

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

CRWP No. 3623 of 2020

Date of Decision: 11.6.2020

Sushma and another

...Petitioners

Vs.

State of Punjab and others

...Respondents

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE RAJIV NARAIN RAINA

Present: Mr. Nitish Bhatia, Advocate for the petitioners.
Mr. Suveer Sheokhand, Addl. AG Punjab.

RAJIV NARAIN RAINA, J. (Oral)

1. Case is taken up for hearing today through video conferencing due to pandemic of COVID-19.

2. Petitioners have married against the wishes of their parents. The petitioner No.1 is a Hindu while petitioner No.2 is a Muslim. The girl is under a threat from her parents (respondent Nos. 4 and 5) who had not accepted the inter-religious match. They have approached this Court for directions to protect their life and liberty. The prayer is based upon Article 21 of the Constitution of India and, therefore, deserves the immediate attention of the Police Department to ensure that the couple is not unduly harassed by anyone including their respective parents.

3. Therefore, a direction must go to the Senior Superintendent of Police, District SAS Nagar (Mohali), Punjab to take steps which is consistent with their safety. These directions are issued as guided by the Supreme Court in Lata Singh Vs. State of UP and another, 2006 (3) RCR (Criminal) 870.

This order will not be treated as an expression of opinion on any of the issues lying between the petitioners and the respondents which have nothing to do the petitioners' freedom; nor would this order be read as a

recognition of marriage. This order will have no value for its passing other than by reason of Article 21 of the Constitution of India.

4. With these directions, the instant petition is disposed of without expressing any opinion on the validity of marriage.

(RAJIV NARAIN RAINA)
JUDGE

11.6.2020
kv

<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>:Yes/No</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>:yes/No</i>