



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. 7 (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org JULY 2024

Religious Calendar

- 2-Jul Yogini Ekadashi
5-Jul Amavas/ Amavasya
7-Jul Shri Jagannatha Rathayatra
17-Jul Devshyani Ekadashi,
Gauri Vrat Starts
19-Jul JayaParvati Vrat Starts
20-Jul Sundarkand Paath
21-Jul Guru/Vyas Purnima, Shri
Satyanarayana Puja
22-Jul Gauri Vrat Concludes
24-Jul JayaParvati Vrat
Concludes
31-Jul Kamika Ekadashi
4-Aug Amavas / Amavasya

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

Satyanarayan Puja
Sunday, July 21st — 6 PM

Sundarkand Paath
Saturday, July 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.

Vinu Patel	1-Jul	Vijay & Asha Gupta	22-Jul
Krishnasankar Shastriji	11-Jul	Kiran Bhatt	24-Jul
Vinod Mehta	12-Jul	Mahesh Dixit	24-Jul
Ramesh Upadhyay	13-Jul	Amardeep Patel	24-Jul
Asha Gupta	18-Jul	Kailash Lav Iyer	27-Jul
Arun Maheswari	18-Jul	Ritam Kush Iyer	27-Jul
Pratima Parikh	19-Jul	Hariprasad K Jani	30-Jul

PROGRAMS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH, HEALTH, HAPPINESS & GOD REALIZATION

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

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

There will be 2 meetings in the month of July at ICC

First Meeting - Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 6:15 PM

Endocrinologist - Garima Thappar Kohli is an experienced and compassionate board certified Endocrinologist with extensive experience in hospital and clinical settings. Areas of interest include Thyroid disease, Diabetes, Adrenal disease, Pituitary tumors and other hormonal disorders. She did her Medical school in Kasturba Medical College in Manipal, India, Internal Medicine residency at University at Buffalo, NY and Fellowship in Endocrinology at Rutgers University, New Jersey . She is an established Endocrinologist in Virtua for the past 6 years and lives in Voorhees with her husband and two children.

Second Meeting - Tuesday, July 23rd, 2024 at 6:15 PM

There will be BINGO GAME FUN NIGHT hosted by our expert Lalji Bhimani. All of us will play the BINGO Game. Each one of us will get a score card for only 1 dollar. All the money collected will be distributed in the prizes. There will be 5 cash prizes. Rules will be explained to you prior to the start of the game.

Snacks will be served. Please note that we will try to accommodate Jain/Swaminarayan snacks with advance notice of 48 hours prior to the meeting.

For more information, please visit www.hinduseniors.org
Bharti Shah, President, HSCSJ

CONDOLENCES

It is with heavy heart that we share the sad news that Smt. Sushilaben Patel, age 74, of Voorhees, NJ passed away on Tuesday, June 18, 2024. She is survived by her husband, Dahyabhai; her daughters, Rachana, Neelam, & Nisha; her grandchildren Vaishali, Riya, Nitya, Jiva, & Om; and her son-in-laws, Vipul and Mitul.

It is with heavy heart that we share the sad news that Smt. Saroj Joshi of Cherry Hill NJ, passed away on Thursday, June 13, 2024 at the age of 90. She is survived by her children, Vidya & Rajan; daughter-in-law, Anuradha; and grandchildren, Aditi, Sujaan, Devyani, Shriya, & Nikhil.

It is with heavy heart that we share the sad news that Smt. Gitaben Sureshbhai Shah of Swedesboro, passed away on Saturday, June 1, 2024. She is survived by her husband Sureshbhai; two daughters, Avani and Sejal and two Grandchildren.

It is with heavy heart that we share the sad news that Shri Lalit Kumar Ganju, father of ITA Trustee Vinita Ganju, passed away on May 31st, 2024, in Plainfield, Illinois. He is survived by his beloved wife, Nalini Ganju; daughter & son-in-law, Vinita Ganju & Arun Kachroo; son & daughter-in-law, Vishal & Meghna Ganju; and grandchildren, Arianna, Aadv, & Adhira.

The ITA and its Trustees extend their sincere condolences to the Patel, Joshi, Shah, and Ganju families. We pray that departed souls may achieve moksha and that God gives strength to their families and friends to cope with this heartfelt loss.

ITA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

We are proud to announce the recipients of the 2024 ITA Scholarships: Shubham Gupta, Ananya Manchiganti, Kavya Parikh, and Mahek Patel. This year's ITA scholarship is awarded to graduating high school seniors who have demonstrated commitment to Indian Culture, Hinduism and the ITA Community. Applicants' academic performance, activities & interests, reflections & suggestions related to their ITA experiences, letters of recommendation, and/or need are some of the considered criteria.

