2026:AHC:208101

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD

WRIT - C No. - 40238 of 2026

Manju Devi And Another

.....Petitioner(s)

Versus

State Of U.P. And 3 Others

.....Respondent(s)

Counsel for Petitioner(s)	:	Satyam Kumar Rawat, Yusuf Ali
Counsel for Respondent(s)	:	C.S.C.

Court No. - 73

HON'BLE DR. GAUTAM CHOWDHARY, J.

1. Heard learned counsel for the petitioners and learned Standing counsel for the State.

2. By means of the present petition, the petitioners are seeking for issuance of a writ of mandamus directing the respondents not to interfere in the peaceful married life of the petitioners as husband and wife and further direction has also been sought for the authorities concerned to provide protection to the petitioners.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioners has submitted that the petitioners have solemnized marriage out of their own free will and consent without any coercion, since they are adults and are living together as married couple. As per Adhar Card of the petitioner No.1 she is now more than 21 years of age, thus, she has attained the marriageable stage. As per Adhar Card of the petitioner No. 2 he is now 20 years and two months of age. Though the petitioner No. 2 is major but he had not attained the marriageable and he is a few months less than 21 years, therefore, in view of the preposition of law given by a Division Bench of this Court in the case of **Shaheen Parveen and another Vs. The State of U.P. and others: Misc. Bench No. 3519 of 2015 (decided on 23.07.2015)**, the life and liberty of petitioners be protected. Further, it is stated that private respondent and other family members have got annoyed and there is serious danger to their lives as they are being threatened and harassed. The averments made in the petition are supported by the joint affidavits of the petitioners.

4. It is further stated that the petitioners have already brought on record the

certificate of registration of their marriage.

5. The petitioners have averred in the writ petition that they are living as wife and husband. It is stated that they have apprehension that private respondent can eliminate them for the honour of her family. In case, this Court does not grant them protection, their lives may be endangered.

6. In view of the order proposed to be passed, there is no need to issue notice to private respondent. With the consent of learned counsel appearing for the parties, this writ petition is being disposed of finally at this stage in terms of the Rules of the Court.

7. The Supreme Court in a long line of decisions has settled the law that where a boy and a girl are major and they are living with their free will, then, nobody including their parents, has authority to interfere with their living together. Reference may be made to the judgements of the Supreme Court in the cases of **Gian Devi v. The Superintendent**, **Nari Niketan, Delhi and others, (1976) 3 SCC 234; Lata Singh v. State of U.P. and another, (2006) 5 SCC 475**; and, **Bhagwan Dass v. State (NCT of Delhi), (2011) 6 SCC 396**, which have consistently been followed by the Supreme Court and this Court, as well as of this Court in **Deepika and another v. State of U.P. and others, 2013 (9) ADJ 534**. The Supreme Court in Gian Devi (supra) has held as under:

"7. ... Whatever may be the date of birth of the petitioner, the fact remains that she is at present more than 18 years of age. As the petitioner is sui juris no fetters can be placed upon her choice of the person with whom she is to stay, nor can any restriction be imposed regarding the place where she should stay. The court or the relatives of the petitioner can also not substitute their opinion or preference for that of the petitioner in such a matter."

8. Having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case, I am of the view that the petitioners are at liberty to live together and no person shall be permitted to interfere in their peaceful living. In case any disturbance is caused in the peaceful living of the petitioners, the petitioners shall approach the concerned Commissioner/ S.S.P./ S.P., along with a certified copy of this order, who shall provide immediate protection to the petitioners.

9. A liberty is granted to the private respondent that if the documents

brought on the record are fabricated or forged, it will be open to **him/her** to file a recall application for recall of this order.

10. It is made clear that this Court has not adjudicated upon the alleged marriage of the petitioners and this order in no way expresses opinion about the validity of their marriage.

11. With the aforesaid observations, the writ petition is **accordingly disposed of**.

12. No order as to costs.

(Dr. Gautam Chowdhary,J.)

October 5, 2026
Mustaqeem.

Digitally signed by :-
MOHD MUSTAQEEM KHAN
High Court of Judicature at Allahabad