IN THE COURT OF SYED OBAIDULLAH SHAH, SESSIONS JUDGE, ORAKZAI (AT BABER MELA)

CASE NO.	•	1/3 of 2024
DATE OF INSTITUTION	•	05.03.2024
DATE OF DECISION	•	08.08.2024

STATE THROUGH MUAMMAD YOUNAS SHO, POLICE STATION KUREZ BOYA

.....(COMPLAINANT)

-VERSUS-

INHAR ALI S/O ASAD ALI, AGED ABOUT 38/39 YEARS, R/O CASTE MANI KHEL, TAPA TERAYE, DISTRICT ORAKZAI

...... (ACCUSED FACING TRIAL IN CUSTODY)

Present: Umar Niaz, District Public Prosecutor for the state. : Hamid Sarfaraz Advocate for accused facing trial.

FIR No. 02		Dated: 28.01.2024
U/S: 15AA	. *	Police Station: Kurez Boya

<u>JUDGEMENT</u> 08.08.2024

The accused named above faced trial for the offence u/s 15AA vide FIR no. 02, dated 28.01.2024 of Police Station Kurez

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(2).

The case of the prosecution as outlined in the Murasila based FIR is; that on 28.01.2024 the complainant, Muhammad Younas SHO along with Shayaz Khan ASHO, constables Junaid Ali No. 1607 and Saleem Khan No. 1242 during routine patrolling in official vehicle driven by Inshad Ali No. 663 having laid a picket were present on the spot, where at about 1600 hours a motorcycle rode by two persons wearing shawls on way from Zera side towards the spot, on seeing the police party, turned back their motorcycle and were chased by the local police in official vehicle, but they were overpowered when, after

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covering some distance, they slipped and fell down with motorcycle. One of them disclosed his name as Inhar Ali s/o Asad Ali, r/o Caste Mani Khel, Tapa Terayi, District Orakzai, having a white colour bag on his shoulder, which was recovered by the complainant from his possession. Upon his personal body search, the complainant also recovered a pistol of a 30-bore pistol along with a fixed charger containing 10 rounds. Similarly, the other person disclosed his name as Tahir Ali s/o Mureed Shah, r/o Caste Sepoye, Tapa Lakhkari Khel, District Orakzai, who had received injury due to falling from a motorcycle. The complainant recovered a white colour bag from his possession. The checking of the bag recovered from possession of accused Inhar Ali led the complainant to the recovery of 09 packets of chars wrapped with yellow colour scotch tape, each weighing 1000 grams of chars, making a total of 9000 grams of chars. The complainant separated 10 grams of chars from each packet for chemical analysis through FSL, sealed the same in parcels no. 1 to 9 whereas the remaining quantity of chars weighing 8910 grams along with the empty sack were sealed in parcel no. 10 while the complainant also sealed the recovered pistol in parcel no. 11. In the same manner, upon checking of the bag recovered from accused Tahir Ali, the complainant also recovered 08 packets of chars wrapped with vellow colour scotch tape, each weighing 1000 grams of chars, making a total of 8000 grams of chars. From each packet, the complainant separated 10 grams of chars for chemical analysis

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through FSL, sealed it in parcels no. 12 to 19 whereas the remaining quantity of chars weighing 7920 grams along with the empty sack were sealed in parcel no. 20. The spot proceedings were captured in a USB which was packed and sealed by the complainant in parcel no. 21. Monogram of 'MY' was affixed/placed on all parcels. The complainant took into possession the case property i.e., chars, pistol and motorcycle Honda-125 bearing Registration No. 8334/LER of black colour, having Engine No. 7704276 and Chassis No. U-886557 vide recovery memo. Both the accused were accordingly arrested on the spot by issuing their joint card of arrest. The injury sheet of the accused, Tahir Ali was prepared by complainant and sent to the RHC Kurez under the escort of Constable Junaid Ali for medical examination. Murasila was drafted and sent to the Police Station through Constable Saleem Khan which was converted into FIR by Moharrir Ibad Ul Hassan.

(3).

After registration of FIR, it was handed over to PW-5 Hashim Khan OII for investigation. Accordingly, after receipt of copy of FIR, Murasila, card of arrest and recovery memo, he visited the spot and prepared site plan Ex. PB on pointation of the complainant. On 30.01.2024, he sent the samples of chars in parcels no. 1 to 9 and 12 to 19 containing 10 grams of chars, and the pistol in parcel no. 11 to the FSL through constable Khial MUMALLE Hassan/PW-1 along with applications Ex. PW 5/2 and Ex. PW 024 5/3 vide road permit certificates Ex. PW 5/4 and Ex. PW 5/5 and recorded statements of marginal witness u/ 161 CrPC. After

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completion of investigation, he handed over the case file to SHO for submission of challan.

