visit our Seniors Day Care center in Pennsauken and Roshan Giyanani will report the visit.
- 8. Family Movie Night was a family fun night for Holiday cheer and to meet new members our community and to let our children find a community to grow up in while living in this challenging and diverse community.

Friends, I wish you all a very healthy, happy and prosperous New Year and hope you join us in 2013 to make friends who are helping and those who are in need of your help!

Lata Pimplaskar

## From the Desk of ITA President

2012 – Year In-Review

Dear Members,

It has been my pleasure to have served you as our temple's president this past year. It is my honor and special privilege to update you on our many and varied accomplishments during the year 2012.

Let's **first** thank the current board that has dedicated itself to provide meaningful programs for all segments of our members -young and old. Without their untiring and selfless efforts, none of this could have happened.

We began with ITA's **first** Satyanarayan puja in January, thus commencing the year in an auspicious manner. We were overwhelmed with the huge response from the community. Reflecting on the response, we recognized the wider need for this. We initially planned to hold Satyanarayan puja on January **first** of each year, but now that we have a second priest on board, we are able to hold such puja at every Purnima day (a **first** for ITA)!

In **February**, the Shivratri celebration this year fell on the President's day. Not only was this a holiday for the most of us, but we were blessed with a spring-like weather that day. This culminated into hundreds of devotees drawn to the temple for our 2012 Shivratri celebration. It was thrilling to see steady lines of devotees doing Abhishekham to Lord Shiva and to hear the priests joyously reciting bhajans and shlokas. Adding to the picturesque celebrations, were the Bhartnatyam dance performances by Radha Bodapati's (one of our trustees) students. The beautifully executed performance captivated us all. One of the most magnificent attractions that day was a breathtaking large ice sculpture of Lord Shiva. (Dance and ice sculpture **first** for ITA)! Thanks again to the celebrants (including the majority of ITA's trustees), the volunteers who worked around the clock serving thandai, and the priests who enchanted us with their rendition of appropriate prayers.

In **March**, another **first** was the celebration of Gudi Padwa. In this, the Maharashtrian members of our congregation took the lead. We are happily recognizing the support and embrace of our activities by the growing diversity of Hindus in our area.

In **April**, we celebrated Youth Annual Day, at the Cherokee High School. The program included dance, play, violin recital and prayers. Responsibility for this highly organized day rested entirely on the shoulders of our young. Speaking for the entire membership of the Temple, I can't tell you how proud we are of the growth and development of our young people who are advancing from the Bal Vihar program level to the youth program. It was such a delight to watch the disciplined and enthusiastic youths dexterously planning and executing the details of the program. This not only teaches them the organizational leadership and other skills, but it sets a wonderful example for the younger children. It is said that a man never stands so tall as when he stoops to help a child. In that spirit, I'd like to thank our highly esteemed program director, Sharad Pimplaskar, our program teachers, and our volunteers for their incredible work. This is a good time to recognize the growth of our Youth program. Under the new leadership, the program attendance has grown from 4 children in 2010 to 40 in just two years! This is the **first** time in the history of this program we have seen such participation from our youth!

Speaking about our Youth, On April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012, ITA Seva Samiti Youth conducted their very **first** computer support program for the community. Armed with their laptops, the youth volunteers stood ready to provide training in Word, Excel, Email, Internet, Photoshop, etc. Our very own Binduben, (Priest Shuklaji's wife) was very excited to use the computer. She is now eagerly waiting for her next lessons!

In **May**, we celebrated Bal Vihar Annual Day. We broke all records. The attendance topped over 650 people! This is a wonderful compliment to the contribution and cooperation of the children, the teachers, the parents, the food team members, the relatives and the community at large. "It takes a village", as they say. The presentation captured the exciting essence of what our young people are learning through the Bal Vihar Program. Scores of parents and grandparents approached me complimenting ITA for creating and sustaining a program so deeply rooted in Indian cultural values. In no short measure, this is due to the tenacious cooperation of the parents of Bal-Vihar and Youth programs. I salute them for their perseverance. We encourage them to share their thoughts on improving the programs. YOU make a difference; please share your thoughts with us.

Yet another **first**, on May 20th, 2012 the Seva Samiti Service Group held its Annual Day / India Day at Cherokee High School in Marlton, NJ. The cause was raising funds for Kids Alley of Camden, NJ. During this highly attended event, Voorhees Mayor Michael Mignogna praised the Seva Samiti Service Group for raising funds for a local Camden based charity. Mayor Mignona had grown up in Camden, so this was near and dear to him. The event also featured various dances from both the Youth Group and the Bal Vihar students. The event had various games for children, henna painting, Garba dancing, a silent auction, and just some good old-fashioned fun. The food was amazing, the regions beautifully displayed their wares and fun was had by all. We raised a total of \$4,400 after receiving a match from one of our donors.

In **June**, the wait was finally over. Sudhir Jha and his wife joined our temple and our community. You have heard me talk about Sudhir Jha the last few months, and you all have had a chance to meet him and get to know him. I thank you all for welcoming him and his family to our community. They had a baby girl in the month of August. Sudhir and his wife, who have no family here, have mentioned to me that this community has made them feel welcome. And I applaud you all for doing so.

