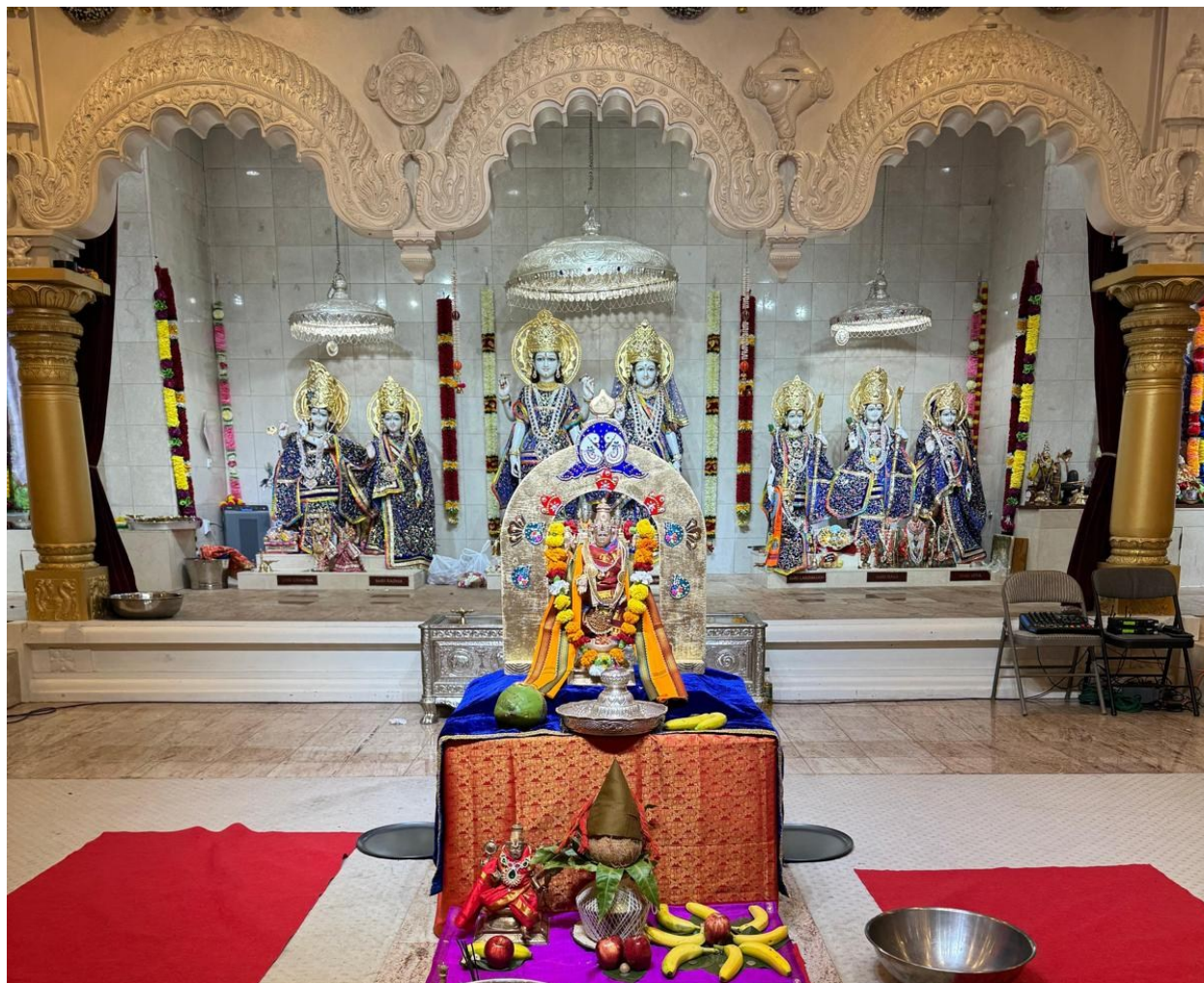




# BTI - BCC Newsletter

## April 2025 to June 2025



# Bharatiya Temple

1612 County Line Road, Chalfont, PA 18914

Ph: 215-997-1181    [www.b-temple.org](http://www.b-temple.org)

## Temple & Aarti Timings

Temple timings:			Aarti timings:	
<b>Weekdays</b> 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM (9:00 PM Mar—Oct)			<b>Hindu Aarti</b> 12:00 PM and 7:00 PM daily  <b>Jain Aarti</b> 11:45 AM and 6:45 PM daily	
<b>Weekends</b> 9:00 AM to 8:30 PM				
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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# "Support Your Temple" Campaign



## **Bharatiya Temple & Bharatiya Cultural Center**

1612 County Line Road, Chalfont, PA 18914

PHONE: 215-997-1181

[www.b-temple.org](http://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](mailto: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!!!**

**DOUBLE YOUR  
DONATION \$\$  
MATCHING GIFTS**

Maximize your impact



with a matching gift!





# Academic Enrichment Program—MOC AMC 8 Contest

Hari Om

Academic Enrichment Team is delighted to share that the Mock AMC 8 competition that was held on Tuesday, July 22, 2025 was a resounding success. All thanks to the enthusiastic participation from students, the unwavering support from our dedicated volunteers and the generous cooperation of the Bharatiya Temple administration.

