



SHRI SANATAN MANDIR

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Indian Community Center Corp., tax-exempt under IRS Sec. 501(c)(3)

Founded 1989

Newsletter - June 2009

Your Temple is Getting a \$200,000 Facelift with Much Needed Major Improvements!!

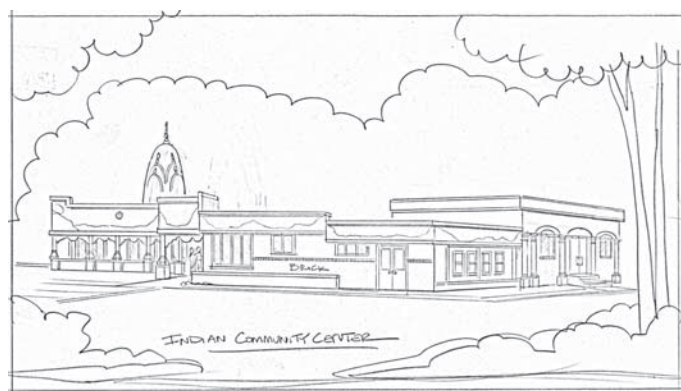
The devotees of Shri Sanatan Mandir are very delighted that the construction for the long awaited major improvement has begun. The project involves addition of (1) a 900 sq. ft. entrance foyer on the outside patio (2) finished basement with change room, library and two bathrooms and (3) many cosmetic improvements. Construction is projected to be complete by the end of August 2009.

The rendering on the back page of this newsletter shows the appearance of the temple when the improvement project is completed. This will be a dramatic change from the existing structure. We are confident that the project will not only enhance devotee convenience but also make the structure look like a traditional temple.

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We Need Your Help to Make our Temple Beautiful

\$ 25,000	Donation for the Entrance Foyer
\$ 5,000	Library and books
\$ 5,000	Carpeting
\$ 5,000	HVAC system
\$ 5,000	Coat closet
\$ 5,000	Change room furniture
\$ 5,000	New main entrance door
\$ 5,000	Audio, video, other electronic equipment
\$ 2,500	Patron
\$ 1,000	Benefactor
\$ 500	Devotee



Be an integral part of the new temple
Donate a Brick!

For your \$101 donation,
ICC will place a brick in the new
construction on your behalf
Names of all brick-donors will be
published in our next newsletter

"Sanatan Mandir School" Completes Successful First Year of New School

Shri Sanatan Mandir launched a new school for pre-kindergarten children in November. A school within the religious environment of our Mandir provides a strong platform for imparting moral values and character building in children at an early age. The curriculum includes teaching of various prayers and shlokas and Hindu culture as well as Gujarati and Hindi languages. The students also experience first hand celebration of Hindu festivals such as Diwali, Navaratri, Holi, Shivratri, etc.

43 children enrolled in our first year of operation. School runs from 9:45 AM to 11:15 AM every Sunday with a prayer session which is followed by a culture class that also includes arts and crafts session. This is followed by language classes where the students learn basic and intermediate levels of Hindi and Gujarati languages. The children participate in the celebration of our traditional festivals in the temple. The current school operation has highly motivated 14 teachers and 8 volunteers who dedicate their time to enhance the educational experience of the children at the school.

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Daily Temple Activities

Hours: 8:00 am – 11:00 am
5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Aarti 7:30 pm

Regular Temple Activities

Mon: Shiv Pooja 7:00 PM
Tues: Hanuman Chalisa 7:15 PM
“Amritvani” 6:30 PM
Last Tuesday of the Month

Hindu Religious Festivals 2009

Jan. 14	Makar Sakranti
Jan. 31	Vasant Panchmi
Feb. 23	Maha Shivratri
Mar. 10	Holi
Mar. 27	Chaitri Navratri Begins
Apr. 3	Ram Navami
Apr. 9	Hanuman Jayanti
Jul. 7	Guru Purnima
Aug. 5	Raksha Bandhan
Aug. 14	Janmashtami
Aug. 23	Ganesh Chaturthi
Sep. 3	Anant Chaturdashi
Sep. 19	Navratri Begins
Sep. 26	Durga Ashtami Havan
Sep. 28	Vijaya Dashmi Dussera
Oct. 3	Sharad Purnima
Oct. 7	Karwa Chauth
Oct. 15	Dhan Teras
Oct. 16	Kali Chaudas
Oct. 17	Diwali
Oct. 18	New Year's Day
Nov. 2	Tulsi Vivah

