



Satsang Sandesh

India Temple Association, Inc.

Hindu Temple, 25 E. Taunton Ave, Berlin, NJ 08009
SOUTH JERSEY ♦ DELAWARE ♦ PENNSYLVANIA
(Non-Profit Tax Exempt Organization, Tax ID # 22-2192491)

Vol. 42 No. 12 Phone: (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org DECEMBER 2016

Religious Calendar

December 10 Saturday
Mokshada Ekadashi / Geeta
Jayanti

December 13 Tuesday
Shri Duttatrey Jayanti /
Purnima

December 24 Saturday
Safala Ekadashi

Monthly Activities
Kshamatemple@gmail.com

December 02, Friday
Vishnu Sahasranaam

December 13, Tuesday
Shri Satyanarayan Pooja
6pm

December 17, Saturday
Sunderkand Path 10am

Monthly Bhajans

Shriji Bhajan
Winter Recess till April
Urmi Upadhyay 856-424-9328
Charu Sheth 856-662-8754

December 16 Friday 8-9 pm
• Satya Sai Baba of Medford
P.K.Prabhakar 856-596-3147
Sesha Vemuri 856-751-0867

December 13, Tuesday
Shri Satyanarayan Pooja 6pm

December 17, Saturday
Sunderkand Path 10am

General Body Meeting and Trustee Election Sunday, December 11 at 5:00 PM

Please make yourself available to attend this most important meeting to show your support for our facility and the organization, which is being administered on a democratic principle. Our constitution makes all of you jointly owning this non-profit religious facility for the preservation of our culture, heritage and, most importantly, Hindu Religion for our children and grand children.

We will make sure we will have enough MAHAPRASAAD to treat you all.

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, at your request, Shri. Bhupendra Shuklaji or 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.

• Akshaybhai & Savitaben Patel	Dec 01	Nayan Shah	Dec 21
• Pravina Gohel	Dec 05	Jagdish Shah	Dec 22
• Snehlata Jani	Dec 09	Nagindas/Champaben Shah	Dec 23
• Maya & Mamta Kanzaria	Dec 09	Vijay & Asha Gupta	Dec 25
• Arun Maheswari	Dec 09	Satish Shah	Dec 25
• Rajendra Pandya	Dec 09	Natwar Desai	Dec 28
• Dev Dani	Dec 12	Panambur & Mitra Kini	Dec 28
• Akshay Nandakumar	Dec 12	Mahendra Topran	Dec 28
• Jelabhai Patel	Dec 13	Kavita Gupta	Dec 30
• Rukhmanidevi Tekrival	Dec 15	Amita and Naresh Talati	Dec 31
• Jaysinh Chandriani	Dec 18	Navin K. Gupta, Pramila Mitra	One Day
• Sheela Kapoor	Dec 18	Manibhai Patel, Raj Patel	One day
• K.S. Krishnan	Dec 18	Rajiv Verma	One Day
• Laxman P Singh	Dec 18	Navin Gupta	One Day
• Naresh Talati	Dec 20		

Condolences

Hasmukhlal Patel of Marlton NJ passed away on November 18. ITA and its Board extend their sincere condolences to Meena-ben, wife of Hasmukhlal, and rest of the family.

PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS BY HSC OF NJ ICC, 820 RT 73, MARLTON, NJ

Annual Function on : December 4, 2016 at ICC , 5:00 PM to 9:30 PM

*Attendees must pre-purchase tickets to be accommodated for the appetizers and dinner. Pre-purchased tickets shall be picked up at the front desk. You may need to show your tickets to receive appetizers and dinner.

*Appetizers will be served from 5.00 Pm till 6.00 PM

*Everyone is encouraged to purchase Raffle Tickets \$1 each from Natubhai Desai. Three prizes will be awarded to lucky winners.

*We will start with our regular meeting at 6.00 PM and end at 6.45 PM. The mayor of Voorhees will address us for 5 minutes.

