

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH**

Criminal Misc. No. M- 10403 of 2017(O&M)

Date of Decision: July 11 , 2017.

Harpreet Singh and others PETITIONER(s)

Versus

State of Punjab and another RESPONDENT (s)

CORAM:- HON'BLE MRS.JUSTICE LISA GILL

Present: Mr. Akhilesh Vyas, Advocate
for the petitioners.

Mr. Karambir Singh, AAG, Punjab.

Mr. Sukhmandeep Singh, Advocate
for respondent No.2.

LISA GILL, J.

Prayer in this petition is for quashing of FIR No.4 dated 15.02.2017 under Sections 420/406/498A/506 IPC registered at Police Station Women, District Amritsar City and all other consequential proceedings arising therefrom on the basis of compromise dated 14.03.2017 (Annexure P2) arrived at between the parties.

The abovesaid FIR was registered at the behest of respondent No.2 due to matrimonial discord with her husband i.e., petitioner No.1. With the intervention of respectables and relatives, a compromise has been arrived at between the parties, the terms of which were reduced into writing on 14.03.2017.

The parties wish to live in peace and harmony and put an end to the acrimony

between them.

This Court on 20.04.2017 directed the parties to appear before learned trial court/Illaqa Magistrate for recording their statements in respect to the above-mentioned compromise. Learned trial court/Illaqa Magistrate was directed to submit a report regarding the genuineness of the compromise, as to whether it has been arrived at out of the free will and volition of the parties without any coercion, fear or undue influence. Learned trial court/Illaqa Magistrate was also directed to intimate whether any of the petitioners are absconding/proclaimed offenders and whether any other case is pending against them. Information was sought as to whether all affected persons are a party to the settlement.

Pursuant to order dated 20.04.2017, the parties appeared before the learned Chief Judicial Magistrate, Amritsar and their statements were recorded on 09.05.2017. Respondent No.2 stated that she has settled the matter amicably with all the accused petitioners. Settlement has been arrived at out of her own free will and consent without any kind of pressure or coercion. It is stated that their minor child is residing with her husband i.e., petitioner No.1. Respondent No.2 further stated that she has no objection to the quashing of the abovesaid FIR qua all the petitioners. A joint statement of all the petitioners in respect to the settlement was recorded as well.

As per report dated 10.05.2017 received from the learned Chief Judicial Magistrate, Amritsar it is opined that the settlement between the parties is genuine without any pressure. None of the petitioners are proclaimed offenders. The statements of the parties are appended alongwith the said report.

Learned counsel for respondent No.2 reaffirms and verifies the

factum of settlement between the parties. It is reiterated that respondent No.2 has no objection to the quashing of the abovementioned FIR against all the petitioners.

Learned counsel for the State submits that as the abovesaid FIR arises out of a matrimonial dispute, the State has no objection to the quashing of this FIR on the basis of a settlement arrived at between the parties.

In **Kulwinder Singh and others versus State of Punjab and another** 2007 (3) R.C.R. (Criminal) 1052, a five member Bench of this Court has observed as under:-

“The compromise, in a modern society, is the sine qua non of harmony and orderly behaviour. It is the soul of justice and if the power under Section 482 of the Criminal Procedure Code is used to enhance such a compromise which, in turn, enhances the social amity and reduces friction, then it truly is “finest hour of justice”.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in **B.S.Joshi and others v. State of Haryana, 2003(4) SCC 675** has observed that it becomes the duty of the Court to encourage genuine settlements of matrimonial disputes.

Keeping in view the facts and circumstances of this case, it would be in the interest of justice to quash the abovesaid FIR as no useful purpose would be served by continuance of the present proceedings. It will merely lead to wastage of precious time of the court and would be an exercise in futility.

This petition is, thus, allowed and FIR No.4 dated 15.02.2017 under Sections 420/406/498A/506 IPC registered at Police Station Women, District Amritsar City alongwith all consequential proceedings are, hereby, quashed.

However, liberty is afforded to respondent No.2 to file necessary application for revival of the proceedings in the above said FIR, in case the terms

and conditions of settlement between the parties are not adhered to by the petitioner(s) or it is found that the settlement was a mere ruse to have the aforesaid FIR quashed.

July 11 , 2017.
'om'

(LISA GILL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned:	Yes/No
Whether reportable:	Yes/No