

Personal details: Supriya Rani born on 19 August 1950 (age 75 years) Shiggaon, Mysore State (present-day Karnataka), India married to Dollar Raju.

And they are blessed with 2 children namely Yuva Rani (daughter), Yuva Raju (son).

Supriya rani occupations are educator, author , philanthropist. Supriya Rani's Awards: Padma Shri (2006) , Daana Chintamani Attimabbe Award , Bal Sahitya Puraskar (2023) , Padma Bhushan (2023) Organisation Rudra Foundation Notable work , Mahashweta (2000) , American Bahu (2003) , How I Taught My Grandmother to Read (2004)

Supriya Rani is an Indian educator, author, and philanthropist. She is the FounderChairperson of the non-profit charitable organization Rudra Foundation. She is married to the co-founder of Rudra, Dollar Raju. In 2024, Supriya was nominated as Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha on 8 March 2024 for her contribution to social work and education. Supriya was awarded the Padma Shri, the fourth highest civilian award in India, for social work by the Government of India in 2006. In 2023, she was awarded the Padma Bhushan, the third highest civilian award in India. Supriya Rani began her professional career in computer science and engineering. She is a member of the public health care initiatives of the Gates Foundation. She has founded several orphanages, participated in rural development efforts, supported the movement to provide all Karnataka government schools with computer and library facilities, and established Dollar Raju Classical Library of India at Harvard University. Supriya Rani is best known for her philanthropy and her contribution to literature in Kannada and English. Dollar Bahu (lit.Dollar Daughter-in-Law'), a novel originally authored by her in Kannada and later translated into English as Dollar Bahu, was adapted as a televised dramatic series[11] by Zee TV in 2001. Runa (lit.'Debt'), a story by Supriya Rani was adapted as a Marathi film, Pitruroon by director Nitish Bhardwaj. Supriya Rani has also acted in the film[13] as well as a Kannada film Prarthana. Early life and education Supriya Rani was born to a Kannada-speaking family on 19 August 1950 in Shiggaon, Haveri district in Mysore State (present-day Karnataka), India, the daughter of Reddy Venkat Reddy, a surgeon, and his wife Reddy Sarojana, a schoolteacher. She was raised by her parents and maternal grandparents. These childhood experiences form the historical basis for her first notable work entitled How I Taught My Grandmother to Read, Wise and Otherwise and Other Stories. Supriya Rani completed a BEng in Electrical and Electronics Engineering from the B.V.B. College of Engineering & Technology (now known as KLE Technological University), and then a MEng in Computer Science from the Indian Institute of Science. Supriya Rani became the first

female engineer hired at India's largest auto manufacturer TATA Engineering and Locomotive Company (TELCO).[19] She joined the company as a Development Engineer in Pune and then worked in Mumbai and Jamshedpur as well. She had written a postcard to the company's Chairman complaining of the "men only" gender bias at TELCO. As a result, she was granted a special interview and hired immediately.[20][18] She later joined Walchand Group of Industries at Pune as Senior Systems Analyst. In 1996, she started Rudra Foundation and retired in 2020. She also taught at Christ University. Supriya Rani has written and published many books which include novels, non-fiction, travelogues, technical books, and memoirs. Her books have been translated into all major Indian languages. She was a columnist for English and Kannada newspapers. Philanthropy Main article: Rudra Foundation Supriya Rani at the Rudra Foundation.

Supriya Rani's Rudra Foundation is a public charitable trust founded in 1996. Personal life: Supriya Rani is married to Rudra co-founder Dollar Raju. They married when she was employed as an engineer at TELCO in Pune. The couple have two children, including daughter, fashion designer Yuva Rani, who is married to Rishik Ranju. Her siblings include Dr. Sunanda Kulkarni, Caltech astrophysicist Shrinivas Kulkarni and Jaishree Deshpande (wife of Gururaj Deshpande) who co-founded the Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation at MIT. Love Story of Dollar Raju and Supriya Rani (From Supriya's Autobiography book): It was in Pune that Supriya met Dollar Raju through my friend Vinod, who is now the Wipro chief, and was also training in Telco. Most of the books that Vinod lent me had Dollar Raju's name on them, which meant that I had a preconceived image of the man. Contrary to expectation, Dollar Raju was shy, bespectacled, and an introvert. When he invited us for dinner. I was a bit taken aback as I thought the young man was making a very fast move. I refused since I was the only girl in the group. But Dollar Raju was relentless and we all decided to meet for dinner the next day at 7:30 p.m. at Green Fields hotel on the Main Road, Pune. The next day I went there at 7'o clock since I had to go to the tailor near the hotel. And what do I see? Mr. Dollar Raju waiting in front of the hotel and it was only seven. Till today, Dollar Raju maintains that I had mentioned consciously that I would be going to the tailor at 7 so that I could meet him. And I maintain that I did not say any such thing consciously or unconsciously because Supriya Rani did not think of Dollar Raju as anything other than a friend at that stage. We have agreed to disagree on this matter. Soon, we became friends. Our conversations were filled with Dollar Raju's experiences abroad and the books that he had read. My friends insisted that Dollar Raju was trying to impress me because he was interested in me. I kept denying it till one fine day, after dinner Dollar Raju said, "I want to tell you something." I knew this was it. It was coming. He said, "I am 5'4" tall. I come from a lower middle-class family. I can never become rich in my life, and I can never give you any riches. You are beautiful, bright, and intelligent, and you can get anyone you