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all winners and participants alike. The spirit and success of the event was shaped by all who participated and helped organize it. Each of you contributed to the vibrant spirit of the event and we hope this experience was as rewarding for you as it was for us.

## Mock AMC 8 Participation Snapshot

This year's **Mock AMC 8 math competition** featured **25 questions** aimed at engaging and challenging students across various grade levels. We were thrilled to **welcome 47 participants**, with representation spanning **grades from 4 through 8**.

## Participation Breakdown

- **Grade 4: 6 students**
- **Grade 5: 19 students**
- **Grade 6: 7 students**
- **Grade 7: 14 students**
- **Grade 8: 1 student**

**Notably, 27 of these participants are currently enrolled in our program.** Details regarding top performers and recognition across each grade category were shared to honor their achievement and encourage continued learning.

## Top Performers

- The **highest score achieved was an impressive 23** out of 25.
- Remarkably, the **top three scorers** in the entire competition are all students from our program, highlighting the impact and effectiveness of our approach.

# Academic Enrichment Program—MOC AMC 8 Contest

## Honor Roll Awards

The **Honor Roll** is awarded to students who earn a score of **19 or higher**.

- A total of **7 students** earned Honor Roll distinction.
- Of these, **4 students are currently enrolled in our program**, acknowledging their growth and impact in a competitive landscape.

## Achievement Awards

The **Achievement Award** recognizes younger students, specifically those in **grade 6 or below** and who scored **15 or higher** and are **not** already included in the Honor Roll category.

- **7 students** received Achievement Awards this year.
- Impressively, **all 7 recipients are enrolled in our program**, underscoring the outstanding mathematical capabilities of our youngest learners.

We plan to continue organizing similar competitions and actively encourage greater participation, both within our program and across broader communities.

Regards

Jatinder Duggal

(On Behalf of the Academic Enrichment Program Team)



# Religious Committee - Hindu

**April 2025**

## **Chaitra-Vaishakh**

The month of April, also known as Chaitra–Vaishakh in the Hindu calendar, marks the beginning of the Hindu New Year. It is considered an auspicious time for spiritual cleansing and acts of charity.

The month began with Chaitra Navaratri. Devotees participated in daily Chandi Path and Durga Puja rituals, led by priests, culminating on the eighth day (Ashtami) with a havan performed in tents set up in the temple premises. This event was attended by a large number of devotees.

On the ninth day, Ram Navami was celebrated with the Sita-Rama Kalyanotsavam, a reenactment of the celestial wedding of Sita Mata and Shri Rama. The priests performed the sacred ceremony with great pomp and devotion.

## **Sunderkand Parayan**

The Sunderkand, the fifth chapter of the Ramayana, glorifies Lord Shri Ram and is recited by devotees on the first Sunday of every month. If the first Sunday coincides with a major festival, the event is rescheduled. Devotees of Lord Hanuman gather to chant together, creating uplifting and powerful spiritual vibrations.

## **Hanuman Jayanti**

Six days after Ram Navami, Hanuman Jayanti is celebrated on Poornima. The event includes chanting of the Hanuman Chalisa five times, followed by bhajans and keertanams. It continues to draw a large number of attendees each year.

## **Vishu Celebrations**

Vishu, the Zodiac New Year, is an appropriate time to offer oblations to Lord Vishnu. A special traditional setup is created in the temple, following Kerala customs, where prayers are offered to Lord Vishnu in the form of Krishna. The celebration concludes with the distribution of traditional food (prasada).

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# Religious Committee - Hindu

## Akhand Ramayan Parayan

Every April, Akhand Ramayan Parayan is organized — a 24-hour nonstop chanting of Chaupais from the Ramayan, accompanied by the rhythmic beats of the dholak and manjira. For the past two years, this has been enhanced with three major Utsavs celebrating:

- Ram Janam (Birth of Lord Rama)
- Sita Mata-Shri Rama Vivah (Divine Marriage)
- Ram Rajyabhishek (Coronation of Lord Rama)

These events are filled with devotional singing and rituals performed by priests, creating a spiritually vibrant atmosphere — truly not to be missed.

## New Monthly Observance

A new monthly event has also been introduced: Yamunashtak Path and Bhajans are now held on every Shukla Paksha Ekadashi.

## Other Regular Pujas

In accordance with the religious calendar, the temple continues to hold:

- Sankashti Puja
- Murugan Puja
- Ayyappa Puja

along with other daily, weekly, and monthly pujas.

## May 2025

The temple functions performed during the month of May are outlined below. The Hindu months of Vaishaka and Jyestha spanned the month of May, from Shukla Panchami in Vaishaka to Shukla Shashti in Jyestha.

- **Navagraha Puja:** This important puja was performed on **Saturday, May 3rd**. The Navagraha Puja is dedicated to the nine celestial bodies that influence human life, and participating in it is believed to bring balance and remove obstacles.
- **Navagraha Abhishekam:** The special monthly Navagraha Abhishekam took place on **Saturday, May 17th**. This ritual involves bathing the idols of the nine planets with sacred substances, seeking their benevolent influence and mitigating any



## Religious Committee - Hindu

negative effects.

