



NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF STUDY AND RESEARCH IN LAW, RANCHI

2ND NUSRL NATIONAL TRIAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION, 2017

State of Realkhand v. Mr. Nakul Khanna, Mr. Baldev Khanna & Ms. Rekha Khanna

In the Court of the Principal Sessions Judge, Ranchi

<u>List of Exhibits</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
Exhibit 1 - F.I.R. Report	03
Exhibit 2 - Charge Sheet	06
Exhibit 3 - Statement under Sec. 161 CrPC	13
Exhibit 4 - Spot Panchnama	21
Exhibit 5 - Autopsy Report	23
Exhibit 6 - Entry – Exit Register of Nakul’s Office	30
Exhibit 7 - Marriage Certificate of Nakul and Aashima	35
Exhibit 8 - Death Certificate of Aashima	36
Exhibit 9 - Aashima’s Letter to Harneet	37
Exhibit 10 - Photographs of the Crime Scene	38



List of Appendices

Page No.

Appendix 1 – List of Defense Witnesses

46

List of Witnesses

Page No.

1. Mr. Anand Chatterjee, *Father of the deceased (informant)*, PW- 1

08

2. Mr. Sushma Chatterjee, *Mother of the deceased*, PW- 2

13

3. Mr. Ranvir Tyagi, *Investigating Officer*, PW- 3

14

4. Dr. Mukul Agnihotri, *Medical Expert*, PW- 4

16

5. Ms. Harneet Kaur, *Common Friend*, PW - 5

18

6. Mr. Suresh Tiwary, *Guard of Nakul's Office*, PW- 6

20

7. Mr. Nakul Chatterjee, *Accused No.1*, DW - 1

46

8. Mr. Baldev Chatterjee, *Accused No. 2*, DW - 2

49

9. Ms. Rekha Chatterjee, *Accused No. 3*, DW- 3

52

10. Dr. John Gonsalves, *Defense Expert*, DW - 4

55

11. Mr. Divya Shergill, *Family Friend of the Accused*, DW - 5

56

The case is posted for trial on **14th May, 2017**. The laws of Vindia are *in pari materia* with the laws of India.



(g) Address: 26/A, Pushpak Vihar Colony, Rinchi

7. Details of known/suspected/unknown accused with full particulars: (Attach separate sheet, if necessary)

(1) Mr. Nakul Khanna, Husband of the Deceased.

(2) Mr. Baldev Khanna, Father-in-Law of the Deceased.

(3) Ms. Rekha Khanna, Mother-in-Law of the Deceased.

8. Reasons for delay in reporting by the complainant / informant.....

9. Inquest Report/ U.D. case No. / if any

10. Action taken/Since the above information reveals commission of offence(s) u/s as mentioned at Item No. 2. :

(1) Registered the case and took up the investigation or

(2) Directed Sh./Smt./Km.(Name of I.O) Mr. Ranveer Tyagi Rank Sub-inspector No. 123 to take up the Investigation or

(3) Refused investigation due to or

(4) Transferred to P.S.....District..... on point of jurisdiction.

F.I.R. read over to the complainant / informant, admitted to be correctly recorded and a copy given to the complainant /informant, free of cost.

R.O.A.C.

Sd/- (Mr. Ranvir Tyagi)

Signature of Officer in charge, Police Station

11. Signature / Thumb Impression Name: Mr. Anand Chatterjee

Sd/- (Complainant/ Information)



Physical features, deformities and other details of the suspect/accused : (If known / seen)

Serial No.	Sex	Date/Year of Birth	Build	Height (cms)	Complexion	Identification Marks
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.

Deformities	Teeth	Hair	Eyes	Habit(s)	Dress
8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.

Language	Place of				
	Burn Mark	Leucoderma	Mole	Scar	Tattoo
14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.

These fields will be entered only if informant gives any one or more particulars about the suspect/accused.



