



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. 37 No. 11 Phone: (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org NOVEMBER 2011



Religious Calendar

Nov 5, Saturday

Labh Pacham

Nov 6, Sunday

Dev Prabodhini Ekadashi

TULSI VIVAH

Celebration in Temple

Nov 10, Thursday

Dev Diwali, Purnima

Shri Guru Nanak Jayanti

Nov 21, Monday

Utpati Ekadashi

Monthly Activities

Nov 4, Friday

Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam

Monthly Bhajans

Nov 11, Friday, 8-9 p.m.

Pushti Mandal Bhajan Group

Dhiraj Saparia (856) 287-1415

Kiran Doshi (856) 424-8046

Nov 18, Friday, 8-9 p.m.

Satya Sai Baba of Medford

P.K. Prabhakar (856) 596-3147

Sesha Vemuri (856) 751-0867

Tulsi Vivah Celebration at Berlin Mandir

November 6, 2011, 3:30 P.M. to 6:30 P.M. followed by Maha Prasad

Tulsi Vivah is considered the beginning of the wedding season in India in the month of Kartik, which occurs in October/November every year. According to Hindu mythology, Tulsi (incarnation of Maha Lakshmi) is ceremonially married to Lord Vishnu on this day. In India, the festival continues for five days and concludes on the full moon day. In our community here, ITA will celebrate this occasion with a real wedding celebration only on the above date and time.

Please join us - along with your friends and families - for the

FINAL CELEBRATION OF THIS YEAR.

ITA GENERAL BODY MEETING & ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

This will be held on December 11, Sunday at 6:00 P.M. after a SPECIAL BHAJAN PROGRAM by Chandan Modi, his students and local artists from 3:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M.

Nominations along with completed forms are invited from General Body members by November 30, 2011. Nomination forms can be downloaded from www.indiatemple.org.

Nominations will not be accepted after November 30, 2011. Further requirements for the nomination include valid membership for the year 2010 and 2011, believing in ITA Constitution, one year work experience with any of the ITA Committees and willingness to volunteer time and services for ITA activities. If there are insufficient number of nominations received by the deadline, remaining vacancies may be filled by the Board in accordance with the Bylaws

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO BECOME TRUSTEE OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT DIVYAKANT PARIKH AT 856-768-3369

Following Trustees are eligible for re-election for additional three years term.

SURENDRA BAGARIA, RINA PATEL, VINAY VARDHANA, PRAVEEN GARG, GOVIND MODI, SANGEETA RASHATWAR, ANOO JOSHI AND HARSHAD PATEL

Following Trustees are not eligible for re-election due to their three consecutive terms expiry by December 31, 2011

KAMLESH DAVE

ITA takes this opportunity to thank all outgoing Trustees for their dedicated support and looking forward to their continued support for the ITA activities.

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.

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| • Patel Lalit | Nov 01 Deshbandhu Hansi | Nov 17 |
| • Patel Piyush | Nov 02 Dixit Mahesh | Nov 18 |
| • Puttaswamy Dunthur | Nov 02 Patel Bimal | Nov 18 |
| • Patel Chandrika | Nov 03 Dixit Mahesh | Nov 20 |
| • Gupta Roopali. | Nov 04 Patel Jagdishver | Nov 21 |
| • Ravani Kishan | Nov 05 Shah Champaben | Nov 22 |
| • Maheswari Arun | Nov 09 Patel Kusum N. | Nov 24 |
| • Desai Barbara | Nov 11 Patel Kusum N. | Nov 28 |
| • Bagaria Surendra | Nov 15 Patel Rital | Nov 28 |

Condolences

Shri Navnitlal Desai, Father of Dr. Amita Desai, passed away in India on September 22, 2011. ITA and its Board extend their sincere condolences to the Desai family.

Shri Ojas Shukla, husband of Sejal Shukla, passed away on September 28, 2011. ITA and its Board extend their sincere condolences to the Shukla family.

Kesharben Makadia, grandmother of Dushyant and Shivani Makadia, passed away on October 12, 2011. ITA and its Board extend their sincere condolences to the Makadia family.

Sachinder Nath Nandi, father of Subhash Nandy, passed away on October 22, 2011. ITA and its Board extend their sincere condolences to the Nandyfamily.

