

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH.

Date of decision:15.5.2017

Pooja and another

... Petitioners

versus

State of Punjab and others

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMOL RATTAN SINGH.

Present: Mr.S.K.Tripathi, Advocate,
for the petitioners.

...

AMOL RATTAN SINGH, J. (Oral)

The petitioners, who are present in the Court, are seeking protection of their lives and liberty at the hands of respondents no.4 to 8, who are stated to be the father and other relatives of petitioner no.1, on account of the fact that they have married each other of their own free will on 11.5.2017. Photographs of what is stated to be a marriage ceremony have been annexed with the petition.

In support of proof of age of petitioner no.1, though a copy of the identity card issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India (Aadhar Card) to her has been annexed with the petition, however, her Matriculation Examination Certificate shown to be issued by the Punjab School Education Board, has been produced in Court, giving therein her date of birth to be 1.11.1994, thus making her more than 22 years of age.

As regards petitioner No.2, a copy of his Passport has been annexed with the petition (the original of which has been produced in Court), showing his date of birth to be 18.8.1993, thus making him more than 23 years of age.

On a specific query put to learned counsel for the petitioners, it has been stated that neither are the petitioners in any prohibited relationship to each other, nor has any of them been married earlier. He states that he has obtained specific instructions from the petitioners in that regard.

Consequently, since protection of lives and liberty is a fundamental right of every citizen enshrined in Article 21 of the Constitution of India, this petition is disposed of with a direction to respondents no.2 and 3 to ensure that the lives and liberty of the petitioners are not put to any harm or threat at the hands of the aforesaid respondents or at their behest.

However, it is made clear that if any of the averments made in the petition is found to be incorrect, specifically with regard to either the petitioners being in any prohibited relationship to each other, or as regards their previous marital status, or with regard to their age, this order shall not be construed to be a bar on any proceedings initiated as per law.

15.5.2017
pk

(AMOL RATTAN SINGH)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether Reportable

Yes/No
Yes/No