EXHIBIT 2

CHARGESHEET

(Under Section 173 Cr. P.C, 1973)

G.R. NO. 1895/17

FINAL FORM REPORT

In the court of Principal Sessions Judge,

1. Dist. Rinchi, P.S. Udyog Vihar Colony, Year: 2017, FIR NO. 007/17,
Date of FIR: 17-02-2017
2. Charge sheet No. 234143
3. Date: 01-04-2017
4. (1)Act: Vindian Penal Code, Ss.302, 304 B, 498 A, 34, 109, 120 B
5. Type of Final Form: Charge sheet
6. If F.R. Un-occurred: X
7. IF charge-sheet: Original
8. Name of the I.O.: Mr. Ranvir Tyagi (Sub-Inspector)
9. Name of Complainant / Informant: Mr. Anand Chatterjee
10. Details of property seized:
 - (1) A Black lighter on a table.
 - (2) Stugeron Tablets
 - (3) A bottle of scotch and a quarterly filled glass of alcohol.
 - (4) A packed phenyl bottle.
 - (5) Broken pieces of bangles



(6) Burnt Cigarette Bud

(7) Pair of Footwear

11. No. of accused persons: 3 (three)

12. No. of accused persons charge-sheeted: 3 (three)

I visited their house in furtherance of the investigation. During the course of investigation, I have taken several statements u/s 161 Cr.P.C and I find a strong *prima facie* case against the accused.

I submit the charge-sheet *vide* Udyog Vihar Colony P.S., Charge-sheet dated 01-04-2017 against the Accused no. 1 Mr. Nakul Khanna s/o Mr. Baldev Khanna, Accused No. 2 Mr. Baldev Khanna s/o Late Mr. Shrikant Khanna and Accused No. 3 Ms. Rekha Khanna w/o Mr. Baldev Khanna.

I pray to the Ld. Court to take cognizance against the accused for crimes committed u/s Ss. 302, 304 B, 498A, 34, 109, 120 B of the Vindian Penal Code, 1860 and compel their attendance in the Court for the purpose of their trial.

Submitted by-

Sd/-

(Ranvir Tyagi)

Sub-Inspector

Udyog Vihar P.S



STATEMENT OF THE INFORMANT

PW- 1: MR. ANAND CHATTERJEE (INFORMANT) – FATHER OF THE DECEASED

Sex: *Male*

Age: *62 years*

Occupation: *Government Service*

Statement: I am Anand Chatterjee, S/o Late. Lalit Chatterjee, residing at 26/A, Pushpak Vihar Colony, Rinchi. I got married in the year 1988 to Sushma and in the year 1990 Aashima came into our lives. She was as beautiful as her mother and being the only girl child in the entire family she was very pampered and loved by all. She was a very bright and intelligent child. I could easily recall that she used to ace the class right from her nursery to her University. A 2nd position never existed in her dictionary. She secured about 98% marks in her class 12th class exams in the year 2008, by way of which she managed to secure admission in *Lady Rohila College of Commerce, (LRCC)* a constituent college of the *Kelhi University*, it being one of the most premier college of the country. Her trail of achievements did not stop here. After acing her bachelor's course from Kelhi University, she took a year drop to prepare for CAT examination. With a rigorous preparation for one year she again managed to secure a place in *IIM, Lehamdabad* for her Masters in Business Administration (MBA) in the year 2012. She was the apple of our eyes!

However, education from such premier institutions of the country does not come at peanuts cost. Currently, I'm working as a primary school teacher in one of the government schools near my Colony. Despite my low income, I never made her feel short of anything and also did not compromise with the standards of her education. I even took a loan of Rs. 24 lacs for her education at *IIM Lehamdabad*. She was living a life most students could only desire.



Nakul was her batch-mate in *IIM Lehamdabad*. Initially, in the first year they were very good friends. Since Nakul too was from Rinchi so the same city factor contributed a lot towards their bonding. However, the bonding between the two took a different turn and in the final year they fell in love with each other. Nakul comes from one of the most reputed and wealthy families of Rinchi. Nakul's father, Mr. Baldev is one of the most rich and reputed business tycoons in the textile business in Rinchi. He even has some political connections and possesses a robust personality in the society. In the final year at *IIM, Lehamdabad*, Aashima received a *pre placement offer* (PPO) from Piggy Bank Pvt. Ltd. with an annual salary of Rs. 28 Lacs. On the contrary, Nakul decided to help his father and joined his family business.

