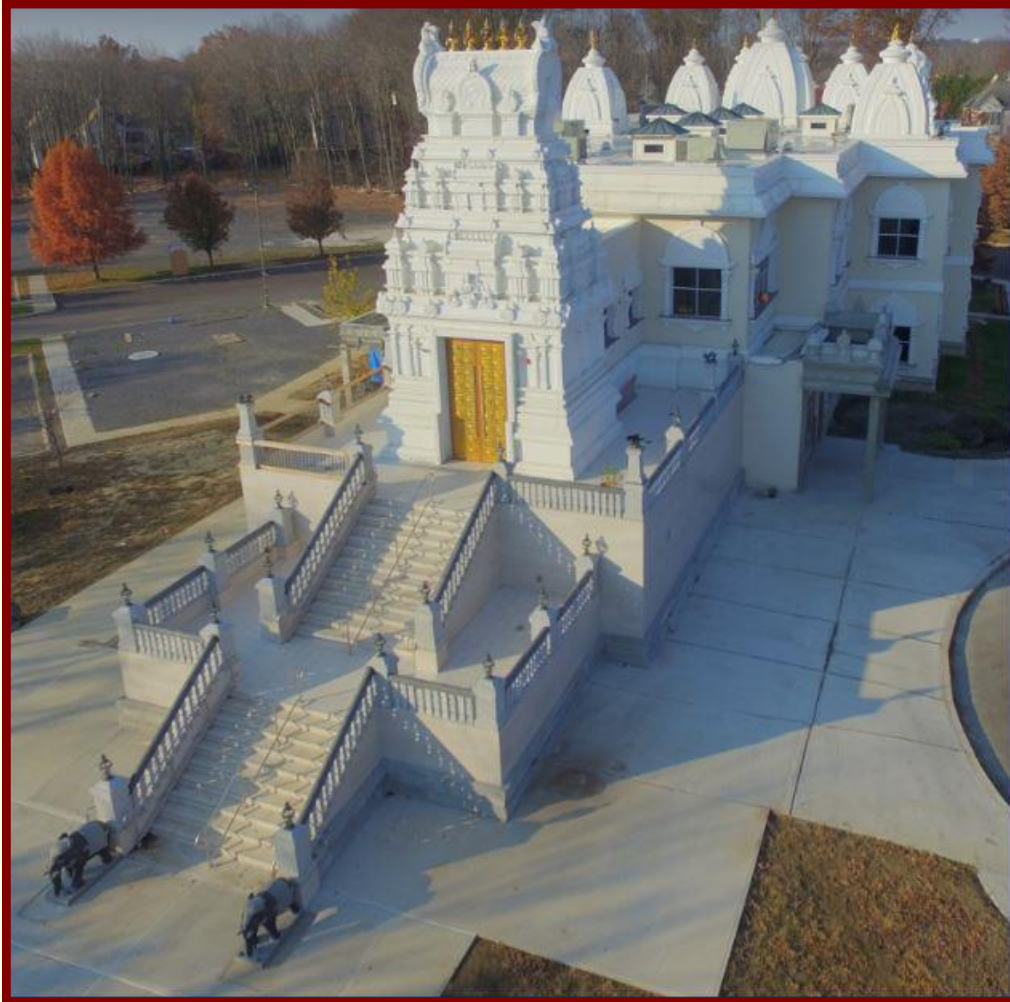




BTI - BCC Newsletter

January 2023 to March 2023



Bharatiya Temple

1612 County Line Road, Chalfont, PA 18914

Ph: 215-997-1181 www.b-temple.org

Temple & Aarti Timings

Temple timings:

Weekdays
10:00 AM to 12:00 PM
5:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Weekends
9:00 AM to 9:00 PM

Aarti timings:

Hindu Aarti
12:00 PM and 7:00 PM daily

Jain Aarti
11:45 AM and 6:45 PM daily

Mondays	Tuesdays	Fridays	Saturdays	Sundays
Shiva Abhishekam 7:15 PM	Hanuman Chalisa 7:15 PM	Lalitha Sahasranama 7:15 PM	Suprabhatam Venketeshwara Abhishekam Vishnu Sahasranama Stotram 9:00 AM	Lakshmi Narayan Abhishekam 10:00 AM

*** In the event of inclement weather, please check the website or call 215-997-1181 ***

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Upcoming Major Events

Vaishakha Masam Begins	Apr 20, 2023
Vrishabha Sankranti	May 15, 2023
Vat Savitri Vrat	May 18, 2023
Shani Jayanti	May 19, 2023
Jyeshtha Masam Begins	May 19, 2023
Varshik Bramhotsav (Anniversary)	May 31, 2023 to Jun 4, 2023
Jain Anniversary (Dhwajaroopan)	Jun 10, 2023 to Jun 11, 2023
Ashadha Masam Begins	Jun 18, 2023
Gauri Vrat	Jun 29, 2023 to Jul 3, 2023
Jaya Parvati Vrat	Jul 1, 2023 to Jul 5, 2023
Karka Sankranti	Jul 16, 2023
Adhika Shravan Masam Begins	Jul 18, 2023
Shravan Masam Begins	Aug 16, 2023
Simha Sankranti	Aug 17, 2023
Vara Lakshmi Vrat	Aug 25, 2023
Rig / Jajur Upakarma	Aug 30, 2023
Rakhi / Rakshabandhan	Aug 30, 2023

Primary Elections Montgomery County

Dear Friends:

The 2023 Primary Election in Montgomery County will take place on Tuesday, May 16th, 2023. As citizens of this wonderful democracy, we are fortunate to have the privilege of casting our ballots and selecting/ electing candidates of our choice. This is the only way we can have a voice at the County level for the well-being of our community.