- **Murugan Puja:** The Murugan Puja was performed on **Saturday, May 3rd** in the evening. This puja honors Lord Murugan, the son of Lord Shiva, and is an opportunity to seek his blessings for courage, wisdom, and success. Devotees sang bhajans in praise of Lord Murugan as the priests performed the puja.
- **Sunderkand Parayan:** The Sunderkand Parayan was held on **Sunday, May 4th**. This recitation from the Ramayana is believed to bring peace and prosperity. BTI devotees recited the Sunderkand accompanied by musical instruments.
- **Yamunashtak Path:** The Yamunashtak Path was recited on Ekadasi **Wednesday, May 7th**. This sacred path is dedicated to the Yamuna River, a holy river in Hinduism, and its recitation is believed to bring spiritual purification and blessings. The Yamunashtak Path is performed on Ekadasi, particularly within the Pushtimarg tradition, when ardent devotees fast and perform spiritual practices.
- **Pradosham Siva Abhishekam:** In the month of May Pradosham fell on **Friday, May 9th** and again on **Saturday, May 24th**. Pradosham which falls on Trayodasi in Shukla paksha and Krishna paksha of the lunar cycle, is an auspicious time to worship Lord Shiva and seek his blessings.
- **Ayyappa Puja:** Ayyappa Puja was celebrated on **Saturday, May 10th**. This puja is dedicated to Lord Ayyappan and is an opportunity to seek his divine grace. Devotees sang sweet bhajans in praise of Lord Ayyappan and participated in the puja.
- **Satyanarayan Puja:** In BTI we celebrated Satyanarayan Puja on Poornima, **Sunday, May 11th** in the evening. The puja is performed to Lord Vishnu in his manifestation as Lord Satyanarayan, the embodiment of truth. It is widely performed to seek blessings for prosperity, happiness, and fulfillment of desires.
- **Sankashti:** Sankashti was observed on Krishna paksha Chaturthi, **Thursday, May 15th**. Ganesh abhishekam was performed by the priests as the devotees chanted the Ganapati Atharvashirsha, shlokas, and bhajans. This day is dedicated to Lord Ganesh, and observing Sankashti is believed to help overcome obstacles and bring good fortune.

## Religious Committee - Hindu

The **Varshik Brahmotsav** (Temple Anniversary) was celebrated from **May 30th** through **June 1st** in the temple.

- **Friday, May 30th:** The celebrations began on Friday morning with the **Pradhan Kalash Sthapan & Sarva Devata Avahan Puja**. In the evening, the priests and devotees performed the **Kalash & Devata Avahan Puja**, followed by Bhajans & Stotra Path by children. The Shodasopchar Puja of the Pradhan Kalash was performed.
- **Saturday, May 31st:** Saturday morning celebrations commenced with the **Vishnu Parivar Mahabhishekam** with Suprabhatam and Panchanadya Panchamrit Kalash Puja. This was followed by Mahabhishekam for Lakshmi Narayan, Radha Krishna, Ram Parivar, Satyanarayan & Venkateswara Parivar, and Venkateswara Utsav Murti Abhishekam. In the evening, the **Siva Parivar Mahabhishekam** was performed, including Panchanadya Panchamrit Kalash Puja and Mahabhishekam for Siva Parivar, Murugan, & Ayyappa.
- **Sunday, June 1st:** The final day, Sunday, began with the **Ganesh, Durga, Hanuman & Navagraha Mahabhishekam** in the morning, featuring Panchanadya Panchamrit Kalash Puja, and Ganesh Utsav Murti Abhishekam. As per tradition the Dhawaja puja by sponsors was conducted on the temple floor and then the priests hoisted the new Dhawaja atop the temple's main gopuram. The weekend anniversary celebrations concluded with Amritvani, followed by Bhajans by Swami Siddhanandaji's Group and the Sarva Devata Aarti.
- On all days and during each session, devotees sponsored Mahaprasad for all attendees. The anniversary celebrations were a great success and devotees are encouraged to attend the annual anniversary celebrations in large numbers.

### June 2025

June 1st, temple opened at 8:30 AM in the morning. Sponsors and devotees attended the Panchanadya Panchamrit Kalash Puja with enthusiasm and devotion. Priests did the Mahabishek to Ganeshji, Durgama, Hanumanji and Navagrahas.

Dhawaja Puja was performed around 11 AM which symbolises the ashtamangala in Hinduism. It creates a protective shield around the temple and its followers. It represents the devotees dedication to follow the Sanathan Dharma. Dhawaja was taken around the



## Religious Committee - Hindu

temple in a procession and replaced the old one with the new Dhwaja. Devotees were chanting mantras and Bhajans.

Around 11:30 we had bhajans and stotra path by our dedicated devotees. Maha arathi was performed followed by a delicious lunch prepared by Marathi Mandal.

