



# Satsang Sandesh

A monthly news magazine of

## India Temple Association, Inc.

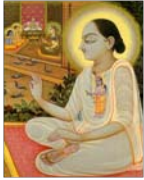
Hindu Temple 25 E. Taunton Ave, Berlin, NJ 08009  
SOUTH JERSEY DELAWARE PENNSYLVANIA

Vol. 36 No. 4

Phone: (856) 768-3134

www.indiatemple.org

APRIL 2010



### Religious Calendar

- April 10 Saturday Cheti Chand — Sindhi New Year
- April 11 Sunday Shri Vallabhacharya Jayanti
- April 14 Wednesday Tamil New Year
- April 15 Saturday ADHIK PUROSHOTTAM Mas starts
- April 24 Saturday Kamala Ekadashi/Bal Vihar Annual Day
- April 28 Wednesday Purnima
- May 9 Sunday Kamala Ekadashi/Youth Class Annual Day
- May 14 Friday ADHIK PURUSHOTTAM Mas concludes

### MONTHLY ACTIVITIES

#### Vishnu Sahasranama

#### Parayanam

- April 2nd Friday, 8P.M. to 9 P.M.

#### MONTHLY BHAJANS

- April 16th Friday 7:30 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. Satya Sai Baba center of Medford. Contacts: P.K. Prabhakar (856)-596-3147, Sessa Vemuri (856)-751-0687
- April 23rd Friday 8 PM—9 PM: Shree Bhajan Group Contact: Urmi Upadhyia 856-424-9328, Charu Sheth 856-662-8754

### Art of Hindu living:

*Meaning of Hindu Festival & Poojas—Prayers, Yoga & Meditation*

### SHRI VALLABHACHARYA (Mahaprabhuji)

(A. D. 1479 – 1531)

Shri Mahaprabhuji is the founder of religious sect called Pushtimarg. He was born in the year 1479 A.D. at a Champaranya village near Raipur in Madhya Pradesh. He is one of the foremost Indian philosophers taking the rank amongst the first class Acharyas who has expounded the school of Shuddha-advaita. Vallabhacharya heralded a new era of Bhakti-Marga, which teaches unswerving love toward God admitting everyone in the fold, irrespective of sex, cast or nationality.

Pushti Marga, the path of grace as founded by Shri Vallabhacharya is very easy to follow as a way of life by common people. Once you commit yourself to God by ritual of “Brahma-Sambandh”, God takes care of you unconditionally. He takes you to Pushti Marga by his teaching of Shrodas- Grantha. In Pushti Marga, Bhakti is not a means, but an end. It is also called Premlakshana Bhakti.

Shri Vallabhacharya's other works include Anu-Bhashya (Commentary on Brahma Sutra), tattva Dipa Nibandha and Subodhini (Commentary on Bhagavata). Vallabha regards Shrimad Bhagvata as the most authentic work on knowledge of God.

### 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. Also as per your request Shri. Bhupendra Shuklaji will perform a special pooja on your behalf, or the regular temple pooja performed on the designated day will be dedicated in your name. Below are the donors for this month.*

- |                   |         |                        |         |
|-------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
| • Ashok Babaria   | Apr. 02 | • Arpana & David Brunt | Apr. 19 |
| • Urmila Gujrathi | Apr. 02 | • Shailendra Desai     | Apr. 19 |
| • Narendra Bhatt  | Apr. 03 | • Arny & Deepal Patel  | Apr. 20 |
| • Kevin Gandhi    | Apr. 03 | • Yogendra B. Choksi   | Apr. 22 |
| • Surendra Sheth  | Apr. 04 | • Nimisha & Rajen Jain | Apr. 22 |
| • Savitaben Patel | Apr. 06 | • Samir Khurana        | Apr. 22 |
| • Dipti Pandya    | Apr. 08 | • Ramachandra Rao      | Apr. 25 |
| • Upen Shah       | Apr. 12 | • Hansa H. Kothari     | Apr. 28 |
| • Vaishali Patel  | Apr. 13 |                        |         |
| • Siddhi Vasa     | Apr. 15 |                        |         |
| • Savitri Goel    | Apr. 16 |                        |         |

## Condolences

Mr. Nagindas M. Shah, father of Varsha Shah passed away on January 12, 2010 in Houston, Texas at age 80. ITA and its Board sincerely extend their condolences to Varsha Shah and other family members.

Mr. Devendrabhai Dixit, younger brother of Mr. Maheshbhai Dixit (ITA former President) passed away in Ahmedabad, India at the age of 61. ITA and its Board sincerely extend their condolences to Shri Maheshbhai Dixit and other family members.

## News from our programs:

### Bal Vihar Updates

*Come one, come all!* Friends and family are invited to attend the Bal-Vihar Annual Day, an amalgam of dances, skits, and shlokas performed by the Bal-Vihar students to exhibit what they have learned throughout the year. Annual Day will be held on Sunday, April 25, 2010, at...

