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ATHUL
VINOD

TRUE STORY OF KAVALKARAN

FROM A EMAIL ATTACK TO STATE
WINNER

REAL STORY OF REAL WORLD PROJECT,
I BUILD IT INFRONT OF THOSE UNDERESTIMATED MY AGE (13)

I STARTED FROM

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My journey into cybersecurity didn't start with achievements or awards.

It started when my email was hacked while I was still learning block-based coding.

At that moment, I wasn't a "developer".

I was just someone trying to understand how things break on the internet.

That incident changed how I looked at technology — and it planted the seed for Kavalkaran.

PROBLEM I SAW

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In our country, especially at the grassroots level:

- Small businesses don't understand cybersecurity
- Students don't know if their data is safe
- Website owners don't realize risks until damage happens
- Security tools are either too costly or too complex

Cybersecurity became a privilege — not a basic need.

That gap is the real reason Kavalkaran exists.

WHAT IS

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KAVALKARAN

KAVALKARAN MEANS "GUARDIAN."

KAVALKARAN IS BUILT TO HELP:

- **COMMON PEOPLE**
- **SMALL WEBSITE OWNERS**
- **STUDENTS AND EARLY FOUNDERS**

**UNDERSTAND WEBSITE SECURITY,
RISKS, AND PROTECTION — WITHOUT
FEAR OR CONFUSION.**

**IT IS NOT PERFECT.
IT IS NOT FINISHED.
BUT IT IS HONEST.**

RECOGNITION # ATHUL VINOD THAT VALIDATED THE IDEA

KAVALKARAN BECAME A STATE-LEVEL YOUNG INNOVATORS PROGRAMME (YIP 8.0) WINNER, CONDUCTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF KERALA.

THAT RECOGNITION DIDN'T MEAN THE JOURNEY WAS EASY — BUT IT PROVED THE PROBLEM WAS REAL AND WORTH SOLVING.

STRUGGLES IN MY PATH

LACK OF COMMUNICATION SKILLS

ONE OF MY BIGGEST CHALLENGES WAS COMMUNICATION. I HAD IDEAS IN MY HEAD — BUT EXPLAINING THEM TO OTHERS WAS HARD.

MANY TIMES, PEOPLE MISUNDERSTOOD ME. SOME WALKED AWAY. SOME DIDN'T BELIEVE.

MANAGING SCHOOL AND CODING

I WAS MANAGING:

- SCHOOL
- EXAMS
- CODING
- BUILDING KAVALKARAN

BEFORE STARTING KAVALKARAN, I USED TO SCORE FULL A GRADES.

AFTER COMMITTING DEEPLY TO BUILDING THIS PRODUCT:

- MY GRADES DROPPED TO C GRADES
- IT AFFECTED ME MENTALLY
- PEOPLE QUESTIONED MY CHOICES
-

*BUT I DIDN'T QUIT.
I CAME BACK.*

BUILDING INDEPENDENTLY

I DEVELOPED KAVALKARAN INDEPENDENTLY.

ALONG THE WAY:

- MANY PEOPLE JOINED AND LEFT
- MANY DIDN'T SURVIVE THE PRESSURE
- MANY IDEAS FAILED BEFORE WORKING
-

THERE WERE FRUSTRATING NIGHTS:

- THINKING: WHO WILL BUY THIS?
- WHO WILL ATTEND THE LAUNCH?
- WILL ANYONE EVEN VISIT THE WEBSITE?

SOMETIMES I PLANNED UPDATES:

- DURING FOOD BREAKS
- LATE NIGHTS
- BETWEEN SCHOOL WORK

THIS WAS NOT GLAMOROUS.
THIS WAS REAL.

THE VISION AHEAD

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KAVALKARAN AIMS TO GROW INTO:

- A CYBERSECURITY & DEVELOPER HUB
- APIS AND DASHBOARDS
- SECURITY BADGES AND VERIFICATIONS
- DATA BREACH ALERTS
- AFFORDABLE PROTECTION FOR EVERYONE
- A REAL AND PERFECT GUARDIAN FOR EVERY ONE

SLOW GROWTH.
STRONG FOUNDATION.

NOT AN END, NEW START

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FROM: A HACKED EMAIL ACCOUNT,
BLOCK-BASED CODING DAYS

TO: A STATE-LEVEL INNOVATION, A REAL
CYBERSECURITY PLATFORM

KAVALKARAN IS NOT PERFECT.
BUT IT IS REAL.
AND I'M STILL BUILDING.

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WEB DEV

ETHICAL HACKER

I BUILD IT IN FRONT OF THOSE UNDERESTIMATED MY AGE (13)