*The Rhythm Group will entertain us with Bollywood songs from 6.45 PM till 8.30 PM.

*The Dinner will start AT 8.30 PM AND TABLE NUMBERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED FOR SERVING.

*THE FUN ACTIVITIES WILL END AT APPROX. 9.30 PM.

From Me to You Pranams!

Who is a Guru? The Mundaka Upanishad says, 'A teacher who is established in Brahman is the true Guru.' Adi Sankara's Vivekachudamani describes the true Guru as '.....a knower of the Self, who confers freedom from bondage.....one who is well-versed in the scriptures, taintless, desireless, a perfect knower of the Absolute, continually established in the Absolute.'

The term 'Guru' generally describes anyone who gives knowledge, that is, one who removes one's ignorance.

Bhagvan Ramana says, 'The Guru is both external and internal. From the 'exterior', He gives a push to the mind to turn inward; from the 'interior', He pulls the mind towards the Self and helps in the quieting of the mind. That is guru-kriya. There is no difference between God, Guru, and the Self.'

Adi Sankara's Vivekachudamani says, 'Rare and difficult are these three: a human birth, a burning desire for liberation, and association with Great Beings, spiritual giants, Satgurus.'

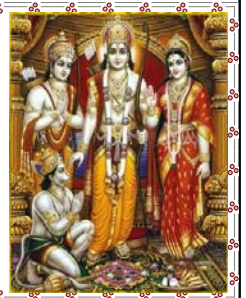
We already have this human birth. Let us strive towards the latter two diligently and with fervor, and use our beloved Mandir as an instrument towards this goal.

Ramesh Viswanathan,
ITA President



Monthly Pujas at Mandir SATYANARAYAN PUJA Tuesday, December 13 @ 6:00 PM

Anyone can sit in this Puja and receive blessings of Lord Satyanarayan.
Please contact Charuben at 856-662-8754 or Kshamaji at 707-332-3400
if you are planning to be Puja Participant. Suggested Donation of \$31 or more from Puja partici-



HEAD START SPEAKER SERIES

The ITA & ICC are co-sponsoring a monthly speaker series for community youth focused on enhancing their professional and academic knowledge. Our goal is to create a forum where the next generation can benefit from the experiences, relationships, and mentorship of successful individuals. We hope that this information transfer will help them make better career decisions.

FIRST EVENT DETAILS

Topic: College Application Process and Timeline

Speakers: Sona Dadhania & Nihar Sheth

Date: January 29th, 2017

Time: 630 – 8PM

Location: ICC

Cost: Free

Program Coordinator: Samir K. Patel- (201) 657 8661 / samirkpatel@yahoo.com

Senior Social Group

Senior Social Group (SSG) will meet every Tuesday at 1pm in the Social Hall at Berlin Temple. Please contact Mr. Bhulabhai Bhaktaji at 8569830769 for details.

YOGA Classes at Berlin Mandir

FREE YOGA CLASSES FOR ALL : Please see our WEB CALENDAR on www.indiatemple.org and see schedule day and time for this class on Saturday Mornings. It will cover soft but complete exercise, pranayama and short meditation. There may be another YOGA CLASS FOR BACKACHE for an hour in weekday morning, provided there is enough interest.

Please call Dr. Veena S. Gandhi at 856-435-9148.

Although classes are free, participants can donate money to ITA for Dr. Gandhi's valuable time.

GENERAL BODY MEETING

DECEMBER 11, 5:00 PM AT OUR MANDIR IN BERLIN

AGENDA

- Presentation of a report on the overall status of your association –Ramesh Viswanathan, President
- Presentation of a report on the financial status of your Association – Shobna Daga, Treasurer,
- Q & A session (Please excuse the administration if we have to limit to only important concerns)
- Resolution of applicable changes to Constitution and By-Laws
- Elections for the Board of Trustees conducted by Dahyabhai Patel, Election Chair
- Mahaprasad sponsored by Trustees

We are thankful to so many of you who continue to provide selfless service to our association. Board of trustees (BOT) urges those who have not yet come forward, to get involved and to lend your intellect and energy in making a difference to our Temple and its future. We are always looking for new leadership, new contributors, new ideas, and new energy for our association.

