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Date: 24/08/2025

Shiv Kumar Vs Geeta

Court: High Court Of Punjab And Haryana At Chandigarh

Date of Decision: May 19, 1997

Acts Referred: Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 â€" Section 13B(2)

Penal Code, 1860 (IPC) â€" Section 406, 408A

Citation: (1998) 1 CivCC 533: (1998) 118 PLR 708

Hon'ble Judges: R.S. Mongia, J; M.L. Kaul, J

Bench: Division Bench

Advocate: Vandana Malhotra, for the Appellant; O.P. Goyal Parmodh Goyal and Amol Rattan, A.A.G., for the

Respondent

Final Decision: Allowed

Judgement

R.S. Mongia, J.

Shiv Kumar, appellant, was married to respondent Geeta daughter of Sewa Ram on May 9, 1993, at Ambala Cantt in

accordance with Hindu rites. There has been no issue out of the wed-lock. For various reasons, the parties have not been able to pull on together

as husband and wife and are staying separately from each other since October,1994. In fact almost from day one of marriage, there have been

bickerings between them and they found that they were not temperamentally compatible to each other to live as husband and wife. A petition for

grant of divorce was filed by the appellant against his wife u/s 13 of the Hindu Marriage Act before the matrimonial Court at Ambala City on April

24,1995. That petition was, however, dismissed on November 18, 1996. Against that judgment, F.A.O. No. 7-M of 1997 had been filed. During

the course of the proceedings in the said appeal, the appellant and respondent Geeta decided to get a decree of divorce by mutual consent. For

that matter, an application was moved to convert the proceedings u/s 13 of the Hindu Marriage Act to one u/s 13-B of the Act alongwith a joint

application for the grant of decree of divorce u/s 13-B of the Act. That application has been granted by us by an order of even date and the

application u/s 13-B of the Act has been taken on record. We have recorded the statements of the parties. It has been stated by the appellant-

husband that a stage had reached where there is no possibility of reconciliation. The parties have been living separately since October, 1994, and

there has been no cohabitation between them since then. A sum of Rs. 1,50,000/- has been given to the respondent Geeta towards permanent

alimony/maintenance and she has stated that she will have no claim of any kind against the appellant or his property. She further agreed to

withdraw the case filed against her husband u/s 125 Cr.P.C. in the Court of Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class, Ambala, and she would have no

objection if the proceedings in the case arising out of F.I.R. No. 3 of 1995, Police Station, Mahesh Nagar, Ambala Cantt., Under Sections

406/498-A I.P.C. against the appellant are quashed under the inherent powers of this Court.

2. After hearing the learned counsel for the parties and going through their statements, we are satisfied that this case is of a broken marriage and

reconciliation is not possible. The parties have been living separately from each other since October, 1994. The prayer of the parties that the

compulsory waiting period u/s 13-B(2) of the Hindu Marriage Act be reckoned from the date of the filing of the petition u/s 13 of the Act is

accepted as otherwise it would unnecessarily prolong the agony and the litigation as we are satisfied that the parties cannot reconcile. There is no

issue out of the wed-lock. They have settled all the claims against each other regarding permanent alimony/maintenance with the payment of Rs.

1,50,060/- by the appellant to the respondent. We have heard learned counsel for the State also regarding the quashing of the proceedings arising

out of F.L.R. No. 3 of 1995, Police Station Mahesh Nagar, Ambala Cantt, Under Sections 406/498-A IPC. He also submitted that in view of the

fact that the parties have mutually agreed to grant of divorce by mutual consent, it will be in the interest of both the parties if the proceedings arising

out of the aforesaid F.I.R. are quashed.

3. For the foregoing reasons we allow this appeal petition u/s 13-B of the Hindu Marriage Act and grant the decree of divorce to the parties by

mutual consent. The respondent, Geeta, will have - no claim against the appellant on his property on any count. The proceedings launched by the

respondent, Geeta, against the husband, Shiv Kumar, u/s 125 of the code Criminal Procedure in the Court of Judicial Magistrate, 1st Class,

Ambala, would stand withdrawn Since the parties have reached an amicable settlement as aforesaid, we consider it to be in the interest of justice

that the proceedings out of F.I.R. No. 3 of 1995, Police Station, Mahesh Nagar, Ambala Cantt u/s 406/498-A of the Indian Penal Code be

quashed. We order accordingly.

Let a decree-sheet be prepared accordingly.