Senior Citizen's Program

Thursday Nov. 10, 6:30 p.m. to 9:15 pm and Sunday Nov. 20, 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Nov. 10: 1A- Topic of Depression: Like many other chronic illnesses, depression affects people of all ages and is one of the leading causes of disabilities and suicides over the course of our lives. Dr. Anju Nayar, MD, will discuss this important topic; she will go over various symptoms that may be considered the hallmark of a depressive state. Various categories of clinical depression, such as unipolar and bipolar depression, will be explained. You will also hear about the professional counseling, use of the latest anti depressants/ECT/and alternative treatments. Your questions and concerns will also be addressed.

Nov. 10: 1B- Elections for the Executive Council posts: As per our by-laws, these elections will be conducted.

Nov. 20- Annual Function: Our annual function will be from 11:30 am to 3:30 p.m. The venue is Gagan Restaurant, Stratford, phone 856-627-6200. For members, the cost of each ticket will be \$11 prior to November 20 and \$13 on November 20. Sri Bhavesh Gala's Gunjan Group will entertain us with popular songs. Join us to enjoy plenty of snacks, vegetarian dinner and good music.

For more information about the program, activities, and to join the group, please contact:

Suraj Bhan Singh, by phone: (856) 582-5035 or email (sbsingh1@hotmail.com) or

Narsinh N. Sangani by phone: (856) 435-2128 or email (nnsangani@juno.com).



Bal-Vihar Program

For Festival of Diwalee Bal Vihar children **Celebrate, Share and Care!**

At ITA_Bal Vihar our children experiencing celebrations of Hindu culture with understanding of why and what we do. In last two sessions we celebrated Navratri, Dasherha then Diwalee.

Navratri means nine nights. Children asked why nine nights? Before attacking Ravana Lord Ram prayed three days to each goddess, Durga, Laxmi and Sarswati. Prayer is an essential part to remove any unknown or unseen obstacle may come in your way. Besides this special learning about holidays, children are learning their regular course work and some daily prayers.

Celebrate!

On Oct. 23rd was the big celebration of Diwalee. On colorful platforms seven murtis of Laxmiji's were placed by the altar. Children also came in colorful Indian dresses, oh, how cute they looked and how proud their parents were, its site to enjoy. Instead of Rangoli children created Hindu designs creating puja thalis, toran, wall hangings, cards etc. We are grateful to have dedicated teachers for Bal Vihar. In next hour with music children danced garba, parents and teachers teaching them.

Share!

We were delighted to honor three little girls, Renali Patel, Serena Patel and Deena Bhatt for their tireless work for project, 'Bracelets for Charities', who have worked all summer in many events and in front of their homes to collect funds for good cause. Three of them have raised sum of \$866.00 and donated to the work of India Temple Association_Seva Samiti. Thank you girls!

Care!

This year America is truly celebrating Diwalee as many of our troops would be coming home by the end of year! For our children to have a sense of being with mainstream America, ITA_Seva Samiti have planned to send Care Packages to our soldiers those are on duty away from home. Irene and Ira from Yellow Ribbon Club had come to introduce the Yellow Ribbon Club and to welcome Indian community's help. We thank our soldiers by donating at least 50 Care Packages to Yellow Ribbon Club. Those who wish to participate, please, contact Sunitha Reddy at 856-985-4785.

No celebration is complete without the great food, and we thank parents and grand parents for sponsoring Luncheons for Bal Vihar families. We would like to recognize the following food sponsors:

Manan and Nrupa Patel (9-11), Sateesh and Neereshwari Manem (10-9), Ravi and Babita Vemulakonda (10-9), Srinivas and Malathi Pentapalli (10-9) and Diwali feast (10-23) by Pushaben and Dineshbhai Patel of Moorestown, proud Nani and Nana of Kayla and Kira Patel.

Those who wish to take part in Lunch Sponsors Program, please contact Denny Depani @ 856-772-1257 or 439-7072 or e-mail dennydepani@yahoo.com

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

The Indian tradition calls for sharing a portion of our daily food with needy. We urge you to remember the less fortunate people when we are rejoicing with our friends and family during this time of holidays. As always, we join hands with our Bal-Vihar Group, Youth Group, Senior Citizen Group and others to coordinate the food drive which will help the poor and needy during holiday season. Special marked containers are kept at the front lobby of our temple in Berlin for packaged and canned non-perishable food. Collected food boxes are delivered to Organizations directly helping disaster victims and homeless.

