



# 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. 71 No. 1 Phone: (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org JULY 2016

### Religious Calendar

July 4 Monday

- Somvati Amavas

July 15 Friday

- Devshayani Eka-dashi / Gauri Vrat Starts

July 17 Sunday

- Jaya Parvati Vrat Starts

July 19 Tuesday

- Guru-Vyas Purnima / Gauri Vriat Conc

July 21 Thursday

- Jaya Parvati Vrat Concludes

July 29 Friday

- Kamika Ekadashi

### Monthly Bhajans

July 1, Friday

- Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam @ 8 pm

July 8 Friday 7:30pm

- Shree Ji Bhajan

Urmi Upadhyay 856-424-9328; Charu Sheth 856-662-8754

July 15, Friday 8-9pm

- Satya Sai Baba of Medford

P.K. Prabhakar 856-596-3147 ; Sessa Vemuri 856-751-0867

### July 4 Independence Day Parade

Sunderkand Path on Saturday July 16, at 10 am

Satyanarayan puja on Tuesday July 19 at 6pm

Our Hindu calendar is available for viewing at [www.indiatemple.org](http://www.indiatemple.org). Please select Calendar, followed by option 'Vikram Samvat 2072'. The Calendar has two parts. After the initial name page, next two pages are summary of the entire year's event. Rest of the details are laid out by month.

### 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.*

- |                      |         |                    |         |
|----------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|
| • Vinu Patel         | July 01 | Kiran Bhatt        | July 24 |
| • Vinod Mehta        | July 12 | Mahesh Dixit       | July 24 |
| • Ramesh Upadhyay    | July 13 | Amardeep Patel     | July 24 |
| • Asha Gupta         | July 18 | Hariprasad K. Jani | July 30 |
| • Arun Maheswari     | July 18 |                    |         |
| • Pratima Parikh     | July 19 |                    |         |
| • Vijay & Asha Gupta | July 22 |                    |         |

**Hindu Senior Citizens of South Jersey**  
**July 2016 Meeting Announcement Venue – ICC**  
**www.Hinduseniors.com**

**Venue:- ICC 820 Rt. 73 Marlton,NJ 08053**

**We have two meetings in July,2016:-**

July 11,2016 (IT IS MONDAY,PLEASE NOTE) Islam in India Avin Dube the presenter, who made a presentation on "Golden Age of India" in 2014 will continue his journey and this time will cover the period from 600-1857 AD. How Islam made inroads into India,settlement of the Invaders, Conversion of Hindus to Muslims and finally the rise and fall of the Muslim rule in India.

Avin Dube is a retired engineer with an MS in Elect. Engg.. Worked for 40 years in Automation Field for various companies in Canada and USA

July 28,2016...Aging gracefully and enjoying the golden years. We are honored and privileged to have Dr. Pragnaben Pai from India to talk about a very important subject old-age. Most individuals enjoy their childhood and youth. However, we are apprehensive about old-age. Likely reasons are fear of dependency ,disease disability, destitution and death .It must be remembered that birth ,growth ,age-related changes and death have been programmed into our very being .Are you 50,60,70 or 80 ? Let us nurture our existence by adding life to years and not merely years to life.

Dr. Pragnaben Pai,M.D.,DCH,FIAP started her career as a pediatrician in 1965 and did practice for 21 years and changed to hospital admin. & management in 1986.Worked as Dean of BYL Nair & Kem Hospital in Bombay for 14 years. Authored 26 books, recipient of life-time achievement award, woman of the year and professional excellent awards.

If you want to sponsor for snacks ,please call Manju Goel at 856-424-9028

Ram Arora

President

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**July 4 Independence Day Parade**

4th of July Parade includes Float, T-Shirts, Music and Dance/Songs.

Please make sure you invite your friends and family to participate in the parade.

Plenty of food is available at the parade location. We will be providing Coffee and Donuts/Bagels in the morning for people who come to decorate the float.

We will be providing T-shirts for parade participants.

Paradise Biryani will be offering a lunch special for parade participants.

Parade Start time is 10:30AM

Starting Location is Marlton Green Shopping Center

The address is 24 W Rte 70.

You can also enter the address of the Mattress Warehouse store which is located in that shopping center. The address of the store is 46 W Rte 70.

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**From Me to You**

Pranams.

Rene Descartes is considered as one of the first Western philosophers to evolve a rational thesis regarding the existence of God. He is also celebrated as a keen mathematician who developed a link between algebra and geometry, called the Cartesian coordinate system.

