



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. 53 No. 8 (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org AUGUST 2025

Religious Calendar

- 4-Aug Rudrabhishek in Temple
10AM - Noon & 5PM -
7:30PM
- 5-Aug Putrada Ekadashi
- 9-Aug Rakshabandhan
Naryari Punam
Satyanarayana Puja
- 11-Aug Rudrabhishek in Temple
10AM - Noon &
5PM -7:30PM
- 15-Aug Sheetla Satam
- 16-Aug Shri Krishna Janmashtami
- 18-Aug Rudrabhishek in Temple
10AM - Noon &
5PM - 7:30PM
- 19-Aug Aja Ekadashi
- 23-Aug Amavas
Amavasya, Last Day of
Shravan Maas: Rudrabhishek
in Temple: 10AM - Noon &
5PM - 7:30PM
- 26-Aug Kevada Trij- Haritalika Teej
Samoothika Puja
- 27-Aug Shri Ganesha Chaturthi
- 28-Aug Rishi/Rushi Panchami
- 31-Aug Radha Ashtami

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

Saturday, August 9th — 6 PM

Shri Krishna Janmashtami

Saturday, August 16th
9AM to 12AM; Aarti: 10AM, 12PM, 6PM, 7PM, 8PM,
9PM & 12AM

VIKRAM SAMVAT 2081 / 2025

Calendar will be available soon Online at <https://www.indiatemple.org/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 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 Kruti Lodhavia @ 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.

Amita Desai	5-Aug	Charu & Jaysukh Sheth	17-Aug
Shailendra Desai	5-Aug	Dilipkumar Patel	17-Aug
Mahesh Tekrival	7-Aug	Ghanshyam Dave	17-Aug
Tejas Patel	8-Aug	Snehal Sindvad	17-Aug
Nagraj Lingraju	10-Aug	Maganbhai Kanzaria	18-Aug
Shree Khaitan	10-Aug	Tejash Patel	20-Aug
Mahesh Dixit	11-Aug	Babubhai Patel	24-Aug
Akshaykumar Patel	15-Aug	Mitul Kanzaria	26-Aug
Kiran Desai	15-Aug	Sangita & Paresh Talati	27-Aug
Nisarg Shah	15-Aug		

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

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 will start reading of Ishavasya Upanishad with Shankrara Bhashyam beginning September 10, 2024. Ishavasya Upanishad is one of the smaller Upanishads from Shukla Yajurveda and is first of the ten principal Upanishads commented on by Shri Shankaracharya. Though small it presents a complete Vedanta treatise on Self-Knowledge. Everyone interested in the study of our original scriptures is invited to join these sessions. These are weekly sessions on Zoom every Tuesday from 10:45 AM to 12:00 Noon.

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

PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS BY HSCSJ

First Meeting - Tuesday, August 12, 2025 at 6:15PM at ICC

Topic: The Basics of Kidney Disease: Dr. Prasad Acharya grew up in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley. He earned his undergraduate degree in Biology from Johns Hopkins University, where he studied from 1990 to 1994. He went on to receive his medical degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine in 1998. From 1998 to 2003, Dr. Acharya completed both his residency and fellowship in nephrology at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Since 2003, he has been practicing at the Center for Kidney Care, where he continues to provide expert care to patients with kidney disease.

Second Meeting - Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at 6:15PM at ICC

Sital Nanavaty has been a resident of Cherry Hill for the past 21 years. A devoted music enthusiast, he especially enjoys singing for seniors. Beyond music, his interests include reading, staying informed on current events, playing racket sports, and biking. Harini has spent nearly two decades working as a physical therapist, while her musical roots trace back to childhood performances with her mother. She later pursued semi-professional singing for several years. Music is a core part of who she is, and she finds great fulfillment in sharing it with others. Together, Harini and Sital will enchant the audience with a selection of solos and duets spanning various musical eras.

Snacks will be served. Please note that we will try to accommodate Jain/Swaminarayan snacks if requested by 12pm the previous Saturday.

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 Shri Rajeswara Maruvada, age 79, passed away on Thursday, July 03, 2025. He is survived by his wife Vindhya Maruvada and son Prabhakar Maruvada.

The ITA and its Trustees extend their sincere condolences to the Maruvada family. We pray that his soul may find peace and that God gives strength to his family and friends to cope with this heartfelt loss.

CELEBRATE KRISHNA'S BIRTHDAY JANMASHTAMI

Saturday, August 16, 9:00 AM to Sunday, August 17, 12:00 AM



Program Details:

Temple opens: 9:00 AM

Aarti: 10AM & 12PM

Children's Janmashtami: 2PM – 4PM

Evening Aarti: 6PM, 7PM, 8PM, 9PM

Midnight Krishna Pragya Aarti: 12AM

Venue: Hindu Berlin Temple: 25 Taunton Avenue, Berlin
Temple will be open whole day for Darshan

Bhajans will be open to all to ensure smooth crowd flow and prevent congestion.

Packed prasad will be available.

We welcome all sponsorships.

