



Satsang Sandesh

India Temple Association, Inc.

Hindu Temple, 25 E. Taunton Ave, Berlin, NJ 08009
(Non-Profit Tax Exempt Organization, Tax ID # 22-2192491)

Vol. 52 No. 1 (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org JANUARY 2024

Religious Calendar

7-Jan Safla Ekadashi
11-Jan Amavas /Amavasya
14-Jan Makar Sankranti, Uttarayana,
Pongal
21-Jan Putrada Ekadashi

Satyanarayan Puja

Thursday, January 25th — 6 PM

Sundarkanda Paath

Saturday, January 20th — 10 AM

VIKRAM SAMVAT 2080 / 2024

CALENDAR AVAILABLE ONLINE AT <https://www.indiatemple.org/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please note change in temple hours and Aarti timings @ indiatemple.org
- For security reasons, we will be keeping the Temple's doors locked. When visiting the Temple during open hours, please dial 856-768-3134 to be admitted. Also when leaving the Temple, please make sure that the door closes completely behind you.
- For Satyanarayana Puja participants: Please provide your name to Anoo Joshi @ 856-577-3631 few days prior to puja for planning.

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. Shri Sudhir Jhaji will perform a special puja on your behalf, or the regular temple puja performed on the designated day will be dedicated in your name. Below are the donors for this month.

Dilip Guharoy	2-Jan	Anil Desai	20-Jan
Mulchand Giyanani	5-Jan	Vinod Patel	20-Jan
Milan & Monica Gupta	14-Jan	Shailen Patel	24-Jan
Kusum Kumar	14-Jan	Narendra Amin	28-Jan
Divyakant Parikh	14-Jan	Ravin Patel	31-Jan
Ashvin-Deviyani Shah	18-Jan		

Temple Hours

Saturday & Sunday

9:30AM -12:30 PM
5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Monday to Friday

10:30 AM to 12:30 PM
5:00 to 8:00 PM

Entry through
Front Door Only
(856)768-3134

PROGRAMS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH, HEALTH, HAPPINESS & GOD REALIZATION

<https://indiatemple.org/contact.php>

Vishnu Sahasranamam & Lalitha Sahasranamam will be recited on 1st Friday of each month starting at 10:30 AM
In-Person Only

Bhajan Sandhya (In person first Friday of every month from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM)
led by Venugopal Varma (609) 598-4038

Bhagavat Gita Study organized by Sharad Pimplaskar (856) 466-1430
Every Tuesday - 10:45 AM - Weekly
Join Zoom Meeting: Meeting ID: 818 2564 6955; Passcode: 173521

Announcement: ITA Gita Study group Zoom meeting has resumed from September 26, 2023. We will read Shri Shankara's Dakshinamurti Stotram. We will also be taking some references from a commentary (Vrittanta), called Manasollasa, by his disciple Sureshvaracharya. This Stotram is a simple, beautiful and complete treatise on Vedanta. The text of the Stotram with Dhyana-Mantra will be provided to attendees.

ITA Senior Social Group- Currently meeting weekly
Contact Vinita Ganju (609) 744 8558 for additional information.

PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS BY HSCSJ

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024 AT 6:15 PM AT ICC

There will be only one meeting in the month of January 2024. Dr. Anup Shah will be speaking on issues related to acid reflux, ulcers and other illnesses related to stomach .

Dr. Shah is a graduate of SUNY Upstate Medical University. He did his Internal Medicine Residency from Mount Sinai Beth Israel and Gastroenterology Fellowship from University of Cincinnati Medical Center. Dr. Shah did his gastroenterology fellowship and also served as a co-Chief at the University of Cincinnati. At present, Dr. Shah is working with Gastroenterology Consultants of South Jersey. He is fluent in English and Gujarati. His hobbies are traveling, visiting every Major League Baseball stadium, New York sports, meteorology, golf, listening to music and spending time with family and friends.