He made his famous declaration: *cogito ergo sum* which is normally translated as 'I think, therefore I am'. It is a constant perception which one would like to term Awareness or Consciousness. The approximate translation would perhaps be, 'I am aware, therefore, I exist'.

The key to the destruction of mind is Awareness. After withdrawing the mind from the outer world and from the body, after calming it and completely focusing it, if one can open the window to Awareness, the mind vanishes and one realizes that one's true identity is the Awareness itself. This nature of Awareness is *Sat Chit Ananda*.

It is the Awareness principle or pure consciousness, which stands as the everlasting, ever present witness to everything that is the true self. I am, thus, my Consciousness.

This is the universal truth which Descartes explored and what the Upanishads authoritatively expounds.

Let us dwell on this supreme truth at all times, and use our Mandir as the abode where this truth dawns on us.

Until then,

Ramesh Viswanathan

### **ITA Scholarship Announcement**

Every year, ITA awards scholarships to the current high school graduates, based on their essays, academic performance, community service, and volunteering in ITA related activities. The topics for the essays are given beforehand. I'd like to acknowledge the Essay judge panel members: Amrita Desai, Sharada Krishnamurthy, Asha Verma. Also, thanks are in order to Ramesh Gupta for serving on the Scholarship committee.

This year, we have selected two winners. They both are very distinguished scholars and wrote excellent essays. Both contestants were very competitive with respect to academics and extra-curricular activities.

**First Place:** Mr. Amol Lotia

**Second Place:** Mr. Vipul Bhat

We wish all the winners a wonderful future as they embark on a quest to uncover their inner potential in colleges and beyond. Amol was awarded, a scholarship of \$1500 and Vipul was awarded a scholarship of \$1,000 during the ITA Graduation Yagna on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> held at the Mandir. The second place winning essay follows this announcement.

Jai Shri Krishna,

Sangeeta Rashatwar, ITA Scholarship Committee Chair

#### **Karma and Reincarnation**

By Vipul Bhat

In modern times, the common axioms "Every action has an equal but opposite reaction" and "What goes around comes around" have been used in media and conversation to portray the concept of karma, one of Hinduism's many jewels of wisdom. Although both of these sayings accurately represent the general idea of karma, the implications are much deeper and more complex. The belief, which broadly describes the principle of cause and effect, is universal and governs all life. The word karma means act, and karma is the sum of all of one's actions and thoughts. It states that every physical, mental, and emotional act, no matter how small, is recorded as an impression onto one's soul and will eventually return in the form of their future. Such reactions are not necessarily immediate and are the cumulative effect of the previous thoughts and actions of the person (sanchita karma). Simply put, if one provides love and happiness, one will experience equal happiness, but if one causes suffering, one will experience the same suffering.

In recent times, the principle of karma has been prone to many misconceptions due to its depiction in a negative light by forms of media such as songs and movies. Karma is not about punishment or revenge, but in fact about fairness. Everything and everyone is subject to it. Many people think that one's karma is pre-decided, but this is unreasonable. According to The Aetherius Society, everyone has the power to change their karma (agami karma), as it is dependent on their own thoughts and actions; positive actions can destroy negative karma and create positive karma. The importance of service in Hinduism is illustrated by this same concept. As one provides for others, he/she will eventually be rewarded by his/her positive karma in some way, possibly wealth. This reward will provide them a greater opportunity to help others and provide love, happiness, and health. This continual cycle, which results in the greater good of humanity, is essence of karma.

However, with the belief of the karma theory, it would only make sense for reincarnation to follow. When a person dies, he/she would not have fulfilled all of their karma, meaning that he/she would not have received experiences equal to what they had given. Thus, they must be reincarnated and continue the cycle. For this reason, death is simply the death of one's physical body; their life continues, since their soul (atma) is still alive. While waiting to be reincarnated, this atma lives on in an astral body in a different physical realm, one which has a different frequency than the one we live in. In conversation, those with higher frequencies are considered to be forms of "heaven," and those with lower frequencies are considered to be forms of "hell." In these realms, the soul continues to experience emotions as well as relationships, those which reflect the unfulfilled karma of the soul at the time of the body's death. Once the soul has evolved spiritually, it is ready to enter a new physical body, and it re-enters the realm that we live in. This cycle of birth, death, and rebirth is the reincarnation of the human soul and is known as samsara.