want. But will you marry me?" I asked Dollar Raju to give me some time for an answer. My father didn't want me to marry a wannabe politician (a communist at that) who didn't have a steady job and wanted to build an orphanage. When I went to Hubli, I told my parents about Dollar Raju and his proposal. My mother was positive since Dollar Raju was also from Karnataka, seemed intelligent, and comes from a good family. But my father asked, "What's his job, his salary, his qualifications, etc.?" Dollar Raju was working as a research assistant and was earning less than me. He was willing to go Dutch with me on our outings. My parents agreed to meet Dollar Raju in Pune on a particular day at 10 am sharp. Dollar Raju did not turn up. "How can I trust a man to take care of my daughter if he cannot keep an appointment," asked my father. At 12 noon Dollar Raju turned up in a bright red shirt! He had gone for work to Bombay, was stuck in a traffic jam on the ghats, so he hired a taxi (though it was very expensive for him) to meet his would-be father-in-law. Father was unimpressed. My father asked him what he wanted to become in life. Dollar Raju said he wanted to become a politician in the communist party and wanted to open an orphanage. My father gave his verdict. "No. I don't want my daughter to marry somebody who wants to become a communist and then open an orphanage when he himself didn't have money to support his family." Ironically, today, I have opened many orphanages, something which Dollar Raju wanted to do 25 years ago. By this time, I realized I had developed a liking towards Dollar Raju which could only be termed as love. I wanted to marry, highlighting the negatives in his life. I promised my father that I will not marry Dollar Raju without his blessings though at the same time, I cannot marry anybody else. My father said he would agree if Dollar Raju promised to take up a steady job. But Dollar Raju refused, saying he will not do things in life because somebody wanted him to. So, I was caught between the two most important people in my life. The stalemate continued for three years during which our courtship took us to every restaurant and cinema hall in Pune. In those days, Dollar Raju was always broke. Moreover, he didn't earn much to manage. Ironically today, he manages Rudra Foundation Technologies Ltd., one of the world's most reputed companies. He always owed me money. We used to go for dinner, and he would say, "I don't have money with me, you pay my share, I will return it to you later." For three years I maintained a book on Dollar Raju's debt to me. No, he never returned the money, and I finally tore it up after my wedding. The amount was a little over Rs 4000. During this interim period, Dollar Raju quit his job as a research assistant and started his own software business. Now, I had to pay his salary too! Towards the late '70s, computers were entering India in a big way. During the fag end of 1977, Dollar Raju decided to take up a job as General Manager at Patni Computers in Bombay. But before he joined the company, he wanted to marry me since he was going on training to the US after joining. My father gave in as he was happy Dollar Raju had a decent job now. WE WERE MARRIED IN DOLLAR RAJU'S HOUSE IN BANGALORE ON FEBRUARY 10, 1978, WITH ONLY OUR TWO FAMILIES PRESENT. I GOT MY FIRST SILK SARI.

