

**Empowering Communities
Through Traditional Healing:**
The Success Story of
VAIDYA SANTANU KUMAR BUDHIA



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Vaidya Santanu Kumar Budhia was born in Bhatpadar village near Subalaya, formerly part of undivided Balangir district (presently Sonepur district), and grew up in Karlapita village, Balangir district, Odisha, surrounded in an environment deeply enriched with traditional healing wisdom. His father, late Ghasiram Budhia, was a highly respected Kaviraj with profound expertise in both Ayurvedic and Homeopathic systems of medicine, while his grandfather, Late Narad Budhia, served as a royal physician known for his dedication and service to the community. On his maternal side, his grandfather, Late Krushna Chandra Bhoi, was also a renowned traditional healer, well known for his deep knowledge of rare medicinal plants and his successful treatment of complex conditions such as epilepsy and Dhatukshaya. From his childhood, Vaidya Budhia was naturally drawn to the healing traditions practiced at home. Under the careful guidance of his father, he learned the nuances of disease diagnosis and treatment, observing hundreds of patients and their gradual recovery. Simultaneously, his mother, Smt. Tapaswini Budhia, patiently trained him in the art of medicine preparation, instilling in him the importance of precision, purity, and sincerity in every formulation. Over the years, this intimate blend of familial mentorship and experience shaped him into a compassionate and confident traditional healer, firmly grounded in both inherited wisdom and practical knowledge.



For the last 26 years, he has been serving the patients in Patnagarh with unwavering commitment and humility. He delivers daily patient care through “Shri Narad Ayurved” in Patnagarh—a center dedicated to traditional medicine and forest-based research—serving individuals from diverse socio-economic backgrounds and ensuring that quality healthcare remains accessible and affordable to all. His formulations such as Pashanabhedhi for kidney stones, Amlapitta Churna for gastric disorders, and Sarggandhadi Bati for hypertension

and associated ailments have earned widespread appreciation for their effectiveness and minimal side effects. Many patients, after not finding relief through other means, have experienced significant improvement under his care, which has further strengthened their faith in traditional medicine.



Beyond individual patient care, Vaidya Budhia has devoted himself to the preservation, promotion, and ethical use of traditional medicinal knowledge. He actively organizes and participates in workshops, field trainings, and awareness programmes aimed at identifying, conserving, and documenting medicinal plant resources. His work holds special emphasis on rare and threatened species, with a focus on their sustainable use so that future generations may also benefit from them. His efforts reflect a gentle yet firm

conviction that traditional knowledge, when nurtured and respected, can coexist fruitfully with modern scientific approaches.

In recognition of his contributions to environmental protection and nature conservation, he has been honoured with the “Prakritibandhu Award” by the Government of Odisha. This prestigious recognition highlights not only his medical service but also his commitment to safeguarding forests, biodiversity, and local ecosystems. As an advisor to the Gandhamardan Ayurvedic Traditional Healer's Association, he guides fellow traditional healers in responsible collection practices, scientific documentation, and the protection of sacred landscapes. He is actively involved in Gandhamardan protection initiatives, sensitizing local communities and youth about the importance of preserving the hills, forests, and the rich heritage of medicinal plants associated with them.



Vaidya Budhia also works closely with the Forest Department and various Ayurvedic colleges to promote collaborative research and documentation of medicinal plants. Through joint surveys, educational interactions, and knowledge-sharing sessions, he helps bridge the gap between traditional healers and academic institutions. His widely used kidney stone formulation, Pashanabhedhi, has attracted interest from the scientific community; the Department of Biotechnology and Bioinformatics of Sambalpur University has conducted research on this medicine and published a

research paper validating its potential. This respectful convergence of traditional wisdom and modern science has further encouraged him to continue innovating while remaining rooted in his ancestral values.

Today, Vaidya Santanu Kumar Budhia stands as an inspiring example of how devotion, humility, and perseverance can transform inherited knowledge into a powerful instrument of public service. His journey—from a child learning remedies at home to an acclaimed traditional healer, environmental advocate, and mentor—speaks of quiet determination and deep love for nature and humanity. With his gentle conduct, soft-spoken guidance, and tireless service, he continues to touch countless lives, nurturing not only the health of individuals but also the living traditions and natural heritage of Odisha.



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