

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

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TA-164-2024 (O&M)
Date of decision: 30.05.2024

Shaveta Rani

...Petitioner

Versus

Nitish Kant

...Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKAS SURI

Present: Mr. Anil Saini, Advocate for
Mr. Jaideep Verma, Advocate for the petitioner.

VIKAS SURI, J.

1. Prayer in this application under Section 24 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, filed by petitioner-wife is for transfer of the petition under Section 13 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 (for short 'the Act'), filed by respondent-husband, registered as DMC/8/2024, pending before learned Addl. Principal Judge, Family Court-II, Jalandhar, to a Court of competent jurisdiction at Rupnagar.
2. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits:-
 - i) That the parties were married on 24.10.2020 according to Hindu rites and ceremonies and no child was born from the said wedlock.
 - ii) That the petitioner-wife was turned out of the matrimonial house in the month of October, 2023 and since then, she is residing at her parental house.
 - iii) That the petitioner-wife made a complaint dated 23.11.2023



against the respondent and his family, which was marked to Women Cell, Rupnagar, in which the respondent has already appeared on 28.12.2023.

- iv) That the father of the petitioner has retired from a private factory and is suffering from kidney ailment and he has to undergo dialysis thrice in a week.
- v) That the petitioner has no independent source of income and is dependent on others. Her paternal family is also facing financial crisis.
- vi) That the distance between Jalandhar and Rupnagar is more than 110 kilometers and it is very difficult for the petitioner to attend the proceedings on each and every date of hearing.

3. In the present case, notice of motion for final disposal was issued vide order dated 08.02.2024 for 20.03.2024. As per office report, notice issued to the respondent has been received back served. Despite service, there is no representation on behalf of the respondent nor any reply has been filed. It is apparent that the respondent-husband is not serious to contest the present proceedings. Accordingly, this petition is being disposed of in his absence.

4. Heard learned counsel for the petitioner and have gone through the material placed on record before this Court.

5. Besides the facts noticed hereinabove, the legal position in such like cases as the present one, is well established. In this regard, reference to judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court rendered in *N.C.V. Aishwarya v. A.S. Saravana Karthik Sha*, AIR 2022 SC 4318, would be apposite, wherein the Apex 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.”

6. Further reliance can be placed upon the judgments in ***Sumita Singh vs Kumar Sanjay***, AIR 2002 SC 396 and ***Rajani Kishor Pardeshi vs 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.”



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7. In the light of the conspectus of the law laid down by the Apex Court, this Court is of the view that while adjudicating a transfer petition initiated by the wife in the context of a matrimonial dispute, the Court must take into account a comprehensive array of the following factors:-

- (a) Economic condition and earning capacity of the parties, i.e. husband and wife;
- (b) Social standing of the wife and her dependency;
- (c) Custody of children;
- (d) Educational needs of the children, if any;
- (e) Physical well-being of the parties concerned;
- (f) Pending litigation(s) between the parties including criminal cases, if any;
- (g) Accessibility from the location where the wife resides to the Court where the case is pending;
- (h) Availability of convenient commuting options and its periodicity.

Undoubtedly, only a harmonious consideration of all the above vital aspects would ensure a just and equitable decision in such cases.

8. As already noticed above, despite service and opportunity, the respondent-husband has chosen, not to appear in the present proceedings. Without commenting on the said issue, this Court deems it appropriate to proceed with the prayer of the present applicant-petitioner.

9. Thus, applying the principles of law laid down by the Apex Court in *N.C.V Aishwarya's case* (supra), *Sumita Singh's case* (supra)



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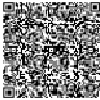
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and **Rajani Kishor's case** (supra), this Court deems it appropriate to allow the present petition, by issuing the following directions:-

- (i) Petition under Section 13 of the Act, filed by the respondent-husband, registered as DMC/8/2024, pending before learned Addl. Principal Judge, Family Court-II, Jalandhar, is transferred to a Court of competent jurisdiction at Rupnagar.
- (ii) The learned District Judge, Jalandhar, is directed to transfer complete record pertaining to the aforesaid case to learned District Judge, Rupnagar.
- (iii) The parties through their counsel are directed to appear before the learned District Judge, Rupnagar, on **09.07.2024**.
- (iv) The learned District Judge, Rupnagar, will assign the said petition to the Court of competent jurisdiction.
- (v) The concerned Court at Rupnagar, shall diligently strive to amicably resolve the marital discord between the parties by referring the matter to the Mediation and Conciliation Centre.

10. I am supported by the decisions rendered by a co-ordinate Bench of this Court in **TA No. 1315/2022**, titled as *Rohini Arora vs. Nitin Talwar*; and **TA No. 1322 of 2022**, titled as *Jaswinder Kaur vs. Gurvinderjeet Singh*. Even this Court has followed the aforesaid principle of law in **TA-610-2023**, titled as *Hemal vs. Manuvrat*; and **TA-406-2024**, titled as *Meena Rani vs. Surinder Pal Dass*.

11. The present petition is disposed of accordingly. Pending applications, if any, also stand disposed of.



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12. Copy of this order be sent to both the learned District Judges concerned, for information and necessary compliance.

May 30, 2024
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(VIKAS SURI)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned :	Yes / No
Whether Reportable :	Yes / No