In the evening at 4:30 we had Amritvani and Bhajans which was well attended and Swami Siddhanandaji & his group sang devotional bhajans followed by Mahaprasad prepared by the Panjabi group.

Monthly Pujas and bhajans, Yamunastak kirtans were part of this month also.





## Religious Committee - Hindu





# Religious Committee - Jain

## Celebrating Our Jain Heritage at Bharatiya Temple – June 7, 2025

On June 7, 2025, the BTI-Jains Sangh joyfully celebrated the anniversary of our sacred Jain temple at the Bharatiya Temple with devotion, color, and community spirit.

The morning began with the deeply symbolic **Siddhachakra Puja**, a powerful ritual that honors the Siddhachakra Yantra—an ancient and revered diagram symbolizing the essence of Jain philosophy. This puja is performed to seek spiritual upliftment, inner peace, and the well-being of all beings. It serves as a reminder of the values of Samyak Darshan (right faith), Samyak Jnana (right knowledge), and Samyak Charitra (right conduct).

Following the puja, the Sangh gathered for a vibrant **parade and Dhwaja Aarohan (flag-raising ceremony)**. Jain youth proudly carried saffron Jain flags, symbolizing courage, devotion, and the timeless teachings of the Tirthankaras. With sacred chants and festive energy, the entire Sangh participated in the parade, reflecting unity, pride, and joy.

As the Jain flag was gracefully raised atop the temple, hearts swelled with reverence. The **Dhwaja Aarohan** signifies the victory of truth and non-violence, and is a declaration of our community's ongoing commitment to Jain values and seva.

We are grateful to all who participated and supported this meaningful celebration. Together, we continue to nurture and uplift our Jain identity for generations to come.

**Jai Jinendra!**



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## Religious Committee - Jain





## Religious Committee - Jain





# Health & Human Services

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

**Advisor:** Dr. Akkaraju Sarma MD, FAAFP; **BTI Board Liaison:** Atul Sangal, MSPT

## **BCC HHS Mission:** *Manava Seva is Madhava Seva*

- 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/health fairs
- Organize American Red Cross blood drives and Vaccine clinics
- Arrange training sessions on first aid, CPR, AARP driving courses

## **Blood Drives**

BCC HHS team organized Blood Drive at Bharatiya Temple on 28 June 2025. We collected a total of 32 units of blood that can potentially save up to 96 lives. We again exceeded our target of collecting 30 units for this drive. Thanks to all the DONORS and Volunteers who made this possible. Great team effort and thanks to all the donors and volunteers for their continued support for the blood drive that has a huge community impact. Kudos to the HHS Team including Anjan Dave, Ravi Indrakanti, Prabhu Mysore, Meena Durbha for making this blood drive very successful. Youth Lead Poojitha Medi and several other Youth volunteers helped with the recruitment efforts for this drive.

We host 4 drives annually that brings donors from local community along with Bhartiya Temple devotees. The blood drives also provide a great opportunity for local community to get introduced to the Temple and they are all encouraged to visit mandir upstairs when they come to donate. This time we had 6 donors interested in visiting upstairs and we were able to arrange this with the help of volunteers.

Thanks to BTI/BCC management for their continued support for these activities. This is one of the noble causes the Temple has been supporting for many years that saved thousands of lives.

Thanks to BTI/BCC management for their continued support for these activities. This is one of the noble causes the Temple has been supporting for many years that saved

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# Health & Human Services

thousands of lives.

The next blood drive is scheduled for 23 Aug 2025 (Saturday) from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.  
Please register using the following link: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=bharatiya>





## Health & Human Services



### Volunteers Needed

We have a great volunteer team at the Temple, but need more volunteers to help with multiple temple activities, please reach out at [medibabu@yahoo.com](mailto:medibabu@yahoo.com) or signup @ [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc\\_7DvdFvmbF-09L7XCIXLz-LwGkl0McRs7tayxFLxXc\\_n8-g/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc_7DvdFvmbF-09L7XCIXLz-LwGkl0McRs7tayxFLxXc_n8-g/viewform)



# Education Committee

The Education Committee is a standing committee with goals of educating the public. Teaching is one of the spiritual gifts given to people in the Temple but they have to attend our program. Last Thursday of the month Bharatiya Temple presenting Bhagvad Gita study group with Praveen bhai Sharma.

## **Bhagavad Gita Chapter 3 Summary – Karma Yoga**

Question: *what covers the knowledge of Atma? How?*

Answer: By Kama. As fire is covered by smoke, as the mirror is covered by dust, as the embryo is covered by the amnion, so is Atma covered by Kama.

