

The Story of Vat Savitri

<https://mehndidesigns.fun/>

Long ago, in the kingdom of Madra, King Ashwapati ruled with great devotion and kindness towards his subjects. Despite his piety and good deeds, he and his queen, Malavika, were troubled because they had no children. The king and queen devoted much of their lives to penance and sacrifices in hopes of having a child. Moved by their dedication, Goddess Savitri appeared before them and granted them the boon of a daughter.

The daughter was born and named Savitri. From a young age, Savitri was known for her beauty, intelligence, and virtues. When she grew up, she began searching for a suitable husband. One day, with her father's permission, she ventured into the forest to visit a hermit. There, she saw a handsome young man named Satyavan. Satyavan was not only good-looking but also deeply religious and kind-hearted.

Savitri fell in love with Satyavan at first sight. When she returned to her father, she expressed her desire to marry Satyavan. King Ashwapati consulted Narada Muni for advice. Narada Muni revealed that although Satyavan was very virtuous, he had only

one year left to live. Hearing this, the king and queen were deeply saddened and tried to dissuade Savitri from marrying Satyavan. However, Savitri was steadfast in her love and determination. She said, "I have accepted Satyavan as my husband in my heart, and I cannot marry anyone else now."

Ultimately, King Ashwapati gave in to Savitri's wishes and allowed her to marry Satyavan. After their marriage, Savitri and Satyavan lived in the forest. Satyavan devotedly served his elderly and blind parents, cutting wood in the forest to sustain them. Savitri spent her days serving her husband and in-laws.

One year passed, and the day came when Satyavan's life was destined to end. Three days before this day, Savitri began fasting and prayed to the gods for Satyavan's life. On that fateful day, while Satyavan was cutting wood in the forest, he suddenly fell unconscious. Savitri placed his head in her lap and saw Yama, the god of death, coming to take his soul. Savitri pleaded with Yama to spare her husband's life, but Yama explained that the cycle of life and death is immutable.

Savitri followed Yama, using her devotion and eloquence to impress him. She said, "If my devotion, truthfulness, and piety can earn me a boon, then please grant me the life of my husband, Satyavan." Yama, moved by her devotion, agreed to

return Satyavan's life. Satyavan regained consciousness and stood up, alive once again.

Savitri and Satyavan returned home joyfully and narrated the miraculous event to their elderly parents. Savitri's devotion, love, and determination had brought her husband back to life. Thus, the significance and recognition of Vat Savitri Vrat grew, and this vrat began to be observed every year on the new moon day of the month of Jyeshtha.

Married women who observe the Vat Savitri Vrat pray for the long life and prosperity of their husbands and worship the banyan tree. This story continues to inspire married women each year, reinforcing their love and dedication towards their husbands and highlighting the deep respect for marital bonds in Hindu culture.