Burlington Township High School  
610 Fountain Avenue  
Burlington, NJ

The show will start promptly at 11 A.M. and will be followed by lunch at 1:00 P.M. Do not miss this opportunity to see the inspiring talent of the Bal-Vihar youth!

### Senior Citizens' Program

**Thursday April 08, 6:30 PM to 9:15 PM**

**Thursday April 22, 6:30 PM to 9:15 PM**

On April 8th, our seniors will have an opportunity to hear on the important subject of ID Theft and its prevention. During these hard economic times, Identity Thefts are on the rise and the seniors are especially targeted. Mr. Daniel Spencer, Director, Camden County Division of Consumer Affairs, will discuss this topic during our ground floor meeting. Anita Chopra, MD, FACP, CMD, Professor of Medicine and Director, New Jersey Institute for Successful Aging, UMDNJ-SOM, located at the Stratford Campus, will discuss the important health topic, Successful Aging, on April 22nd. She is nationally well known in this field.

For more information about the program, activities, and to join the Association, please contact Suraj Bhan Singh by phone: (856)-582-5035 or e-mail (sbsingh1@hotmail.com) or Narsinh N. Sangani by phone: (856)-435-2128 or mail (nnsangani@juno.com).

### E Mail addresses

ITA sincerely requests you to provide us with your preferred E mail address somewhere on the face of your donation check./membership forms or leave this with the temple priest You need to do this perhaps only one or two times. The sole purpose for this is to let you know of the ITA related program reminders and announcements as approved by ITA executive board. Please accept the invitation when you are invited to join this E mail group via your E mail address. You may directly join [www.ITA\\_Berlin\\_NJ@yahoo.com](mailto:www.ITA_Berlin_NJ@yahoo.com) which is created by the ITA executive board for this said purpose. You may Unsubscribe at any time by following the Unsubscribe link This E mail group is for announcements of ITA related matters and No message or other E mails will be forwarded to you without the approval of the moderator and in that case moderator will seeks president's approval prior to posting to the group members.

**Discourse by  
Dr. Ramakamal Das Vedantaji Maharaj at our Hindu Temple**



Topic: "Manas Mei Karma Yoga"

Dates: Monday, May 10 to Saturday, May 15

May 10 to May 14: 7:15PM to 8:45PM

May 15: 10:30AM to 1:30PM

Pujya Maharaj-ji, a resident of Varanasi, India is an expert speaker. He has captured the hearts and minds of devotees all over India as well as abroad. He has published several books and given hundreds of discourses all over the world. Having Ph.D. in Upanishads and M. A. in Hindi, he is an international Kathakar. He was invited by United Nation's Religious Conference in the year 2000 and has been coming to our temple every year since then. It is our honor and profound privilege to host him again at our temple this year. For more information please call Sri Devendra and Mrs. Ruchita Singh at 856-625-4335 or Mr. Rakesh and Mrs. Nila Kohli at 856-751-8688.

**CHETI CHAND CELEBRATION**

The Sindhi community will celebrate their New Year/ Cheti Chand on **April 10th** from 3:30 PM onwards at the Berlin Temple. All are welcome to attend. For further inquires please contact one of the following persons; Sheela Alwani 856 768-5351.

**SHRI VALLABACHARYA JAYANTI CELEBRATION**



**Date & Time: April 11 3:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.**

Temple will celebrate Vallabh Jayanti on Sunday, April 11, 2010 from 3:30 PM to 6:00 PM. Program will include Pushtimarg's Yamunasthaka, recital of Pathas, melodious Bhajans and Kirtans followed by Aarti and Mahaprasad.

This program is sponsored by Wednesday Gita Satsang Group and friends. Anyone interested in taking part in the event or giving Seva, please call Minu Desai (856-797-9444), Kirti Doshi (856-424-8046) or Amita Desai (856-751-2321).

## ITA Seva Samiti – March 2010 report

**Family Matters \*Upcoming Event\*** – A discourse by Dr. R. D. Patel on the topic of Family Relations will be held at our mandir at 4 pm on Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> 2010. Dr. Patel is a dynamic speaker and has authored books and news articles on East to West immigration and its attendant experiences.

He taught psychology at St. Xavier's in Ahmedabad for 13 years. After migrating to the USA in 1984, Dr. Patel worked as a licensed counselor and psychologist in the fields of Mental Health and Substance Abuse. For the last 7 years, he has been involved in public speaking and volunteering his services to the Gujarati community.

Be sure to save this date to hear from this renowned psychologist on a subject that relates to all of us, wherever we are in the journey of life.

The program will begin with bhajans. Dr. Patel will then speak for about forty-five minutes on family and social issues in our community, with a short Question and Answer session right after. Attendees will partake of a light dinner to end the evening.