Voters have several options to cast their ballot:

- Vote In Person at a polling location
- Vote by Absentee Ballot
- Vote by Mail-In Ballot

No matter which option you choose, you must be registered to vote by Monday, May 1, 2023. Please make sure you are registered to vote and vote for the candidate that best addresses your needs.

Please remember that the primary election allows you to vote only for the candidate of the party you are registered with. Voting in primary election is important to have a candidate of your choice for the final general election.

Please click the link below for voter registration details.

<https://www.pavoterservices.pa.gov/Pages/VoterRegistrationApplication.aspx>

BTI/BCC Management



“Support Your Temple” Campaign



Bharatiya Temple & Bharatiya Cultural Center

1612 County Line Road, Chalfont, PA 18914
PHONE: 215-997-1181
www.b-temple.org (Tax ID # 23-2959416)



Please help your Temple by making recurring tax deductible donation of your choice by clicking the donate button below. These donations will help the Temple continue with daily pujas, programs and pay for monthly operating expenses. Your donation will also help Vidyalaya/Sunday school.

Monthly Recurring Donation of Your Choice

You will be directed to secure Payment Website



\$20

\$50

\$100

Your Choice Amount

*For questions and information
please contact donations@b-temple.org*

Taking Advantage of Corporate Matching



Each year, companies and businesses support nonprofits by distributing hundreds of millions of dollars in matching gift donations. Most companies match 1:1; some companies match 2:1 and even 3:1. Several of our supporters take advantage of this initiative and we are grateful for their support. Please check with your organization's HR department and follow their established procedures for matching funds.

The matching process can also be found on our website:

<https://b-temple.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/BCC-Corporate-Matching-Contribution-Process.pdf>

To view a List of Companies with Matching Gift Programs, you can visit:

<https://www.1800runaway.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/corporate-match-directory.pdf>

<https://doublethedonation.com/tips/matching-grant-resources/list-matching-gifts-companies/>

If your company matches, then please direct your donation to Bharatiya Cultural Center and follow up with your Company's HR department.

Thanking you in advance for your support!!!



Religious Committee - Hindu

January 2023

On the 1st of January, New Year's Day the temple was open all day long. After the Sunday morning abhishek, Srinivas Kalyanam was celebrated with great pomp as is the New Year's day tradition. Satyanarayan Puja was also performed in the evening for New Year's day. On January 2, Ekadasi day was the occasion of Vaikunth Ekadasi. Vaikuntha Dwara puja was performed in the morning and Suprabhatam was also chanted by the priests and devotees.

On Friday, January 13 Andal/Goda Kalyanam was performed on the temple floor. The function was well attended by devotees. Bhogi/Lohri was also celebrated on January 13. Devotees danced around the Lohri bonfire in the temple compound.

Vasant panchami was on the 25th of January and Saraswati Puja was performed on the temple floor where devotees, including children could participate.

Some of the other notable pujas performed in January were the chanting of Thiruppavai and Thiruvembavai on Monday's and the chanting of Thiruppavai on Saturday's by Tamil devotees during the Dhanur Masam. Ayyappa Mandala puja was performed on Saturday, January 7. Sunderkand parayan was performed on January 8.



February 2023



In the month of February we had two major events. Thaipoosam on Feb 4th and Maha Shivratri from 13 to 18th . It is believed that on this day , Goddess Parvathi presented a lance to Lord Muruga to kill the demon army of Tarakasura. Thaipoosam is a celebration of the victory of good over evil. This event was well attended by devotees, they carried milk pots and kavadi around the temple in procession, followed by Lord Murugan abhishek chanting the

Kandar shasti kavacham (kavacham means to shield from all sufferings and agony).

Religious Committee - Hindu

Maha Shivratri was celebrated from 13th to 18th. Priests chanted Maha Mrityunjaya puja for 7 days and they did a havan on 19th. Maha Shivratri program was well attended and the temple hall was full till midnight. Kids and devotees sang bhajans and it was a wonderful spiritual experience for everyone.

March 2023

The month of March began with an auspicious Satyanarayan puja on the full moon day. The puja is conducted to seek Lord's blessings on the occasion of Holika Dahan.

Yugadi is the first day of Chaitra masam and was celebrated on March 6th. It marks the beginning of the new year. As part of Yugadi celebration, Padmavati Kalyanam took place amidst chants of mantras and devotees singing praises of the Lord.

