



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. 57 No. 1 Phone: (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org MAY 2015

Religious Calendar

May 2 Saturday

- Bal Vihar and Yuva Darshan Annual Day

May 3 Sunday

- Shri Buddha Jayanti / Purnima / Satyanarayan Katha

May 14 Thursday

- Apara Ekadashi

May 29 Friday

- Nirjala / Bheem Ekadashi / Shri Gayatri Jayanti

Monthly Activities

Kshama Raghuveer 707-332-3400

May 1, Friday

- Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam @ 8 pm

May 3, Sunday

- Shri Satyanarayan Pooja 3:30pm

May 16, Saturday

- Sunderkand Path 10am

Monthly Bhajans

May 15, Friday 8-9pm

- Satya Sai Baba of Medford

P.K. Prabhakar 856-596-3147

Sesha Vemuri 856-751-0867

From Me to You

Pranams!

Everything that exists in Nature has its place and relevance therein. Emerson's poem 'Fable' refers to a quarrel between a mountain, high and mighty, and a little squirrel, nestling in one of the trees on the mountain. It ends with the squirrel saying:

"If I'm not as large as you / You are not so small as I / And not half as spry / Talents differ, all is well and wisely put / If I cannot carry forests on my back / Neither can you crack a nut".

Everything and everyone has a role to play in the grand scheme of things — the mountain and the squirrel, the clouds high up and the dust down below, the tall trees and the tiny weeds growing under them. Similarly, every man and woman, nay every being in this universe, is equipped with different capacities which are necessary and useful in their respective spheres and positions in life.

With that in mind, going forward, let us strive not to compare with our fellow brethren, work in harmony with each other and contribute to the extent our capacities allow us to – all for the betterment of our beloved Mandir, under the auspices of ITA.

As always, Ramesh Viswanathan

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.

• Nanu Maisuria	May 02	Sushil & Kamala Chandra	May 19
• Narendra H. Amin	May 05	Sharad Pandya	May 19
• Harendra Dave	May 05	Mahesh Dixit	May 26
• Rajubhai Patel	May 05	Priti & Tejas Patel	May 26
• Shreyansi M. Shah	May 08	Siddhi Vasa	May 26
• Sudhaben Patel	May 09	Pooja & Jayesh Khatiwala	May 27
• Bhal Patel	May 10	Amita Talati	May 27
• Iti Bar	May 11	Isvar Patel	May 28
• Narsinh Sangani	May 15	Nishta Patel-Hudson	May 28
• Natwarlal Contractor	May 16	Dipti & Monil Pandya	May 29
• Ruchi Talati Shah	May 16	Jayanti & Kalaben Patel	May 29
• Mahendra Jaiswal	May 17	Jayant Pandya	May 31
• Upendra & Rekha Shah	May 25		

Condolences

It is with deep sorrow and sadness to inform you all that Shailendra's Desai's father, Ashraylal Desai, Age 94, passed away today, Wednesday, 4/22, in India. Shailendra visited him few months. Shailendra's sister was with him when he passed away. Our condolences to Shailendra, Amita, Anisha and Shamit. May his soul rest in peace and almighty God give strength to Shailendra and his family members to sustain his loss.

ITA and its board extend their sincere condolences to their family.

Hindu Senior Citizens of South Jersey May 2015 Meeting Announcement Venue – ICC www.Hinduseniors.com

Thursday, May 14 & Thursday May 28

6:30 pm	Tea/coffee with snacks, aartii
7:00 pm	Meeting starts
7:30 to 8:30	Lecture followed by question-answer period

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Coming from the East and living in the West it is important for us to understand an analysis of our own ideas and the ideas of other community members in American society which surrounds us.

God and Religion in the East and the West

The way the terms God and Religion are defined in the Eastern concepts versus in the West makes a huge difference how the religion is perceived in the two traditions. For Hinduism, *dharma* is a way of life performing one's duties while for the Western Monotheistic traditions, religion flows from formal pronouncements of their sacred books. (The term 'Monotheists' refers to the three Western religions: Judaism, Christianity and Islam, which have sprung from a common source based on the Biblical traditions & the Ten Commandments). The presentation will explore what has been similar and what has been different along historical lines in the Eastern and Western traditions. The presenter is Mr. Vijay Kapoor, a long time resident of South Jersey. He is a professional in the area of international business with a deep interest in the intellectual traditions of East and West. He has taught courses on this subject and has written extensively on these matters.

