



BHARATIYA TEMPLE OF LANSING, INC.

955 Haslett Road, Haslett, MI 48840

<http://lansingtemple.org>



Phone: (517) 339-6337

Tax Exempt ID No.: 38-2399465

Year 2006, Issue 2
February 2006

Board of Trustees

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Smruti Shah
517-347-1209

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Rajiv Das
517-347-9843

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Shiv Kumar Singh
517-622-3681

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Pardeep Kumar
517-347- 2930
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517-321-5992
Manohar Naga
517-332-4944
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517-349-5134

What's inside –

- [Membership Details](#)
- [New Membership Form](#)
- [Roster of Donors](#)

February 20 , 2005

Dear Temple Devotees:

1. This is the second issue of the newsletter for the year 2006. This issue of newsletter is focused on highlighting the administrative details of the temple. The newsletter has a section on the membership related questions and requests you to send in your renewals as well as new membership forms. .
2. We would like to hear from you regarding the content of this newsletter. Please provide input via email to Rajiv R Das (dasrajiv@msu.edu) or Shiv Kumar Singh at (shivksingh@gmail.com).
3. As per the tradition, we have attached the roster of donors with the amounts for the tax return purposes. If you have specific questions regarding the roster, please contact Smruti Shah.
4. **Important Note: Calendar Year 2005 Donors' List:** From the Page 4 onwards you will find list of donors who contributed during 2005 or have contributed \$ 250 or more in prior years. Donation amounts listed here include general donations, special event donations and membership dues. It does not include amount paid for priest services, rental fees for library material, temple rent, etc. We have tried to compile this list with utmost care. However, if you see any error, please first check your records (canceled checks or bank statements)and if you still have questions, please feel free to call Temple Treasurer.

Yours Truly,
Board of Trustees
Bharatiya Temple of Lansing

Membership Dues

Once again, it is our great pleasure to print answers to the frequently asked questions related to membership issues. Please read them carefully and you are welcome to call our Treasurer if you still have questions. **Remember that Membership dues are payable by June 30.**

Q. What is the annual membership?

A. Any individual or family wishing to become a member must have

a. Donated a total of \$250 (excluding membership dues) to this Temple in their lifetime and

b. Paid annual membership of \$150 (family) or \$75 (individual)

In order to be eligible to vote in a particular year, dues must be paid prior to June 30 of that year.

Q. Who can become a member of the Bharatiya Temple?

A. Any individual or family subscribing to the objectives of the temple and submitting the necessary dues and donations.

Q. Are there any exceptions to this policy?

A. Life members (an individual or family who has donated a total of \$10,000) and honorary members need not pay annual membership dues.

Q. What are the benefits of the membership?

A. Membership in this great institution is a privilege. It primarily provides you and your spouse (family membership) a right to vote in the election of the Board of Trustees and therefore a voice in the administration of Temple activities. It also allows you to rent the temple facility for private functions such as weddings, birthday party etc.

Q. Who can serve as a Trustee?

A. (a) Life member OR (b) Any individual or family, who has donated a total of \$2,000 in their lifetime to this Temple and has paid annual membership dues. (This change was made in 2005)

Q. What type of payments made to the Temple are tax deductible?

A. Bharatiya Temple is a tax-exempt organization under Sec. 501 (c)(3) of Internal Revenue Code. We must use this status very wisely and follow all regulations. IRS regulations state that any donations made to the Temple in cash or kind to the extent that the donor does not receive any value of goods or services back from the Temple are tax deductible.

The following payments help the Temple activities but do not qualify for tax deductions as a contribution under the current IRS regulations: (These are few examples)

- Purchase of tickets for Temple-sponsored cultural events. (However, if you sponsor the program to defer the cost, it will be a tax deductible item.)
- Cost of Ad placed in Temple brochure
- Purchase or rental of library books or videos
- Any amount paid towards services such as Priest services for puja in your home, Sunday school, Temple rental etc.

In the event a fund raising dinner or program is arranged, the Temple will provide you with the portion of the total price which will be eligible for tax deduction.

Q. Do I get a receipt for my contributions?

A. Majority of work at the Temple is handled by volunteer workers. It is not cost effective and possible to send a receipt for every contribution we receive. Consistent with IRS regulations we mail you a receipt only when your contribution exceeds \$250 per donation. For donations less than \$250, your canceled check will be your receipt. We also publish a list of all donors in the January newsletter for the previous calendar year.

We cannot apply any part of your contribution as membership dues without your express instructions. Please complete this form and return it with your payment before June 30, 2006 to become a voting member.

Name: (Last and first name) _____ Spouse _____

Address: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Dues: Circle one Family \$150 Individual \$75

Phone: Home _____ E-Mail _____

**Checks Payable to “Bharatiya Temple of Greater Lansing”
and mail to: 955 Haslett Road, Haslett MI 48840**

Volunteer work at Temple

Your temple thrives because of volunteers. They make every major events a success, conduct classes for children and youths as well as adults. They tend to the landscape and temple building during all seasons. Please volunteer for the following committees by contacting any board member.

- Religion and Special Events (Leela Nair)
- Facility Maintenance (Pardeep Kumar)
- Finance (Smruti Shah)
- Youth (Pratin Trivedi)
- Special Tasks (Rajiv Das)
- Human Resources (Sanjeev Deshpande)
- Temple Completion (Manohar Naga)

Thanks!

The Board of Trustees would like to thank Mr. K Padmanabhan and Dr. Anantraman for their continued support in maintaining the mailing list and website. Please visit the website and provide improvement feedback by emailing Shiv Singh at shivsingh@gmail.com.

<p>a. From Detroit and Ann Arbor:</p> <p>I-96 West to Okemos Road (exit 110). Turn right (north) at STOP sign, go 5 miles. Turn right (east) at Haslett Road, go 2.5 miles (about 1 mile past the railroad track) till Haslett Road forks & See note.</p>	<p>d. From Jackson:</p> <p>127 North to Saginaw exit (do not take 496 Downtown exit), turn right (east) onto Saginaw. Go past Harrison, Abbott. Stay in right lane; take Haslett Toad fork to the right. Go past Okemos Road and Marsh Road. Cross railroad tracks. Go about 1 mile past the railroad track till Haslett Road forks & See note.</p>
<p>b. From Flint:</p> <p>I-69 West to East Lansing (exit 94). At the second stop light, turn left (south) onto Marsh Road and go 2 miles. Turn left (east) at Haslett Road. Go 1.3 miles till Haslett Road forks & See note.</p>	<p>e. From Kalamazoo and Battle Creek:</p> <p>I-94 East to I-69 North to I-96 East. Take exit 110 to Okemos Road. Turn left (north) at STOP sign and follow directions as in a.</p>
<p>c. From Grand Rapids:</p> <p>I-96 East to I-69 East (going to Flint). Take exit 94. Follow directions as in b.</p>	<p>f. From Mt. Pleasant, Alma, and Midland:</p> <p>27 South to exit 87, I-69 East (to Flint). Take exit 94. Follow directions as in b.</p>



Note: When Haslett Road Forks stay in the right lane. Temple is the 1st building on the right

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