For sponsorships and additional information contact:

Kinnari Patel @ 609-230-4040, Lalit Patel @ 609-841-4888 or Vijesh Darji @ 609-675-6141

GANESH CHATURTHI

Wednesday, August 27th — Saturday, September 6th

Wednesday, August 27:

6:00 PM: Procession from parking lot to the temple

6:30 PM: Sthapana Puja

7:30 PM: Aarti followed by Mahaprasad

Thursday, August 28th—Saturday, September 6th:

10:30 M—12:30 PM & 5:00 PM—8:00 PM (Mon-Fri) - Daily Darshan

9:30 AM—12:30 PM & 5:00 PM—8:00 PM (Sat-Sun) - Daily Darshan

12:00 PM—Ganesh Archana & Aarti followed by temple Aarti

7:15 PM—Ganesh Puja followed by Aarti

Saturday, August 30th:

5:30 PM—7:15 PM—Singing Concert by Ms. Usha Bhargave

7:30 PM—Aarti followed by Boxed Prasad

Saturday, September 6th: (Visarjan)

10:30 AM—12:00 PM—Utthapan

12:00 PM—Aarti followed by Mahaprasad



Sign up for the event: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0848AFAD2FA1F94-57738950-ganesh/23897135#/>

Must register to do in-person puja. Please call the numbers below to register & sponsor Pooja.

Donations are welcome. Suggested donation for puja is \$101.

To sponsor Puja and for donation, please contact:

Anoo Joshi: 856-577-3631, Mrunal Phadnis: 856-873-2998 or Vidya Shukla: 610-703-1710

CHILDREN'S NAVRATRI—SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, September 14, 2025 @ ICC

Join us for an afternoon of Garba and Raas for young kids (ages 4-12)!



Including:

- Child friendly prasad and Aarti

- Small group garba and raas instruction

- Navratri related crafts

- Live musicians & singers

- Slower paced music to facilitate learning

- Less crowded environment

Online-ticket purchasing and other information forthcoming

ITA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

We are proud to announce the recipients of this year's ITA Scholarships: Kushagra Goel and Tharun Nathan. ITA scholarships are 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.

Kushagra Goel graduated from Cherry Hill East High School and will be attending the Georgia Institute of Technology to study Computer Engineering. He first joined Balvihar as a kindergartener and continued through 8th grade before returning as a Student Leader for four years. During that time, he taught 4th-grade Indian History, led review games on the Mahabharata, and contributed over 350 volunteer hours. In high school, Kushagra was the Parliamentary Chair of the Debate Team and served as Vice President of the Computer Science Club, Science Olympiad, and Junior Classical League. He also qualified for the VEX Robotics World Championship.

Tharun Nathan is a graduate of Cherry Hill East High School and will be attending the Georgia Institute of Technology to study Biomedical Engineering. Tharun began volunteering at Balvihar in his freshman year of high school, initially creating review games and presentations before eventually leading history classes on his own. Over the course of his time as a Student Leader, he contributed 396 hours of service. In high school, Tharun served as President of the Physics Club and Vice President of the Math National Honor Society, and was an active member of the Robotics Club and Science Olympiad team. In his free time, he enjoys reading, playing pickleball, and shooting pool.

We congratulate Kushagra and Tharun 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.

Amit Patel
ITA Scholarship Chair

ITA COMMUNITY SERVICES AWARD

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 exemplary 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	Saanvi Joshi	Vasisth Medavarapu	Vivek Patel
Muskaan Batra	Arianna Kachroo	Manthan Mehta	Nesa Shah
Parv Chikani	Riya Kansagra	Meghna Parija	Kishen Shah
Neev Dadhania	Agrim Kapri	Krishani Parikh	Harsh Shinde
Nihar Dadhania	Yuti Kataria	Vraj Parikh	Neel Shukla
Piya Dattani	Arjun Khandhar	Harshvi Patel	Risha Shukla
Darsh Gajera	Sahasra Mandala	Monil Patel	Roma Soni
Ansh Jaggi	Saishruti Mathankrishnan	Rudra Patel	Diya Trivedi



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BALVIHAR PROGRAM

New Student Enrollment for 2025/26 Opens on May 15th

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:

Late Enrollment (After June 2nd): \$263

Detailed Information Available at:

<https://www.indiatemple.org/balvihar.php>

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 Kruti Lodhavia 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	\$25			
Vahan Pooja	\$25			
Namkaran/Annaprashan	\$101	\$151	\$251	\$301
Birthday	\$101	\$151	\$151	\$201
Shradha	\$101	\$201	\$251	\$351
Baby Shower	\$101	\$201	\$251	\$351
Anniversary Celebration	\$151	\$201	\$251	\$301
Kesh Mundan	\$151	\$201	\$201	\$251
Satyanarayan Pooja	\$201	\$301	\$351	\$401
Engagement Ceremony	\$201	\$301	\$301	\$401
Havan/Graha Shanti	\$251	\$351	\$401	\$451
Vastu Pooja-Outside Only		\$351		\$451
Wedding per day	\$501	\$601	\$651	\$701
Upanayan/Yagnopavit	\$351	\$401	\$451	\$501
Uttarkriya Per day -Outside Only		\$251		\$351
Yagna/laghu rudra-Outside Only		\$401		\$451
Navchandi Yagna-Outside Only		\$701		\$751
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.

Facility Rental Fees

	<u>Member</u>	<u>Non-Member</u>
Prayer Hall Rental	\$351	\$401
Social Hall Rental	\$451	\$501

Send address changes or Membership renewals to:

ATTN: VP of Information at 25 E. Taunton Ave. Berlin, NJ 08009 or email vpinfo@indiatemple.org