Due to this continuous cycle, Hindus who fully understand the theory of karma and reincarnation are not afraid of death, because it simply means moving from one body to another. Rebirth, just like adolescence and adulthood, is a part of life, and there is no escaping from it. According to Hinduism Today, after each rebirth, the soul becomes more spiritually advanced. Hindus can look forward to a state of being known as moksha, where one has achieved a release from samsara and freedom from rebirth. In this state, the soul has become close to perfect, and it no longer needs a physical body to continue its spiritual advancement. This freedom is the primary goal in life for Hindus. Wealth and power are simply tools that can be utilized to aid others, evolve spiritually, and achieve moksha through the continuous process of rebirth. As explained in the Bhagavad Gita, the concepts of karma and reincarnation are the true essence of life and are as clear as the water that one drinks and as pure as the air that one breathes.

Citations

"Karma And Reincarnation." The Aetherius Society. N.p., n.d. Web. 31 Mar. 2016. <[www.aetherius.org/karma-and-reincarnation/](http://www.aetherius.org/karma-and-reincarnation/)>

"KARMA AND REINCARNATION." Hinduism Today. N.p., July 1987. Web. 31 Mar. 2016. <<http://www.hinduismtoday.com/modules/smartsection/item.php?itemid=431>>

## Monthly Pujas at Mandir

It is a pleasure to read Sunderkand Path on Saturday July 16, at 10 am and to perform Satyanarayan puja on Tuesday July 19 at 6pm at our Temple with family and friends.



We invite you to join us and perform Satyanarayan puja every Purnima day with family and friends and receive the blessings of Almighty God. Donations are welcome. Suggested donation is \$ 31. It is followed by Mahaprasad generously sponsored by Indian Villa.



Please join us for Sunderkand Path held on Saturday of each month. Mahaprasad generously sponsored by Gagan Palace.

Jai Krishna, Kshamaben

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FROM THE DESK OF MEMBERSHIP/SS Mailing COMMITTEE

Dear ITA Devotees

Once more, please look over your Satsang Mailing Lable

You are one of following

F Founding Member, L Life Member, Sr Life No Expiry Required

Expiry dates for Five Year, One Year Senior Five year IS SHOWN

Others are Donors who gave record able donation in last two years

For current membership criteria refer to ITA web site.

In order to vote or apply for trusteeship term beginning January 2017 you will also have to meet two year continuity requirements. The range of dates to meet these requirements is October 01 2014 and September 30 2016. These may be revised by BOT and the revision if any will be published in August or September Sat sang.

Some may have complimentary issues Please become member or donate or mailing will be stopped

**WE URGE YOU TO BECOME OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SPECIALLY BALVIHAR PARENTS AS IT REQUIRES ACTIVE PARENTAL ITA MEMBERSHIP TO HAVE YOUR CHILDREN TO BE BENIFITED, SO BEFORE BALVIHAR SESION STARTS, TAKE ACTION TO SO YOU MAY NOT BE DISAPPOINTED.**

Direct any inquire via E mail,( No phone call ) with details to Govindmodi@msn.com or Harshad41@aol.com

JSK

Membership and SS mailing Committee

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### 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](tel:8569830769) for details.

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

Ghanshyam Dave of Marlton. (H) 856-596-7531 [ghanu44@aol.com](mailto:ghanu44@aol.com)

Raman Modhera of Voorhees. (H)856-528-2863 [rvmodhera@gmail.com](mailto:rvmodhera@gmail.com)

Dalpat Patel of Columbus. (H)609-298-2724 [imperialin@aol.com](mailto:imperialin@aol.com)

## Balvihar 2015-2016 Update

Namaste,  
We invite children from Pre-K to Kindergarten to participate in our educative, fun filling Balvihar program. Our program is based on imparting knowledge of Indian culture and the principles of Sanatana Dharma that ultimately helps one find peace, happiness and success in life. Children also learn various aspects of our culture and traditions.

Our 2015-2016 Balvihar year started with prayers to Lord Ganesha. A more organized structure and curriculum has boosted the attendance of children compared to the past years. Apart from the regular classes we also celebrated festivals like Krishna Janmashtami, Deepavali, Dasserah, Shivarathri, and Holi with the support of ITA. Outreach social activities like the sandwich program, relay for cancer, and food donation were also coordinated with ITA Seva Samiti.

Our exciting annual day held on May 14th was unique this year. Every class presented programs like a skit, dance, jeopardy, shlokas, bhajans etc. related to what they learned in Balvihar. We had record number of children participating in the annual day program as it was class based. Dr. Surendra Sheth presented awards to children of perfect attendance and class achievers. The eighth graders were recognized and awarded certificates and gifts by our ITA President Mr. Ramesh Viswanathan. This year, Balvihar came to end with kids enjoying activities at Funplex. Please come and join our Balvihar family for all the fun and learning!

