



# Satsang Sandesh

A monthly news magazine of

## India Temple Association, Inc.

Hindu Temple, 25 E. Taunton Ave, Berlin, NJ 08009  
SOUTH JERSEY ♦ DELAWARE ♦ PENNSYLVANIA

Vol. 38 No. 4 Phone: (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org APRIL 2012

### Religious Calendar

**Apr 6, Friday**  
**HANUMAN JAYANTI** -  
Celebration in Mandir /  
Purnima

**Apr 15, Sunday**  
**Shri. Vallabhacharya**  
**Jayanti Celebration in**  
**Mandir / Tamil New Year**

**Apr 16, Monday**  
**Varuthini Ekadashi**  
**Apr 21, Saturday**  
**Chetichand Celebration**  
**in Mandir**

**Apr 24, Tuesday**  
**Shri Parshuram Jayanti / Akha**  
**Trij**

**Apr 26, Thursday**  
**Shri Shankaracharya**  
**Jayanti**

**Apr 27, Friday**  
**Shri Ramanujacharya**  
**Jayanti**

**May 2, Wednesday**  
**Mohini Ekadashi**

### Monthly Activities

**Apr 6, Friday**  
**Vishnu Sahasranama Para-**  
**yanam**

### Monthly Bhajans

**Apr 20, Friday, 8-9 p.m.**  
**Satya Sai Baba of Medford**  
P.K. Prabhakar (856) 596-3147  
Sesha Vemuri (856) 751-0867

**Apr 27, Friday, 8-9 pm**  
**Shree Ji Bhajan Group**  
Contact:  
Urmi Upadhy (856) 424-9328  
Charu Sheth (856) 662-8754

### Vallabh Jayanti Celebration



Shri Mahaprabhuji is the founder of religious sect called Pushtimarg. He was born in the year 1478 A.D. at a Champaranya village near Raipur in Madhya Pradesh. He is one of the foremost Indian philosophers taking the rank amongst the first class Acharyas who has expounded the school of Shuddha-advaita. Vallabhacharya heralded a new era of Bhakti-Marga, which teaches unswerving love toward God admitting everyone in the fold, irrespective of sex, cast or nationality.

Pushti Marga, the path of grace as founded by Shri Vallabhacharya is very easy to follow as a way of life by common people. Once you commit yourself to God by ritual of "Brahma-Sambanth", God takes care of you unconditionally. He takes you to Pushti Marga by his teaching of Shrodas- Grantha. In Pushti Margs, Bhakti is not a means, but an end. It is also called Premlakshana Bhakti.

Shri Vallabhacharya's other works include Anu-Bhashya (Commentary on Brahma Sutra), tattva Dipa Nibandha and Subodhini (Commentary on Bhagavata). Vallabha regards Shrimad Bhagavata as the most authentic work on knowledge of God.

The Hindu Temple in Berlin will celebrate Vallabh Jayanti on Sunday, April 15, 2012 from 3:30 to 6:00 PM. There will be a chanting of Pusti marg's Yamunasthaka, and other "PĀTHA", followed by melodious Kirtans. Mahaprasad will be served after Aarti at 6:00 PM.

The Wednesday Gita Satsang Group and friends will sponsor the event at the Temple. If you are interested in taking part in the event, or in giving Seva, please call Minu Desai (797-9444), Kirti Doshi (424-8046), or Amita Desai (751-2321).

### 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 |                      |        |
| • Goel Savitri    | Apr 16 |                      |        |

## Condolences

Nitiben's mother passed away in India on March 7. ITA and its Board extend their sincere condolences to the Nitiben's family.

### Senior Citizens' Program

Thursday April 12, 6:30 pm to 9:15 pm and Thursday April 26, 6:30 pm to 9:15 pm

**Idea-Exchange:** On popular demand, **April 12** meeting will be devoted to friendly discussion on general topics such as relationship-building, problem-solving, and community issues. Group activities with wider participation are stimulating and they generate creative ways to giving life more joy and meaning. Members will tell what they can do for the association and ask what the group can do for them. Two subjects – politics and religion – will be off-limits. So join us and make your *Vanaprastha* period the best years of your life.