Please contact Dr. Amita Talati at [atalati@verizon.net](mailto:atalati@verizon.net) for further details or to sponsor the event.

### **Did you know?**

Free tutoring in Reading, Math and conversational English is available to adults at the lowest levels of literacy. Visit <https://LVS.camden.lib.nj.us> or call 856-772-1636 ext. 3331.

For additional information, please contact Kiran Doshi at [srijidoshi@gmail.com](mailto:srijidoshi@gmail.com) or call 856-424-8046.

## Miscellaneous

### INDIAN ART at PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART

A fabulous line-up of South Asia-related exhibitions on view now through this summer at the Philadelphia Museum of Art, along with news about the exciting lectures and family events that accompany them. ITA has been considered by the Philadelphia Museum of Art as an Organization integral to the Museum's commitment to bring the glories of the subcontinent's art and culture to the greater Philadelphia region and beyond.

The museum is currently hosting the exhibition *Kantha: The Embroidered Quilts of Bengal from the Jill and Sheldon Bonovitz Collection and Stella Kramrisch Collection of the Philadelphia Museum of Art*, now on view in the Museum's Perelman Building (through July 25, 2010). This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the most important collection of these historic (1800-1950) women's textiles outside of South Asia today, and to understand the roots of a vital contemporary craft. In keeping with the theme of reconnection, the Museum is thrilled to host a lecture by Dr. Vishakha Desai, President and CEO of The Asia Society, a leading commentator on Asian and U.S.-Asian cultural, educational, and business trends. The lectures are scheduled on April 25 and June 13, 2010. Please contact Museum's Office at 215-684-7863 or Department of Indian and Himalayan Art at 215-684-7632.

### Darshan Committee Report

Darshan Committee successfully handled temple's operation during Shuklaji's absence from January 7 through March 8, 2010

**Committee handled 3 Special Puja and celebrated two festivals  
Makar-Sakranti & Shivratri.**

Following Volunteers had devoted their valuable time individually or with their spouses to keep our temple running during Shuklaji's absence. ITA along with Darshan Committee sincerely thank them and their spouses for their services:

*Narendrabhai Amin, Bhulabhai Bhakta, Dahyabhai Patel, Divyakantbhai Parikh, Sureshbhai Pandya, Kshamaben Raghuvir, Maganbhai Kanzaria, Pushpaben R. Patel, Vijaybhai Gandhi, Ambubhai Patel, Ramesh Viswanathan, Chetanbhai Darbar, Sharadbhai Pandya, Mukundbhai Modi, Neelkantbhai Shukla, Vinayabhai Vardhana, Pravinbhai Sheth, Charuben Sheth, Harshadbhai Patel, Maheshbhai Dixit, Kiranbhai Doshi, Kamleshbhai Dave, Chhaganbhai Mistry, Nathubhai Mistry, Urmilaben Gujarathi, Gajananbhai Joshi and Govindbhai Modi.*



## **LET'S CONNECT: Reader's corner!**

ITA would like to hear from you!

We would like to know your thoughts, your ideas and even constructive criticism! This is your community space, a place for your voice, for all to hear. Please let us hear from you!

### **Gayatri Mantra**

***“ Om bhur bhuvah svah tat savitur varenyam  
Bhargo devasya dhimahi dhiyo yo nah prachodayat”***

Meaning:

Om the Three Worlds (earth, ether and heaven; or physical, subtle and causal). We revere the Pure Divine Being (Tat). We meditate on the Divine Effulgence (symbolized by the sun deity, Savitr), Who may enlighten our minds.

### **Programs for Your Spiritual Growth**

#### **YOGA ABHYAS FOR HEALTH HAPPINESS & GOD REALIZATION:**

A program for adults on yogasana, pranayam & meditation.

First Sunday: 9:30 AM—11:30 AM

Contact: Virendra Gupta @856-424-9313

#### **GITA STUDY GROUP:**

Every Tuesday: 8—9PM

Contact: Sharad Pimplaskar @856-985-4785

#### **BHAJANS & STUTI:**

Every Friday 7:30—9:00PM

Contact: Shree Shuklaji 856-768-3134

### **Regular Programs for Children**

**BAL VIHAR:** A program for children (ages 5-13) to have a positive Hindu Identity in the diverse community of USA.

2nd & 4th Sunday @ 10:00 –1:00 PM

Contact: Lata Pimplaskar 856-985-4785

Rina Patel 856-313-5235

**YOUTH PROGRAM:** A program for young adults (ages 13-18) and parents. 2nd & 4th Saturday at 10:00—12:00 PM

Contact: Dahyabhai Patel 856-269-0367

#### **CREATIVE ART WORKSHOP**

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday @ 9:30 AM

Contact: Narendra Amin 856-429-8761

Shree Shuklaji will be available for religious services on request. To schedule religious services please contact Smt. Sangeeta Rashatwar (856-424-2545), or Smt. Anoo Joshi at 856-616-2460.

