

A Journey of Hope: How Atmashakti Vysanmukti Kendra Changed 750 Lives

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Behind every social initiative lies a story of perseverance, sacrifice, and unwavering belief. Such is the inspiring journey of **Mrs. Savita Rahul Adkar**, Director of **Atmashakti Vysanmukti Kendra**, operated by **Ravi Foundation** in Ahilyanagar, whose path to social service was carved through immense hardship and resilience.

Roots in Modest Beginnings

Savita Adkar was born and raised in **Kurla, Mumbai**, in a lower-middle-class family. Growing up with three siblings in a small home, life was shaped by financial limitations. Despite these challenges, her parents ensured education remained a priority. Savita went on to complete her **M.A. in Marathi**, unaware at the time that her life would later become deeply connected with social reform and rehabilitation work.

An Unexpected Entry into De-addiction Work

Savita had no prior exposure to the field of de-addiction. Her understanding of addiction was limited to what she had seen in films or on the streets. Life took a turn when she connected with **Rahul Adkar** through Facebook. Rahul had personally battled addiction, emerged stronger, and dedicated his life to helping others recover by working in various de-addiction centers.

Their friendship gradually transformed into love, and despite belonging to different religions, both families accepted their decision to marry. Rahul was transparent about his past struggles, and it was his victory over addiction that strengthened Savita's confidence in him.

Repeated Setbacks and Harsh Realities

After marriage, Savita moved to Pune, where Rahul was working at a de-addiction center, handling nearly **150 patients**. However, he was abruptly dismissed merely for taking leave for marriage—a devastating blow for the newly married couple.

Undeterred, they began rebuilding their lives by starting a **small vada pav stall**. With relentless effort and support from family and friends, the stall succeeded, leading them to open a modest hotel with borrowed money and community support. From **6 a.m. to 11 p.m.**, the couple worked tirelessly, managing every responsibility themselves.

Fate tested them again when Savita became pregnant and could no longer work due to health issues. Rahul continued alone until illness forced them to shut the hotel. Debt mounted, creditors pursued them, and Savita had to sell her jewelry. At their lowest point, they survived days on a single **₹5 samosa**, even during pregnancy.

Returning to De-addiction With Purpose

Eventually, Rahul received another opportunity at a de-addiction center that provided food and accommodation. Once again, he dedicated himself wholeheartedly, helping the center grow. But history repeated itself—once the institution prospered, Rahul was removed.

A similar experience followed at another de-addiction center in Pune's **Katraj** area, where increasing patient numbers shifted the management's focus solely toward profit. Rahul faced humiliation and threats of termination.

It was then that Savita made a decisive stand. She encouraged Rahul to start their **own de-addiction center**, driven not by profit but by compassion and service.

Birth of Ravi Foundation and Atmashakti De-addiction Center

With this vision, the couple established **Ravi Foundation**, named after their daughter, and launched **Atmashakti De-addiction Center** in **Ahilyanagar**. Since its inception, the center has treated **over 750 patients**, helping them rebuild their lives and reconnect with their families.

Today, the blessings of recovered patients and their families stand as the foundation's greatest reward. From once struggling for food, Savita and Rahul are now able to provide meals, treatment, and dignity to those in need.

Continuing Challenges, Unshaken Faith

Despite ongoing challenges—such as rent, electricity bills, grocery costs, and medical expenses—the founders continue their work with honesty and determination. Savita Adkar believes that **pure intentions and sincere efforts** are what sustain Atmashakti De-addiction Center.

Their journey is not just one of survival, but of transformation—proof that even the most painful struggles can give rise to meaningful social change.

Selected for Maharashtra's Prestigious Awards

Recognizing her dedication and achievements, she has been selected for the prestigious "**Maharashtra Business Icon 2025 / Maharashtra Style Icon 2025 / Maharashtra Fashion Icon 2025**" awards.

This honour is being presented by **Reseal.in and India Fashion Icon Magazine**, celebrating Maharashtra's emerging entrepreneurs and artists.

The selection marks a proud moment not only for her, but also for the entire region.

Presence of Renowned Film Personalities

The grand award ceremony will be graced by celebrated film personalities:

- **Ms. Varsha Usgaonkar (Bollywood Actress)**
- **Ms. Sonalee Kulkarni (Indian Actress)**
- **Ms. Prarthana Behere (Indian Actress)**

Event Hosted Under Expert Leadership

The event is organized under the leadership of **Mr. Sudhir Kumar Pathade**, Founder & CEO of Reseal.in (Sure Me Multipurpose Pvt. Ltd.), who continues to provide a national platform for Maharashtra's rising entrepreneurs, designers, and creative talents.

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