Light dinner will be provided. For more information, please visit www.hinduseniors.org.

Bharti Shah
President, Hindu Senior Citizens of South Jersey
- HSCSJ EC Team

CONDOLENCES

It is with a very heavy heart that we share the sad news that Shri Rameshbhai Ranchodbhai Patel, passed away on Friday, December 1st, 2023 at home in Marlton, NJ, surrounded by his loving family. He is survived by his beloved wife, Madhuben Patel; children, Dilish Patel (Kamini), Reeta Patel (Nitin), and Seema Patel (Shital); grandchildren, Rikhil Patel (Shelly), Amir Patel, Rishin Patel (Lauren), Sarina Patel, and Devon Patel; and siblings, Vinodbhai Patel and Taraben Patel.

It is with a very heavy heart that we share the sad news that ITA Member, Smt. Champa Bhimani, passed away on Friday, December 22, 2023. She is survived by her husband, Lalji Bhimani; mother, Hemiben Kansagra; children Arti, Hetal & Jay; son-in-laws, Michael Estime & Matthew Peterson; daughter-in-law, Ashley; and grandchildren, Quentin, Devin, Jaiden, & Iyla.

It is with a very heavy heart that we share the sad news that Smt. Shobhana Jayprakash Dalal, passed away at the age of 75 years, on Saturday, December 23, 2023, in Souderton, PA. She was the wife of the Late Shri Jayprakash Dalal and is survived by her children Sonak Dalal, Rupal Desai & Sonal Shah; daughter-in-law, Ulka Dalal; son-in-law, Tushar Desai & Nikhil Shah; and grandchildren, Grisha, Kashish, Raj, Anuj, Pranay and Amey.

The ITA and its Trustees extend their sincere condolences to Patel, Bhimani and Dalal families. We pray that their souls may find peace and that God gives strength to their families and friends to cope with this heartfelt loss.

General Body Meeting, 2024-2026 Trustee Election & New Core Executive Committee

On December 9th, the ITA held its Annual General Body Meeting. At the meeting ITA's Leadership provide an update on the past year. A copy of the presentation can be found at link below:

https://mcusercontent.com/3e8835cc5e98b8b0d082a5294/files/5f12b3f1-320c-5b13-39f0-26e3a559ec3d/ITA_2023_General_Body_Meeting_Final.pdf

For the 2024-2026 Trustee Term only 6 eligible individuals applied for the 7 available positions. In such circumstances our By-Laws do not require an election and deem these individuals to be elected. The newly elected Trustees are:

Deepak Chaturvedi	Hiten Doshi,	Nehal Jhaveri
Kruti Lodhavia	Kinnari Patel	Samir Patel

At our January 5th Trustee Meeting, Trustees elected **Anoo Joshi to be the ITA President** for 2024-2025 Term. The Trustees also confirmed her Core Executive Committee recommendations:

VP Events: Vidya Shukla (Iyer)	VP Programs: Vinita Ganju
VP Info/Comm: Naylesh Shah	Treasurer: Chirag Kansagra
Facilities Mgr: Vijesh Darji	Pujari Mgr: Kruti Lodhavia

At the January 5th meeting, Ishwar Chauhan and Sagar Dalal were appointed two open Trustee seats.

ITA Advisory Board Meeting

The ITA Advisory Board convened for their Annual Meeting at 9pm on November 7th over Zoom. At this meeting, the Advisory Board elected Pankaj Desai to fill the 2024-2026 Advisory Board Trustee Term.

MAKAR SANKRANTI—HALDI KUMKUM Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

**ITA celebrates Makar Sankranti - Haldi KumKum, ladies only celebration, at Berlin Hindu Temple.
Registration required at Signup Genius:**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E4CA4AA22A2F49-46549113-makarshankranti>

This is a special day for the women in Maharashtra when married women are invited for a get-together called 'Haldi -Kunku' (literally meaning turmeric and vermilion) and exchange gifts. Typically, women wear black sarees or black colored outfits on this occasion.