Thursday, May 28, 2015

Maintaining our memory and thinking skills is the key to our happiness and normal life functions during our senior years. The following lecture is of great importance for all seniors.

Aging and Memory - What's normal, what's not?

People forget things—a name, where they put their keys, a phone number—and yet what is dismissed as an inconvenience at younger age becomes a major source of personal worry at ages 65 and beyond. Older Individuals are deeply concerned about declines in memory and decision making abilities as they age and may also be worried about whether these declines are early signs of a neurodegenerative disease, particularly Alzheimer's disease. In a 2012 survey of its members, AARP found that staying "mentally sharp" was a top concern of 87 percent of respondents. At this point in time, when the older population is rapidly growing in the United States, it is important to carefully examine changes that are normal with aging versus those that are the result of disease. Although the brain does change with age, there are positive steps that can be taken to maintain and improve brain health. As human life expectancy increases, maintaining one's cognitive abilities is key to assuring the quality of those added years. The presenter is Dr. Anita Chopra, MD, FACP. Dr. Chopra is Board certified in internal medicine and geriatrics. She is the Director of the NJ Institute for Successful Aging at Rowan University School of Osteopathic Medicine and is Professor and William G. Rohrer Endowed Chair of its Department of Geriatrics and Gerontology.

S. Gambhir; President HSCSJ

Monthly Pujas at Mandir

It is a pleasure to perform Satyanarayan puja on Sunday May 3 at 3:30pm and read Sunderkand Path on Saturday May 16, at 10 am 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 third Saturday of every month. Mahaprasad generously sponsored by Gagan Palace.

Jai Krishna, Kshama



ITA MEMBERSHIPS

The new updated membership criteria has been uploaded in our web site. Membership committee is currently revising the existing membership records in accordance with BOT approved criteria published in our web site.

Satsang Mailing labels are in a process of update and will be implemented in due time

If you are not ITA member yet, please become member to be benefited in many areas.

Thanks

Balvihar by Sriram Kiron

We started our Balvihar session of April 12th, 2015 by chanting our morning prayers. Every session, Malathi aunty is telling us a story with some moral or value attached to it, so that we learn something important from the story and practice it in our everyday life. The story makes it easier and interesting for us to remember the moral. This week also she told us an interesting story about a lazy girl who did not want to do any work and wanted everything done for her, and how in the end she realized that it was not a good idea at all and learnt her lesson. It was a very funny story with a nice value attached to it. Later, we did our yoga session and went to our respective classes to learn more. We all assembled for Aarti and after the aarti session, we had a delicious South Indian lunch of Idli, Sambar, Chutney and Kesari (a sweet dish) prepared by our Balvihar South Indian Families. Thanks to all the parents for sponsoring this lunch event. The food was great and we enjoyed it !

Dr. Ram Kamaldasji's sermons



Dr. Ram Kamaldasji, Puja 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, New Zealand 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.

This year's sermons will be on "NAUDHA BHAKTI". Examples from Ramayana and other scriptures will be provided at the following time and dates at our temple.

Sunday, April 26, through Friday, May 1st From 7pm to 830 pm; Saturday, May 2nd From 1030 am to 130 pm.

For Further inquiry pl call Drs. Amrit & Anju Nayar at 856-778-1781, Or Devendra & Rachita Singh at 609-248-5966 Or Rakesh & Nila Kohli at 856-751-8688

Talks by Swami Veditatmanada

Monday & Tuesday,
May 18th & 19th, At 7:30-9:00 PM
India Temple Association



Sri Swami Veditatmananda

Topic: Work as Worship

We work everyday to achieve something, to fulfill our ambitions, our desires. And when we are successful at something we are happy, at least for time being.

However, success is not an external event. Success triggers something internally. And one wishes to have that internal success to sustain through out his daily life. In Bhagwat Gita, Lord Krishna says, "Swakarmana Tamabhayarchya Siddhim Vindati Manavah." It means that one gains success in life through duty as a worship to the Lord. Thus, while living every day life one needs to know What is Worship and What is the nature of Ishvara.