Requirements for an active member to have voting privileges for ITA items, per Article I of our bylaws, are:

1. current member of good standing as defined in Article VIII A of the Constitution
2. To vote for General Body matters including Trustee Election and/or to be eligible Nominee for Trustee, person must have a valid and continued membership between October 1, 2014 and September 30, 2016 without any lapse period other than allowable grace period.
3. Age eighteen or older
4. There will be no PROXY voting. Voting Member must be physically present to vote.
5. There will be no floor nomination allowed or accepted.

ITA Board encourages every participant in our Temple to make sure that his/her membership is active. Board would also like to encourage those with expired memberships to consider renewing for five years or even becoming life members. Many of you with children in our Sunday school would benefit from longer membership renewal since your kids may potentially have eight years of Bal Vihar and five years of Youth Program participation ahead of them. We have made the process easy with our new online renewal process.

Proposed Change to Trustees' Zonal Requirements

Background

Current by-laws are based on original constitution to encourage 50% of Trustees' Composition from all parts of India. Now that we are at a stage that many young parents are born outside of India and do not fall into any zone category. According to our Constitution only General Body is empowered to make changes to Trustee related matters. Proposed change will be presented to GB's voting.

Proposed Change to Article II of By-Laws by adding following under Item 3

Zone requirements are waived for those who are born after December 31, 1965, provided they meet all other requirements for the membership as well as trustee's qualifications.

Notary Service by our ITA Members

The following ITA members provide Free Notary Service to our community:

Ghanshyam Dave.:856-596-7531; Raman Modhera: 856-528-2863 and Dalapat patel: 609-298-2724

ITA GENERAL BODY MEETING & ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

Election Committee will present to General Body only those nominations that have been received by November 16, 2016 deadline.. Nominations received after November 16 deadline will not be considered for the Election of Trustees at General Body. However, these nominations will be forwarded to BOT for further actions in accordance with ITA Constitution and By-laws.

Following list is for the general information on vacancies to be filled in by current Trustees eligible for re-election and additional vacancies available from prior years as well as vacancy created by the outgoing trustee.

Every one is requested to participate in this most important meeting of the year. BOT will also appreciate members of GB to providing their comments and suggestions for the better operation of our organization.

Seat	Zone	Zone Service notes	Eligible for re-election – renewal of Seat / Zone Y – Trustee is eligible to be re-elected N – Trustee is ineligible for re-election of additional term. Maximum of 3 consecutive terms served.
1	West	Devang Parikh	N—Outgoing trustee
1	North	Rakesh Kohli	Y— Eligible for the Third Term
1	South	Vinay Vardhana	Y-- Eligible for the Second Term
1	Open	Hansaben Kanzaria	Y-- Eligible for the Second Term
1	Open	Denni Depan	Y-- Eligible for the Third Term
1	Open	Girish Talati	Y-- Eligible for the second Term
1	Founding/Life	Lalit Patel	Y-- Eligible for the Third Term
1	East	Shobana Daga	Y-- Eligible for the Second Term
1	East	VACANT-PARTIAL ONE YEAR	From previous terms 2015-2017
1	Open	VACANT-PARTIAL TWO YEAR	From previous term 2016-2018
1	North	VACANT-PARTIAL TWO YEAR	From previous term 2016-2018

1. Zone qualification will be given first priority for the election of Trustees.
2. Nomination form submitted from non-qualified zone may be considered eligible when there is no other qualified nomination from that zone.
3. Trustees elected or appointed for the partial term will be eligible for re-election in future solely based on expiry of partial term.
4. Each Reelected Trustee will be assigned appropriate published term from the elected Zone.
5. Newly elected or appointed Trustee will be assigned first full term or partial first term from the elected or appointed Zone.
6. If there are any vacancies left over after the election, as allowed by the ITA By-laws, BOT may or may not fill those vacancies with qualified candidates.