The festival of Gangaur took place on March 19th and is celebrated to honor love and marriage. In Rajasthani culture, married women worship Ma Gauri for good health and longevity of their husband. The Temple was vibrating with greetings of Khama Gani, the colorful safas adorned by men folk. Women dressed in traditional Rajasthani attires and worshipping together was a sight not to be missed.

On March 26th, we had Amritvani. Amritvani is a collection of verses compiled by Satyanand Ji Maharaj in praise of Lord Rama. Jaipal Rathi ji & the devotees together recited Amritvani to celebrate Ram Navami.

Then from March 22nd to March 29th came Chaitra Navaratri. Daily Durga/ Chandi Path by priests and devotees on the occasion of Chaitra Navaratri was nectar to the ears. On the 8th day, Durga Ashtami Havan was held in the tent. In the evening, Durga Mata's devotees performed Homam. The flames from the havan kunds while the sun was setting and the divine smell from burning of Aahuti samagri filled the Temple's entire premises with divinity.

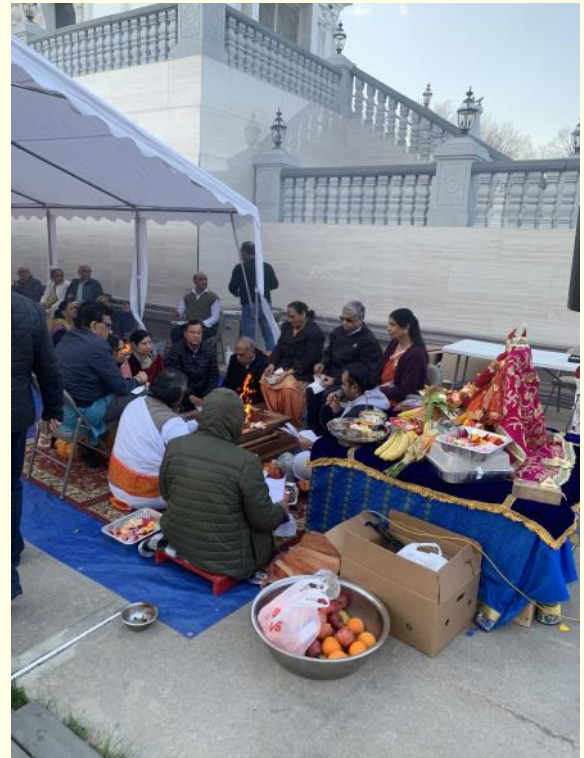
Lastly, March 30th marked the end of Chaitra masam. Kalyanotsavam literally means Marriage Festival. Kalyanotsavam is the re-depiction of the celestial marriage of Seeta Ji and Lord Rama. This year, for the first time ever in Bharatiya Temple, we celebrated Sita - Ram Kalyanam. The turnout of devotees was overwhelming. Devotees brought in a variety of prasadam, which was distributed to all.

Regular religious events like Sankashti, Sunderkand Recital, Ayyappa and Murugan Puja's were performed monthly / bimonthly as per the calendar.

Religious Committee - Hindu



2023 Chaitra Navratri Ashtami Havan



2023 Holika Dahan and Holi Festival were well attending with over 600 devotees.

Bharatiya Temple Celebrates Gangaur and Millet Festivals

Bharatiya Temple celebrated Rajasthani Gangaur Festival and Millet Festival at large scale with Govt of India officials area on March 19, 2023.

Bharatiya temple has been celebrating Gangaur Festival for the past 15 years. Gangaur is and one of the most important and colorful festivals of the people of Rajasthan and is observed throughout the state with great fervor and devotion by womenfolk who worship Goddess Gauri - the wife of Lord Shiva - during the month of Chaitra (March – April). It is the celebration of spring harvest, marital fidelity, conjugal blessedness and childbearing.



This year the Rajasthani community took the celebrations to another level with the support and coordination with Philadelphia Rajasthani Mandal (PARAM). The Govt of India official, Dr. Varun Jeph, Deputy Council General from Consulate General of India from New York, and Mr. Prem Bhandari, president of Rajasthan Association of North America (RANA) honored the festival by their gracious presence and blessings.



The celebration was even more special this year as the Bharatiya Temple promoted the Govt of India Millet Initiative. On the appeal of the current Indian Prime Minister to bring awareness about millets, a few locals and some Rajasthani-American children presented posters and talked about the importance of millets in our regular diet. In doing so, they impressed Dr. Varun Jeph and Mr. Prem Bhandari with their knowledge, such as the ability for millets to prevent various human diseases.

About 300-400 Rajasthani family members celebrated the Gangaur Festival with a traditional Rajasthani style welcome followed by a Gangaur Pooja and Procession. Many enjoyed the traditional cultural activities, performances, local and folk dances, and took a pledge in which they dedicated their Mondays to use millets in their foods. The festival graciously ended by serving Rajasthani traditional food: Daal, Baati, Gatta sabzi, Churma, and freshly cooked millet dishes.

