

Book on Gopal Das Desai launched



Book is authored by Professor Rajmohan Gandhi

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A long-forgotten story of one of the freedom fighters in the country was brought to life at the campus of Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IITGn) on Wednesday. A book called "Prince of Gujarat: The Extraordinary Story of Prince Gopaldas Desai (1887-1951)" authored by distinguished scholar-in-residence at IITGn Prof Rajmohan Gandhi was launched. He said Patels are very hardworking and capable and placed themselves at par with the Rajputs. The scholar added, "However it is very rare for a Patel to become a ruler."

Darbar Gopaldas Desai was the only prince in Gujarat

whose property was confiscated. An ardent follower of Mahatma Gandhi, he refused to turn up at the reception of a British governor in suit.

Desai insisted that he would come only in Khadi clothes which was then a symbol of freedom fighter.

Following a disagreement on the matter, Desai did not attend the reception. Shortly after, Desai's property was confiscated by the British government.

The prince and his wife took shelter in an ashram and earned their living by washing clothes of the ashram's visitors.

Gandhi said, "He gave the power to overrule his judgments to his people and insisted on equality for women