Please do not donate outdated or nearly expired packaged items.

For more information, please contact Narendra Amin at 856-429-8761 or Binduben Shukla at 856-768-6785.

NAVRATRI 2011

Dear Community,

Your India Temple Association has just completed the nine-day Navratri celebration. As a President, on behalf of ITA, I sincerely thank all the Donors and Aarti Hosts and request for continued support in next year Navratri Program. ITA would like to recognize the services provided by the staff and officials of the Moorestown Public Schools and the following individuals for their generous donations of \$1000 or more:

1. Govindbhai and Jasuben Modi
2. Gopalbhai and Gitaben Patel
3. Dr. Pradipbhai and Ilaben Patel

As he has for many years, our Chair of the Navratri celebration, Harshad Patel coordinated ITA's preparations for the celebration of which there are many. However this year- at the last minute- the original school contract fell through, and he and his volunteers had to scramble to obtain and prepare another location. As usual, it was Harshadbhai who made it happen.

ITA board would like to praise our Navratri Volunteers this year and all the volunteers in all works who serve our Temple year-round. It is the volunteers of our Temple who are the underpinning of all our work. They make it happen each year, and we are really grateful to them.

Sincerely,

Rina Patel, President

Youth Program

By: Sona Dadhania

Sunday, September 11th kicked off a brand new year for the Youth Group with many new activities and changes in store. This year, each session starts 45 minutes earlier than last year, so each session starts at 9:45AM. With many new students, we held several icebreakers to introduce everyone to each other. Every session itself begins with a yoga lesson from Harish Uncle who teaches us many different breathing techniques and yoga poses to benefit our health. After a brief chanting session, we begin our lesson taught by Sharad Uncle which focuses on many different aspects of Hindu and Indian cultures, such as the Mahabharata and Dharma. Then, we have activities to add to our knowledge of Indian culture, such as cooking demonstrations or activities based on holidays.

One of our very first guest teachers this year came on October 9, 2011, to teach us about a very special holiday. Mrs. Radha Bodapati came in and first spoke to us about mythology, which is the study of myths, throughout the world. She spoke about how many cultures used to make idols of their gods and goddesses and that today we are one of the only cultures that continue to make these statues. She then explained the holiday Dashera, which is when Telugus have a doll and deity display. After, she helped us create a three step Kollu display, which showed off the many exotic dolls and deities the students brought in. Overall, this was a very enjoyable and interesting experience with Dashera, and we thank Mrs. Bodapati for coming in to teach and help us. Lunch was sponsored by Sudha & Venkat Ayalasomyajula and Harish & Rekha Shelat.

26th Anniversary of Pran-Pratishtha Update

Celebration of this Program would have not been successful without our core group of sponsors, dedicated volunteers, our Priests and all participants. Special Pujas of deities suitable for the occasion were performed by the Priests and Participants. There after we had conducted a beautiful Shobha-Yatra from temple parking lot to City Hall and back. The ceremonial part of the program was concluded with outside Havan-Yagna under the tent on temple's parking lot. Upon completion of ceremonial part, local artists enlightened the crowd in temple's prayer hall with beautiful devotional bhajans. Obviously, major events like this cannot have a better success unless everyone goes home with delicious Maha-Prasad catered through generous sponsorship of dedicated supporters and distributed by the members of Gujarati Samaj Executive Body. In conclusion, the beginning of yearly celebration of this occasion was very successful and ITA is looking forward to continuing this tradition every year. Special thanks to those who decorated float, supplied flowers and garlands, coordinated puja samagri, food supplies, food distribution, arranged tents and permits, performed bhajans and pujas and controlled crowd.

Vedanta and Bhagavat Gita Study

Dear Friends, we are conducting Vedanta and Bhagavat Gita study at the temple on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8pm to 9pm. It is never too late to join in and enjoy group discussions. Starting Tuesday, November 15th, we will start a new text, Bhaja Govindam, by Shri Shankaracharya. The Bhagavat-Gita classes are held on Wednesdays. Please join in. For more information, call (856) 985-4785.