Health & Human Services

HHS Core Volunteers: Sai Kumar Buddai, Darshan Bhatt, Meena Durbha, Srini
Siddapureddy, Seetharam Alladi, Prakash Kurukunda, Niranjan Yanamandra,
BCC Youth Group

Advisor: Dr. Akkaraju Sarma MD, FAAFP

BTI Board Liaison: Atul Sangal, MSPT

Chair: Babu Medi, B.Pharm, Ph.D; **Co-Chair:** Anjan Dave, MS, MBA

BCC HHS Mission

- To provide health related services to the community
- Create, maintain, and communicate health related information to educate the community
- Identify, plan, and implement professional medical seminars
- Organize health seminars/fairs, American Red Cross blood drives and Vaccine clinics
- Arrange training sessions for volunteers and community on first aid, CPR

Blood Drive:

HHS team organized a Blood Drive at Bharatiya Temple on 25 Feb 2023. The team of volunteers made efforts to call donors and fill up all the slots available. We had a great donor turnout from both Temple devotees and mainstream community. A very big THANK YOU to all the donors, we were able to collect 24 lifesaving pints of blood. Each pint of blood donated can potentially save 3 lives and in total this donation could save 72 lives. Every day, blood donors help patients of all ages. Blood transfusions are given to patients in a wide range of circumstances, including serious injuries (such as in a car crash), burns, surgeries, childbirth, anemia, blood disorders, cancer treatments, and many others. In fact, every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs blood.

Chairperson: Babu Medi 979.204.3185 medibabu@yahoo.com
Co-Chair: Anjan Dave 610.737.0278 anjancd@hotmail.com

Health & Human Services



A very big THANK YOU to all the donors, Volunteers and BTI management for supporting this life saving mission. The next blood drive is scheduled for 24 June 2023. Please register using the following link: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=bharatiya>

NOTE: India Travel Restriction Reduced From 12 Months to 3 Months



Bharatiya Temple Blood Drive

Health and Human Services Committee

1612 County Line Rd, Chalfont, PA 19436
Sat, 24-Jun-2023 10:00 to 3:00 pm

Schedule Your Appointment:
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=bharatiya>

Defeat Corona and Save Lives
American Red Cross Saving 16M+ Lives/Year
Please Bring 1 DONOR on your behalf

Health and Human Services Team

Advisor: Dr. Akkaraju Sarma: 215-530-7438
Chairman: Babu Medi: 979-204-3185
Co-Chairman: Anjan Dave: 610-737-0278
Board of Director: Atul Sangal: 215-620-4917

Volunteer Members Team

Sai Buddai: 267-481-4411
Darshan Bhatt: 716-598-3057
Meena Durbha: 215-275-0096
Srini Siddapureddy: 610-308-3216
Seetharam Alladi: 215-964-2200
Prakash Kurukunda: 215-872-0631
Many YOUTH VOLUNTEERS (Sincere thanks to BCC youth committee and it's Chairman: Preeti Tailor: 215-868-4831)

Please call any of the team members for any questions or to schedule your appointment

Chairperson: Babu Medi 979.204.3185 medibabu@yahoo.com
Co-Chair: Anjan Dave 610.737.0278 anjancd@hotmail.com

Health & Human Services

The American Red Cross presented a certificate to appreciate the blood donation drives conducted during COVID pandemic time. We collected a total of 227 donations that could have potentially saved up to 681 lives. Thanks to every donor and all the volunteers and BTI/BCC management.



Why You Should Stay Up to Date with Your COVID-19 Vaccines



Getting vaccinated and boosted greatly reduces your risk of severe illness, hospitalization, and death.



COVID-19 vaccines, including boosters, are effective against known variants, including Omicron.



All COVID-19 vaccines currently approved or authorized in the U.S. are proven to be safe.



FIND A VACCINE NEAR YOU: WWW.VACCINES.GOV

COVID Vaccination

COVID infections are still around and some people who are older, are [immunocompromised](#), have certain disabilities, or have certain underlying health conditions continue to be at higher risk for serious illness. Vaccines are safe and effective and the best way to protect you and those around you from serious illnesses. **CDC recommends that people ages 5 years and older** receive one updated

(bivalent) booster if it has been at least 2 months since their last COVID-19 vaccine dose. People who have gotten more than one original (monovalent) booster are also recommended to get an updated (bivalent) booster.

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Co-Chair: Anjan Dave 610.737.0278 anjancd@hotmail.com

Health & Human Services

HHS was able to organize the services with the help of many other BCC committees, committed volunteers, youth committee members and BTI management. HHS team is collegial and continues to make an impact in the community with important health related services and blood drives to save many lives. HHS will continue to sustain these programs and add other programs to help the community. Please do reach out to any of us if you have any other suggestions.