On May 18th and 19th Swami Veditatmananda will enlighten us on the nature of internal success, nature of worship and Ishvara, the Lord.

Sri Swami Veditatmananda, a disciple of Sri Swami Dayananda Saraswati, expounds Vedanta with a simplicity and directness that make it easy to assimilate. Having lived and worked in the United States prior to becoming a renunciate, Swami Veditatmananda is familiar with the lifestyles in India and the West. With his insight into both cultures, he reaches out to everyone with equal ease.

Swami Veditatmananda graduated in 1978 from the course taught by Pujya Swamiji in Bombay, India. Since then he has been extremely active, teaching, writing books and preparing Pujya Swamiji's words for publication. He visits the Gurukulam every year during spring/summer and conducts classes.

Under the banner of [Adhyatma Vidya Mandir](#), Swami Veditatmananda conducts various programs to disseminate the knowledge of the scriptures. He gives talks on the Upanishads and the Bhagavad Gita all over Gujarat, India. He also conducts management seminars with a view of showing the relevance of Vedanta in management.

Swami Veditatmananda's [TatvatirthaAshrama](#) is situated in the western outskirts of Ahmedabad in Gujarat. As its name suggests, it is a center for learning the Tattva, i.e. the truth.

For info call 856-985-4785 or email latap1215@gmail.com

Letter To The Editor

It is surprising that the President of the ITA has made some incorrect statements in his letter "From Me to You", in the April 2015 issue of Satsang Sandesh.

In the bhagavadgeeta, Lord Krishna does not even scold Arjuna, let alone call him 'a hypocrite' or 'a coward'! Arjuna refuses to fight, not because he is afraid of his enemies, but because, to win the war against the Kauravas, he perforce has to kill his most beloved and respected grandsire, Bheeshma, his revered guru, Drona, and a host of other kith and kin who are arrayed to fight against him on the battlefield of Kurukshetra. He is overcome with 'vyamoha' or emotional attachment to Bheeshma, Drona and others. Krishna knows this very well. So, in the geeta shloka (2-3), for example, with the love of a friend and the authority of a teacher, how nicely does Krishna coax Arjuna to do his duty! "Oh, Partha, do not give in to (mental) weakness. It is very unbecoming of you. Oh, the Scorcher of foes (parantapa), abandoning the weakness of your heart, gird up (for action)." The Lord calls Arjuna 'parantapa'! ("... tyaktvA uttiShTha, parantapa")! What a great encouragement it is!

By vibrations, Ramesh probably means frequencies. Frequencies of light do not become "too slow or too fast" to become invisible. In the vast electromagnetic frequency spectrum, only a tiny portion, from 430 to 790 Tera cycles per second (Tera is million times million), is "visible" in the sense that our retina is sensitive only to these frequencies. By the way, we cannot see light rays as such.

How is resistance or non-resistance related or comparable to electromagnetic waves or sound waves?

Activity does not always mean resistance. But, without resistance, motion (also an activity) would be impossible.

C M Ramakrishna

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.

Thanks for your Support

'ITA sincerely thanks Prasantbhai and Anjanaben for becoming life members starting April 11, 2015. We welcome them with all gratitude and hope they will play an active role in our Mandir activities'.

- Ramesh Viswanathan, ITA President

Thanks Mr. Amin

Mr. Narendra Aminji will be completing his 30 years of Creative Art Workshop, a tremendous achievement by itself. He continues to show exemplary dedication, sincerity, and devotion that are the hallmarks of an effective teacher. These are the traits that should be emulated by all of us. Mr. Aminji is planning to celebrate this milestone on 17th May, Sunday at 11:45 am starting with a preview of the students' art work.

All the Trustees are invited to attend. Please mark your calendar and honor Narendra Aminji with your presence. Thank you all.

Ramesh Viswanathan, ITA President

Mata di Chowki at our Mandir

Jai Mata Di - Prem se Bolo, Jhor se Bolo, Pyaar se bolo - these three words, 'Jai Mata Di' are still ringing in our ears after witnessing an awesome, splendid, super-duper program at our Mandir, led by Mrs. Nidhi Agrawal and Mr. Nitin Khanna, and ably supported by several dedicated volunteers. If we start listing out the names that deserve all the credit, We are afraid We will end up missing a few, hence taking recourse to the general words 'dedicated volunteers'.

