



Satsang Sandesh

A monthly news magazine of

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. 46 No. 1 Phone: (855) MYMANDIR (855-696-2634) www.indiatemple.org JUNE 2014

Religious Calendar

June 1 Sunday

- Graduation Day—Pooja in Mandir

June 9 Monday

- Nirjala/Bheem Ekadashi/ Mata Gayatri Jayanti

June 12 Thursday

- Vatapournima / Satyanarayan Katha

June 13 Friday

- Shri Kabir Jayanti

June 23 Monday

- Yogini Ekadashi

June 29 Sunday

- Shri Jagannath Rathayatra

Monthly Activities

Kshama Raghuveer (707) 332-3400

June 6 Friday

- Vishnu Sahasranama Parayanam @8pm

June 12 Thursday

- Shri Satyanarayan Katha on Purnima Day @6 pm

June 21 Saturday

- Sunderkand Path @10am

Monthly Bhajans

June 20 Friday 8-9 pm

- Satya Sai Baba of Medford

P.K. Prabhakar 856-596-3147 or Sesha Vemuri 856-751-0867

June 27 Friday 8-9 pm

- Shree Ji Bhajan
Urmi Upadhyay (856) 424-9328; Charu Sheth (856) -662-8754

Upcoming Programs in June

**ITA Scholarship Results and Graduation Yagna at Berlin Mandir
Sunday, June 1 at 3:30 pm**

Full Day Free Yoga Class by Dr.Veena Gandhi Sunday, June 8 at ICC

**Vatapournima / Satyanarayan Katha
Wednesday, June 12 at 6 pm followed by mahaprasad at mandir**

Classical Dance Performances on Sunday, June 15 2014 at ICC

**Successful Living - Understanding Karma-yoga
Discourse By Swami Veditatmananda
Monday and Tuesday, June 16 & 17 at 7:30 pm at mandir**

**Sundarkand Paath
Saturday June 21 at 10 am followed by mahaprasad at mandir**

**Independence Day Parade in Evesham Township on Thursday, July 4th @
11am at Maple Avenue**

Kavya Sangeet Samaroh (Gujarati) on Saturday, June 7 at ICC

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.

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|----------------------------|---------|
| • Dunthur & Yedahalli Puttaswamy | June 02 | Hemali & Vaishali Kothari | June 13 |
| • Kartik Patel | June 04 | Dahyalbhai & Taraben Patel | June 13 |
| • Meghan & Melanie Patel | June 04 | Santosh Khurana | June 19 |
| • Milan Patel | June 06 | Rushikesh Parghi | June 21 |
| • Bharat Gandhi | June 07 | Ishvar Patel | June 22 |
| • Dinesh Patel | June 08 | Rushikesh Parghi | June 25 |
| • Ramesh Gupta | June 12 | Kartik & Dupta Patel | June 29 |
| • Rushikesh Parghi | June 12 | Kalavati Desai | June 29 |

Monthly Pujas at Mandir



It is a pleasure to perform Satyanarayan puja and read Sunderkand Path 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



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### ITA Seva Samiti update

By Sadhna Kothari



#### **Golden Shield Community Outreach Puja**

On Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm, Seva Samiti is inviting community families in the disadvantaged income category for a special Krishna Puja in our Mandir. This is intended to be an inclusive gesture to bring these families into the fold. We want to encourage them to seek us out for assistance and guidance as they transition to life in their new country.

With all that we have, no one should be left out or left behind and what better way to come together than praying and breaking bread at our beautiful Mandir.

We look forward to hearing from you to sponsor the Puja/future events. Please contact Sunitha Reddy at [sunithahreddy@yahoo.com](mailto:sunithahreddy@yahoo.com) or Lata Pimplaskar at [latap@comcast.net](mailto:latap@comcast.net) for further information.

By the time you read this newsletter, the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life Event will have taken place on May 31<sup>st</sup>. Hopefully, you will have attended and enjoyed the food, games, activities and cheered on our Hanuman team. If not, full details will be published in the July issue.

Seva Samiti program contacts:

Sandwich bags for the homeless: Hina Desai [hinamdesai@hotmail.com](mailto:hinamdesai@hotmail.com)

Youth program: Chetna Giyanani [chetnatemple@gmail.com](mailto:chetnatemple@gmail.com)

Funeral services: Charu Sheth [charu\\_sheth@yahoo.com](mailto:charu_sheth@yahoo.com)

JAI SHREE KRISHNA

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Yuva Darshan

By Sanjana Kondapalli

The April 27th youth session started with mantras and shlokas. After reciting the ten shlokas and mantras, we preformed yoga and meditation for thirty minutes. That was a great way to calm our brains and stay relaxed. In our activity time we discussed our plans for annual day. We revised what we were going to do there and we also practiced for it. We ended the youth session with aarhi and a delicious lunch!