We have a great volunteer team, but need more volunteers to help with HHS and other temple activities, please signup @ https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc_7DvdFvmbF-09L7XClxLz-LwGkl0McRs7tayxFLxXc_n8-g/viewform

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Co-Chair: Anjan Dave 610.737.0278 anjancd@hotmail.com

Education Committee

Gita study group:

The Gita Study Group occurs on the last Thursday of every month starting at 7PM. The discussion is led by Praveenbhai Sharma, who with his deep insight and knowledge of the scriptures and their meanings, allows devotees to get a better understanding and enlightenment to the sacred texts by Lord Krishna.

There is a saying in the Hindu scriptures (? In the Gita)—"There is no human mind and intellect that cannot be purified by a repeated study of the Gita." THE HIGHEST SERVICE IS TO GOD, AND THE BEST CHARITY ?. no one on the earth shall be more dear to Me. (18.68-69). Ignorance is the mother of all sins. All negative qualities such as lust, anger, and greed are nothing but a manifestation of ignorance only. The giving of the gift of knowledge is the best charity. It is equivalent to giving the whole world in charity. The best welfare is to help others discover their real nature that is the source of everlasting happiness rather than provide material goods and comforts for temporary happiness.

Yoga sessions:

Yoga sessions have been organized through ART OF LIVING TEACHERS every Thursday at 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM for the months of March and April. Really speaking, this Asan in yoga gives sterling rotational movements to the spine. Another equally good benefit is it improves the functioning of the kidneys. The yoga experts also believe it as a suitable posture for strengthening the thigh muscles and toning the entire body. This class will help you to focus on the present and learn to feel whole and more aware. Through the class, you will center yourself by returning all of your scattered energies to home base, and become more grounded by connecting to the energy of the Earth. You will find the stability and peace you need to keep from being carried away or becoming reactive with this powerful and moving flow. It is also a beautiful way to start the weekend. In addition, yoga also provides mental benefits—lowers stress, develops creativity, improves performance, improves concentration and memory, balances emotions, brings clarity to the mind, controls addictions like alcohol, smoking and drugs and much more.

Education Committee

A Rendezvous With Yourself

On March 8, 2023, Pujya Gurudevshri Rakeshji, the founder of Shrimad Rajchandra Mission, Dharampur, blessed us with a motivational session "A Rendezvous with Yourself" by Swadhyaykar Atmarpit Rajuji.

The discussion was centered around "Are you your own cheerleader? Are you really rooting for yourself? The path to success opens when you get an understanding of who you truly are and realize what is truly important to you." This session nudged you on what is your meaningful reflective journey of your own life. It was to help unearth the true desires behind your actions and a must for those who have longed to meet their real purpose in life.



Cultural Committee

Bharatiya Cultural Committee thanks Manisha Jain for her successful term as Chairperson for the committee. We welcome our new chairperson Sonal Makwana along with Manisha Chauhan and Preeti Tailor.

Cultural Committee started with full energy participation for religious as well as cultural aspects of the Holi festival. On religious front, traditional poojas were performed by the priests and devotees around the Holi bonfire. It was followed by an outdoor cultural event to play Holi with color, along with food, music, and dance. Outdoor Holi event was organized by Cultural Team along with the help of other temple committees and youth group volunteers. The committee thanks all the volunteers for their precious time to make our events successful.

Cultural Committee is preparing for an upcoming cultural show to represent festivals of India. Response for cultural show is overwhelming and expecting more than 50 participants showcasing various Indian dance forms performed during festivals including folk dances and classical dances.



Chairperson: Sonal Makwana 215.620.4917 bccultural1@gmail.com
Co-chair: Preeti Tailor 215.868.4831 preeti.tailor@gmail.com
Co-chair: Manisha Chauhan 267.663.9250 man_22vc@yahoo.com

Women's Group

The BCC Women's Group celebrated International Women's Day on March 11th at the Bharatiya Temple. The event was a grand success with approximately 125 women joining the celebration that included introduction to the new chair/co-chair, and committee members, a woman-centered bingo game, ice breaker antakshri, and a delicious lunch. Long time temple devotee, Padmaben was recognized for her dedicated service to the Temple.



Chairperson: Kavita Shah 908.580.1627 kavitags@gmail.com
Co-chair: Neeta Gupta 267.474.7474 ngupta1120@yahoo.com

Women's Group



The Women's Group Book Club continues to meet every other month. The Book Club members select the books to read and the discussion is held over a potluck lunch at the Temple.

The Women's Group is planning several events for this year, the first of which is a **Women's Spring Potluck Picnic on 20th May 2023**. In addition, we are planning to hold educational talks on financial management for women and women-focused health-related issues. We are also exploring opportunities for our group to volunteer at the community food banks.

To continue to receive updates about our upcoming events, please like us on our BCC Women's Group Facebook page or be part of the BCC Women's Group WhatsApp group, or sign up for the Temple emails. Please feel free to contact us anytime.

We have a very talented and enthusiastic group of women in the Women's Group Committee who are wholehearted committed to the success of the mission of this group.

Chairperson: Kavita Shah 908.580.1627 kavitag@gmail.com
Co-chair: Neeta Gupta 267.474.7474 ngupta1120@yahoo.com

Youth Group

The BCC youth group enjoyed planning for their favorite events at the beginning of the year which included Tennis tournament, March Madness and joining forces during Holi festival.

