

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

CRM-M No.22143 of 2017 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 16.6.2017

Charanjit Singh and another

..Petitioners

Vs.

State of Punjab and others

..Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE AMOL RATTAN SINGH

Present: Ms.Sarika Gupta, Advocate for the petitioners.

AMOL RATTAN SINGH, J.

The petitioners, who are present in the Court, are seeking protection of their lives and liberty at the hands of respondents No.5 to 8, who are stated to be the parents, cousin brother and uncle of petitioner No.2 on account of the fact that they have married each other of their own free will on 1.6.2017. Photographs of what is stated to be a marriage ceremony have been annexed with the petition.

In support of proof of age of petitioners, copy of the Aadhar Card issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India has been annexed with the petition, (the original of which has been produced in Court), showing the date of birth of petitioner No.1 to be 29.8.1991, thus making him approx. 26 years of age and Character Certificate of petitioner No.2 showing her date of birth as 20.8.1996, (the original of which has been produced in Court), thus making her more than 21 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. She states that she has obtained specific instructions from the petitioners in that regard.

Though an Aadhar Card is not firm proof of date of birth of any person since no verification is done by the Unique Identification Authority of India in respect of the date of birth disclosed by the applicant for an Aadhar Card, however, 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 to 4 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.

16.6.2017
Meenu

(Amol Rattan Singh)
Judge

Whether speaking/reasoned	- Yes/No
Whether Reportable	- Yes/No