

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CRWP No. 1739 of 2019
Date of Decision: 06.12.2019

Lachhmi and another

.....Petitioners

Vs.

State of Punjab and others

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMOL RATTAN SINGH

Present: Ms. Suman Kumari, 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 7, who are stated to be the father and other immediate relatives of petitioner no. 1, on account of the fact that they have married each other of their own free will, against the wishes of the said respondents on 05.12.2019. Photographs of what is stated to be a marriage ceremony have been annexed with the petition.

As regards proof of age of both the petitioners, photocopies of their Aadhar cards, issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India, have been annexed with the petition as Annexures P-1 and P-2 respectively, showing them to be of marriageable age.

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

Consequently, since protection of life and liberty is a fundamental right of every citizen under Article 21 of the Constitution of India, without commenting on the validity of the marriage, 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 proceedings initiated as per law.

December 06, 2019

nitin

Whether speaking/reasoned
Whether Reportable

(AMOL RATTAN SINGH)

JUDGE

Yes
No.