Shubham Gupta is a graduate of Eastern Regional High School in Voorhees and will enroll in the Honors Program at Rutgers University-New Brunswick to pursue a major in Biomedical Engineering with a minor in Business. He has been involved in Balvihar for fourteen years and contributed 405 hours by serving as a Student Leader for 5th and 6th grades, mentoring students for their charity projects, volunteering at Garba events, and assisting backstage during Annual Days. Throughout high school, Shubham has been active in athletic, extracurricular and academic pursuits, including playing tennis and basketball, volunteering at hospice and assisted living centers, serving as captain of the Quiz Bowl team, qualifying for the international level in the DECA business competition, and participating in an online Investments Competition and the Coding Club, and being inducted into the National Honor Society, Rho Kappa History Honor Society, and Spanish Honor Society.

Ananya Manchiganti graduated from Cherry Hill High School East. She plans to study Computer Science at Purdue University. Ananya reflects fondly of the 200+ hours that she contributed to Balvihar, beginning with feeling overwhelmed by the big community and new faces, to eventually feeling proud of her volunteer experience, acquiring many life skills as a Student Leader (including patience and effective communication), and motivating others to learn about Indian culture. In high school, Ananya held leadership roles in the Spanish Honors Society, and was a member of the Cum Laude Honor Society and Science National Honor Society. She played on the girls' tennis team, was a tutor for Math and English, was the director of social media for @medlife_cherryhill (a non-profit organization), and volunteered at the Radiology and Women's Center at Camden Cooper Hospital.

Kavya Parikh graduated from Cherokee High School in Marlton. She will be enrolling at Tufts University to study Community Health as part of her pre-med studies. She has been involved in the ITA primarily through her role as a Balvihar Student Leader for kindergarten and has accumulated 335 hours of service to our organization over the past four years. In addition to volunteering at Balvihar, Kavya was the Founder and Executive Director of a non-profit organization called Tampon Express, which provides personal hygiene items for low-income communities. She was also the Vice President of the Evesham Youth Advisory Committee which leads initiatives and service throughout her town. Building on her experience as a competitive Bharatanatyam and Indo-Contemporary dancer, Kavya plans to continue her passion for dance at Tufts.

Mahek Patel is a graduate of Lenape Regional High School in Marlton. She will be attending King's College as part of its accelerated 3+2 BS/MS Physician Assistant Program. Mahek was initially a student at Balvihar for nine years and then served as a Student Leader for four years during which time she performed 353 volunteer hours of service for our organization. Mahek started bharatanatyam classes when she was four years old and completed arangetram in the 9th grade. She has also played basketball since the 7th grade. In addition to serving as a Team Leader for the National Honor Society and being a member of the Spanish Honor Society, Mahek was also involved in his school's Chemistry Club and was a part of the Events Committee for the Future Medical Professionals Club.

We congratulate Shubham, Ananya, Kavya and Mahek on their recent graduation and scholarship award, thank them for their contributions to ITA and Balvihar, and wish them the best as they enter college in the Fall. We hope that they continue to remain active in serving our community and the world.

ITA COMMUNITY SERVICES

The ITA is proud to announce this year's Service Award recipients. This award is given to Student Leaders and Youth Community Service Group members for their volunteer service to the ITA. Student Leaders are Balvihar graduates that have returned to serve as assistant teachers in the program. Youth Community Service Group members volunteer at ITA and at community service events. ITA truly appreciates their hard work, dedication and positive impact on the community.

Awardees

Yasha Asokaraju	Sahasra Mandala	Harshvi Patel	Saagar Shah
Muskaan Batra	Gowtami Manem	Puja Patel	Neel Shukla
Neev Dadhanania	Manthan Mehta	Rudra Patel	Anvi Singh
Piya Dattani	Tharun Nathan	Vivek Patel	Sara Soni
Shubham Gupta	Kavya Parikh	Vaman Rajagopal	Diya Trivedi
Arianna Kachroo	Krishani Parikh	Kishen Shah	
Riya Kansagra	Milani Parikh	Nesa Shah	



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BALVIHAR PROGRAM

New Student Enrollment for 2024/25 Opens on May 17th

Purpose: To teach Vedic Heritage and Indian Culture to children (Pre-K to 8th Grade).

Details: Explore website for detailed curriculum by grade and general schedule.
https://www.indiatemple.org/bal_vihar.php

Timing: 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM on designated Sundays

Dates: 16-17 Sundays starting in Sept. & Ending in May.

Location: Marlton Middle School (150 Tomlinson Mill Road, Marlton, NJ)

ITA MEMBERSHIP REQUIRED

Become a member: www.indiatemple.org

Enrollment:

Regular Enrollment (May 17th through June 1st): \$TBD

Late Enrollment (After June 2nd): \$TBD

Fees are NOT REFUNDABLE for any reason.

Space in the program is VERY limited. We encourage community members to enroll early.

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.

<u>Puja Services</u>	<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