**Modifying Existing Homes for Your Advancing Years:** Age brings wisdom but it also brings along decline in physiologic functions – loss of strength, reduced range of motion and reach, loss of balance and coordination, weakening of the senses etc. Activities of walking, bathing, and cooking become a daily challenge. As the risk of falling increases, use of canes, walkers, and wheelchairs becomes necessary. Existing homes become increasingly difficult to live in and require modifications. It is estimated that over 80% of the seniors prefer to ‘age in place’ i.e., continue to living independently and leading a fulfilling life in their own homes. They do not want to go to a nursing home, assisted living facility, or build a custom home. Sri Divyakant Parikh, PE, ITA Past President, and Construction Manager of our upcoming ICC will review this important topic on **April 26** and present his general recommendations for home improvement for senior living. His suggestions will be geared toward: (a) maximizing convenience, comfort, safety, and accessibility for everyone, and (b) reducing home maintenance expenses and monthly utility costs.

Contact Info: Suraj Bhan Singh; sbsingh1@hotmail.com

### Youth Program

By Sona Dadhania

As always, the February 26th and March 11th sessions of Youth began with some shlokas, led by Sharad Uncle; after, we began our yoga and meditation exercises and learning new breathing techniques and poses, thanks to Harish Uncle. Then, the youth retreated to the social hall for some interesting lessons on the messages of the Bhagvad-gita, which was taught by Sharad Uncle, and we were finally beginning to understand the full meanings being taught in the Bhagvad-Gita. **After our lesson, the youth divided into their respective groups in order to prepare for our Annual Day, which will take place on April 22th in front of the Bal-Vihar kids and parents.** Some of the group performances were already more than half-way through, and the youth have gathered up a wonderful line-up of individual talents such as violin and karate performances; finally, we concluded with Aarti and lunch.

Thanks to Harish and Sharad Uncle for their thoughtful lessons, and thanks to the lunch sponsors of February 26th, Kinnari and Lalit Patel, and March 11th Sonal and Dhaval Shah.

On Saturday March 17th, thirty members of the Youth group and some of their younger siblings who are attending Bal-Vihar gathered for a fun bowling night, and it was a very enjoyable night with lots of bowling, pizza, and laughs. A big thanks to Sapna Auntie who organized and chaperoned the event, and the youth hope to have more such gatherings in the future.

### CALLING ALL YOUTH VOLUNTEERS!

ITA Seva Samiti has planned many volunteer opportunities for the youth.

Join the ITA Seva Samiti -Youth Volunteer Group!

Make a difference!

Give back to your community!

Collect community service hours for high school!

For details contact Chetna at chetnatemple@gmail.com

## Bal Vihar Program



ITA\_Bal Vihar is the place where Hinduism is taught and Hindu culture is experienced!



One more year is coming to an end and it is a good time to take stock of what children have experienced and learned. Children began the year with Ganesh puja and memorial service of 9/11/2001 by honoring Fire Fighters from Berlin Township. Next two sessions were followed by regular course work with stories, prayers and arts projects for younger students. It has been a busy year. Just as Diwali celebration is for Lord Ram for emerging victorious symbolizing victory of good over evil, children honored our soldiers through local Yellow Ribbon Club of Marlton. They understood that every festival is celebrated to invoke and offer thanks for the grace of the Lord/Ishwara. But as we enjoy the festivities, we also need to appreciate; hence Utsav Seva charity is an important part of our culture.

In January children learnt about Sankrant, changes in cosmos and how it is celebrated in various states of India. Hindu calendar is full of holidays; children are learning this as in February they celebrated Shivratri performing Shiv-bhushekam. Truly children enjoy Pujas, celebrations and eventually realize the profound meanings of Hindu culture. Children are busy with Annual day preparations while learning chants, preparing final projects on some aspects of Hinduism.

**Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> is our Annual Day celebration and Bal Vihar sessions for this year will end on May 20<sup>th</sup> 2012. Children will participate in India Day Festival, a cultural exchange affair arranged by ITA Seva Samiti volunteers.**

On behalf of Bal Vihar, we thank our lunch sponsors:

- \* March 11th, 2012 - Priti & Tejas Patel, Shushma and Shiva Shekhar, Pinal and Bhavesh Patel
- March 25th, 2012 - Mala & Adutyua Gupta, Mini & Rajan Gupta, Kavita & Sanjay Gupta, Sunita Rastogi, Rupal & Gopal Saraiya, Subasri and Sudipta Basu.
- 



## Sri Hanuman Jayanti Date: April 6, Friday 7:00 P.M.

Sri Hanuman Jayanti celebration will commence at 7:00 P.M. with special Pooja for Shri Hanumanji followed by Bhajans and Aarti at 9:00 P.M.