Jai Shree Krishna!

Malathi Shankar

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### ITA Balvihar Program Enrollment for 2016 -2017 Year Opens on July 1st

**Program Description:** ITA Balvihar Program teaches Sanatana Dharma, Vedic Heritage and Indian Culture to children in Pre-K to 8th Grade. A brief overview of the curriculum by grade is below:

Pre-K (Prithvi) - Hindu Art, Shlokas/Songs/Story

KG (Meghaa) - Stories from Panchatantra, Indian Festivals

1st (Saagar) - Stories from Puranas, Introduction to Gods/Goddess, Introduction to India I

2nd (Vaayu) - Bala Bhagavatam, Stories of Saints, Introduction to India II

3rd (Pavan) - Ramayana, Important Indian Historical Figures

4th (Aakash) - Mahabharata I, Indian History I (Mauryan Dynasty)

5th (Gagan) - Mahabharata II, Indian History II (Gupta Dynasty/ South Indian Empires)

6th (Agni) - Values, Analysis of Ramayana/Mahabharata characters, Indian History III (Mughal dynasty)

7th (Marut) - Principles of Hinduism & Ishvara, British Rule in India and the after effects

8th (Medhaa) - Religious Disciplines, Culture, Tradition, Vedic Chanting, Evolution of civilization

**Timing:** 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM on 17 Sundays starting on September 11th and ending on May 7th

**Location:** MARLTON MIDDLE SCHOOL (150 Tomlinson Mill Road, Marlton, NJ)

**Registration Fee:** \$151 on or before July 31st / \$201 on or after August 1st. Fee covers the cost of supplies, school rental, and lunch.

We **ENCOURAGE YOU TO REGISTER EARLY** as it makes it easier for us to plan and ensures that your child secures a spot. Please explore the Balvihar webpage for the calendar, curriculum and greater program details. The website is [https://www.indiatemple.org/bal\\_vihar.php](https://www.indiatemple.org/bal_vihar.php). For registration questions, please email [ita.balvihar@gmail.com](mailto:ita.balvihar@gmail.com) or contact Shashank Sheth at 732-604-8956

## Programs for Your Spiritual Growth

### YOGA ABHYAS FOR HEALTH, HAPPINESS & GOD

**REALIZATION:** A program for adults on Yogasana, Pranayam & Meditation.

First Sunday: 9:30 -11:30 am at our Mandir

Contact: Surendra Sheth@ (856) 985-3700

### GITA STUDY GROUP:

Every Tuesday & Wednesday, 8-9 pm at our Mandir

Contact: Sharad Pimplaskar @ (856) 985-4785

### BHAJANS & STUTI:

Every Friday, 7:30-9 pm

Contact: Shree Shuklaji or Shri Sudhirji (856) 768-6785

## Regular Programs for Children and Youth

**BALVIHAR:** For children (PRE-K to 8<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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.

PUJA SERVICE	INSIDE TEMPLE	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	
Sunderkand Path	\$151		
Wedding Grah Shanti	\$201	\$301	
Wedding Ceremony per day	\$301	\$351	
Upanayan/Yagnopavita	\$251	\$301	
Antim Rites (Funeral Service)	Voluntary Donation		\$151 for 151 - 200 mile radius
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

#### MILEAGE AND TRAVEL TIME TIER

\$0 for 1 - 25 mile radius

\$51 for 26 - 100 mile radius

\$101 for 101 - 150 mile radius

#### NON-MEMBER

\$51 for non-member surcharge

**NOTE: Charges and availability of other Puja Services not listed above may be discussed with Smt. Charu Sheth at 1-855-MY-MANDIR Ext 1**

#### DIRECTION TO BERLIN TEMPLE

##### A. From Tacony Bridge:

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

##### B. From Ben Franklin Bridge:

Take route 30E to NJ route 70E to NJ route 73S, drive for about 7 miles and follow signs for East Taunton Avenue. Temple is 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 Avenue

##### D. From Central and North Jersey:

Take NJ Turnpike South. Exit 4 for route 73S. Drive for about 10 - 11 miles and follow signs for East Taunton Avenue on your right



# India Temple Association, Inc.

25 E. Taunton, Berlin, NJ 08009

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## Religious Services

### 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: \_\_\_\_\_