Sanatan Mandir School

A Parent's Perspective

“The school at Sanatan Mandir has been both a fun and enriching experience for our daughter. The curriculum which encompasses prayer, art, culture and language classes encourages our daughter to learn and understand different aspects of Indian culture. Besides the learning, our daughter looks forward to meeting her new friends that she has made. Our family enjoyed the recent Holi celebrations, a fun filled family event, which included a presentation on the history behind Holi celebration, playing with colors and then food afterwards. The school which relies on and encourages parent involvement also allows us to contribute towards our community. We would recommend this school whole-heartedly to all parents who are looking to enrich their children with their Indian heritage in a fun way”...Gurudutt Hosangadi



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Sanatan Mandir School - The registration for the 2009-2010 school year will be on Sunday, August 30 and September 13 from 9:30 AM to 11:00 AM for children ages 4-8. This includes a mandatory Parent-Teacher meeting to finalize your child's registration. The tuition fees are \$100 per student and \$150 per family. The tuition includes the weekly snacks, Holi, Diwali and Picnic functions. Textbook may need to be purchased as required by the teacher. Please note that no email registration will be accepted. The required forms and checks must be submitted together. You may pick up the registration forms at the temple or send us an email at sanatanmandirschool@gmail.com and we will send you the forms. We expect the school enrollment to increase significantly this year. Due to limited space in the temple premises, we may have to limit our enrollment; so it is important to act promptly. All new student registrations will be accepted on a first come first serve basis.

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Temple Construction Project

The cost of the project is estimated at approximately \$200,000. Your mandir needs your generous help to pay for the cost. We have developed many donation opportunities to suit every donor. This ranges from “Brick by Brick” donation starting at \$101 to \$25,000 for naming the new foyer. Details are provided on the first page. Please consider making your children the integral part of the temple by buying bricks in their names. You may also want to donate in the name of your parents and loved ones. No matter what you decide, all donations will be gratefully appreciated.

The trustees wish to appreciate the invaluable help of Shri Rameshji Khosla who is a temple devotee and an experienced developer. He is volunteering his time and talent as a Seva to Mandir.

2008 Festivals at Sanatan Mandir

2008 was an exciting year at Shri Sanatan Mandir, packed with special holiday celebrations, kirtan by talented groups & Satsang programs by a number of leading saints from India. All festivals are celebrated with lots of enthusiasm and excitement. Our priest, Shri Pravinbhai Shastriji, uses his creative and artistic skills to develop a very special ambiance for every festival. Special poojas and yagnas are performed and devotees participate enthusiastically.

We celebrated Maha Shivratri on March 6 with a unique Decoration on the main altar which included dressing Lord Krishna as Lord Shiv in the Himalayan ambience. Prasad of Thandai was distributed. The Shiv bhajans performed by Kiran Kothari and group made it a memorable devotional experience.

Holi was celebrated with a bonfire in our back patio. Many devotees and young children took part in the worship.



Ram Navmi/Hanuman Jayanti was celebrated with kirtan on April 14 and “Akhand Ramayan”, a 24-hour recitation of Shri Ram Charit Manas was conducted by many of our temple devotees.

Janmashtami celebrations were on August 24th with a special decoration of altar by 108 Tulsi plants to create Vrindavan in Parsippany. Krishna Janma was celebrated with traditional puja and chants. Melodious kirtan for over 5 hours by Shri Kiran Kothari and group had the devotees dancing in joy well after mid-night.

The nine-day Navratri festival was attended by hundreds of people. The ladies performed garbas in front of Mataji every night in a special tent.

