

JSN

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION
AND
IN ITS GENERAL AND INHERENT JURISDICTION
JUDGE'S ORDER NO.130 OF 2016
IN
INDIAN ADOPTION PETITION NO.4 OF 2016**

Sheldon Philip Coutinho and Another	...Petitioners
<i>And</i>	
Ian Coutinho	...Minor

Mr. Rakesh Kapoor, *for the Petitioners.*
Mr. O. Hareendran, *Scrutiny Officer of ICSW.*
Mr. Sheldon Philip Coutinho and Astrid Coutinho, *both parents are present.*

CORAM: G.S. PATEL, J
DATED: 27th July 2016

PC:-

1. This is a domestic or Indian Adoption Petition in respect of a male minor child named Ian, born on 21st November 2008. He was initially an inmate at Missionaries of Charity, Mumbai. The Petitioners, Sheldon Philip Coutinho and Astrid Coutinho, were appointed guardians of the minor in Indian Adoption Petition No.76

of 2009 on 16th December 2009.¹ It is thereafter that the present adoption Petition has come to be filed. This is in pursuance of the guidelines set out by F.I. Rebello, J (as he then was) in his detailed and elaborate Judgment dated 27th October 1999 in *In Re: Manuel Theodore D'Souza and Mrs. Lourdes D'Souza*.²

2. Both Petitioners, who profess the Christian faith, reside in Mumbai. They are about 40 years and have been married for 13 years since 22nd December 2002. They have no biological children. The health reports of both the parents and the minor Ian are in order.

3. The 1st Petitioner, the adoptive father, works as the Manager Operations with VFS Global Services Private Limited, which provides Visa Services. His monthly salary as of April 2016 is over Rs.80,000/- per month. The mother works as a Customer Affairs Supervisor with Emirates, the well-known airline, at Nariman Point. Her gross salary is over Rs.62,000/- per month. The necessary salary slips and forms, tax returns, investment documents and so on are all annexed. Pursuant to the directions contained in the Guardianship Petition, the Petitioners deposited Rs.1,10,880/- in Ian's name in LIC's Jeevan Kishor with Profits. That certificate is on record.

4. There is also a home study report and final progress report. Both of these are positive.

1 Per A.S. Oka, J, paperback, *pp.* 10-12.

2 2000 (1) All MR 39.

5. Both parents and Ian are before me in Chamber today. Ian seems extremely well-adjusted, extremely well-mannered, polite and happy young man, with a delightfully mischievous smile. He is clearly closely bonded with both Petitioners.

6. I have no hesitation in granting the Petition.

7. The Judge's Order is separately signed.

(G. S. PATEL, J.)