First Place Essay in Senior Category
HINDU MAERICAN SEVA CHARITIES
ENERGIZING DHARMIC SEVA: IMPACTING CHANGE IN AMERICA AND ABROAD

By: Lata Pimplaskar

In the city of Indraprastha, a province of Hastinapur, rain poured for days. Everything was soaked in water; not even a twig on a tree was dry. Yet, a poor Brahmin roamed about the city to find dry wood to perform 'yagna' - a fire ritual. All day long he searched forests and gardens. He had been to Yudhishtira, the king, who ordered his aids to gather dry wood to no avail. As the evening approached, the Brahmin became anxious and thought of the king of Anga, Karna, known for his *danam*, giving. There, at Karna's palace, the Brahmin, with hands folded, asked for help in performing *yagna* as his duty for the good of the people. Seeing the outdoors drenched in waters, Karna knew there were no branches suitable for fire. Then his eyes fell on a beautifully carved column and bare wooden rafters that held the ceiling of his chambers. At once Karna asked his aid to tear down the rafters and deliver it to the home of the Brahmin. The Brahmin objected, but Karna told him he was only doing his duty as king. But it was more than that: Karna was a born giver, so it was his nature.

In Sanskrit, duty is called *Kartavya*. It is an action one is obligated to perform. *Kartavya* is two fold: A married man providing for his family would be a 'personal duty' as a householder; but tutoring a poor child in the community free of charge would be a 'civic duty' and, therefore, he would be following dharma. This is not just an obligation but a deliberate choice born of compassion. Empathy is intrinsic to human existence. "Instinctively we all know the value of caring to all the beings. However, many times we justify acting differently due to greed, fear etc.," says my guru, Pujya Swami Dayananda Saraswati. To follow dharma deliberate effort is required, but it is easier if you grow up with *dharmic samskaras*, a socio-religious culture of giving.

Dharmic Samskaras mold our minds to engage in civic duties.

Growing up listening to heroic stories have created impressions on my psyche. These impressions are called *samskar*. *Samskaras* also include Hindu festivals and rituals. It is true that many rituals in Hindu traditions are to gain health, wealth, progeny or heaven, but they are also the occasions for *danam*. *Puja*, *fasts*, *homas* and *havans* are not complete without *danam*. I still remember growing up in India, poor people lined up at the gate during *pujas* to receive grains. Once, I poured bowl full of grains in a poor boy's frayed cloth and the cloth tore. I watched with horror as his mother pushed forward, slapped the boy, and began picking up the grains mixed with dirt and tears. At that moment I picked up something more valuable than grains: a bittersweet feeling of compassion and giving. Though my heart ached for the poor family, my mind brimmed with the joy of giving and caring.

Hindu American Seva Charities offer a platform.

Hindu dharma is not an organized religion, so Hindus are not united or visibly engaged in social work. There is no structure for individuals to be engaged in civic duties. However, Hindu American Seva Charities is uniting such efforts, giving Hindu Americans a platform to make an impact on the soil we call home. Hindu Dharma, as a code of living, doesn't constitute any commandments. It is based on universal principles, such as *Ahimsa*: I shouldn't hurt anyone, as I don't appreciate being hurt and I care as I see divinity in entire creation and as whole. In the modern world everyone feels isolated, not divine and fragmented instead of whole. We no longer live in a homogenous society. Our values and religions are challenged, often contradicted. One has to be deliberate in maintaining dharma, ultimately extending harmony among all fellow beings.

Extending harmony in a diverse country like USA is a great challenge. By electing president Obama, citizens of the USA have shown strength in humanity and freedom. I have enjoyed the liberty, justice and happiness that the US Constitution extends to all immigrants and citizens. Having lived a good life in the USA, I, have been aching to give something back to the community. That's why when I was motivated when I saw on a pamphlet, "Changing lives . . . Serving communities," the motto of a St. Vincent De Paul. I worked with a client of mine at her Catholic Church. Of course I wasn't a right fit at the Church, but I liked the work and the people. I noticed how structured they were. They cared for people and didn't judge those who came seeking help. Later, I volunteered at the Multiple Scleroses Association. They too are very organized. Having been an interior designer, I worked at MSAA on projects of designing wheel chair accessible kitchens and baths for patients of no means. I worked there until the grant was cut-off for the program, and then I moved to Camden city's After School Program for the children from impoverished homes. After a year and half, I was told once again that there was no money to run the project! By then I had learnt a lot. I had come to know that every Seva organization required three factors: Dedicated volunteers, Organizational structure, & Funds. Realizing how important such an organization can be for Hindu communities, I began working on the idea of finding or creating an organization for Seva Charities.