Youth Group have been organizing Tennis tournaments each year at Upper Dublin Tennis Club. Though the response this year was lower due to a conflicting event on the same day, it did not stop us from having fun. We had around 30 participants and they had great games. Winners were awarded with prizes.



Youth Group took lead during Holi festival and showed great festival spirit. Youth group members joined hands and packed more than 1000 containers in 3 hours to get ready for the festival of colors. Youth members were present on the day of festival to prepack food packets and help sell them as well as cleanup after the festivities were over.



Chairperson: Preeti Tailor 215.868.4831 preeti.tailor@gmail.com
Co-chair: Sonal Makwana 215.620.4917 bccultural1@gmail.com

Youth Group

Youth Group organized their favorite March madness event on March 17th, 2023, at Montgomery Recreational center with about 50+ participants. This event brings lot of youth together from bucks and Montgomery county. There are youth group who enjoys the March Madness and joins the tournament each year. Youth Group has brought lot of energy to this event over the years. This year Youth Group have donated money to BAPS temple on behalf of winner from March Madness.



Chairperson: Preeti Tailor 215.868.4831 preeti.tailor@gmail.com
Co-chair: Sonal Makwana 215.620.4917 makwans@gmail.com

Bharatiya Vidyalaya

161 students have registered for the academic year 2022-23 of the Bharatiya Vidyalaya program (August 2022 thru May 2023), the 18th year of successful operation of Bharatiya Vidyalaya. To avoid overcrowding especially in view of the COVID situation, further registrations were stopped.

A Typical Bharatiya Vidyalaya Sunday

Students start their Sunday at 9:20 AM with Yoga conducted by experienced volunteers, followed by musical chanting, prayers and Bhagavad Geeta chanting. Parents are encouraged to join morning assembly along with students.

At 10 AM, students attend Hindu Religion classes as per their age group. Jain students attend Jain Religion classes. On select Sundays, Culture classes are scheduled instead. The schedule for the year was finalized in advance.

At 11 AM, students attend one of the seven language classes as per their selection of language. Gujarati, Hindi, Sanskrit, Tamil and Telugu language classes are further split into 2 or 3 sections based on proficiency of students. Kannada and Marathi have one section each. On select Sundays, Culture classes are scheduled instead of Language.

At noon, students attend Aarati upstairs. After the Aarati, interested students join one of the two streams scheduled for 25 minutes each – music (group singing) stream and Bhagavad Geeta chanting stream.

Overall, students are enthusiastic about the program provided by volunteers. Students find the Bharatiya Vidyalaya program engaging and beneficial.

From 10 AM to 12 PM, interested parents join the discussion group for Bhagavad Geeta and other scriptures. Volunteers who are knowledgeable on the subject moderate the group. The group studied Bhagavad Geeta chapter 1 during Q1 2023. The Chapter 1 helps one understand how emotions can get in the way of us doing our duty.

Volunteers

Bharatiya Vidyalaya program is run by over 55 teaching volunteers and 10 non-teaching volunteers. All volunteers maintain their compliance required for volunteering as per the Law in Pennsylvania. Volunteers teach Hindu and Jain religion, Indian Culture and seven Indian languages. Additionally, they teach Yoga, music (group chanting and

Chairperson: Praveen Sharma 215.361.0145 pravsharma@hotmail.com
Co-chair: Vijay Chakravarthi 610.389.0465 vijaync.bv@gmail.com
Co-chair: Raju Kalidindi 610.331.4757 raju.email@gmail.com
Co-chair: Rita Sheth 610.275.7472 mynapa@aol.com

Bharatiya Vidyalaya

group singing), prayers in Sanskrit and Bhagavad Geeta chanting.

New parents and other community members are encouraged to join the team of volunteers. New volunteers are paired up with experienced volunteers during their first year.

Senior Students

As part of the Senior Student program, 9th grade and above students are provided an opportunity to get trained for teaching by adult volunteers. Seven students are currently getting the training as Senior Students. They help with teaching one subject (for example, Religion) and attend classes for the other two subjects as students (in this example, Culture and Language).

Library

Bharatiya Vidyalaya library was shut down for two years during the COVID period. A dedicated group of volunteers reactivated the library in October. Parents can borrow books from the library for their family.

Expenses

Bharatiya Vidyalaya volunteers are extremely conservative with expenses. The only significant expense is the cost of text books, which is a very small proportion of the fee parents pay as donation. Volunteers and parents donate generously to cover most, if not all expenses for occasional food sponsoring, web site hosting and other expenses required for running the Vidyalaya activities.

Additional Programs during Q1-2023

January 29th: Ma Saraswati Puja

A special Ma Saraswati Puja was performed for students from 11 AM to 12 PM upstairs in the Temple. Students came dressed up in traditional Indian outfits. Students brought a notebook. Priests gave a mantra in the Puja. Students wrote the mantra in their notebook

Sunday February 5th: Program in remembrance of Saradaji and Mukeshbhai Dave

A Bhajan program was held at 4 PM in memory of Saradaji and Mukeshbhai Dave. About 100 people attended. Light snacks were provided after the program.

