

Document of the Month

The beginning of Godrej soaps can be traced to 1918, when our founder, Ardeshir Godrej devised a way to make soap from vegetable oils as an alternative solution to the not-so-desirable animal fat. In a market flooded with foreign soap brands, Godrej soaps like Godrej No. 1, Vatni, Turkish Bath and others proudly espoused the clarion call of *Swadeshi* and soon became household names. With many successful brands of bathing and washing soaps, detergents and other related products, the Godrej soap story is a saga of self-reliance, determination and innovation.

This year, as we celebrate the centenary of Godrej soaps, we bring to you a piece of nostalgia through the document of this month.

It is a receipt dated December 10th, 1937 for one case of Godrej's Champion brand of washing soaps bought for rupees twenty-one and twelve annas only! The order was being dispatched by Nadirshaw Printers & Co., the sole agents of Godrej soaps, from the erstwhile Bombay all the way to a distributor in Lahore, from where it was to be sent to Sialkot (now in Pakistan).