June, also being the graduation month, saw the ITA felicitate our graduates with a Graduation Yagna! You cannot but beam with pride as you watch bright and eager faces of our young graduates, and reflect on their progress. The quality of the care and nurturing that our Temple provides our young is a joy to behold. The ITA Scholarship Committee awarded six scholarships to high school seniors in the total amount of \$2,500.00. The scholarships were awarded based on grades, activities, and each candidate's knowledge of Hindu principles and values. Number of scholarship recipients continues to grow.

On June 8th, 2012, ITA participated **first** time in THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY'S RELAY FOR LIFE. The ITA Seva Samiti Team had 26 registered walkers and many cheering community members to lend their support. Our team was lead by our kids from Bal Vihar and Youth programs. The ITA team had the most number of people in the event, and, at one point in the relay, we had raised almost a third of the funds. We raised a total of \$4,500 for this cause. Credit goes to all the volunteers and gratitude to the donors. Seva Samiti, along with the ITA board, appreciates their contribution to this worthy cause

In response to the gruesome tragedy suffered by the Sikh community in Wisconsin Gurudwara, ITA Seva Samiti held Jap Yagna for our Sikh Community On August 14, 2012. Our members decry these abominable and needless killings. As a brother Indian-based religion, we anguish at the enormity and senselessness of their loss. Though we cannot lessen, or ease their personal loss, we can lend them our support and work with all people and all religions here in America to promote understanding, tolerance, and mutual respect. Japayagna for peace on August 14, 2012 was our **first** step towards that. We invited the members of the local Gurudwara to join us as we offered our prayers for peace for the departed souls, for peace for their loved ones, and peace for the rest of us. We hope that our prayers will provide some sense of communion to those who lost their loved ones, and convey to them, and to the world, the solidarity of humanity amongst us.

In **September**, we celebrated pran-pratishta of our temple at the ICC site. What an incredible celebration! The Maha Gayatri Yagna performed by the ITA on behalf of ICC was the very **first** celebration of this kind in both the Temple and Cultural Center's history. The reverberations of the Yagna and the energy emanating from our ancient tradition enveloped us all and took participants to a new spiritual high and communal solidarity. The ITA undertook to perform this Yagna for the sole purpose of seeking successful completion of the ICC, which in turn contributes to the general welfare of the community. The ITA is very pleased to have taken this humble step in making our dream of a new ICC a reality. Our Temple's celebration of the Yagna was not only a spiritual success, but a financial success as well. At over \$60,000, donations and pledges (including \$40K from Mehul and Sandhya Trivedi) raised at this single event, topped everyone's expectations. It re-energized the excitement of bringing our new Indian Cultural Center closer to its rightful completion.

In **October**, we celebrated Navratri. It was a great financial and participative success with about 1200 attending this celebration on weekends. We witnessed everyone from the youngest members of Bal Vihar to the most senior members of our temple enjoying the celebrations. Each year we strive to make it better - from the creation of our Flyers and newsletter to the actual orchestration of the event. With cost management and high attendance, we had the highest revenue from this core event this year as compared to the last five years!

Despite the cold weather, the highlights of **November** were the twin events Diwali and Tulsi Vivhah and both these events were very well attended. We also had Kadwa Chowth celebration, organized for the very **first** time by ITA. A GauriGanapati puja for the long, married happy life for the couples was performed at the mandir on the occasion of Karva Chauth celebration. This event was attended by many ladies in the community. Our new priest Sudhir Jha performed pooja every hour on the hour beginning 3:00 PM until 8:00 PM. I acknowledge your patient reading. But these are only the highlights of our accomplishments during the year. Each event required hundreds of man-hours of volunteer work and behind-the-scene actions by your Board and volunteers. Beyond the major highlights, I would like to note a few of the more important initiatives:

- We are also trying to establish our presence in the community such as our **first** ever participation in Voorhees township sponsored ethnic day and we are continuing to raise money for helping the victims of Sandy.
- Last year, the Board announced the completion and initiation of the ITA's new Website www.indiatemple.org. We continue to enhance our website with the latest feature of being able to pay invoices online!
- During the year, the board approved a budget to upgrade our temple's equipment and technology. We requested sponsors for these upgrades. Because of these generous donors, we now have flat screen TV's, new appliance in the kitchen, and a security monitoring system that should be installed before year-end!
- Last year, the Board made Binduben an employee of the temple. This year, we added Sudhir Jha.
- We have seven families becoming life members of ITA and over 50+ new families becoming members of ITA. For the **first** time, we now have a welcome package for our life members.

We are in the process of updating our By-laws to recognize our new demographics and new developments. Our Indian-American community has grown tremendously in South Jersey. We need to welcome these new families to our ITA community and reach out to serve their spiritual, cultural, and social needs and to provide them support of the established members. All this requires us to be pro-active and establish a strategic vision for the future of our Temple. We need your active support in uniting the forces to serve the needs of our growing community.