(4). Upon receipt of the case file for the purpose of trial, the accused facing trial Inhar was summoned through addendum-B from Sub-Jail, Orakzai, copies of the record were provided to him u/s 265-C CrPC and formal charge was framed against him to which he pleaded not guilty and claimed trial. Accordingly, the prosecution examined as many as 05 witnesses. The gist of the evidence is as follow;

Constable Khial Hassan is PW-1. On 30.01.2024 he has taken parcels no. 1 to 9 and 12 to 19 containing samples of chars and on 06.02.2024 parcel no. 11 containing the pistol to the FSL for chemical analysis and after submission of the same; he was given the receipt of the parcels which was handed over by him to the Investigation Officer upon his return.

II. Moharrir Ibad Ul Hassan appeared in the witness box as PW-2. He has incorporated the contents of Murasila Ex. PA into FIR Ex. PA/1. He has received the case property from the complainant and kept it in mal khana in safe custody by making its entry in register no. 19 Ex. PW 1/1 besides parked the motorcycle in vicinity of the Police Station. He has also made entry in DDs Ex. PW 2/2

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and 2/3 besides handed over parcels no. 1 to 9, 11 & 12 to 19 to the OII for sending the same to FSL.

- III. Muhammad Younas SHO is the complainant of the case. He as PW-3 repeated the same story as narrated in the FIR. He has submitted complete challan Ex. PW 3/2 in the instant case against the accused facing trial.
- IV. Constable Saleem Khan appeared in the witness box as PW-4. He besides being eyewitness of the occurrence is the marginal witness of recovery memo Ex. PC as well vide which the complainant/PW-3 has taken into possession the case property. He also reiterated the contents of FIR in his statement.
- V. Investigating Officer Hashim Khan OII was examined as PW-5 who in his evidence deposed in respect of the investigation carried out by him in the instant case. He has prepared the site plan Ex. PB on pointation of the complainant, recorded the statements of witnesses u/s 161 CrPC, produced the accused before the court of Judicial Magistrate vide his applications Ex. PW 5/1 & Ex. PW 5/6, sent the representative samples and recovered pistol to the FSL along with the applications Ex. PW 5/2 & Ex. PW 5/3 vide road permit certificates Ex. PW 5/4 &

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Ex. PW 5/5 and the result whereof was received and placed on file by him as Ex. PK and Ex. PK/1. He has also drafted a letter Ex. PW 5/7 for verification of the motorcycle besides placed on file photographs of spot proceedings Ex. PW 5/8, the attested copy of register No. 19 Ex. PW 2/1 and injury sheet of the accused Tahir Ali and the report of the doctor Ex. PW 5/9 and submitted the case file to the SHO for onward proceeding.

Prosecution closed its evidence whereafter the statement of the accused was recorded u/s 342 Cr.P.C but the accused neither wished to be examined on oath nor opted to produce any evidence in defence. Accordingly, arguments of learned DPP for the state and counsel for the accused facing trial heard and case file perused.

(6).

(5).

Learned DPP for the state submitted that the accused facing trial is directly nominated in the FIR, the recovery has been made from personal possession of the accused facing trial which was sealed on the spot by the complainant, the OII has conducted investigation on the spot, the pistol for chemical analysis has been transmitted to the FSL. The complainant, the witness of the recovery, the official transmitted the pistol to the FSL and the OII have been produced by the prosecution as witnesses, whom have fully supported the case of the prosecution and their statements have been lengthy cross examined but nothing contradictory could be extracted from the

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mouth of any of the witness of the prosecution and that the prosecution has proved its case beyond shadow of any doubt.

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(8).

Learned counsel for the defence argued that though the accused facing trial is directly nominated in the FIR, the alleged pistol has been shown recovered from his possession and the report of FSL support the case of prosecution, however, the accused facing trial is falsely implicated in the instant case and nothing has been recovered from his possession. He argued that the prosecution has failed to prove the mode and manner of recovery and the mode and manner of investigation allegedly conducted by the OII on the spot, as detailed by the prosecution on the case file. He concluded that there are various dents in the case of prosecution leading to its failure to bring home the charge against the accused facing trial.