**"Jhulelal Bera-Hee-Par"**

## CHETI CHAND CELEBRATIONS

Jhulelal or Dariyalal or Jinda Pir is the Ishta Dev of Sindhi people. His birthday Cheti Chand which falls on the second day of the Chaitra month is auspicious for Sindhis and is celebrated all over the world with traditional pomp and gaiety. The Sindhi community of South Jersey will celebrate their New Year/Cheti Chand at the Hindu Temple in Berlin on Saturday, April 21, 2012, 4pm onwards. All are welcome to attend. For further inquires please contact one of the following persons: Sheela Alwani 856 768-5351, Nalini Bhavnani 856 424-8511, Deepa Pahalajani 856 424-1365, Anju Varindani 856 772-2902.

# INDIA DAY FESTIVAL

Sponsored by

**India Temple Association's Seva Samiti**

For the Benefit of

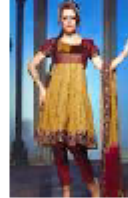
**Kid's Alley**

**(Helping children of Camden, NJ)**

**On Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**At Cherokee High School**

**From 11am to 3pm**



## **Festival features:**

- **Learn about India and its regions**
- **Shopping for Indian Clothes, bangles, etc**
- **Enjoy delicious Indian food**
- **Watch Indian dances and performances**
- **Henna tattoo's, win prizes and much more**

### **Contact Info**

**Denny Depani - 856-449-6760**

**Kisher Daga - 856-287-8967**

## **ICC Update**

Construction Committee for the construction of our ICC requests interested community members to contact Ashvin Patel at 609-313-5673 for information on BIDS or monthly construction meeting. Construction committee encourages every community member to take interest in visiting site, occasionally attend meetings and refer reputable sub-contractors for the remaining work not contracted yet.

Please continue to visit our website [www.iccofsj.org](http://www.iccofsj.org) to monitor progress of this project and keep informed about ICC. If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions about ICC, please contact any of the board members.



[www.ekal.org](http://www.ekal.org)

## EKAL VIDYALAYA FOUNDATION OF USA

Proudly Presents EKAL 2012 Fundraising Event

### "Reaching One Million Children"



One School  
One Village  
One Dollar A Day

[www.ekal.org](http://www.ekal.org)

### A Musical Extravaganza

**SAMIR DATE**

**DIPALEE SOMAIYA**

**SATURDAY, May 12, 2012 at 4:30 PM**

Moorestown High School

350 Bridgeboro Road, Moorestown, NJ 08057

#### New This Year

For Your Convenience  
online tickets available at  
[www.ekal.org](http://www.ekal.org)

(click on buy tickets, go to May 12, event)

#### Tickets

Regular: \$20 (\$25 purchase after April 30)

VIP : \$50 (\$75 purchase after April 30)

Open Seating; Doors Open at 4:00 PM

Complimentary Light Snacks

#### For tickets and information please contact :

Dr. Veena & Sharad Gandhi 856-435-9148

Magan & Hansa Kanzaria 856-667-4906

Pravin & Devindra Sheth 856-840-0820

Bipin & Veena Mehta 856-782-8290

Dr. Vijay & Rangini Gandhi 609-463-8851

Dr. Umesh and Prabha Shukla 908-431-9845

Gajanan & Pratibha Joshi 856-429-2086

Harshad & Dr Hema Mehta 856-772-0358

Devendra & Damayanti Patel 215-970-5170

Parimal Parikh 609-927-3587

93% of Ekal Charity Concert Proceeds Go Directly Towards Supporting a School  
Ekal's Mission: To Eradicate Illiteracy from Rural and Tribal India with Holistic Empowerment  
Ekal Vidyalaya Foundation of USA is a 501(c)3 Charitable Organization – Tax ID 77-0554248

# Sewa Samiti

India Temple Association Service Group



*Helping One Life at a Time*



## ITA Seva Samiti Youth Projects presents upcoming events

April 7th, 2012

Hindu Temple, Berlin

9:45 - 11:45 AM

**Computer Support Program for the Community.** Learn various aspects, word, office, photo-shop, e-mail, internet, etc.

Call Chetna at [chetnatemple@gmail.com](mailto:chetnatemple@gmail.com) or Lata 856-985-4785

QuickTime™ and a  
TIFF (Uncompressed) decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