Lust cannot be satisfied by any amount of sense enjoyment, just as fire is never turn off by a constant supply of fuel. lust is indeed, ignorance of the jiva, & it covers –JIVA'S knowledge. Lust is the symbol of ignorance by which the living entity is kept within the material world. While one enjoys sense gratification- pleasure, it may be that there is some feeling of happiness, but actually that so-called feeling of happiness is the ultimate enemy of the sense enjoyer.

kama is the immediate and most dangerous enemy. When one is wake up from the dream of desire, followed by enjoyment, and enjoyment followed by further desire.. he tries to progress towards Truth. Then he would understand how kama had enslaved him, how bitter and short-lived its pleasures were – AFTER SERVING THIS SUBTLE ENEMY FOR MANY LIVES, IT ROOTED VERY DEEP –JIVA MUST, HAVE TO STRUGGLE LOT TO BE OVERCOME. ONLY GYAN HELP

## **Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025 by Poonam Singhal**

Promote equality in interfaith relationships and tolerance for religious diversity. Increase understanding and tolerance between Dharmics (Hindus, Jains, Sikhs, and Buddhists) and Abrahamics (Christians, Jews, and Muslims). Increase awareness of interfaith complexities to young adults and help them better prepare for a happy and long lasting married life, even if it is an interfaith marriage.



# Education Committee

## **Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 by Pragna Shah**

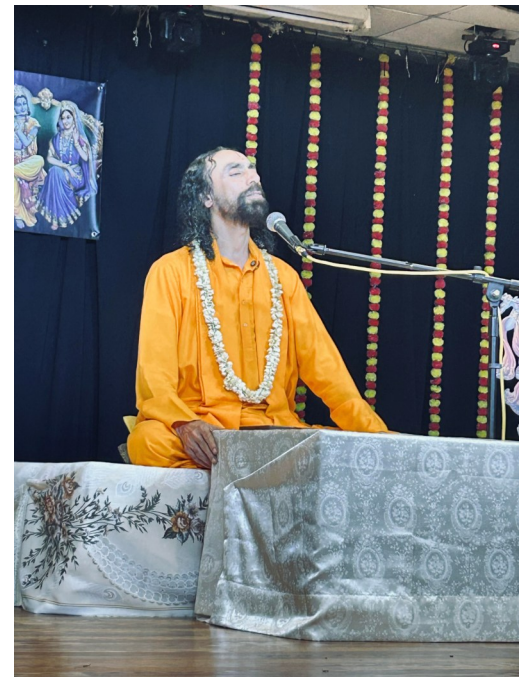
Ms. Pragna Shah, extensively studied Jainism. She is teaching Meditation, several mind exercises to enhance Concentration. She teaches Mudras, which are ancient symbolic hand gestures for holistic wellbeing's. The practice of yoga mudra facilitates the flow of energy in the body. Many clinical studies also suggest that yoga mudras have beneficial results.

## **Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 - Akhand Jyot Yogiraj Shri Santram Maharaj**

With the inspiration of the divine Akhand Jyot Yogiraj Shri Santram Maharaj, and with the auspicious blessings of the most revered Shri Ramjidas Maharaj. Teach us the value of Bhakti and importance of The Vishnu Sahasranama is a Sanskrit hymn containing a list of the 1,000 names of Vishnu, one of the main deities in Hinduism and the Supreme God in Vaishnavism. It is one of the most sacred and popular stotras in Hinduism. The most popular version of the Vishnu Sahasranama is featured in the Anushasana Parva of the epic Mahabharata.

## **June 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – Swami Mukunandaji**

Swami Mukundananda is a world-renowned spiritual teacher from India. He is the founder of the yogic system called Jagadguru Kripaluji Yog, widely known as JKYog. Swamiji is a unique sanyasi (monk), who has a distinguished technical and management background, from highly esteemed Indian institutions, which complements his profound spiritual knowledge. Most of his time is spent in serving people and helping them lead healthier, happier, and more fulfilling lives. His lectures and teaches yoga and meditation almost every day of the year. He writes books and commentaries, speaks at prestigious places, and guides a worldwide congregation of devotees. His presence radiates love for the divine and for all souls who approach him for guidance. Swamiji's lectures are humorous, his arguments are logical and well laid-out, and most of all, his advice is practical. His lectures are much





## Education Committee



sought after and include various topics such as *Art of Mind Management*, *Good Health Through Yoga*, *Meditation*, *Spirituality*, *Developing our Relationship with God*, *Bhagavad Gita for Everyday Living* and he teaches the value of Gita through chapter 15<sup>th</sup>, Purushottam Yoga. (The Yoga of the Supreme Divine Personality)

By describing in detail this symbolism of the upside down *aśvatth* (sacred fig) tree, this chapter conveys the concept of how in ignorance of this tree of material existence, the embodied souls keep

growing their bondage in the material world. Shree Krishna declares that if we are searching for the Supreme Lord, then we must first cut this tree of material existence with the axe of detachment. This tree representing MAYA and must be cut down with the weapon of detachment. Surrender to the supreme Lord – Purushottama to attain eternal peace and liberation.





# Education Committee

**June 22<sup>nd</sup>-2025 – International yoga day**

International yoga day we celebrated in Bharatiya Temple with Art of living teachers Gowrie Krishnamurthy and Sandhya Nerurkar.





## Cultural Committee

During the last quarter, the Cultural Committee was especially active, bringing vibrant energy and unity to the community. One of the highlights was the spirited celebration of Vishu in collaboration with the Temple Kerala group. The festival brimmed with tradition and togetherness, featuring a captivating cultural program that showcased music, dance, and dramatic performances emblematic of Kerala's rich heritage. The event culminated in an elaborate Sadya—a grand vegetarian feast served on banana leaves—where participants savored classic dishes and shared in the joy of the season. The success of this gathering not only honored cultural roots but also strengthened bonds across the organization.