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Co-chair: Rita Sheth 610.275.7472 mynapa@aol.com

Bharatiya Vidyalaya

February 18th: Maha Siva Ratri Mahotsava

Students and parents attended Maha Siva Ratri Mahotsava. Students sang bhajans in praise of Lord Siva.

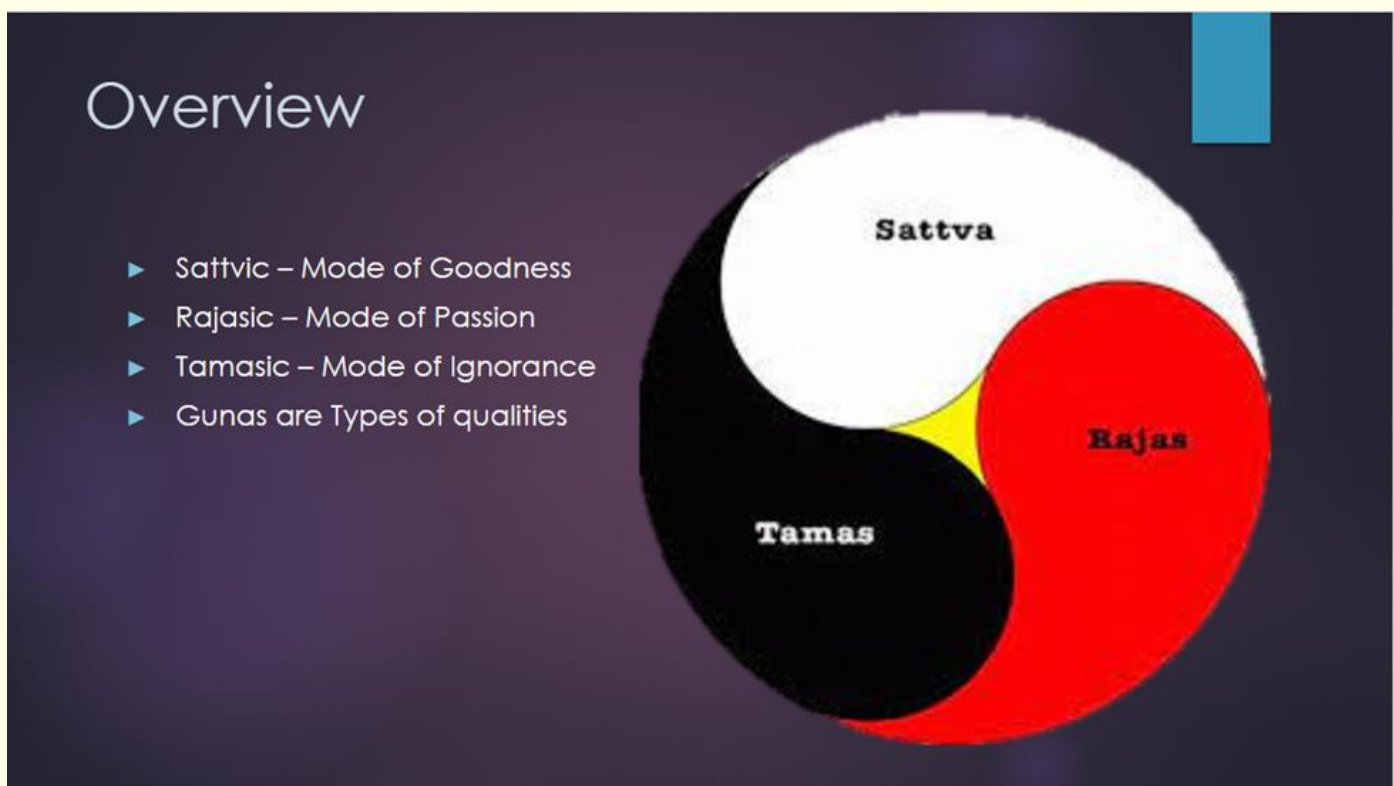
March 12th: Holi Mahotsav

Students and parents enthusiastically participated in Holi Mahotsav.

Sunday, March 19th: Culture Day

After a gap of three years due to COVID, students performed on the stage on Culture Day. Younger students provided a glimpse of Indian culture, talked about famous persons of India, and explained the importance of Gurukul in Indian Culture. Older students made presentations on freedom fighters of India, presented a skit about partition of India and spoke about Indian states and union territories. The program was made available on Zoom for students' families in India.

Presentations in Morning Assembly by Students



March 5th: Three Gunas: Vivek Pragada made a presentation on the three gunas in the morning assembly

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Co-chair: Raju Kalidindi 610.331.4757 raju.email@gmail.com
Co-chair: Rita Sheth 610.275.7472 mynapa@aol.com

Bharatiya Vidyalyaya



March 26th: Lord Krishna: Darshit Mangala presented on Lord Krishna in morning assembly. Lord Krishna convinced Arjuna to perform his duty and fight the war.