ITA takes this opportunity to thank all outgoing Trustees for their dedicated support and looking forward to their continued support for the ITA activities.

Dahyabhai Patel
Election Committee Chair
On Behalf of Election Committee



**This Winter Comfort
Someone With the
Warmth of Your
Unwanted Jackets
and Sweaters!**

India Temple Association SEVA SAMITI

**is collecting your old BUT CLEAN and good conditioned
or NEW winter jackets and sweaters to distribute to those
who are in need of the warmth of your heart**

Drop Off at the Temple

Drop by Dec. 19th, 2016

For Info call Sunitha Reddy : 856-596-3215

sunithahreddy@yahoo.com



Recognition For Major Donors of ITA

ITA appreciates donations of \$1000 or more in year 2016 from the following donors.

Akshay & Diane Amin, Surendra and Sheela Bagaria, Smt Panna Bhatt, Mayur and Manisha Chheda, Mahavir Chudasma, Thakor and Neema Dahya, Nilesh and Sangeeta Doshi, Smt Urmila Gujarati, Devkumar Gupta, Navin and Renu Gupta, Magan and Hansa Kanzaria, Devang and Kruti Lodhavia, Dipal and Ameer Parikh, Divyakant and Pratima Parikh, Alkesh and Hina Patel, Alpesh and Jeneet Patel, Asvin and Aruna Patel of Moorestown, Gopal and Geeta Patel, Harshad and Bhanu Patel, Jitendra and Sumi Patel, Samir and Urvashee Patel, Brinda and Kshama Raghuvir, Subash and Sangeeta Rashatwar, Dhuru and Usha Saparia, Ms Gita Saparia, Ashish and Abhilasha Saxena, Amit Shah and Dilip Gandhi, Hemendra Singh, Vishal Vasistha and Malini Khanna, Ramesh and Usha Viswanathan, and Ram Yadav.

Additional names for donations received in excess of \$1000 (total contribution in 2016) by the end of 2016 will be published in February Satsang. Please be generous and take advantage of year end tax deduction

**PROGRAMS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH
YOGA ABHYAS FOR HEALTH, HAPPINESS &
GOD REALIZATION:**

Contact: Vina Gandhi at 856-435-9148

GITA STUDY GROUP:

Every Tuesday 8-9 pm at our Mandir

Contact: Sharad Pimplaskar @ (856) 985-4785

BHAJANS & STUTI:

Every Friday, 7:30-9 pm

Contact: Shree Shuklaji(856) 768-6785

REGULAR PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

BALVIHAR: For children (PRE-K to 8th Grade) teaches Sanatana Dharma, Vedic Heritage and Indian Culture. Two Sundays a month from 10 am - 1 pm @ Marlton Middle School Contact: Malathi Shankar (856) 424-7849 or Bhavesh Patel 1-855-my-mandir ext 3.

YOUTH PROGRAM: A program for young adults (8th to 12th Grade) and parents. Two Sundays a month from 9:45 am - 1 pm at our Mandir. Contact: Praveen Garg (856) 783-4692 or Sangeeta Rashatwar (856) 424-4211

CREATIVE ART WORKSHOP

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday @ 9:30 am at our Mandir

Contact: Sudha Patel (856)489-4065

PUJA SERVICE CHARGES, TEMPLE FACILITIES USAGE FEE AND OTHER CHARGES:

The following provides list of applicable charges and fees. Shri Shuklaji /Shri Sudhirji will be available for religious services on request. Please note that 50% of the listed cost of Puja performed outside the temple goes to Pujari in addition to his regular salary. Please check temple availability at www.indiatemple.org; Click on “CALENDAR tab” and, from drop-down menu, Click on “EVENT/RENTAL CALENDAR”. **Please contact Shri. Divyakant Parikh at 1-855-MY-MANDIR Ext 1 for the booking of the Temple Facilities and/or scheduling of Puja Services by Shuklaji or Sudhirji.**