The last youth session, the May 11th youth session, began with the usual mantras and thirty minutes of yoga. Afterwards we talked about what we could change so that next year's youth sessions would become better. Then, as a tribute to the mothers, Praveen Uncle played a video about Mother's Day and how thankful we should be to our moms. Afterall, it is the toughest job of all. We next played a game of tag. Finally we had aarhi and lunch.

This year of youth program was amazing, and I would like to thank all the teachers for their help in organizing Youth. I also thank all of the kids who took the initiative to make youth very enjoyable. This was my first year in youth, and they helped made the year a blast for everyone!!

Successful Living - Understanding Karma-yoga
Discourse By Swami Veditatmananda
Monday and Tuesday, June 16th & 17th at 7:30 PM
ITA Hindu Temple, 25 E. Taunton Ave, Berlin, NJ

Definition of success varies from person to person depending on the goal of an achiever. However, through all our achievements - may it be in terms of wealth, power or fame - we seek a life free of conflicts, sorrow and ultimately, happiness.

Pujya Swami Dayananda says, "We want to be happy all the time." And, here is how to achieve that goal. Swami Veditatmananda will unfold how to be successful in material world achieving the goal of knowing what we ultimately seek, the happiness! Please join us for Happier You!

For info Call Lata & Sharad Pimplaskar @856-985-4785 or latap@comcast.net

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.



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**ITA Scholarship Results and Graduation Yagna at Berlin Mandir**  
**Sunday June 1, 2014 @ 3:30 PM**

It is that time of the year when students graduate and reach specific milestones in their lives. The temple plans a celebration for graduates at all levels, starting from the primary school all the way up to colleges and universities, on Sunday June 1st 2014, starting at 3:30 PM at the temple. The festivities will begin with a Puja of all the deities at our Mandir. The festivities will conclude with a prize awarded to each graduate and will be followed by

Aarti and Mahaprasad (dinner) by about 6:00 PM.

It is a Hindu tradition to start any celebration with Puja (worship) of God. Each graduate seeks God's blessings for health, wealth, prosperity and happiness as he/she prepares for the next challenge of life. It is said that Puja performed with sincerity and devotion pleases the Gods/Goddesses, who in return bless the seeker to a successful life.

In a spiritual sense, Pujas are performed to enable people to make a sacrifice of all their bad thoughts and actions, as fickleness, hatred, stealing and foolish stubbornness are not considered natural traits of human beings. Pujas are physical actions symbolic of inner human quest to get rid of these tendencies and bring about the natural human traits of righteousness and moral/ethical behavior. A Puja is also considered to propel humans to refine their lives by worship of deities, establishing unity (oneness) with god and by helping less privileged in the community through charitable contributions.

If your family is interested in participating, please RSVP Dr. Surendra Gambhir at [sg@gambhir.net](mailto:sg@gambhir.net) or Sangeeta Rashatwar at [sangeetarashatwar@gmail.com](mailto:sangeetarashatwar@gmail.com)

Suggested donation is \$51.00 per family.



## **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. This year, we have selected six winners. The first place winning essay follows this announcement. We wish all the winners a wonderful future as they embark on a quest to uncover their inner potential in colleges and beyond.

### **How to Prepare for a Happy and Successful Future?** **(Kinari Patel)**

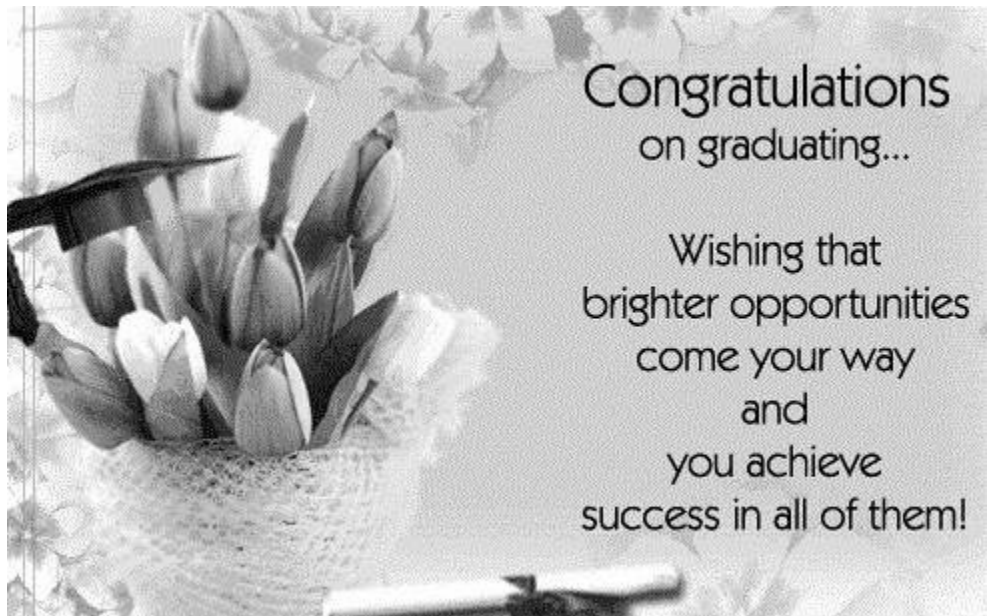
People always say that one's decisions as a high school student determine his or her life. I partially believe this is true, but one must also take steps to prepare for a happy and successful future. Everything is easier said than done. One may want a happy and successful future, but will he or she have the preparations to actually achieve that? In order to be successful, one must have a game plan ready. However, each student must first have complete faith in oneself in order for others to have faith in him or her. Once confidence is at its apex, one can prepare for a happy and successful future.