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## Cultural Committee

Building on this momentum, the Cultural Committee organized a vibrant Spring Mela on May 31st and June 1st in celebration of Brahmotsav. Despite challenging weather on the first day, the event blossomed into a resounding success, drawing the community together with its festive spirit. Among the highlights was a dazzling culture show inspired by Indian weddings—an exuberant spectacle where more than 100 performers brought to life the many rituals marking a traditional union, such as mehandi, haldi, and barat. Audiences were treated not only to the artistry and symbolism of these ceremonies but also to the “Flavors of India,” a culinary journey introducing regional tastes and specialties. Local vendors added to the colorful atmosphere, offering Indian clothing and artifacts for all to enjoy.

Not to forget, the food vendors added to the festive atmosphere by serving a tempting array of mouthwatering Indian delicacies. Their offerings, brimming with fragrant spices and authentic flavors, delighted attendees and turned the celebration into a true culinary adventure. Adding to the festivities, the Bollywood Dhamaka presented by Hidden Gems was truly the cherry on top. The atmosphere electrified as non-stop Bollywood hits filled the air, inviting everyone—young and old alike—to rise from their seats and join the dance floor. The infectious rhythms and exuberant choreography created a sense of camaraderie and pure joy, ensuring that the celebration pulled with energy until the very end.

The Spring Mela stood as a testament to the community’s resilience, creativity, and commitment to celebrating cultural heritage, even when faced with unexpected challenges.





## Cultural Committee



The Cultural Committee extends its heartfelt gratitude to all the dedicated volunteers whose unwavering commitment and spirited efforts made the Mela a reality. Without their invaluable support—from planning and organizing to guiding guests and managing festivities—the event's warmth and success would not have been possible. Their generosity of time and talent helped transform each idea into a joyful experience, fostering the sense of belonging and pride that makes our community truly special.



## Women's Group

The BCC Women's Group is continuing its initiative of community volunteering at Greater Harleysville and North Penn Senior Services (GHNPS) The PEAK Centre in Lansdale PA. We represent the Bharatiya Temple and serve lunch to the senior citizens on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of every month.



The Women's Group runs two book clubs that meet regularly. The Daytime Book Club discussed *The Last Flight* by Julie Clark on April 9<sup>th</sup> and *Butter* by Asako Yuzuki on June 4<sup>th</sup>. The Evening Book Club discussed *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and ventured into movie discussions (*The Shutter Island* and *All We imagine as Light*) on June 17<sup>th</sup>.



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Co-chair: Poonam Gidwani 215.859.8626 poonamgidwani@yahoo.com

## Women's Group



The Women's Group is planning several events in the next few months, the first of which is **Summer Potluck Picnic on August 3rd 2025** (postponed from June 21<sup>st</sup>).

To continue receiving 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.

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.



# Bharatiya Vidyalaya

## Bharatiya Vidyalaya Celebrates 20 Years of Service

The 2024–25 academic session of Bharatiya Vidyalaya concluded on May 18, 2025, marking two decades of dedicated service to the community. With 182 students enrolled this year, the Vidyalaya continues to thrive as a vibrant center for spiritual, language and cultural learning. Registration for the 2025–26 session is now open.

### A Glimpse into a Typical Sunday

#### 9:30 AM – Morning Assembly

The day begins with yoga led by experienced volunteers, followed by prayers and Bhagavad Geeta chanting. Parents are warmly invited to join. Occasionally, a student delivers a short talk on topics related to religion, culture, or language.

#### 10:00 AM – Religion Classes

Students attend classes based on their faith tradition—Hindu or Jain—guided by knowledgeable instructors.

#### 11:00 AM – Language Classes

Students choose from seven Indian languages:

- Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu (multiple sections by proficiency)
- Kannada (one section)

Additional languages may be offered if six or more students register.

#### 12:00 PM – Aarati and Enrichment

After a collective Aarati, students may join either the group singing (music) class or the Geeta chanting class.

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

# Bharatiya Vidyalaya

## **Parent Engagement: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

While students attend classes, parents are invited to participate in:

- A Bhagavad Geeta discussion group, led by insightful volunteers
- A concurrent meditation session for quiet reflection

Thanks to the dedication of our volunteers, the program remains both enriching and enjoyable for students and parents alike.

## **Volunteers: The Heart of the Vidyalaya**

The 2025–26 session will be supported by over 50 teaching and 10 non-teaching volunteers, all compliant with Pennsylvania’s volunteering laws. New volunteers are paired with experienced mentors for orientation and support.

## **Senior Student Program**

Designed for students in 9th grade and above, this program offers hands-on teaching experience. In 2024–25, 11 Senior Students assisted in teaching one subject while continuing their own studies in two others.

## **Library Services**

Our library, managed by a dedicated team of volunteers, offers a wide selection of books for both children and adults. Parents are encouraged to explore and borrow resources to support learning at home.

