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NEWS

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[TAMPA JAIN TEMPLE TO HOLD OPENING CEREMONIES NOV. 27-30](#)

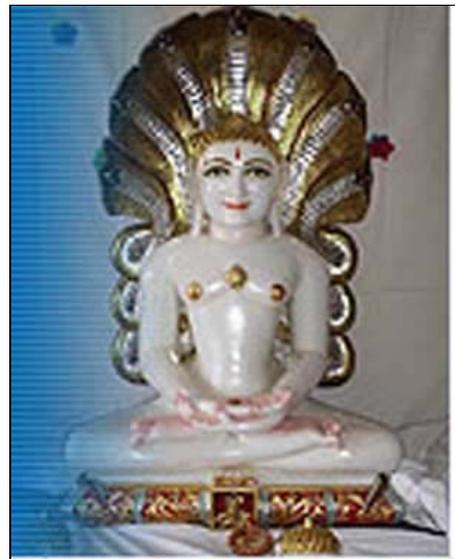
Story provided by Jain Society of Tampa Bay

The Jain Society of Tampa Bay will be celebrating opening of the Jain Temple from Nov. 27 through Nov 30, which is during Thanksgiving weekend. The program includes Pratishtha Sthapana and cultural program in the evening. On Thursday evening, there will be Garba and Raas. Friday and Saturday evening program includes a drama on Parshwanath Bhagavan Janma Mahotsav. Different type of pujas will be performed in the morning in the presence of Jaina scholars.

"This project has been in works for the last eight years and we are excited to have our own facility," said Rupesh Shah, president of the Jain Society. "We have about 100-plus Jain families and this provides us a unique opportunity to get together for lectures and prayers as well as allow us to pass on our culture and heritage to young generation."

The overall project cost has been \$1.3 million. "We are thankful of all donors who have contributed significantly to make this project successful," said Shah. "A major donation for the hall has been received from Bharatbhai and Kiniben Shah while land has been donated by Drs. Kiran and Pallavi Patel and we are fortunate to be in right location with the India Cultural Center and Hindu Temple of Florida making us feel like our temple is set up in India and surrounded by open land."

The invitation is open to all community members with registration. Visit <http://www.jainsocietyoftampabay.org/> for more details.



[2,500 EXPECTED AT TALENT SHOW, DANCE COMPETITION NOV. 15 IN ORLANDO](#)

By NITISH S. RELE - editor@khaasbaat.com

About 2,500 people are expected to attend the third annual Talent Show & Group Dance Competition Saturday, Nov. 15 in Orlando. Admission is free.

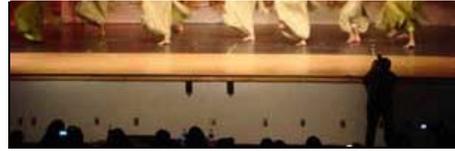
Presented by the Gujarati Society of Central Florida, the event will begin at 5 p.m. at Linda W. Chapin Auditorium, Orange County Convention Center Hall C, International Drive. Nearly 300 participants in these categories, minor (5 to 10 years old), junior (10 to 15 years old) and seniors (15 years and above) will take to the stage. Prizes will be awarded for best costume, choreography and overall performance.

"We have participants coming from Jacksonville, Tampa, Fort Lauderdale, Gainesville and other places," said organizer Alka Shukla. "The competition is a great event to hold since it brings out the talent of our children and keeps them in touch with our culture too."

For more information, call Alka Shukla at (407) 221-3517, Neil



Kapadia at (407) 832-3835, via v-mail at gujjushukla@gmail.com or visit www.gujaratisocietycfl.com



[AACSA CONVENTION SET FOR NOV. 22 IN TAMPA](#)

By NITISH S. RELE - editor@khaasbaat.com

More than 800 small business owners and 200 physicians are expected to attend the fourth annual Asian American Convenience Stores Association (AACSA) convention Nov. 22 in Tampa. The event at India Cultural Center will feature booths offering information on financial, supplies, environmental, and clothing boutiques, among other services.

Among the dignitaries that will attend during the daylong event are AAPI Chairman Dr. Raj Gupta, AAHOA Chairman Ash Patel and Florida Congressmen.



AACSA President Satya Shaw.

Registration will begin at 11:30 a.m. with inauguration of booth exhibition at 1:30 p.m. Power educational sessions will start at 2:30 p.m., followed by a gala banquet and award ceremony from 5 to 6 p.m.

Afterward, the group Sunhare Pal will perform old and new superhit songs. "The event is nearly sold out," said AACSA President Satya Shaw.

The Asian American store ownership, believed to be the fastest growing minority group in the U.S., has a purchasing power of over \$80 billion.

For more information, call Satya Shaw at (813) 842-0345 or visit www.aacsa.org

[1,000 EXPECTED AT CULTURAL GLIMPSES NOV. 15 IN TALLAHASSEE](#)

Story provided by Thayumanasamy Somasundaram

More than 1,000 people are expected to attend the 11th Annual Cultural Glimpses on Saturday, Nov. 15, in Tallahassee. Organizing the 4 to 7 p.m. event at Chiles High School Auditorium, 7200 Lawton Chiles Lane is the India Association of Tallahassee (IATH). Admission to the program is free and the event is open to the public. However, participation in the performances is limited to members and their families.



IATH (www.iath.org) is devoted to promoting the cultural, social and educational activities of people from the Indian sub-continent. One of the aims of the association is to share the rich cultural heritage of India with the local communities.

The cultural program will start at 4. Children as young as 2½ years and adults dressed in brilliantly colored Indian costumes will begin the program with two prayer songs which will be followed by a skit and a classical dance by children about Ramayana and Dasavathar.

Then the association's members and their families will perform several classical and contemporary songs and dances. After snacks, adults of all ages will sing many melodious songs, perform several dance numbers and a skit that reflect the cultural and social fabric of India.

For more information about the program and membership, e-mail Subhasis Das (president.iath@gmail.com) or Thayumanasamy Somasundaram (GenSecretary.iath@gmail.com).

[BE A GOOD SAMARITAN! SPONSOR A NEEDY FAMILY FOR A THANKSGIVING DAY DINNER!](#)

After a two-year hiatus, Indo-US Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring Thanksgiving Day dinners this year. Amid the economic turmoil, this year it is planning to reach out to at least 125 needy families in Dover in eastern Hillsborough County.