Diwali Annakut Darshan



This was followed by Diwali when the temple was decorated with lights everywhere. Dhan Teras, Kali Chaudash and Diwali were celebrated by performing traditional poojas. On New Year's Day, we had “Annakut” with over 350 food items offered to Lord Krishna.

Tulsi-Vivah was celebrated with lots of pomp and ceremony to commemorate the wedding of Lord Krishna with Tulsi.

Please mark the 2009 festival dates in your calendar so that you can actively participate in the celebrations.

Satsang with Saints and dignitaries from India

At Shri Sanatan Mandir, we were very fortunate to receive a number of very famous and revered saints from India throughout the year who blessed us with special discourses. In June 2008 and again in May 2009, we were treated to a unique Satsang / Management Seminar by **Ms. Jaya Row** from Mumbai, India.



She is a well renowned expert on the philosophy of Vedanta and Bhagwad Gita for the new generation in a 3 day discourse in English on “Profile of an ideal person” based on Chapter 2 and “Work is Worship” based on Chapter 3 of Bhagwad Gita. She appealed to the young professionals to adopt teachings of Gita in their work and in their family relationships to conquer day-to day stresses of modern life.

From May 31 to June 3 in both 2008 and 2009 we have been fortunate to enjoy satsang from an enlightened Master, **Yug Purush Acharya Mahamandelshwar Swami Parmanadji Maharaj** from Haridwar, India. He taught us how to attain supreme happiness and peace in our lives by learning secrets of yoga, bhakti and dhyani. He explains the difficult philosophy of Vedanta in simple language using examples from our everyday life to help transform our behavior.

Upcoming Program

Swami Adhyatmanandji, Spiritual Head, Sivanand Ashram, Ahmedabad will conduct a yoga workshop at the temple on **Saturday, July 11 from 8:30 AM. To 11:00 AM.** He is a spiritual giant who touches the heart of everyone who comes in contact with him. His simple and powerful teaching of yoga way of living is much appealing. He has conducted over 700 yoga workshops all over the world. Everyone is invited to attend.

Yoga Class at the Temple

A free yoga class is conducted by Mrs. Ila Kothari and Mrs. Sarla Patel at the temple every Sunday from 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM for students of all ages.

What a great way to start the day! Please come with your children and friends and take advantage of the many years of experience that our yoga teachers possess.

Learn Hatha Yoga Asanas and Pranayam techniques to improve your health, reduce day-to-day stress and enjoy deep relaxation and mental peace.

Registration is not required and there are no prerequisites. Training can be customized to your needs.

Senior Center

The Senior Center at Sanatan Mandir was formed in 1997 and the membership has steadily grown. The membership is free and there is no age restriction for membership. Anyone who enjoys meeting others and would like to make new friends is welcome. The group meets once a month on a Sunday from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM. Snack or dinner is served at the end of the meeting.



Variety of activities are planned for seniors at the monthly meetings such as bhajans from professional singing groups, discourses on our scriptures such as Bhagwad Gita or Ramayan, doctors' visits to increase their health awareness, free cancer screening information, diet and exercise, yoga and meditation, professional counseling, physical therapy, picnic, field trips, etc. We also celebrate major festivals such as Diwali, Navratri and senior members' birthdays.

Please contact Pravinbhai Shastriji at the temple or call Ajit Kothari at 973-335-7438 if you have any questions.

Directions to Sanatan Mandir

From I 287 North/South: Take I 80 West. Exit 42A for Route 202 South/Morris Plains. Go 1/4 mile on Route 202 South. Turn right at first Traffic on to Park Road. Make a right turn on to Arthur Drive. Bear left at fork on to Jean Terrace. Mandir is on the left at 16 Jean Terrace.

From I80 West: Take exit 42A and follow the directions above.

SHRI SANATAN MANDIR



Shri Sanatan Mandir
Parsippany, New Jersey
Planned Improvements - 2009

**Please be sure to fill out the donation pledge form inside and send it back to us now!
Thank you for your generosity!**

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