Everyone always has favorites growing up, whether it's forced upon or an actual passion. From the time students begin differentiating subjects in school, each student tends to pick a favorite subject. It's vital that one know his or her expectations and interests before attending college in order to ensure a successful future. Knowing what field each student is interested in will also allow the student to broaden his or her opportunities. While in high school, one can take particular classes in certain fields to enhance his or her interest. Also internship, shadowing, and volunteer opportunities specific to each student's interest become available. Getting ahead in high school will allow the student to determine if that's really what he or she wishes to do. This will ensure the student's passion and allow him or her to make any changes necessary. It's crucial to have a plan for college in order to allow the undergraduate process to finish smoothly. Changing majors is common, but it can be a burden on some students. Extra schooling or undecided future plans can cause a lack of motivation for the student. Most importantly, if a student doesn't follow his or her heart, he or she will end up dreading his or her occupation. Each person only gets one, short life, so one cannot afford to make it miserable.

One's only happy when he or she pursues what he or she truly enjoys. With the declining economy and tough job market, everyone's seeking money. Therefore, students are interested in certain fields that guarantee a successful life. However, if a student spends years of hard work and dedication to pursue a career that barely interests him or her, will he or she be happy? Will he or she even be good at what he or she dislikes? Success and happiness always link back to following one's passion. This will most definitely ensure a happy and successful future.

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ITA members congratulates all graduates and wishes all the best always!!



Bal Vihar—The Grand Finale

By Vikram Meyyappan

The grand finale, Balvihar Annual Day, was a blast. It was on May 3, 2014, between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. It was a great experience for everybody in Balvihar. As it is our culture to light a lamp before beginning any occasion, it started with Malathi aunty's family lighting one. We were taught during our regular Balvihar session that the light from a lamp removes ignorance and gives you knowledge.

After this, a few kids chanted slokas and bhajans. Chanting slokas and bhajans connects you to Ishwara while cleansing your mind of bad thoughts. It was really exciting to be on stage and chant for everybody. Thanks to Shama ji.

The theme of this year's annual day was "East meets West." Children participated in many cultural programs such as dance, drama and other entertaining events. The parents, teachers and the children put in a lot of group effort in order to make this a colorful, fun-filled and memorable day. Congratulations to all!

This was followed by lunch. There was a lot of delicious food to eat. Everybody enjoyed it very much and had a great time. Annual Day was awesome, thanks to the cooperation of parents, children, teachers and other volunteers.

This Balvihar year came to an end with the Mother's day celebration on May 11, 2014 at ICC. It was a special day for all Balvihar mothers and grandmothers. Kids went up on stage and expressed their feelings and love for their mothers in the form of poems, letters and thank you notes. We then played games such as musical chairs, four corners and fruit chain with our mothers and grandmothers. It was a wonderful experience for everyone.

We had a marvelous Balvihar year and eagerly look forward to another year of fun and happiness.

Bal- Vihar and Youth Annual Day Function on May 3, 2014



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 a.m. at our Mandir

Contact: Virendra Gupta @ (856) 424-9313

GITA STUDY GROUP:

Every Tuesday & Wednesday, 8-9 p.m. at our Mandir

Contact: Sharad Pimplaskar @ (856) 985-4785

BHAJANS & STUTI:

Every Friday, 7:30-9 p.m.

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 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Contact: Ramesh Viswanathan (856) 489-1830, 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 a.m. - 1 p.m. at our Mandir.

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

CREATIVE ART WORKSHOP

1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday @ 9:30 a.m. 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 check temple availability at www.indiatemple.org; Click on "CALENDAR tab" and, from drop-down menu, Click on "EVENT/RENTAL CALENDAR". **Please contact Smt. Charu Sheth or Shri. Harish Shelat 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 | <p><u>TEMPLE FACILITIES USAGE FEE</u>
 Prayer Hall: \$200
 Social Hall: \$300</p> <p><u>OTHER CHARGES</u></p> <p><u>MILEAGE AND TRAVEL TIME TIER</u></p> \$0 for 1 - 25 mile radius
\$51 for 26 - 100 mile radius
\$101 for 101 - 150 mile radius
\$151 for 151 - 200 mile radius <p>NON-MEMBER
 \$51 for non-member surcharge</p> |
| 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 | |

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



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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: _____