Sindhutai Sapkal: The women who inspired me

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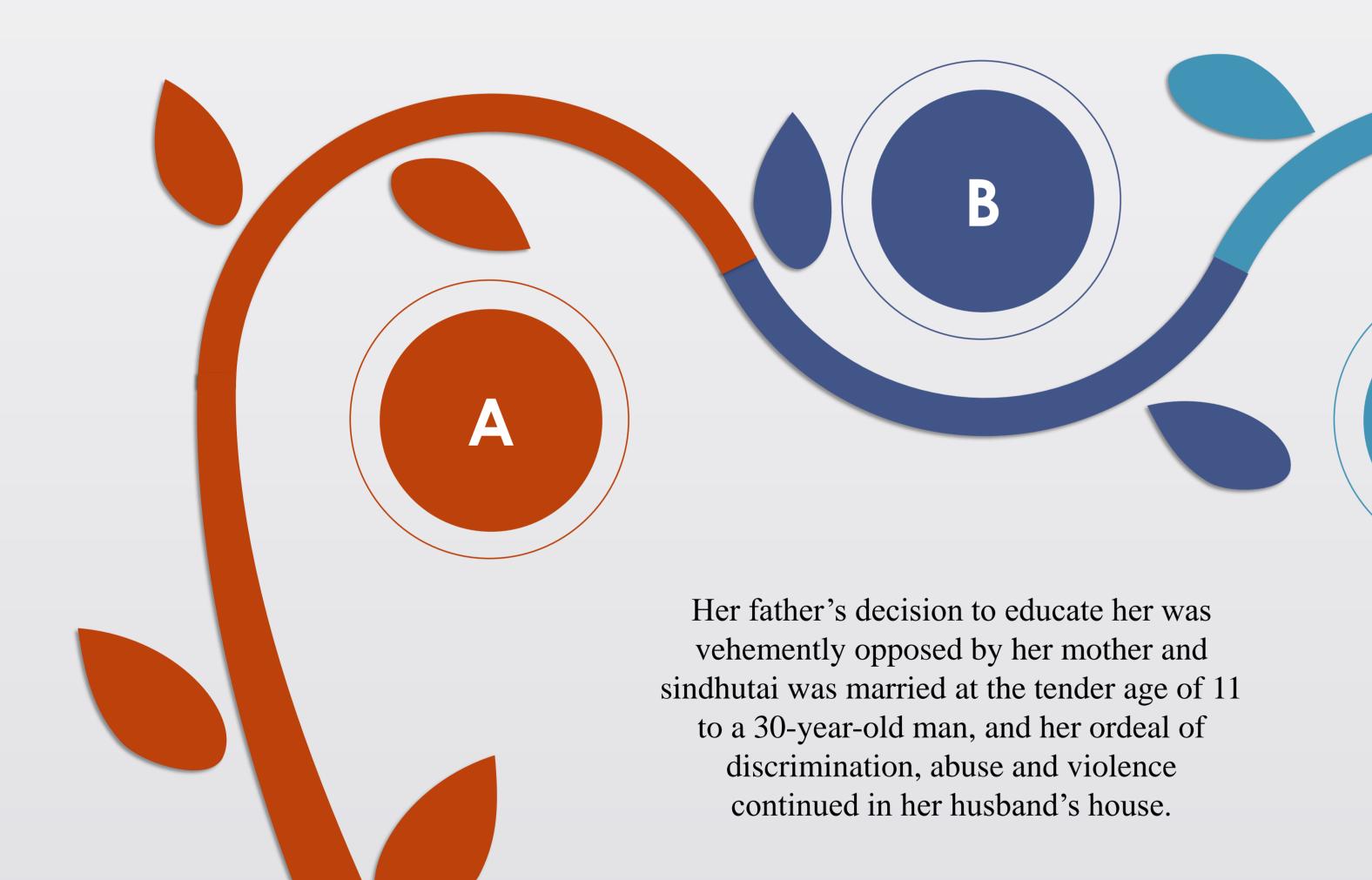
Born in 1948 in cattle grazing community in Wardha district of Maharashtra, she was called Chindhi (torn piece of cloth) signifying an unwanted child.

When she was nine months' pregnant, she was kicked on stomach by her husband who had thrown her out of the house, desolated she gave birth to her daughter on her own and cut the umbilical cord by hitting it by stone abandoned by her husband and her parents Sidhutai meditated suicide but changed her mind and began begging in the railway stations and taking shelter in the crematorium.



She is called as mai (mother) by these children. She has adopted over 1500 children and she is grandmother of 1050. Her children are well educated and are doctors, engineers, lawyers, lecturers.

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She got exposed to the plight of poor orphan children which made her forget her miseries and devote herself to the cause of upliftment of these children. Sindhutai started adopting these orphan children, despite her own poverty and miseries and homelessness. She then begged more tried every leaf in her potential, developed her communication skills and started earning so that these children are not only fed but educated. She earns through public speeches and runs NGOs.

Sindhutai deserves all the respect in the world for she got only hardships but gave back love to society. The work that she has done for the underprivileged, orphaned and abandoned children is beyond our definition of 'help' and has only been possible because of her self-determination, positivity, grit, perseverance and what not. Known by various names like 'tai', 'mai', and 'mother of orphans', she has gained the love of people across the globe and that is the most difficult and precious thing to have.