



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. 47 No. 1 (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org JANUARY 2020

Religious Calendar

- 6-Jan Putrada Ekadashi
10-Jan Purnima
15-Jan Makar Sankranti,
Uttarayana, Pongal
20-Jan Shat Tila Ekadashi
5-Feb Jaya Ekadashi
9-Feb Purnima
19-Feb Vijay Ekadashi
21-Feb Mahashivaratri

Satyanarayan Puja

Friday, Jan. 10 at 6pm

Sunderkand Path

Saturday, Jan. 18 at 10am

ITA NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!!!

Email communityservice@indiatemple.org if you are interested in volunteering at events.

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 15th: Makar Sankranti, Uttarayana, Pongal

January 26th: Youth Group Relaunch Brainstorming Session 7PM @ICC

February 2nd: ITA Children's Vasant Panchami Puja at Temple

ANNOUNCEMENTS

!!!!HAPPY NEW YEAR !!!!

VIKRAM SAMVAT 2076 / 2020 CALENDAR AVAILABLE ONLINE

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

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.

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-Devayani Shah	18-Jan		

Temple Hours

Monday - Friday

9 am - 1 pm

3 pm - 8:30 pm

Saturday & Sunday

9 am to 9 pm

Aarti

12 pm & 8 pm

Times may change during
special occasions

*If back door is locked,
please try front door, ring
bell or call (856) 768-3134.*

SAVE THE TEMPLE MONEY! GO DIGITAL!

Email: vpinfo@indiatemple.org to convert to a digital only subscription.



MONTHLY PUJAS AT BERLIN TEMPLE

SUNDARKAND PAATH: Saturday, Jan. 18 @ 10am to Noon
Followed by Mahaprasad sponsored by Gagan Palace

SATYANARAYAN PUJA: Friday, Jan. 10 @ 6 PM
Followed by Mahaprasad sponsored by Indian Vila

Anyone can sit in this Puja and receive blessings of Lord Satyanarayan.
Please contact Binduben at (856) 768-6785 if you plan to participate.



PROGRAMS FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH, HEALTH, HAPPINESS & GOD REALIZATION @ BERLIN TEMPLE

Vishnu Sahasranamam and Lalitha Sahasranamam will be recited on 1st Friday of each month starting at 10:30 AM.
This will be followed by Aarti at Noon. Please join us to receive blessings

Satya Sai Baba of Medford Bhajans 3rd Friday of each month from 8-9pm
Contact P.K. Prabhakar (856) 596-3147/ Sessa Vemuri (856) 751-0687 for details.

Bhajan Sandya by SJ Bhajan Mandali Group 1st Friday of each month 7:00 to 8:00 pm led by Venu Gopal Verma.

Bhagavat Gita Study each Tuesday morning at 11am organized by Sharad Pimplaskar (856) 466-1430.

ITA Senior Social Group

Meetings every Tuesday at 1pm in the Social Hall. Contact Mr. Bhulabhai Bhakta 856-983-0769 for details.

Yoga and Pranayama Classes at Berlin Mandir

Doing Yoga regularly can help you stay physically and mentally healthy. Join Dr. Veena Gandhi (856) 816 4095 & Hina Desai (856) 435 9148 every Tuesday and Thursday from 9-10:15 am for yoga. PLEASE NOTE: As both instructors will be in India, yoga classes will pause for winter break from November 15th to March 1st.



Happy Makara Sankranti, Uttarayan, Bhogi, Maghi, Pongal, Lohri!!!!!!!
January 15th

Condolences

Shri Ramnikhbhai Antala resident of Jersey City passed away on Wednesday, December 18, 2019. He was the younger brother of Shri Chimanbhai Antala of Voorhees, NJ. Ramnikhbhai is survived by wife, two sons, two daughters and eight grand children. ITA and it's Board extend their sincere condolences to Antala family.

Shri Sureshbhai Patel resident of Hainesport NJ, passed away on Monday, December 9, 2019. He is survived by his wife Damyantiben (Shakuben), son Dharmesh, two daughters, Sangeeta and Seema, and seven grand children. ITA and it's Board extend their sincere condolences to Patel family.

Shri Umesh N. Shah, resident of Emerson NJ, age 69, passed away on December 2, 2019. He is survived by his wife Pratima, two sons, Niraj and Meet, and five grand children. ITA and it's Board extend their sincere condolences to Shah family.

Shrimati Vijayaben A. Mehta, age 90, passed away in India on Saturday, Nov. 30, 2019. She is survived by her daughter, Kashmiri Gandhi, grandson and two great-grand children. ITA and it's Board extend their sincere condolences to Mehta / Gandhi family.

PROGRAMS FOR SENIORS BY HSC OF NJ

Next meeting, "Senior Night: By Seniors For Seniors," will be on **January 30th** at 6.30 PM at ICC. There is so much talent in this group that we need more than two hours to enjoy their melodies--Bhajans, Bollywood songs, Jokes, Shayari, poetry and Ghazels. Please join and support your esteemed peers. If interested to participate, please call Raj Verma at 856-344-7074.

Also at Jan. 30th meeting, **Virendra Gupta** will be sworn in as the new President of HSCSJ. Most of you know that he firmly believes in Yoga, Meditation and serving Humanity. A retired mechanical engineer, he lives in Cherry Hill with his beautiful wife Madhu Gupta. He will also present his EC nominees to the General Body for their approval.