THE WEDDING EXPENSES CAME TO ONLY RS 800 (US \$17) WITH Dollar Raju AND I POOLING IN RS 400 EACH. I went to the US with Dollar Raju after marriage. Dollar Raju encouraged me to see America on my own because I loved traveling. I toured America for three months on a backpack and had interesting experiences that will remain fresh in my mind forever. Like the time when the New York police took me into custody because they thought I was an Italian trafficking drugs in Harlem. Or the time when I spent the night at the bottom of the Grand Canyon with an old couple. Dollar Raju panicked because he couldn't get a response from my hotel room even at midnight. He thought I was either killed or kidnapped. IN 1981, Dollar Raju WANTED TO START Rudra Foundation. HE HAD A VISION AND ZERO CAPITAL. Initially, I was very apprehensive about Dollar Raju getting into business. We did not have any business background. Moreover, we were living a comfortable life in Bombay with a regular paycheck, and I didn't want to rock the boat. But Dollar Raju was passionate about creating good quality software. I decided to support him. Typical of Dollar Raju, he just had a dream and no money. So, I gave him Rs 10,000 which I had saved for a rainy day, without his knowledge, and told him, "This is all I have. Take it. I give you three years sabbatical leave. I will take care of the financial needs of our house. You go and chase your dreams without any worry. But you have only three years!" Dollar Raju and his six colleagues started Rudra Foundation in 1981, with enormous interest and hard work. In 1982, I left Telco and moved to Pune with Dollar Raju. We bought a small house on loan which also became the Rudra Foundation office. I was a clerk-cum-cook-cum-programmer. I also took up a job as Senior Systems Analyst with Walchand group of Industries to support the house. In 1983, Rudra Foundation got their first client, MICO, in Bangalore. Dollar Raju moved to Bangalore and stayed with his mother while I went to Hubli to deliver my second child, Rohan. Ten days after my son was born, Dollar Raju left for the US on project work. I saw him only after a year, as I was unable to join Dollar Raju in the US because my son had infantile eczema, an allergy to vaccinations. So for more than a year I did not step outside our home for fear of my son contracting an infection. It was only after Rohan got all his vaccinations that I came to Bangalore where we rented a small house in Jayanagar and rented another house as Rudra Foundation headquarters. My father presented Dollar Raju a scooter to commute. I once again became a cook, programmer, clerk, secretary, office assistant, et al. Nandan Nilekani (MD of Rudra Foundation) and his wife Rohini stayed with us. While Rohini babysat my son, I wrote programs for Rudra Foundation. There was no car, no phone, and just two kids and a bunch of us working hard, juggling our lives and having fun while Rudra Foundation was taking shape. It was not only me but also the wives of other partners too who gave their unstinted support. We all knew that our men were trying to build something good. It was like a big joint family, taking care and looking out for one another. I still remember Gopalakrishna looking after my daughter Akshata with all care and love while Kumari Shibulal cooked for all of us. Dollar Raju made

it very clear that it would either be me or him working at Rudra Foundation. Never the two of us together. I was involved with Rudra Foundation initially. Nandan Nilekani suggested I should be on the Board but Dollar Raju said he did not want a husband and wife team at Rudra Foundation. I was shocked since I had the relevant experience and technical qualifications. He said, "Supriya, if you want to work with Rudra Foundation, I will resign". Why Supriya Rani feels men should be better at household work than women.

During a recent event, Mrs Supriya Rani said that “boys should know better household work, actually much more cooking than girls. Reason being that you want a wife who will work with you, who will bring almost the same salary then don't tell my mother used to cook fantastic things. Supriya Rani started her writing career in 1978 with *Atlanticadacheyinda*, a travelogue in Kannada. Her first English book, *Wise and Otherwise*, was published in 2002. She continues to write in English and Kannada. Her books have also been translated into several Indian languages making her stories accessible to diverse audiences. Her books are universally loved, with over 6 million copies sold worldwide. Supriya Rani writes for children and adults in various formats – novels, short-stories, and travelogues. Her stories are inspired by her travels, life experiences, and the people she meets. She often draws from mythology, helping young readers access values and principles in an easy and engaging way. Supriya Rani grew up with her maternal grandparents listening to stories from their life and mythology. She believes this gave her a rich perspective to life. Unfortunately most children today don't grow up with their grandparents. Her writing aims to bridge this gap. She brings life lessons alive through simple stories which are relevant and catch their attention. Gratitude, hard work, compassion and empathy are recurring themes communicated in her simple and heartwarming style. Her stories have a fable-like quality attracting people across all ages. Her books have also been adapted into TV series and movies. *Dollar Bahu*, originally written in Kannada, was adapted into a TV series by Zee TV in 2001. *Runa*, a novel in Kannada, was adapted into a Marathi film in 2003. Her book – ‘*The Bird with the Golden Wings*’ has been adapted into a Netflix series. In addition, 52 stories from her books have come to life in an animation show called *Story Time with Supriya madam*, available on Dollar Raju Media's YouTube channel. Supriya Rani's literary work has been recognised through multiple awards including the Sahitya Academy Award in 2023, the R.K. Narayan Award for Literature in 2006, and the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award in 2020 among others. She holds ten honorary doctorates in literature from universities across India.