We live in interesting times. Adhi-dai-vikam forces of Tsunamis and hurricanes, Adhi-bhauti-kam forces of terrorism, violence such as Sikh killings, and economic Tsunami (and maybe the Fiscal Cliff) require us to shore up our Adhyaat-mikam – the forces of compassion, tolerance, and charity. Witness our attempts of championing the local causes such as Kids Alley in Camden County to the universal causes of Cancer and our attempts to imbibe family values through Bal Vihar and other programs.

Now as my term comes to an end, my request to you, the congregation, is to get involved. Help us make the change, make a difference in the community. Let us take bold actions. Reach out to many. "Build and they'll come." Let us not consciously remain small or think small. Plan for growth. Support a dream to build a temple that will meet the needs of our dynamic growing community!

In that vein your Board has already initiated an ad-hoc committee to study alternatives for the facility that would best serve the needs of our growing community with proper consideration of ICC's needs and resources. The committee is a diverse group comprising of members of the Board of Trustees, Advisory Board, and young members of our community willing to dedicate their time and efforts to study alternatives and strategize the vision. I urge you to volunteer your help and get involved in shaping our future. This is not the time to stay on the sidelines. This is the time to act. Make us a strong force in South Jersey that caters to the needs of our community and represents the vital force to bring out the three Shanties- Adhi-dai-vikam, Adhi-bhauti-kam and Adhyaat-mikam. Om Shanti, Shanti-hi.

In closing, there are so many people to thank; I don't know where to begin. It has been an incredible honor to lead such a group of magnificent people as the board of trustees of our Temple. They are as concerned, as creative and as intellectually gifted a gathering of people, as I have ever known.

I am also proud to be working with an organization that reflects the great Indian heritage for charity, caring, and compassion. I was fortunate to have had the strong support of our full membership. I gratefully acknowledge and thank you all for your kind support.

Finally, I thank all the volunteers. Our volunteers have gone beyond their call of duty. Without their service and support, this temple could not function. The work of the ITA can only continue with the passionate and vigorous support of our volunteers.

As I reflect on my presidency, though together we have achieved a great deal, there remains a few things that need some focused attention in the near future to better serve the growing community. Our progress and achievements over the last two years have laid the groundwork for the Temple to become the center point of our community. Now is the time to accelerate our progress and continue to provide support to our growing community. Thank you for all that you do. It has been an honor to serve as your President. God bless you all. Jai Shri Krishna.

#### **Rina** Patel

#### Youth Volunteering at an Adult Day Care Center By Roshan Giyanani

This past Friday, December 21, 2012, the ITA Seva Samiti's Youth volunteer program held its first Adult Day Care volunteering opportunity for the youth group at Generations Plus in Pennsauken. 20 youth students, as well as some parents and siblings, came to put a smile on the seniors' faces. After some time spent playing games like Jenga and painting and making ornaments with them, the youth put on a small show. This show included a bhangra-style dance, some card tricks, and some adult volunteers singing. Subsequently, the youth helped the seniors' play the classic game of Bingo. Finally, the youth group served dinner and mithai, bringing their 3 hours at the center to a close. The seniors had a great time with the youth and thanked them for the evening. This program was started with the intention of allowing the youth group to interact with their elders, gain knowledge, and help out in their community. Now, the youth group is able to volunteer after school at Generations Plus as long as they have a ride and a chaperone. A sign-in sheet will be at Generations Plus so that they can get their volunteer hours. Hopefully by next year we will have programs set up with other senior centers in the area.

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	<ul> <li>Programs for Your Spiritual Growth</li> <li>YOGA ABHYAS FOR HEALTH, HAPPINESS &amp; GOD REALIZATION: A program for adults on Yogasana, Pranayam &amp; Meditation.</li> <li>First Sunday: 9:30 -11:30 a.m. at our Mandir Contact: Virendra Gupta @ (856) 424-9313</li> <li>GITA STUDY GROUP:</li> <li>Every Tuesday &amp; Wednesday, 8-9 p.m. at our Mandir Contact: Sharad Pimplaskar @ (856) 985-4785</li> <li>BHAJANS &amp; STUTI:</li> <li>Every Friday, 7:30-9 p.m.</li> <li>Contact: Shree Shuklaji or Shri Sudhirji (856) 768-6785</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>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.</li> <li>2nd &amp; 4th Sunday @ 10 a.m 1 p.m.</li> <li>Contact: Lata Pimplaskar (856) 985-4785, Bhavesh Patel 1- 855-my-mandir ext 3, Rina Patel (856) 313-5235 for regis- tration and location</li> <li>YOUTH PROGRAM: A program for young adults (ages 13-18) and parents. 2nd &amp; 4th Sunday, 9:45 a.m 1 p.m. at our Mandir.</li> <li>Contact: Sharad Pimplaskar at (856) 985-4785 or Sangeeta Rashatwar at (856) 424-4211</li> <li>CREATIVE ART WORKSHOP</li> </ul>
		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. 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.

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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 Donation		\$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 1

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 Rina Patel 1-855-my-mandir x 710 president@indiatemple.org

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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

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PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IF IT SHOWS "EXPIRED" OR DATE MARKED IS PAST CURRENT DATE IN ADDRESS LABEL

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