



WP No.9825 of 2023

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 30.03.2023

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.T.RAJA, ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY

WP No.9825 of 2023

L.K.Charles Alexander

... petitioner

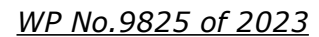
versus

1.The Secretary to Government,
Government of India, Ministry of Culture,
502-C Wing, Shastri Bhavan,
New Delhi 110001

2.The Director General of Archaeological Survey of India,
Dharohar Bhavan, 24 Tilak Marg,
New Delhi 110001

3.The Chair Person,
Central Board of Film Certification,
Film Division Complex, Phase 1 Building,
9th Floor, Dr.G.Deshmukh Marg,
Mumbai 400026

4.The Secretary to Government,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
Information Technology Department,
Fort St.George, Chennai 9



... Respondents

Ms.V.Sudha,
Central Government Standing Counsel
for respondents 1 and 2



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ORDER

(Made by the Hon'ble Acting Chief Justice)

Mr.L.K.Charles Alexander, a practising Advocate, has filed this writ petition, styled as a 'public interest litigation'.

2. The grievance of the petitioner is that when novelist Kalki Krishnamurthi's 'Ponniyin Selvan' novel has been taken as a movie, directed by Mr.K.Maniratnam, instead of picturizing the entire Ponniyin Selvan story to the viewers in Part I and Part II, the director has completely misrepresented the role of Vandhiyathevan.

3. It is at this stage, to know the better part of the allegation made by the petitioner, who appeared in-person, the Court posed a question whether the petitioner has read the novel in full. The petitioner fairly admitted that he has not read the full novel. When the petitioner, who is a practising advocate, comes to this Court asking for issuance of a writ of mandamus directing respondents 4 to 6 to take appropriate action against the eighth respondent, based on his representations, that the director of the movie has



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misrepresented the character of 'Vandhiyathevan', without even reading the novel, we are unable to find any merit or justification in the contention of the petitioner that the character of 'Vandhiyathevan' has been misrepresented in the movie. Therefore, without knowing the full story, the petitioner ought not to have approached this Court, complaining misrepresentation of a character.

4. The writ petition fails and the same is dismissed. Consequently, WMP No.9903 of 2023 is closed. We refrain from imposing cost on the petitioner since he is a practising advocate.

(T.R., ACJ.) (D.B.C., J.)
30.03.2023

Index : Yes/No
Neutral Citation : Yes/No
tar



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To

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Mumbai 400026

4.The Secretary to Government,
Government of Tamil Nadu,
Information Technology Department,
Fort St.George, Chennai 9

5.Regional Officer,
Regional Office,
Central Board for Film Certification
5th Floor, Shastri Bhavan,
26-Haddows Road, Chennai 6

6.The Director General of Police,
Dr.Radhakrishnan Salai,
Mylapore, Chennai 600004.

7.The Commissioner of Police,
Greater Chennai,
Vepery, Chennai 7



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T.RAJA, ACJ,
and
D.BHARATHA CHAKRAVARTHY, J.
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