



# 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. 6 (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org JUNE 2026

### Calendar

- 11-Jun Kamla Ekadashi  
Purushottam Maas  
Aradhana/Bhajans TBD
- 15-Jun Somvati Amavas/ Amavasya
- 20-Jun Sundarkand Paath in Temple
- 25-Jun Nirjala Ekadashi/Bheem  
Agiyaras  
Shri Gayatri Jayanti
- 29-Jun Sant Kabeer Jayanti(628)  
Purnima Satyanarayan Puja

**Satyanarayan Puja**  
Monday June 29 - 6PM

**Sundarkand Paath**  
Saturday June 20 - 10AM

### **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 \$401 for members and \$451 for non-members. 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.*

|                                      |        |                           |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|--------|
| Dunthur & Yedahalli Uttaswamy        | 2-Jun  | Dahyabhai & Taraben Patel | 13-Jun |
| Kartik Patel                         | 4-Jun  | Santosh Khurana           | 19-Jun |
| Meghan & Melanie Patel               | 4-Jun  | Rita Dube                 | 21-Jun |
| Milan Patel                          | 6-Jun  | Rushikesh Parghi          | 21-Jun |
| Bharat Gandhi                        | 7-Jun  | Ishvar Patel              | 22-Jun |
| Dinesh Patel                         | 8-Jun  | Rushikesh Parghi          | 25-Jun |
| Ramesh Gupta                         | 12-Jun | Kalavati Desai            | 29-Jun |
| Rushikesh Parghi                     | 12-Jun | Kartik & Dupta Patel      | 29-Jun |
| Puttaswamy Hemali & Vaishali Kothari | 13-Jun |                           |        |

### 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://www.indiatemple.org/contact-us.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

These meetings are conducted by “Hindu Senior Citizens of South Jersey” for its members. We request all non members who wish to attend our meetings, to become a member. It's just \$100 pp lifetime. Visit “Hinduseniors.org” for more information.

### **First meeting: Tuesday, June 9 at 6:15 PM**

AARP SPEAKER ON Smart Guide to Getting Rid of Anything:

We've all looked around our homes and thought about decluttering, but actually doing it is another story. Our upcoming guest speaker from AARP is going to walk us through their Smart Guide to Getting Rid of Anything. Make sure to attend this meeting to learn things we all might know but never occurred to put into action. It's the perfect chance to turn those 'I should really get rid of this' thoughts into a real game plan!

### **Second Meeting: Tuesday, June 23 at 6:15 PM**

Baldevbhai and Friends Musical Evening:

We are excited to invite you to a special meeting showcasing the incredible musical talent within our local community! The event is led by our very own Baldevbhai Patel—a prominent member of our community who truly needs no introduction. He has put together an amazing lineup of talented local artists you likely already know and love. Get ready for an hour of the classic songs we all grew up with! Come out, have some fun, and let's cheer them on together. See you there!

### **On June 10th:**

Day trip to Baltimore Harbor.

Attraction: Baltimore Inner Harbor — National Aquarium — Historic Ships in Baltimore — Federal Hill Park — way back, delicious dinner with friends.

Lalji Bhimani  
President HSCSJ, on behalf of EC team

## CONDOLENCES

It is with a heavy heart that we share the sad news that Ms. Veena Machhar, age 75, passed away on Sunday, May 10, 2026. She is survived by her husband, Om Prakash Machhar; daughter, Anita; son-in-law, Ponnappa and two grandchildren; Rohan & Dhruv.

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

## **HOLI CELEBRATION**

Sunday, May 31, 2026



ITA Holika Puja and Holi celebration on Sunday, May, 31st at John Connolly Park, Voorhees. DJ music, food, dance & color fun!

Arrival: 1:00 PM — 1:30 PM

Holika Puja: 1:30 PM — 2:00 PM

Dance and Color Play: 2:00 PM — 4:00 PM

Address: Connolly Park, 605 Centennial Blvd, Voorhees Township, NJ 08043

For more information, please contact:

Sangeeta Rashatwar: 609-685-2755

Vidya Iyer: 610-703-1710

Samir Patel: 201-657-8661

Ritesh Shah: 856-571-5826

## **Jagatguru Swami Dr. Ram Kamal Acharya Vedantiji Sermons**

Dates: Sunday, June 28 through Wednesday, July 1st

Time: From 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM (Except Monday, June 29, from 3:00 PM to 4:30 PM)

Location: Berlin Hindu temple, 25 East Taunton Ave, Berlin, NJ

Topic: Sri RamCharit Manas, KISHKINDHA KAND

Dr. Ram Kamal Acharyaji, Pujya Maharaj-ji a resident of Varanasi, India, is an expert speaker. He has captured the hearts of devotees all over India and in many, many parts of the world, including but not limited to devotees in UK, Germany, Fiji, and USA. He has written and published several books, such as Bhakti Path, Vedanta Pravah and Manas Vandana. Having a Ph.D. in Upanishads and MA in Hindi, he is an internationally known "Kathakar". He was invited in the year 2000 for and by the United Nations Religious Conference and it is our great fortune that he has blessed our temple, congregation and community every year since then, except the Covid time.