AYODHYA MANDIR LANDMARK EVENT CELEBRATION Sunday, January 21, 2024



ITA invites you to join in the celebration of the Shri Ram Lalla Murti Pran Pratishtha on Sunday, January 21, 2024, from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM @ Berlin Hindu Temple.

Celebration includes: Suggested dress color: Saffron or Orange
Bhajans, Ram Dhun, Aarti

All individuals interested in singing are welcome! Interested in singing Bhajans or Ram Dhun?
Please contact any one below and provide your name:
Vinita Ganju: 609-744-8558 OR Venu Gopal: 609-598-4038 OR Vidya Shukla: 610-703-1710



EDITOR
Brinda Raghuvver
 Editor@indiatemple.org

Executive Committee

President
Anoo Joshi
 1-855-my-mandir x 710
 president@indiatemple.org

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VP of Com. & Info.
Naylesh Shah
 855-my-mandir x 712
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VP of Events
Vidya Shukla (Iyer)
 855-my-mandir x 713
 vpevents@indiatemple.org

Treasurer
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 855-my-mandir x 714
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 pujaservices@indiatemple.org

Facility Manager
Vijesh Darji
 855-my-mandir x 716
 facility@indiatemple.org

Audit / Compliance
Bhumika Kundu
 856-577-4925
 audit@indiatemple.org

CHILDREN'S VASANT PANCHAMI
Saturday, February 10, 2024 at the Berlin Temple from 2-4 PM



Join us for Vasant Panchami celebrations and take blessings of Goddess Saraswati— Goddess of Knowledge. We encourage all children, if possible, to dress in their brightest yellow in honor of Saraswati and the harvest season.

Celebration includes:
 Pooja performed by Kids
 Aarti & Kid friendly Prasad
 Kids Performances

RSVP: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0E4CA4AA22A2F49-47053561-childrens>

For more Questions and additional information contact: Shilpa Acharya: 609-923-7268 / Vinita Ganju: 609-744-8558 / Vidya Iyer: 610-703-1710

PUJA SERVICE & TEMPLE RENTAL FEES

Shri Sudhirji perform religious services on request. Please contact Anoo Joshi at (855) MY-MANDIR Ext 715 to schedule a Puja Service or Rental of Temple facilities.

Puja Services	<u>MEMBER</u>		<u>NON-MEMBER</u>	
	Inside Temple	Outside* Temple	Inside Temple	Outside* Temple
Archana	\$21		\$21	
Vahan Pooja	\$25		\$25	
Namkaran/Annaprashan	\$51	\$101	\$151	\$201
Birthday	\$51	\$101	\$101	\$151
Shradha	\$51	\$101	\$151	\$251
Anniversary Celebration	\$101	\$151	\$201	\$251
Kesh Mundan	\$101	\$151	\$151	\$201
Satyanarayan Pooja	\$151	\$200	\$251	\$301
Engagement Ceremony	\$101	\$201	\$201	\$301
Havan/Graha Shanti	\$201	\$251	\$301	\$301
Vastu Pooja-Outside Only		\$251		\$351
Wedding per day	\$401	\$501	\$551	\$600
Upanayan/Yagnopavit	\$251	\$301	\$351	\$401
Uttarkriya Per day -Outside Only		\$151		\$251
Yagna/laghu rudra-Outside Only		\$351		\$400
Navchandi Yagna-Outside Only		\$651		\$700
Antim Kriya		No Charge		No Charge

*IRS defined per mile charge applied for pujas outside of Temple.
 In addition to their base salary, Pujaris receive 50% of Outside Puja Services payment as compensation.

<u>Facility Rental Fees</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>
Prayer Hall Rental	\$251	\$301
Social Hall Rental	\$351	\$401

Send address changes or Membership renewals to:
 ATTN: VP of Information at 25 E. Taunton Ave. Berlin, NJ 08009 or email vpinfo@indiatemple.org