## **Special Programs in Q2-2025**

Bharatiya Vidyalaya celebrated a vibrant and meaningful second quarter with a series of enriching events that brought together students, parents, and volunteers in the spirit of learning, and community.



# Bharatiya Vidyalaya

## **Religion Day – Sunday, April 13 | 9:15 AM – 12:15 PM**

Our annual Religion Day brought together the entire Vidyalaya community to celebrate the spiritual diversity of Indian traditions. The morning began with yoga and prayers, followed by student-led presentations:

### **9:15 AM— Morning Assembly & Program Introduction**

Godavari: “Karma and Sannyasa Yoga”

Ganga: “Ramayan Play”

Kaveri: “Ram Bhajan”

Yamuna & Narmada: “Must Know: Unique Hindu Worship Traditions”

Jain Class: “Leshyas – The Six States of Mind”

### **10:40 AM—Break & Temple BOD Team Updates**

Music Class: “Bhajans”

Saraswati: “Introduction to Mahabharata”

Krishna: “Values Taught by Sanaatana Dharma”

Sindhu: “Key to Success”

The event was a resounding success, thanks to the creativity of our students and the unwavering support of teachers and volunteers.

## **Mandatory Parent-Volunteer Meeting – Sunday, April 20**

Parents gathered for an interactive session to discuss the Vidyalaya’s mission, operations, and upcoming plans. The open forum encouraged questions and fostered stronger collaboration between families and volunteers.

## **Bhagavad Geeta Chanting Event – Sunday, April 26**

Ten dedicated students from Bharatiya Vidyalaya proudly participated in the chanting of Chapter 5 of the Bhagavad Geeta at Chinmaya Mission. Their heartfelt recitation was a beautiful representation of our school's values and commitment to cultural enrichment.

# Bharatiya Vidyalaya

## **Mother's Day Picnic – Sunday, May 11 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM**

Held at Spring Valley Park in Lansdale, this joyful outdoor celebration brought together students, parents, and volunteers for games, music, and heartfelt appreciation for mothers.

## **Alumni Invitation & Language Day – Sunday, May 18 9:15 AM – 12:30 PM**

We welcomed back our Grade 12 alumni for a special Language Day celebration. The program featured student performances in multiple Indian languages, showcasing linguistic diversity and cultural pride.

### **9:15 AM—Invocation Prayer & Lamp Lighting**

- Marathi Junior: Let's Learn Marathi with Joy and Play
- Marathi Senior: Women Saints of Maharashtra
- Hindi Junior I: The Shining Star
- Kannada: Couplets (Doha Collection)
- Sanskrit Junior: The Beauty of Subhāṣitas (Wise Sayings)
- Tamil: Immortal Fruits – Timeless Values
- Telugu Junior: Panchatantra: A Solution in Times of Trouble

### **11:00 AM—Break and Other Program Performances**

- Gujarati Junior: The Fun of Vegetables
- Hindi Junior II: Poem on Lord Rama
- Sanskrit Senior: A Summer Day Conversation in Sanskrit
- Hindi Intermediate: Bollywood Showdown
- Sanskrit Advanced: The Yaksha's Questions
- Hindi Senior: Lessons from Social Media
- Telugu Senior: Environmental Protection
- Gujarati Senior: Our Favorite Sports



# Bharatiya Vidyalaya

## Summer Sanskrit Program

Summer Sanskrit Program began Wednesday, May 28 6:00 PM on Zoom. Open to children (Grade 1+) and adults, this 8-week online course welcomed 9 adults and 3 children.

The curriculum includes:

- Sanskrit Alphabet & Pronunciation
- Basic Grammar & Vocabulary
- Shlokas, Subhāṣitas, and Bhagavad Gītā Verses
- Conversational Sanskrit Practice

Dates: May 28, June 4, 11, 18, 25, July 23, 30, August 6

## Stay Connected: Bharatiya Vidyalaya WhatsApp Community

We've launched a WhatsApp Community for real-time updates and announcements.

Join us here:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/Ex6sOByBMlf4o5SaYiFt9c>

## Spring Mela – May 31 & June 1 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Students and parents enthusiastically volunteered at the Bharatiya Vidyalaya stall during the Spring Mela. Participants engaged visitors, answered questions, and actively attracted crowds.

## Bharatiya Vidyalaya In-Person Summer Program | July 7–11, 2025

As of this writing, our dedicated volunteers are actively preparing for the much-anticipated In-Person Summer Program, scheduled for July 7–11, 2025. This immersive, week-long experience offers students a joyful and meaningful way to deepen their connection with Indian culture through hands-on activities, engaging lessons, and spiritual enrichment—all in a vibrant, in-person setting.

We look forward to welcoming participants for a memorable summer of learning and community!


# Bharatiya Vidyalaya

## Bharatiya Vidyalaya 2025–26 Academic Year Begins August 24

We are pleased to share that classes for the 2025–26 academic year will begin on Sunday, August 24, 2025. Registration is now open!

Register Here: <https://form.jotform.com/bvidya/studentregistration>

We look forward to welcoming new and returning students for another year of learning, community, and cultural celebration.



