***She was dressed in a turquoise-blue chiffon sari with silver sequins sparkling like stars on a moonless night. She looked around with her large almond eyes. Everyone stood up. As Hillaire Belloc once described someone, 'her face was like the king's command when all the swords are drawn.'"***

**- The New York Times Magazine, 1966**

If the life of Rajmata Gayatri Devi had to be summed up in a few words, it would unquestionably be extraordinary and unconventional. One of the most modern, independent, and chic Maharanis of India.

Born into enormous wealth, Gayatri Devi chose to use her wealth to help those in need. Despite being a symbol of India's feudal past, she decided to be an active participant in Indian democracy.

Devi was listed by Vogue as one of the most beautiful women in the world.

To that, she once [said](http://indiatoday.intoday.in/education/story/maharani-gayatri-devi-rajmata-jaipur/1/960701.html),

I really don't think so. Style comes naturally to me. I guess you're just born with it. My mother has been my role model and icon. When I was young, I watched her dress. Ma was very fussy about her clothes. Did you know, she was the first person to start wearing saris made of chiffons? But her greatest passion was for shoes. She had hundreds of pairs and still went on ordering them from Ferragamo in Florence. Life was more glamorous in the olden days, a lot has changed now.