Fateful Day, 9/11

On September 11th 2001, the world trade center attack changed my life forever, as it did for many others. I had spent over thirty years in this country. By all means I was an American. Yet, as the towers collapsed my American identity too felt like it was collapsing. I was a foreigner again. I wasn't seen as a citizen. I wasn't understood, I feared to speak for my accent and my brown skin. I worried that people didn't see me as one of them. I knew that as Americans, we all were hurting. But somehow to mainstream Americans, my hurting wasn't real. I came from other soil, so I wasn't part of this country. I didn't belong in my neighborhood where I had lived for over 20 years. I realized that even though I might think I am an American, other people might feel otherwise. It hurt badly. I questioned my entire adult life that I had spent in this country: where did I go wrong, who am I, and why Americans wouldn't include me as one of them? They have been my friends, neighbors, co-workers, clients and fellow citizens. Eventually, I came to realize that no matter how anyone else felt, I needed to feel American again myself. That acceptance was going to come through my actions, through my *dharma*, and would be beneficiary to people here. I became an active member of the local Temple, thinking, '*Dharmo rakshati rakshitah*', 'protect dharma and dharma will protect you'. Protect the noble, and nobility will protect the society.

“Let’s Serve, Celebrate, And Learn: Building Communities Together!”

I love this motto of HASC! It’s inspiring and it fits the program I have been developing as the director of **India Temple Association (ITA) Seva Samiti (service group) in Berlin NJ.**

All-embracing compassion is the guiding light of our mission. We defined our goal as, “*To be dedicated to Seva, serving without any expectation and caring in action for South Jersey and Tri-state community.*”

Our Mission:

- To provide care for needy and under-privileged irrespective of race, religion or nationality.
- To help organize, educate and strengthen our community to serve charitable causes.
- To ensure physical and emotional health/wellness of our community through education and guidance in order to enhance personal and family life.
- To mentor and support community youths in volunteering their services for ITA facilities and charitable activities.
- To be recognized as an exemplary community in terms of serving the needy.
- To extend ITA community support for Natural Disaster Victims in the US and abroad.

How our five groups are further developed and ready to serve!

1. Family Matters handles the projects such as:

- **Mental & Physical Health:** Create awareness for depression, drug/alcohol abuse or addiction, & domestic violence.
- **Support Groups:** Provide a unique opportunity to share and grow with those in similar situations. At present we are creating Third Wheel, a group for widows and divorcees; Maitri, a friendship group for singles; and Saath, a group for parents of physically or mentally challenged children.
- **Prolonged illness & Funeral Services:** Provide emotional and physical support in times of distress due to illness or death of a family member.
- **Unfortunate Events:** Provide help to poor families in case of fire, flood, or other disasters with basic needs.
- **Senior Citizens:** Organize activities and provide information on Medicare and other programs.

2. Serving Underprivileged:

- **Meals & Clothing:** Distribute winter jackets, packaged foods, and serve hot meals at local shelters or to homeless.
- **Refugees & New Immigrants:** At present we collaborate with Catholic Charities to help Bhutanese refugees by providing educational assistance and helping them manage household chores.
- **Nursing Home Volunteering:** Visit local Nursing homes regularly to help elderly or disabled with companionship, reading, etc.

3. Youth Projects:

- **Volunteering, Mentoring:** Mentor troubled youths and provide a platform for them to seek help within the community.
- **Projects:** Organize community information projects such as Earth Day, athletic events for children, increase literacy, etc.

4. Natural Disasters: Provide support to victims of natural disasters here and abroad.

5. Temple Services: Organize interfaith dialogues and membership drives to increase and strengthen the spiritual base for individual and community growth.

This five fold program will provide a platform for volunteers to reach their full potential and serve with care to help ease the suffering of our fellow beings.

Seva is cleansing for heart.

“Nobody can cure all the sorrow of this world,” writes Swami Tatvavidhananda of Arsha Vidya Gurukulam in his book of Inner Growth, “Many *mahatmas* like Lord Rama and Krishna, Buddha, and Jesus Christ have tried to eliminate our sorrow. Yet in spite of the fact that they have deeply influenced the human psyche, the human predicament of suffering still remains.”