#### **TEMPLE FACILITIES USAGE FEE:**

\*Prayer Hall: \$200.00 Social Hall: \$300.00 (\$50 for non-member surcharge)

Please check temple availability at [www.indiatemple.org](http://www.indiatemple.org); scroll to the bottom of the page and click on the link "Temple Availability" Please contact Smt. Sangeeta Rashatwar (856-424-2545), or Smt. Anoo Joshi at (856-616-2460) for temple bookings.

This fee is in addition to the Pooja Service Fee below.

#### **POOJA SERVICE \*\***

	<u>AT THE TEMPLE</u>	<u>OUTSIDE</u>
Satyanarayan Pooja	\$ 101.00	\$ 151.00
Havan/Grah Shanthi	\$ 151.00	\$ 251.00
Vastu Pooja	At house only -	\$ 201.00
Engagement Ceremony	\$ 101.00	\$ 201.00
Grah Shanthi	\$ 201.00	\$ 301.00
Wedding Ceremony (See new Rental Policy ) per day	\$ 351.00	
Anniversary Celebration	\$ 101.00	\$ 151.00
Seemant	\$ 101.00	\$ 151.00
Namakaran/Annaprashan	\$ 101.00	\$ 151.00
Kesh Mundan Pooja	\$ 101.00	\$ 151.00
Upanayan/Yagnopavita	\$ 201.00	\$ 251.00
Birthday	\$ 101.00	\$ 151.00
Shraddha	\$ 101.00	\$ 151.00
Special Pooja	\$ 101.00	\$ 151.00
Final(Antim) Rites	\$ Voluntary donation	
Archana(Panchopachar)	\$ 15.00 -	

#### **DIRECTIONS**

- Tacony Bridge: 1. NJ route 73S to Berlin circle.  
2. Stay on 73S to next traffic light. Right on E. Taunton Ave.
- Ben Franklin Bridge: 1.Route 30E to NJ route 70E to Marlton circle. 2.Right on NJ route 73S, go to Berlin circle and follow A.2.
- Walt Whitman Bridge: 1. I-295N. 2.Exit 29-A for route 30E to Berlin Twp. Turn left on TauntonAve.
- Delaware Memorial Bridge: I-295N. Follow C.2.
- Central and North Jersey: NJ turnpike south. Exit 4 for route 73S. Go to Berlin circle. Follow A.2

\* Includes temple facilities, mandap & PA system

\*\* Additional \$25.00 for non-ITA members

\*\* Additional \$25.00 for outside Tri-County

Please note that 50% of the listed cost of Pooja **performed outside the temple** goes to Poojari in addition to his regular salary.



**India Temple Association, Inc.**  
25 E. Taunton, Berlin, NJ 08009

EDITOR:  
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Cherry Hill, NJ 08003

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Harshad J Patel  
856-829-6282

**Religious Services  
Temple Manager/  
Facility Coordinator**  
Sangeeta Rashatwar  
856-424-2545



**Darshan Schedule**

Please ring the door bell if the door is locked.

**Morning Hours:**

7:30 – 12:30 PM

**Evening Hours:**

**Mon-Sun.**

6:00 - 9:00 PM

**Aarti Schedule**

12:00 PM &  
8:00 PM or upon completion of any special or regular programs of the temple.

**Form A** To: Narendra Amin, 8 Hessian Way, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003

I would like to join India Temple Association. I am / We are remitting the membership dues (please select one) Individual one year (\$ 15) \_\_\_\_\_ Family one year (\$ 25) \_\_\_\_\_  
Individual five year (\$ 60) \_\_\_\_\_ Family five year (\$ 100) \_\_\_\_\_  
Life (\$ 1000) \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL AMOUNT \$ \_\_\_\_\_

I am adding additional donations:

\_\_\_\_\_ Poojari Fund Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Scholarship Fund Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Life-time Services Tel./email \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ Temple Renovations Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Form B:** To: Vinay Vardhana, 3 Anders Dr., Cherry Hill, NJ 08003

I am moving. Please note the change of address. I am / am not a member of ITA (if you circle "not" then send the Form A above also for inclusion in the mailing and please confirm below)  
I am sending my subscription via Form A \_\_\_\_\_

Old Address: \_\_\_\_\_ New Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

Sanskrit term **Dharma** signifies the underlying order or law in nature. The word Dharma literally means 'that which upholds or supports the natural order, which makes the cosmos and the harmonious complexity of the natural world possible. To individuals, Dharma is conducting one's life conforming to universal values of morality, righteousness and truth. Ahimsa, non injury is the ultimate Dharma of Hindus.