



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. 54 No. 1 (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org JANUARY 2026

Religious Calendar

- 3-Jan Purnima
Satyanarayana Puja
- 14-Jan Shat-tila Ekadashi
Makar Sankranti
Uttarayana
Pongal
- 17-Jan Sundarkand Paath
- 18-Jan Amavas/Amavasya
- 21-Jan Haldi-Kumkum
- 1-Feb Children's Vasant Panchami
Satyanarayana Puja

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

Next
Satyanarayana Puja
Sunday, February 1st — 6 PM

Sundarkand Paath
Saturday, January 17th — 10 AM

VIKRAM SAMVAT 2082 / 2026

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.

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------|---------------|--------|
| 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 | | |

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.

CONDOLENCES

It is with heavy heart that we share the sad news that Smt. Vasumati (Benaben) Shah, age 77, passed away on Friday, December 19, 2025. She is survived by her devoted husband Shashikant Shah; her children Seema, Amish & Neesha and her granddaughter Sanjana.

It is with heavy heart that we share the sad news that Shri Suraj Singh, age 90, passed away on Wednesday, December 24, 2025. He is survived by two sons Devendra Singh & Mahendra Singh; four grandchildren; and one great grandchild, Pankhuri.

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

PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS BY HSCSJ

Please note that for January, February, and March 2026, there will be only one daytime meeting per month at 12:15pm. These sessions will not be held in the evening.

January meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 12:15 PM at ICC:

The majority of the meeting will be devoted to the swearing-in of the new President and Executive Committee members, followed by introductions of the new governing body and related announcements. The meeting will conclude with an open session, providing members an opportunity to share their thoughts and concerns with the General Body.

Be a part of this democratic process.

Food Note: We will do our best to accommodate Jain/Swaminarayan snacks with 48-hour advance notice before the meeting.

For more information, please visit www.hinduseniors.org.

Lalji Bhimani
President, HSCSJ 2026-27

MAKARSHANKRANTI HALDI KUMKUM (kumkum)

Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 6:15 PM - 8:00 PM

ITA celebrates Makarshankranti Haldi KumKum, ladies only celebration, at Berlin Hindu Temple.



- Please wear Black Saree or Black Outfit preferably (OK to wear any other dark color also)
- Please Bring a Wrapped Gift up to \$5 for 1 Lady

Ladies Only Event: Please RSVP by Jan 15th. Please click below link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0848AFAD2FA1F94-61555061-makarshankranti>

For questions, please contact:

Mrunal Phadnis @856-873-2998, Leena Hardikar @ 856-261-8067,
Vinita Ganju @ 609-744-8558 or Anoo Joshi @ 856-577-3631

CHILDREN'S VASANT PANCHAMI

Sunday, February 1, 2026 at the Berlin Temple from 2 PM—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

For more Questions and additional information contact:

Sarita Prabhakar @570-561-7936 or Vinita Ganju @ 609-744-8558



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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:

Regular Enrollment (May 17th through June 1st): \$252

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 | \$301 |
| Anniversary Celebration | \$151 | \$201 | \$251 | \$301 |
| Kesh Mundan | \$151 | \$201 | \$201 | \$251 |
| Satyanarayan Pooja | \$201 | \$301 | \$351 | \$401 |
| Rudrabhishek 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