The Pooja followed by the intense devotional music program was out of this world. And it was very well attended with 200+ folks with delicious and sumptuous Maha Prasaad thereafter.

Jai Mata Di - These three words can give one 'shakti' (power) to win the three worlds, and We are sure our devotees fall into this category. We would like to thank all the Donors for their generous donations and support.



Ekal Vidyalaya of South Jersey presents a mesmerizing event of Bollywood Songs by Rana Chaterjee and Sangeeta Melekar Group.
Mark your calendar for Saturday, May 16, 2015
Venue: Indian Community Center (ICC), Marlton, NJ. If any question, please call Harshad Mehta at 856 -776 -6840

GOD BECOMING MAN

Discourse by

Swami Yogatmananda

President of the Vedanta Society of Providence

On Saturday – May 16, 2015

6:30 PM to 8:00 PM



At the India Temple; 25 E. Taunton Ave., Berlin, NJ 08009; Directions: www.indiatemple.org

Swami Yogatmananda is the Hindu Religious Affiliate at Brown University, Providence, RI and the Hindu Chaplain at the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, MA. Swami also grants personal interviews to earnest seekers.

Contact information: Vedanta Society of Providence ; 227 Angell Street ; Providence RI 02906 USA

Phone: (401) 421-3960 ; email: info@vedantaprov.org

Bal Vihar and Yuva Darshan Annual Day

When Saturday, 02 May 2015; 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM ; (GMT-05:00) Eastern Time
Where Thomas Harrington Middle School, Mt. Laurel, 514 Mt Laurel Rd, Mt Laurel
Notes Door will close at 9:45. Program will start at 10:00 am sharp. Program will end at 12:00 noon followed by Lunch Please RSVP tonikunj2002@yahoo.com

Please Join ITA Seva Samiti Prayer Meeting for Peace After Earthquake Devastates Nepal, Killing More Than 3,000



In Katmandu, thousands lost lives, city's historic center devastated, dozens of sightseers trapped in a 200- foot watchtower, magnificent temples came crashing down into a pile of rubble.

The count is now at least 3,700 people dead and around 4,600 or more injured. The Save the Children organization is concerned that the death toll is likely to rise as the day progresses and information from some of the affected districts become available.!

“Shelter assistance is urgently needed. Many families have their houses destroyed or damaged and have to stay outside. Nights are cold”, says Roger Hodgson, Deputy Country Director for Save the Children in Nepal.!

On Line donations are set at <https://www.indiatemple.org>. Payments processed through Paypal only. You can use debit/credit card and select Seva Samiti Fund OR, send checks made to ITA Seva Samiti, 25 E Taunton Ave, Berlin, NJ 08009 Memo: Nepal Earthquake. ITA Seva Samiti will send some donations to Save The Children Organization.

Please Join ITA Seva Samiti for Prayer Meeting on Sunday, May 3rd @ 7:30 PM at our Mandir!!

Prayer meeting will begin with Shanti Mantra chants and Gayatri Mantra for the peace on Earth!

For info call Lata 856-985-4785.



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

BAL VIHAR: For children (ages 4-13), to promote a positive Hindu identity within the diverse U.S. culture.

2nd & 4th Sunday @ 10 am - 1 pm

Contact: Malathi Shankar (856) 424-7849, Bhavesh Patel 1-855-my-mandir ext 3, Rina Patel (856) 313-5235 for registration and location

YOUTH PROGRAM: A program for young adults (ages 13-18) and parents. 2nd & 4th Sunday, 9:45 am - 1 pm at our Mandir.

Contact: Praveen Garg at (856) 783-4692 or Sangeeta Rashatwar at (856) 424-4211

CREATIVE ART WORKSHOP

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday @ 9:30 am at our Mandir
Contact: Narendra Amin (856) 429-8761

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.**

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		
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
			\$151 for 151 - 200 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.

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Darshan Schedule

Morning

7:30 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: _____