**Devdutt Pattanaik – Mythologist, Author & Speaker**

**Early Life & Education**

* Born **11 December 1970** in Mumbai to Prafulla Kumar Pattanaik and Sabitri Pattanaik [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devdutt_Pattanaik?utm_source=chatgpt.com).
* Trained as a physician (MBBS from Grant Medical College, Mumbai) and later earned a postgraduate diploma in **Comparative Mythology** from the University of Bombay [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devdutt_Pattanaik?utm_source=chatgpt.com)[Wikigraphy](https://www.wikigraphy.in/devdutt-pattanaik/?utm_source=chatgpt.com).

**Career & Contributions**

* Spent around **15 years in the pharmaceutical and healthcare industry**, writing on mythology alongside, before shifting fully to mythology and storytelling [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devdutt_Pattanaik?utm_source=chatgpt.com)[The CEO Magazine](https://www.theceo.in/blogs/devdutt-pattanaik?utm_source=chatgpt.com).
* Now a prominent **mythologist, author, illustrator, columnist**, and **culture consultant**, drawing on mythological principles to deal with challenges in leadership, governance, and organizational culture [Devdutt Pattanaik](https://devdutt.com/about/?utm_source=chatgpt.com)[anu.edu.in](https://anu.edu.in/faculty/devdutt-pattnaik/?utm_source=chatgpt.com).

**Literary Body of Work**

* Authored and illustrated **over 50 books** and **more than 1,000 columns** that reinterpret mythology for the contemporary world [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devdutt_Pattanaik?utm_source=chatgpt.com)[Devdutt Pattanaik](https://devdutt.com/about/?utm_source=chatgpt.com).
* Popular titles include:
  + *Myth = Mithya: A Handbook of Hindu Mythology* [Penguin Random House India](https://www.penguin.co.in/book/mythmithya-2/?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
  + *ABC of Hinduism*, *Jaya*, *Sita*, *The Pregnant King* (his first work of fictional retelling) [Wikipedia+1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devdutt_Pattanaik?utm_source=chatgpt.com)
  + *The Best of Indian Mythology* and *The Best of World Mythology* box sets [Penguin Random House India+1](https://www.penguin.co.in/book/the-best-of-indian-mythology-box-set/?utm_source=chatgpt.com).

**Media & Public Engagement**

* Host of the TV series **"Business Sutra"** on CNBC-TV18 and **"Devlok with Devdutt Pattanaik"** on EPIC Channel—where he "decodes" myths, symbols, and rituals for modern audiences [Wikipedia+1](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Devdutt_Pattanaik?utm_source=chatgpt.com).
* Gave a memorable **TED India** talk in 2009 titled *“Myths That Mystify: East vs West”* [anu.edu.in](https://anu.edu.in/faculty/devdutt-pattnaik/?utm_source=chatgpt.com)[The CEO Magazine](https://www.theceo.in/blogs/devdutt-pattanaik?utm_source=chatgpt.com).

**Insights & Worldview**

* Defines mythology as the **cultural truth** embedded in stories, symbols, and rituals, shaping how societies perceive morality and existence [Devdutt Pattanaik](https://devdutt.com/about/?utm_source=chatgpt.com).
* Believes myths should be **reframed for new contexts**, not just preserved, envisioning mythology as a living tool for meaning-making [Devdutt Pattanaik](https://devdutt.com/about/?utm_source=chatgpt.com)[frontlist.in](https://www.frontlist.in/authors/devdutt-pattanaik?utm_source=chatgpt.com).
* Known for **non-partisan perspectives**, engaging with political, social, and religious debates—including his thoughtful support for LGBTQ+ rights from both personal and mythological angles [Devdutt Pattanaik](https://devdutt.com/about/?utm_source=chatgpt.com)[The CEO Magazine](https://www.theceo.in/blogs/devdutt-pattanaik?utm_source=chatgpt.com).

**Notable Achievements & Roles**

* Recognized as one of India’s **most beloved mythologists**, his books have become bestsellers and have significantly shaped public discourse on mythology [The Times of India](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/books/authors/devdutt-pattanaik/articleshow/74687291.cms?utm_source=chatgpt.com)[Penguin Random House India](https://www.penguin.co.in/book_author/pattanaik-devdutt/?utm_source=chatgpt.com).
* Served as a consultant to major corporations on culture and leadership, and to television and film on mythological storytelling [The CEO Magazine](https://www.theceo.in/blogs/devdutt-pattanaik?utm_source=chatgpt.com)[Wikigraphy](https://www.wikigraphy.in/devdutt-pattanaik/?utm_source=chatgpt.com).
* Featured in the **Forbes India Celeb 100 list** and continues to be a respected media and cultural commentator [The CEO Magazine](https://www.theceo.in/blogs/devdutt-pattanaik?utm_source=chatgpt.com).

**Quick Table: At a Glance**

| **Aspect** | **Highlights** |
| --- | --- |
| **Born / Education** | 1970, Mumbai; MBBS + Mythology diploma |
| **Career Transition** | Pharma → full-time mythologist & author |
| **Publications** | 50+ books, 1,000+ columns |
| **Media Presence** | "Business Sutra", "Devlok", TED speaker |
| **Themes** | Mythology, leadership, culture, identity |
| **Roles** | Consultant, speaker, illustrator, columnist |