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

PUJA SERVICE **	INSIDE TEM- PLE	OUTSIDE TEMPLE	Following listed fees and charges are in addition to the charges listed for Puja Services
Archana(Panchopachar)	\$11	N/A	
Vahan (Vehicle) Puja	\$21	N/A	
Namakaran/Annaprashan	\$51	\$101	
Birthday	\$51	\$101	
Shraddha	\$51	\$101	
Anniversary Celebration	\$101	\$151	
Seemant	\$101	\$151	
Kesh Mundan Puja	\$101	\$151	
Sodashopchar, Kalash Puja, Punyah-Vachan or Blessings	\$101	\$151	
Satyanarayan Puja	\$121	\$151	
Engagement Ceremony	\$101	\$201	
Havan/Grah Shanti	\$201	\$251	
Vastu Puja - outside service only	N/A	\$251	
Wedding Grah Shanti	\$201	\$301	
Wedding Ceremony per day	\$301	\$351	
Upanayan/Yagnopavita	\$251	\$301	
Antim Rites (Funeral Service)	Voluntary donation		
Uttar Kriya per day-outside service only	N/A	\$101	
Yagna//laghu rudra - outside service only	N/A	\$351	
Navchandi Yagna—outside service only	N/A	\$651	

TEMPLE FACILITIES USAGE FEE:

Prayer Hall: \$200

Social Hall: \$300

OTHER CHARGES

\$51. travel charges for 25 to 50 miles

\$101 travel charges for 51 to 100 miles

\$51 Non-member charges

NOTE: Charges and availability of other Puja Services not listed above may be discussed with Divyakant parikh @ (856) 745-9676

DIRECTION TO BERLIN TEMPLE

A. From Tacony Bridge:

Take NJ route 73S; drive about 12-13 miles and follow sign for East Taunton Ave. Temple on your right

B. From Ben Franklin Bridge:

Take route 30E to NJ route 70E to NJ route 73S, drive about 7 miles and follow sign for East Taunton Ave. Temple on your right

C. From Walt Whitman Bridge or Delaware Memorial Bridge:

Take I-295N to Exit 29-A for route 30E to Berlin Twp. Turn left on East Taunton Ave.

D. From Central and North Jersey:

Take NJ turnpike south, Exit 4 for route 73S. Drive about 10-11 miles and follow sign for East Taunton Ave. on your right.



India Temple Association, Inc.

25 E. Taunton, Berlin, NJ 08009

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Facility Rental
Temple Manager
Charu Sheth
Divyakant Parikh
1-855-my-mandir x 1
manager@indiatemple.org

Darshan Schedule

Morning

9:00 am - 12:30 pm

Evening

3 pm - 9 pm

Aarti

12 pm & 8 pm

Times may change during
special occasions

*Please use the front door
and ring the bell if locked*

**PLEASE REVIEW YOUR ADDRESS LABEL AND RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP BASED ON EXPIRATION DATE OR SUPPORT ITA WITH YOUR
ENROLLMENT IF YOU ARE NOT IDENTIFIED AS A MEMBER**

**Please check appropriate items from the following, and mail it to
Hindu Temple, 25 East Taunton Ave., Berlin, NJ 08009 Attn: Mr. M. Kanzaria**

I/We would like to join India Temple Association and I/We are remitting the membership dues
(please select one) Individual or Family one year (\$51) _____
Individual or Family five year (\$151) _____
Life (\$1,001) _____

I/ We are seniors, age 65 and above and would like to join India Temple Association. I am/We are
remitting the membership dues
(please select one) Individual or Family Five year (\$25) _____
Life (\$101) _____

I am adding additional donations:
_____ Scholarship Fund _____ Lifetime Seva (\$301) _____ Temple Renovations
_____ Seva Samiti Fund _____ Bal Vihar Fund _____ Youth Fund

I am relocating to the following address

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____