The case of prosecution, as per contents of Murasila Ex. PA/1, court statements of Muhammad Younas SHO as PW-3 and Constable Saleem Khan as PW-4 is, Muhammad Younas SHO/PW-3 along with Shayaz Khan ASHO, constables Junaid Ali No. 1607 and Saleem Khan No. 1242/PW-4 during routine patrolling in official vehicle driven by Inshad Ali No. 663 having laid a picket were present on the spot, where at about 1600 hours a motorcycle rode by two persons wearing shawls on

way from Zera side towards the spot, on seeing the police party, turned back their motorcycle and were chased by local police in accurate back their motorcycle and were chased by local police in official vehicle, but they were overpowered, after covering some distance, when they slipped and fell down with motorcycle. One

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of them disclosed his name as Inhar Ali s/o Asad Ali, r/o Caste Mani Khel, Tapa Terayi, District Orakzai, having a white colour bag on his shoulder, recovered by complainant from his body search, the personal his possession. Upon complainant/PW-3 also recovered, a pistol of 30-bore along with a fixed charger containing 10 rounds. Similarly, the other person disclosed his name as Tahir Ali s/o Mureed Shah, r/o Caste Sepoye, Tapa Lakhkari Khel, District Orakzai, who had received injury due to falling from the motorcycle; the complainant/PW-3 also recovered a white colour bag from his possession. The checking of the bag recovered from possession of accused, Inhar Ali led the complainant/PW-3 to the recovery of 09 packets of chars, wrapped with yellow colour scotch tape, each weighing 1000 grams of chars, making a total of 9000 grams of chars. The complainant/PW-3 separated 10 grams of chars from each packet for chemical analysis through FSL, sealed the same in parcels no. 1 to 9 whereas the remaining quantity of chars weighing 8910 grams along with empty sack were sealed in parcel no. 10 and sealed a 30-bore pistol in parcel no. 11. Similarly, upon checking of the bag recovered from accused Tahir Ali, the complainant/PW-3 also recovered 08 packets of chars, wrapped with yellow colour scotch tape, each weighing 1000 grams of chars, making a total of 8000 grams of chars. The complainant/PW-3 separated 10 grams of chars from each packet for chemical analysis through FSL, sealed the same in parcels no. 12 to 19 whereas the remaining quantity of chars

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The prosecution in order to prove its case in the mode and manner as alleged, has examined Muhammad Younas SHO, the complainant of the case, as PW-3 who has reiterated the contents of Murasila Ex. PA/1 and Constable Saleem Khan, the eyewitness of the occurrence and marginal witness of recovery memo Ex. PC as PW-4 who besides repeating the same story as narrated in the FIR, has stated to have taken the documents to the police station for registration of FIR and handed over the documents to Ibad Ul Hassan MM/PW-2 who has registered the FIR Ex. PA and Hashim Khan OII as PW-5 who have carried out the investigation in the instance.

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With respect to the recovery of pistol in the mode and manner as detailed, it is alleged that the complainant/PW-3 along with his police officials during routine patrolling were present on the spot, where at about 1600 hours a motorcycle rode by two persons wearing Shawls on way towards the spot, having white colour bags, wherefrom the complainant/PW-3 had recovered contraband chars besides the pistol was recovered from accused Inhar Ali which were packed and sealed in different parcels. The complainant/PW-3 took into possession the case property vide recovery memo Ex. PC; however, the factum regarding sealing and sampling of shawls, despite being part of the criminal activity, has neither been mentioned in Murasila report Ex. PA/1 nor he has taken into possession the same vide recovery meme Ex. PC, even in his cross-examination he failed to explain this fact that he has not taken into possession any Chaddar belonging to either of the accused. Reliance is placed on 2019 YLR 2082 which states that;

"The prosecution was bound to produce the case property allegedly being used in a criminal activity; however, non-production of such incriminating piece of evidence creates doubt in the mode and manner of alleged recovery on the spot".

The complainant/PW-3 and the marginal witness/PW-4 also diverged in their descriptions of the accused's actions during - the arrest. The SHO/PW-3 provided a detailed narrative of the pursuit and apprehension while PW-4's account lacked certain details about the nature of the chase and the behaviours

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exhibited by the accused. This inconsistency raises questions about the credibility of the prosecution's narrative regarding the accused's involvement in the crime.

If the statement of PW-4 is compared with the site plan prepared by the IO/PW-5 on pointation of the complainant/PW-3, a clear contradiction is found in both of them, provided that the site plan shows that the driver of the motorcycle was Inhar Ali; however, PW-4 disproves it by stating that the accused Tahir Ali was driving the motorcycle.