Chairperson:	Praveen Sharma	215.361.0145	pravsharma@hotmail.com
Co-chair:	Vijay Chakravarthi	610.389.0465	vijaync.bv@gmail.com
Co-chair:	Raju Kalidindi	610.331.4757	raju.email@gmail.com
Co-chair:	Rita Sheth	610.275.7472	mynapa@aol.com

Special Needs Support Group

The Special Needs Support Group had an informational seminar with Access Services on Sunday March 26, 2023.

Access Services is a non-profit organization that works with and helps provide support and resources to individuals and families with behavioral health, intellectual disability, Autism etc.

Approximately 10 Special Needs families attended the seminar.

The presentation turned more into a Q/A session due to the number of questions that the families had. The team from Access Services was able to answer most of the questions and the group left with a very fulfilling experience. Thanks to David and Janice from Access Services for making the presentation.



Becoming a Member of BTI / BCC



Membership Categories	
Annual Membership	\$100
Life Member	\$1,200
Patron	\$5,000
Grand Patron	\$10,000
Senior Trustee	\$25,000

Benefits of becoming a Trustee, Patron or Life Member

- All mailings including Brochures, newsletters and calendar.
- Complementary Pujas performed at the temple for you and your family member on birthdays.
- Discounted or complimentary admission to selected events.
- One time per calendar year, receive a 20% discounted fee for Hall rental (Max discount of \$100)
- Eligible for Board of Director's position.

All donations to Bharatiya Temple and Bharatiya Cultural Center are tax deductible!

Bharatiya Temple Tax ID: 23-2959416

Bharatiya Cultural Center Tax ID: 76-0706802

For additional information regarding membership and to download application forms, please visit the Temple website.

Puja Request

To schedule a Puja or inquiries pertaining to this, please contact:



Ramana Kanumalla
267-396-PUJA (7852)
priest@b-temple.org

If you are requesting specific priests for your puja, this will only be confirmed by Ramana Kanumalla and not by the priests themselves. Please keep in mind that:



- All services (except Archana, Abhishekam & Vehicle Puja) must be scheduled in advance.
- All private puja services are charged on an individual puja basis.
- Mileage charges will apply for all outside pujas.

For a complete list of Pujas and prices, please visit the temple website.

Volunteers Needed

The Temple is always in need of help and volunteers! If there is a committee that interests you, please reach out to the respective chairperson. If there is an event that you would like to help out in, please refer to the respective flyer and get in touch with the contact person(s) listed. If you can only volunteer for a day or even a few hours, it will be greatly appreciated! Please reach out to the contact person for the event based on your availability.



Bharatiya Temple Hall Rental Information

For Hall Rentals or inquiries pertaining to this, please contact:



Dixal Patel
610-291-7493
hall@b-temple.org



Hall Rental	\$600 for 4 hours + \$100/additional hour (Fridays evenings, Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays) <u>OR</u> \$400 for 4 hours + \$75/additional hour (weekdays)
Education Room Rental	\$100 for 2 hours + \$50/additional hour (Friday evenings, Saturdays, Sundays & Holidays) <u>OR</u> \$50 for 2 hours + \$25/additional hour (weekdays)
Kitchen Rental	\$75 for warming food. Food cooking is not permitted.
Audio Equipment Rental	<u>Basic Package</u>—\$75 (includes 1 wireless and 2 wired mics, connection for laptop or phone) <u>Enhanced Package</u>—\$250 (includes 1 technician and use of all audio facilities for 4 hours., \$50/hour extra thereafter)
Wedding	\$1,300 for all day—includes access to kitchen and Basic Package for audio equipment rental
Cleaning	\$100—this includes sweeping and mopping only; you still have to pick up trash
Discounts (once/year)	20% or maximum \$100 for Life Members of BTI/BCC (once/year) 20% or maximum \$100 for nonprofit organizations (once/year) 10% or maximum \$100 for annual members of BTI/BCC (once/year)

For additional information or to download the rental agreement, please visit the Temple website.

About BTI / BCC

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 463
Montgomeryville, PA 18936

Physical Address

1612 County Line Road
Chalfont, PA 18914

Phone: 215-997-1181

Email: info@b-temple.org

Priest services:

Ramana Kanumalla
267-396-7852
priest@b-temple.org

Hall Rental

Dixal Patel
610-291-7493
hall@b-temple.org

Temple Priests



**Sri. Vishnuji
Parshad Vassyal**



**Sri. Seshasai
Rompicharla**



**Sri. Umamaheshwara
Shivam**

Connect with the Community and the Temple

Bharatiya Temple App

You can download this **FREE** app by simply scanning the barcode or by searching "Bharatiya Temple" in iTunes (Apple) or Play Store (Android).

With this app you can easily view upcoming events, view monthly calendar, request hall rental, request priest services, listen to bhajans, post pictures, send a message, etc.

If you choose to receive notification, you will receive real-time information about parking situation at the temple, temple closings due to inclement weather and reminders about special events at the temple.



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