

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

Transfer Application No. 506 of 2022

Date of decision: 07.02.2023

Kawaljeet Kaur

.....Petitioner

VS

Harjeet Singh

.....Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE NIDHI GUPTA

Present:- Mr. Fateh Singh Bhullar, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Tushant Deep Garg, Advocate
For the respondent.

NIDHI GUPTA, J.(Oral)

1. Prayer in this petition filed by petitioner-wife is for transfer of the petition filed by respondent-husband under Section 9 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 (for short 'the Act') titled "Harjeet Singh vs. Kawaljeet Kaur" pending in the Court of Principal Judge, Family Court Camp, Samana, District Patiala to a Court of competent jurisdiction at Tarn Taran.

2. Pursuant to the notice of motion issued vide order dated 24.5.2022, the respondent has put in appearance through counsel. However, no reply to the Transfer Petition has been filed by the respondent.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner has contended :-

- i) That the parties were married on 06.2.2009 according to Sikh rites and rituals.
 - ii) That a male child was born out of this wedlock, who is around 13 years of age and is in the care and custody of the petitioner.
 - iii) That the petitioner-wife is living separately from the respondent-husband since 21.3.2020 and living with her single old aged mother at her mercy at Village Burj Deva Singh, Tehsil Patti, District Tarn Taran.
 - iv) That the petitioner is unemployed, having no source of income and totally dependent upon her single old aged mother and the respondent-husband is not paying anything to her towards maintenance.
 - v) The respondent-husband has filed the petition under Section 9 of the Hindu Marriage Act, which is pending before the Principal Judge, Family Court Camp, Samana, District Patiala.
 - vi) The proceedings arising out of petition under Section 125 Cr.P.C. filed by the petitioner-wife, are pending in the Courts having competent jurisdiction at Tarn Taran.
 - vii) That the distance between place of residence of the petitioner-wife i.e. Tarn Taran and the place of proceedings under Section 9 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 filed by the respondent-husband, pending before the Principal Judge, Family Court Camp, Samana, District Patiala is about 210 kilometers of one side.
 - viii) That there is no proficient male member in the family of the petitioner, who can accompany her to the Court of proceedings at Samana, District Patiala.
4. It is inter alia on these grounds that petitioner prays for transfer of the case, as detailed in para 1 above.

5. The only contention raised by learned counsel for the respondent is that the present petition has been filed just to harass the respondent mentally and physically as well as his family

6. I have heard learned counsel for the parties.

7. The legal position in such like cases as the present one, is well established. In this regard, judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court rendered in **N.C.V. Aishwarya vs A.S. Saravana Karthik Sha," 2022 Live Law (SC) 627**, is most relevant wherein the Hon'ble Supreme Court has held as under:-

“9. The cardinal principle for exercise of power under section 24 of the Code of Civil Procedure is that the ends of justice should demand the transfer of the suit, appeal or other proceeding. In matrimonial matters, wherever Courts are called upon to consider the plea of transfer, the Courts have to take into consideration the economic soundness of both the parties, the social strata of the spouses and their behavioural pattern, their standard of life prior to the marriage and subsequent thereto and the circumstances of both the parties in eking out their livelihood and under whose protective umbrella they are seeking their sustenance to life. Given the prevailing socioeconomic paradigm in the Indian society, generally, it is the wife's convenience which must be looked at while considering transfer.

10. Further, when two or more proceedings are pending in different Courts between the same parties which raise common question of fact and law, and when the decisions in the cases are interdependent, it is desirable that they should be tried together by the same Judge so as to avoid multiplicity in trial of the same issues and conflict of decisions.”

8. Further reliance can be placed upon the judgments in **“Sumita Singh vs Kumar Sanjay”, 2002 SC 396** and **“Rajani Kishor Pardeshivs Kishor Babulal Pardeshi”, 2005(12) SCC 237**, wherein the Hon'ble Supreme Court has observed that “while deciding the transfer application, the Courts are required to give more weightage and consideration to the convenience of the female litigants and

transfer of legal proceedings from one Court to another should ordinarily be allowed, taking into consideration their convenience and the Courts should desist from putting female litigants under undue hardships.”

9. Even this Court in number of cases has followed the aforesaid principle of law. Accordingly, it is well settled that while considering the transfer of a matrimonial dispute/case, at the instance of the wife, the Court is to consider the family condition of the wife, the custody of the minor child, economic condition of the wife, her physical health and earning capacity of the husband and most important the convenience of the wife i.e. she cannot travel alone without assistance of a male member of her family, connectivity of the place to and fro from her place of residence as well as bearing of the litigation charges and travelling expenses.

10. In view of the facts mentioned above and the judgments i.e. **Sumita Singh’s** case (supra), **Rajani Kishor Pardeshi’s** case (supra) and **N.C.V. Aishwarya’s** case (supra) passed by the Hon’ble Supreme Court, this Court deems it appropriate to allow the present petition, subject to the following conditions:-

- a) The petition filed by respondent husband under Section 9 of Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, bearing HMA/163/2021, titled as ‘Harjeet Singh vs. Kawaljeet Kaur’, pending in the Court of Principal Judge, Family Court Camp, Samana, District Patiala is transferred to a Court of competent jurisdiction at Tarn Taran.

- b) The Id. District Judge, Patiala is directed to transfer complete record pertaining to the aforesaid case to District Judge, Tarn Taran.
- c) The parties are directed to appear before the District & Sessions Judge, Tarn Taran on 31.3.2023.
- d) The District Judge, Tarn Taran will assign the said petition to the Court of competent jurisdiction.

11. The concerned Court at Tarn Taran will make all endeavour to refer the case before the Mediation and Conciliation Centre for exploring the possibility of some amicable settlement between the parties.

12. The Court concerned, where the litigation pending between the parties, will accommodate them with one date in one calendar month.

13. I am supported by the decisions rendered by a Co-ordinate Bench of this Court in **TA No. 1315/2022, Rohini Arora v Nitin Talwar; TA No. 1322 of 2022, Jaswinder Kaur v Gurvinderjeet Singh; and TA No. 1323 of 2022, Usha Rani v Karmajit Singh.**

Disposed of.

Pending application(s), if any, stands disposed of.

February 07, 2023

Vijay Asija

**(NIDHI GUPTA)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned

YES/NO

Whether Reportable

YES/NO