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# A 'Gujarati' on top of the leaderboard!

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Ahmedabad: It has something to do with his roots here. Rahil Gangjee, the surprise leader on Day One and still on top of the leaderboard along with Shiv Kapur after the second round, is actually a Gujarati whose family belonged to the Kutch region in northern Gujarat.

"I don't exactly know where in Kutch because it has been many years ago that my forefathers left to settle in Kolkata. My father, Basher Gangjee, still speaks a little bit of Gujarati but as my mother, Nazirah, is from Mauritius and speaks French, so English became the common language in the family," said Gangjee, all smiles and happy to be back in the land of his forefathers.

Not only that, Gangjee can also claim to an unique relationship with the state as he shares his birthday with the father of the nation. "Yes, I know I share the birthday with Mahatma Gandhi and now it would be nice to win in his state," said Gangjee.

"My dad was very happy when he heard that I am coming to Gujarat and even asked if I will be going to Kutch. He was a little disappointed when I said no," added Gangjee who is accompanied by his wife, Maithreyi, here. She herself was a golfer before she mar-



Rahil with wife Maithreyi

ried Gangjee but stopped playing the sport as she started accompanying him to most of his tournaments. In fact she walked all the 18 holes on Friday, silently praying for the man and also cheering him up whenever he needed it.

But does she get nervous seeing her husband on the greens? "Not everyday but only when he is on the lead going into the final day's play," said Maithreyi.

"Every golfer gets a little nervous at that stage," said Gangjee but added that Ken-ville might be his lucky mascot as he has won a tournament every four year on the tour ever since he won the Volkswagen Masters in China in his rookie year on the Asian Tour in 2004.