For information please contact:

Devendra & Ruchita Singh at 856-625-4335

Rakesh & Nila Kohli, 856-751-8688

## 2026 ITA SCHOLARSHIP

**Purpose:** To support the I.T.A. community by giving scholarships to graduating senior students who have demonstrated **dedication and significant contribution to the I.T.A.**

**Description:** Up to two scholarships worth \$1000 each will be awarded to graduating high school seniors whose families are current members of the I.T.A. Each will be renewable for up to 3 additional years based on meeting maintenance criteria and available funding. The scholarship can be used at a 2 or 4-year accredited institution for undergraduate studies related to tuition or books only.

**Eligibility:**

- \* Applicant's family must be a current I.T.A. member
- \* Demonstration of participation in ITA service and programs **will be weighed heavily:** examples of participation include: Balvihar Program, Student Leader Program, ITA Youth Community Service Group, and volunteering at ITA events.
- \* Applicant must be a current senior at a local high school with plans to enroll full-time in an accredited 2 or 4 year college in the United States.
- \* A completed application form

**Contact:** Amit Patel at amitmpatel75@gmail.com or 301-785-1170 for details and scholarship application form.

**SENIOR APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Electronically sent by June 28th.

**RENEWAL APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Electronically sent by June 28th.

## GRADUATION YAGNA AND SCHOLARSHIP / SERVICE AWARD RECOGNITION

At the Berling Temple on Sunday, July 26th, 1:30 PM—3:00 PM



India Temple Association invites students achieving an academic milestone or grade promotion to participate in our Annual Graduation Yagna. We especially encourage graduates of the class of 2026 to attend. Also at this event we will be recognizing our 2026 ITA Scholarship and Service Award recipients.

**Event Agenda:**

Puja & Yagna  
Service Awards

Words of Wisdom from Graduating Student leaders  
ITA Scholarship Awards  
Concluding Comments, ITA President

For scholarship questions, please contact Amit M. Patel – amitmpatel75@gmail.com

Any ITA members looking to be donors for our scholarship or service awards, please contact any of the committee members below.

Signup for the event will be followed in separate communication.

For program details please contact:

Vinita Ganju : 609-744-8558

Samir Patel : 201-657-8661

Vidya Shukla : 610-703-1710

## TOP DONORS 2025

### \$25000+

Surendra & Sheela Bagaria

### \$5000-\$9999

Rajesh & Beechoon Babani  
Samir & Urvashee Patel

Ent & Allergy Associates

Arun & Vijaylakshmi Maheshwari

### \$2500-\$4999

Amma's South Indian Cuisine  
Dhirajlal & Usha Saparia  
Hospital Essentials  
Maganlal V and Hansa Kanzaria

Mahesh & Ilaben Dixit  
Primrose School of Cherry Hill  
Sankalp Restaurant

Subhash & Sangeeta Rashatwar  
Tacoria  
TD Bank

### \$1000-\$2499

Dr. Smita & Xerxes Antia  
Arista Care Nursing Home  
Asian American Hotel Owners Assoc.  
Atlantic Medical Imaging LLC  
Prashant & Anjana Awadhiya  
Dhruvangi & Kalpesh Brahmhatt  
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Divyakant & Pratima Parikh  
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Gopal Patel

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Katan & Ridhy Patel  
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### \$500-\$999

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Hindu Senior Citizen of SJ

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Anoo & Rajan Joshi  
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**BALVIHAR PROGRAM**

**New Student Enrollment for 2026/27 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](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](http://www.indiatemple.org)

**Enrollment:**

Regular Enrollment (May 17th through June 1st): \$265

Late Enrollment (After June 2nd): \$275

**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.

| Puja Services                    | MEMBER        |                 | NON-MEMBER    |                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
|                                  | 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           |
| Annual Special Prayers           | \$401         |                 | \$451         |                 |
| 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 | Member | Non-Member |
|----------------------|--------|------------|
| Prayer Hall Rental   | \$401  | \$451      |
| Social Hall Rental   | \$501  | \$551      |

**Send address changes or Membership renewals to:**

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