FREE NOTARY SERVICE

Contact: Ghanshyam Dave.:856-596-7531, Raman Modhera: 856-528-2863 or Dalapat Patel: 609-298-2724

Youth Group Relaunch Brainstorming Session

January 26th at 7pm @ ICC

ITA is looking for high school students looking to lead, young adults (20 & 30 somethings) interested in sharing their experiences, and open minded parents to help develop a New Youth Program geared toward high school students. We hope that by bringing a diverse group together we can create a program that engages this demographic. The ITA Leadership is open to a wide range of formats for the program. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm to build something impactful and exciting. If you have any questions, please reach out to Vinita Ganju, ITA VP of Programs, at (609) 744-8558 or Samir Patel, (201) 657 8661.

Children's Vasant Panchami

Sunday, February 2nd 2:00 - 4:00 pm at Berlin Temple



Join us in the celebration of Vasant Panchami and receive the blessing of from the Goddess Saraswati. The program will include:

- Pooja performed by and tailored for children
- A short skit
- Art & Crafts for children under 7
- Group Activity for Children over 7
- Child friendly prasad and Aarti

Saraswati is the Hindu goddess of speech, learning, wisdom, arts, science, music, knowledge and more. In India, Saraswati is worshiped at educational institutions in societies mostly from Eastern and Northern Parts of India on Vasant Panchami (Magh Shukla Panchami). Goddess Saraswati, she is the consort of the lord Brahma. First Rigveda, Upanishads and Puranas all reference Saraswati. People worship Goddess Saraswati to attain enlightenment through knowledge and to rid themselves of lethargy, sluggishness and ignorance. Word of "Sara" means essence, and "sva" means one self, has the fused words meaning "essence of one self", and Saraswati meaning is one who leads to essence of self-knowledge.

Her four hands hold items with symbolic meanings - a pustaka (book or script), a mala (rosary), a water pot and a musical instrument (veena). The book she holds symbolizes the Vedas and represents the universal, divine, eternal, and true knowledge as well as all forms of learning. A mala of crystals represents the power of meditation, inner reflection and spirituality. A pot of water represents the purifying power to separate right from wrong, the clean from the unclean, and the essence from the inessential. The most famous feature on goddess Saraswati is a musical instrument called a veena, representing all creative arts and sciences. Her holding the veena symbolizes the expression of knowledge that creates harmony which is why she is also associated with anuraga, rhythm of music, which represents all emotions and feelings expressed in speech or music.

A hansa or swan is often located next to her feet. In Hindu mythology, the hansa is a sacred bird, which if offered a mixture of milk and water, is said to be able to drink the milk alone. It thus symbolizes the ability to discriminate between good and evil, essence from outward show, and the eternal from the evanescent. Due to her association with the swan or hansa, goddess Saraswati is also referred to as Hansvahini, which means "she who has a hansa as her vehicle". The swan is also a symbolism for spiritual perfection, transcendence and moksha. A mayura or peacock is shown beside the goddess. The peacock

Maha Shivaratri Friday, February 21st

We invite you to join us in the celebration of Maha Shivaratri at the Berlin Temple:

Abhishek: 9:00am to 12:00pm and 4:00pm to 8:00pm
Bhajans: 6:00pm - 8:00pm followed by Aarati and Farali Prasad
More details will be in February Satsang.

If you are interested in sponsoring Prasad, Flowers, Garlands, Ice Deity and decorations, or volunteering, please contact Charu Sheth 856-662-8754.





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EDITOR:
Brinda Raghuvver
 25 East Taunton Ave
 Berlin, NJ 08009
 Editor@indiatemple.org

NON-PROFIT
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT 800
 BELLMAWR, N.J.
 08031

Executive Committee

President

Pankaj Desai

1-855-my-mandir x 710
 president@indiatemple.org

VP of Programs

Vinita Ganju

1-855-my-mandir x 711
 vpprograms@indiatemple.org

VP of Com. & Info.

Vidya Shukla

855-my-mandir x 712
 vpinfo@indiatemple.org

VP of Events

Charu Sheth

855-my-mandir x 713
 vpevents@indiatemple.org

Treasurer

Samir K. Patel

855-my-mandir x 714
 treasurer@indiatemple.org

Pujari Services Manager

Anoo Joshi

855-my-mandir x 715
 pujaservices@indiatemple.org

Facility Manager

Vijesh Darji

855-my-mandir x 716
 facility@indiatemple.org

Audit / Compliance

Bhumika Kundu

856-577-4925
 audit@indiatemple.org

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(856) 768-3134.

Send address changes or Membership renewals to:

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

PUJA SERVICE & TEMPLE RENTAL FEES

Shri Shuklaji /Shri Sudhirji perform religious services on request. Please contact Anoo Joshi 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	\$11		\$11	
Vahan Pooja	\$25		\$25	
Namkaran/Annaprashan	\$51	\$101	\$100	\$151
Birthday	\$51	\$101	\$100	\$151
Shradha	\$51	\$101	\$100	\$151
Anniversary Celebration	\$101	\$151	\$151	\$200
Kesh Mundan	\$101	\$151	\$151	\$200
Satyanarayan Pooja	\$121	\$151	\$200	\$251
Engagement Ceremony	\$101	\$201	\$151	\$251
Havan/Graha Shanti	\$201	\$251	\$251	\$300
Vastu Pooja-Outside Only		\$251		\$300
Wedding per day	\$401	\$501	\$501	\$551
Upanayan/Yagnopavit	\$251	\$301	\$300	\$351
Uttarkriya Per day -Outside Only		\$151		\$200
Yagna/laghu rudra-Outside Only		\$351		\$400
Navchandi Yagna-Outside Only		\$651		\$700
Antim Kriya		No Charge		No Charge

*\$.58/ mile charge applied when puja requires greater than 20 miles of travel.

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	\$200	\$250
Social Hall Rental	\$300	\$350