### Bharatiya Vidyalaya

#### Bharatiya Cultural Center

1612 County Line Road, Chalfont, PA 18914 Phone: (215) 997-1181  
[www.b-temple.org](http://www.b-temple.org) Click on the link: Bharatiya Vidyalaya



**CULTURE**

**RELIGION**

**LANGUAGES**

**In-Person Classes: KG -12<sup>th</sup> graders: Aug 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025 – May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Sundays 9:30AM - 12:20PM  
Additional activities (optional) 12:20PM - 12:45PM**

- ❖ 20 Years of coaching children to learn about Indian heritage and traditions, and succeed in life
  - ❖ Hindu and Jain Religions
  - ❖ Indian Culture: Traditions, festivals, food, costumes, art and crafts, music, history of India, and more
  - ❖ Indian Languages: Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Sanskrit, Tamil and Telugu
- ❖ Additional Indian languages can be made available subject to sufficient number of students
- ❖ Opportunities for students to participate in Bhajans, Geeta chanting, and Yoga, and present on the stage
  - ❖ Bharatiya Vidyalaya students actively participate in community activities in the Temple: Ganesh festival, Diwali, Navaratri, Holi, Temple Anniversary, Temple Aarati, and Other religious and cultural events
  - ❖ Outside activities for students: Geeta Chanting Yajna at Madhuvan Ashram, Mother's Day picnic, Hindi USA Exams, and Virtual University Exams for Tamil
  - ❖ "Senior Students Program" for selected 9<sup>th</sup> graders and above students for gaining teaching experience
- ❖ Music (group singing) and Bhagavad Geeta chanting classes
- ❖ Bharatiya Vidyalaya library: Books for students and their family
- ❖ Activities for parents concurrent with the Vidyalaya classes
  - ❖ Bhagavad Geeta discussion group, Yoga and meditation class
  - ❖ Opportunities for parents to volunteer
- ❖ 60+ dedicated volunteers. Additional volunteers are welcome – [click here](#) or contact [bccvidya@gmail.com](mailto:bccvidya@gmail.com)
  - ❖ Volunteers do not receive any compensation or remuneration from Bharatiya Temple or BCC
- ❖ Registration Payment/Fees
  - ❖ \$255 for one child/\$410 for two or more children
  - ❖ For life members only (\$1,200 donation): \$155 for one child/\$310 for two or more children
  - ❖ All registrations must be done online only
  - ❖ To reserve your child's seat, please visit [www.b-temple.org](http://www.b-temple.org), click Bharatiya Vidyalaya on the top left and then Registration => Annual Registration (August-May)
- ❖ For questions, if any, please e-mail [bccvidya@gmail.com](mailto:bccvidya@gmail.com) or call 732-595-6801



# Bharatiya Vidyalaya

## Sustained by Generosity

Bharatiya Vidyalaya operates primarily through the generous donations of parents and volunteers. Your continued support helps us keep this meaningful tradition alive.

दातव्यमिति यद्दानं दीयतेऽनुपकारिणे ।  
देशे काले च पात्रे च तद्दानं सात्त्विकं स्मृतम् ॥ 20॥

dātavyam iti yad dānam dīyate 'nupakāriṇe  
deśhe kāle cha pātre cha tad dānam sāttvikam smṛitam

Bhagavad Geeta 17.20: Charity given to a worthy person simply because it is right to give, without consideration of anything in return, at the proper time and in the proper place, is stated to be in the mode of goodness.



*Mother's Day, May 11: Volunteers and parents team up to guide students in life's tug of war.*



# Bharatiya Vidyalaya



*Mother's Day, May 11: Students discover life's balance with the Lemon Race challenge.*



*Mother's Day, May 11: No Mother's Day celebration is complete without cake cutting!*



# Bharatiya Vidyalaya



*Language Day, May 18: Bharatiya Vidyalaya's Language Day begins with soulful bhajans led by students.*



*Language Day, May 18: Hindi learners share their knowledge, teaching alphabets to an eager audience.*



# Bharatiya Vidyalaya



*Language Day, May 18: Exploring Marathi through roleplay, students bring saints' stories to life.*



*Language Day, May 18: After captivating performances, students gather on stage to celebrate their efforts.*



# Bharatiya Vidyalaya



*Spring Mela, May 31 & June 1: Students present Bharatiya Vidyalaya's spirit through engaging stall exhibits.*

# Becoming a Member of BTI / BCC

— BECOME A —  
**MEMBER**

**JOIN US**

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**



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

**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](mailto:info@b-temple.org)

### Priest services:

Ramana Kanumalla  
267-396-7852  
[priest@b-temple.org](mailto:priest@b-temple.org)

### Hall Rental

Dixal Patel  
610-291-7493  
[hall@b-temple.org](mailto:hall@b-temple.org)

### Temple Priests



**Sri. Vishnuji  
Parshad Vassyal**



**Sri. Seshasai  
Rompicharla**



**Sri. Umamaheshwara  
Shivam**



**Sri. Nikul  
Prasad Joshi**

## 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.



### Like us on Facebook



### Follow us on Twitter