The identified contradictions within the testimonies of prosecution witnesses significantly undermine the prosecution's case which affect the overall strength of the evidence presented against the accused.

(9). With respect to process of investigation on the spot, as per contents of Murasila Ex. PA/1, the IO has visited the spot and prepared site plan Ex. PB on pointation of the complainant. Nevertheless, careful examination of the site plan Ex. PB prepared on the spot, the road leading to the spot of occurrence is a straight road and there is no curve or any hurdle obstructing the vision over there. This fact has also been admitted by the complainant/PW-3 in his cross examination but it was totally negated by the marginal witness/PW-4 in his cross-examination who stated that the spot is on a zigzag road. It is astonishing to note that if the spot of occurrence is a straight road and there is no curve or any other hurdle obstructing the vision, then how come it possible for the accused facing trial with a huge quantity

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of chars and a pistol in his possession has opted to pass through a picket laid by Police instead of adopting alternate route avoiding the police. This unnatural behavior of the accused shown by the police casts doubt upon the story of prosecution case. Besides, the Investigation Officer was cross-examined on the point that when he reached the spot, the complainant/PW-3 shown him the parcels having the FIR number, so a question would arise that when the FIR was not yet registered then how the FIR number was written on the parcels which negates the mode and manner as alleged by the prosecution.

In terms of corroborating the connection of the motorcycle with the accused facing trial, Hashim Khan's/PW-5 lacks specifics regarding the motorcycle's ownership and could not provide any document to verify any nexus of the motorcycle with any of the accused, suggesting gaps in the investigation process.

The prosecution has failed to prove the mode and manner of investigation as alleged in the case file, ultimately affecting the outcome of the trial.

With respect to transmission of the case property from

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Syed Opaidullah Shah District & Sessions Judge Orakzai at Baber Mela the spot to the Police Station and sending of the pistol to the FSL, the case of prosecution is, that after sealing of case property in parcels on the spot, these were brought by the complainant/PW-3 to the Police Station and handed over the same to MM Ibad Ul Hassan/PW-2, who deposited the same in Mal khana. The pistol was handed over by Moharrir of the

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Police Station to the Investigation Officer on 30.01.2024 who transmitted the same to FSL through constable Khial Hussain/PW-1 vide road permit certificate and was returned which was sent again on 06.02.2024.

The prosecution in order to prove the safe custody of case property, produced constable Khial Hussain as PW-1, MM Ibad Ul Hassa/PW-2, complainant, Muhammad Younas SHO/PW-3 and Hashim Khan OII, the Investigation Officer as PW-5. The complainant/PW-3 after completion of spot proceedings, returned to the police station and handed over the case property to the Moharrir who made entry of the same in register no. 19 Ex. PW 2/1 followed by handing over of parcels no. 10, 11 and 20 to the IO/PW-5 for its production before the Judicial Magistrate but the entire record is silent regarding its return or its deposition in District Mal Khana except the statement of Moharrir.

Moreover, the testimonies regarding the motorcycle's custody reveal another layer of ambiguity. Hashim Khan/PW-5 expressed uncertainty about who brought the motorcycle to the police station, indicating a lack of clarity in respect of safe custody of the case property.

(11).1. Molle

Syed Obaidullah Shah District & Sessions Judge Orakzai at Suber Mela In light of these contradictions, the overall strength of the evidence against the accused appears significantly weakened. The cumulative effect of these inconsistencies leads the defence to argue that the prosecution has not sufficiently demonstrated the accused's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. Consequently, the

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reliability of witness testimonies, which form the backbone of the prosecution's case, stands in jeopardy, potentially influencing the court's decision on the matter. Therefore, the accused namely, **Inhar Ali** is acquitted of the charge levelled against him by extending him the benefit of doubt. Accused is in custody. He be released forthwith, if not required in any other case. The case property be dealt with/disposed of in accordance with after the expiry of period provided for appeal/revision.

Judgment announced. File of this court be consigned to record after its necessary completion and compilation. Dated: 08.08.2024

> SYED OBAIDULLAH SHÀH Sessions Judge/Judge Special Court, Orakzai at Baber Mela

CERTIFICATE

Certified that this judgement consists of fourteen (14) pages. Each page has been read, corrected wherever necessary

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SYED OBAIDULLAH SHAH Sessions Judge/Judge Special Court, Orakzai at Baber Mela



Dated: 08.08.2024.

and signed by me.