Just as suffering continues, the need to alleviate it also remains. This need is because of empathy, an ultimate emotion and not just an anesthetic for the suffering soul. One can serve because of compassion only. As I organize Seva, I find myself frustrated, agitated, angry, and hurt. In such a mental state, how can I be kind to all at all times? I also have realized that Seva is not only for poor, sick, old, or ill fated. Well-placed and people of means also need some kind of help, perhaps a spiritual guidance, but I have learned that I need to be kind to all: volunteers, donors, administrators and not just the needy. I pray that Seva cleanse my mind; with every stroke of its work my heart should turn tender until it extinguishes my ego and my pains. Every particle of my body should slog in work while mind to remain contented. In the depth of my soul I should only feel love for all to do unconditional Seva. That’s my goal and will be my personal gain.

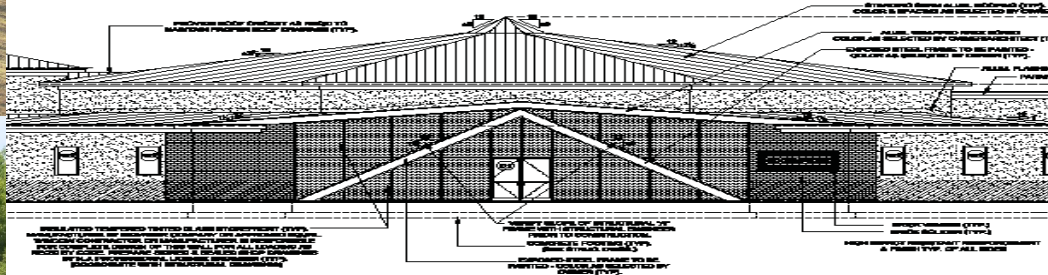
“Imagine all the people sharing all the world.” John Lennon.

As for the community, I wish to see that no part of our society is left behind in terms of hunger, health and education. I hope to see that we help people get back on their feet when they lose all in natural or personal calamities. I hope our youth are vibrant and tender and our elders are kept happy. Most importantly, I hope that the entire community feels that they are not alone and they have the well-deserved support of an extended family. As Hillary Clinton said, “it takes a village to raise a child.” And it takes Seva to turn a village into a close-knit community. Only through Seva can we hope to see the world we dream as One Happy Family: ‘*Vasudev Kutumbakam!*’

OUR ICC

AREN'T WE PROUD OF THESE STATISTICS BECAUSE OF OUR CULTURE AND HERITAGE ?

INDIAN DIASPORA IN US: LESS THAN 1%
GRADUATE SCHOOL POPULATION IN TOP SCHOOLS: 13%
67% HAVE BACHLOR'S DEGREE V/S 28% AMONG THE REST



AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD INCOME; \$90,000
V/S
\$50,000 AVERAGE HOUSEHOLD AMONG REST OF 99%

WE NEED THE BEST FOR US,
OUR CHILDREN, GRAND
CHILDREN AND PARENTS
BECAUSE WE DESERVE IT

PLEASE CALL FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS

856-287-0361 856-981-2580 856-905-2580 or 855-ICCOFSJ

Further information available at WWW.ICCOFSJ.ORG

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

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; Sangeeta at (856) 424-4211 or Sunitha at (856) 596-3215

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:

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;

Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the link "Temple Availability", then click on "CALENDAR tab" and, from drop-down menu, click on "EVENT/RENTAL CALENDAR". **Please contact Smt. Chetna Giyanani (856-267-5598) or Smt. Anoo Joshi (856-616-2460) for the booking of the Temple Facilities and/or scheduling of Puja Services by Shuklaji.**

Please note that 50% of the listed cost of Puja performed outside the temple goes to Pujari in addition to his regular salary.

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	<u>TEMPLE FACILITIES USAGE FEE:</u>
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	<u>OTHER CHARGES</u>
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) 267-5598

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.



President

Rina Patel

(856) 258-6670

president@indiatemple.org

Vice President

Devang Parikh

(856) 809-0241

vp@indiatemple.org

General Secretary

Sangeeta Rashatwar

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Facility Rental

Temple Manager

Chetna Giyanani

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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

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Editor@indiatemple.org

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IF IT SHOWS "EXPIRED" 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**

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 _____ Special Prayer (\$301) _____ Temple Renovations
_____ Seva Samiti Fund _____ Bal Vihar Fund _____ Youth Fund

I am relocating to following address

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____