## WALK FOR GOOD CAUSE on June 8th - 9th 2012 Eastern High School Track

**American Cancer Society**

Relay For Life Of Voorhees

Come join the ITA\_Seva Samiti TEAM

Show the Power  
of our  
Community

Call Chetna at [chetnatemple@gmail.com](mailto:chetnatemple@gmail.com) or Lata 856-985-4785

### ITA WEB SITE

**WWW.INDIATEMPLE.ORG**

We are pleased to welcome you to the newest version of our temple's web site. The site now contains many new features. One of the key components of the site is the ability to subscribe. Subscribed users will receive **e-alerts** that notify you of new messages containing emergency notifications, periodic information and when new content is available in specific areas of the site. Also, take advantage of the following:

- Take a look at upcoming events
  - Book temple and/or services
  - Enroll your children in Bal-Vihar and/or Youth Program
- Be familiar with other programs of ITA and contact appropriate teachers/chair person for enrollment
  - See yourself or your family/friends in photo gallery of various events
- Download various forms for membership, facility rental, scholarship application, puja services
- Use PayPal feature for any and all needed payments, including donations
  - Find out important days from calendar of current Hindu year
  - Know your trustees and executive committee leaders
  - Read temple's history

If due to inclement weather or emergency any of the regular programs are cancelled, notice will be announced and published on our website immediately.

**PLEASE USE THIS WEB SITE FOR ROUTINE  
COMMUNICATION AND NEEDED INFORMATION**

## 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 temple in Berlin

Contact: Virendra Gupta @ (856) 424-9313

### GITA STUDY GROUP:

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

Contact: Sharad Pimplaskar @ (856) 985-4785

### BHAJANS & STUTI:

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

Contact: Shree Shuklaji (856) 768-6785

## Regular Programs for Children and Youth

**BAL VIHAR:** For children (ages 5-13), 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 1, 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 Temple in Berlin.

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 temple in Berlin

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 will be available for religious services on request. Please check temple availability at [www.indiatemple.org](http://www.indiatemple.org);

Click on "CALENDAR tab" and, from drop-down menu, Click on "EVENT/RENTAL CALENDAR". Please contact Smt. Chetna Giyanani or Smt. Anoo Joshi at 1-855-MY-MANDIR Ext 1 for the booking of the Temple Facilities and/or scheduling of Puja Services by Shuklaji.

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	<b><u>TEMPLE FACILITIES USAGE FEE:</u></b>
Shraddha	\$51	\$101	Prayer Hall: \$200
Anniversary Celebration	\$101	\$151	Social Hall: \$300
Seemant	\$101	\$151	
Kesh Mundan Puja	\$101	\$151	
Sodashopchar, Kalash Puja, Punyah-Vachan or Blessings	\$101	\$151	
Satyanarayan Puja	\$121	\$151	
Engagement Ceremony	\$101	\$201	
Havan/Grah Shanti	\$201	\$251	<b><u>OTHER CHARGES</u></b>
Vastu Puja - outside service only	N/A	\$251	\$51.00 for outside 25 mile radius
Wedding Grah Shanti	\$201	\$301	\$51.00 for non-member surcharge
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. Chetna Giyanani @ (856) 433-8909**

### **DIRECTION TO BERLIN TEMPLE**

#### **A. From Tacony Bridge:**

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

#### **B. From Ben Franklin Bridge:**

Take route 30E to NJ route 70E to NJ route 73S, drive about 7 miles and follow sign for East Taunton Ave. Temple on your right

#### **C. From Walt Whitman Bridge or Delaware Memorial Bridge:**

Take I-295N to Exit 29-A for route 30E to Berlin Twp. Turn left on East Taunton Ave.

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

Take NJ turnpike south, Exit 4 for route 73S. Drive about 10-11 miles and follow sign for East Taunton Ave. on your right.



# India Temple Association, Inc.

25 E. Taunton, Berlin, NJ 08009

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**Ramesh Viswanathan**

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Editor@indiatemple.org

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IF IT SHOWS "EXPIRED" OR YEAR MARKED  
2011 OR EARLIER IN ADDRESS LABEL

## President

Rina Patel

1-855-my-mandir x 710

president@indiatemple.org

## Vice President

Sangeeta Rashatwar

1-855-my-mandir x 711

vp@indiatemple.org

## General Secretary

Ramesh Viswanathan

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

Chetna Giyanani

Anoo Joshi

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**

**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: \_\_\_\_\_