I could clearly recall the convocation day at *IIM, Lehamdabad*. Aashima introduced us to Nakul and his family and we all went together for a Dinner. After returning back to Rinchi, Aashima told me that she wanted to marry Nakul. I was very skeptical about their marriage because I was pretty sure that I won't be able to match the economic and social stature of Nakul's family. But, despite my reluctance towards their relationship, I ultimately had to bow down to her wishes and finally they got married on 25th January, 2015. I could totally recall the marriage episode. It was indeed one of the most memorable moments in my life. Nakul's family was very particular about having a big fat wedding and in order to fulfill their expectations again I took a loan of Rs. 10 Lacs. Amidst all this, I never let Aashima come to know about my financial crunch. She was on cloud nine and I did not want to disappoint her or make her feel bad about anything.

However, to my amazement, Nakul's family was not at all progressive and modern in their outlook. They strictly asked Aashima not to go ahead with the Job that she was offered while in *IIM Lehamadabad*. With a very heavy heart, my daughter was left with no other option than to concede to their conservative demands.



Right after Aashima shifted to Nakul's residence, whenever I used to call her she used to sound very depressed and troubled. Despite my repeated interrogations about the reason for her sadness she used to change the topic and used to assure me that everything is fine and cordial between her and Nakul. She adopted a very pale and lifeless style of living. I could easily recall that sometimes while talking on phone she even used to cry and despite my repeated enquires regarding the same she used to assure me that everything was fine between her and Nakul's family and that it was just due to some minor personal reasons. I knew my daughter very well. Before marriage she used to be very enthusiastic and happy about things that came her way. She used to be full of life. She was very creative and was an excellent painter, but after her marriage she gave up that as well. On the contrary when I used to ask Nakul and his father regarding the same, they used to state exactly the opposite of my daughter's version. I even paid several visits to their house so as to meet my daughter and bring her back to life however I felt a little awkward because of the unwelcoming attitude of the Nakul's family.

One day on 1st November, 2016, Aashima called me and asked if I took a loan of Rs 24 Lacs and Rs10 Lacs in order to support her education at *IIM Lehamadabad* and to organize her wedding respectively. Though I tried to evade the topic but she was very adamant over it and therefore I was left with no option other than answering in the affirmative. That day she cried her heart out and wept bitterly. She further told me that one of our distant relatives had told her about this.

In the year 2016, I got to know from her that Nakul's family is putting pressure on her to conceive a baby for which she was not ready as she wanted to pursue her PhD. She further told me that Nakul's family, particularly Ms. Rekha Khanna, her mother in law, used to curse her for bringing bad luck to the family. In the month of August, 2016, Nakul's family business suffered



a huge loss in their business for which my daughter was said to be responsible. With the passage of time, Nakul's family adopted a totally different attitude towards my daughter. As what I used to infer from my telephonic conversations with her, Nakul's family had started cursing Aashima for bringing bad luck into the family and leveled her as a bad omen. As what Aashima used to tell me over phone, her stay over there at Nakul's place had become very suffocating. She had no one over there with whom she could share her problems. Ms. Rekha Khanna, also did not liked Aashima visiting our house so she did not even have an option of coming back home.

I exactly remember that on 18th November, 2016, when things became unbearable for her at Nakul's place, I called Mr. Baldev so as to request him to take care of my daughter as these times were really hard upon her. To my surprise, Mr. Baldev sounded very rude and retaliated by saying that, "*your daughter is now a part of our family; we know much better how to treat her; stop bothering us and interfering in our personal family matters!*". While the phone call was still running, I overheard Nakul's Mother say, "*Neither did she get anything for us nor her Father, even bothered to ask us about it. All what she got for us is bad luck!*" It was then that I realized the real problem behind the entire situation. It was nothing but the age old conservative practice of Dowry.

I got a call from Aashima just the next day, i.e. 19th November, 2016. To my surprise, she sounded absolutely normal and told me not take things seriously regarding whatever Mr. Baldev had told me. She further told me that Mr. Baldev was very upset yesterday because of his loss in business and he entirely vented it out on me. Then things went on in the usual manner and even I got busy with my work in School due to Winter Term Examinations.



I called Nakul's family on the New Year eve, i.e. on 1st January, 2017. To my surprise, they reacted in a very polite and welcoming manner. I had a talk with Nakul and Mr. Baldev. They told me that they were going on a family dinner with some of their friends.

Then on 17th February, 2017, at around 3:30pm, I received a call from Mr. Baldev Khanna. He sounded very tensed and with a very heavy voice told me that Aashima is critically ill and I should come to his place to meet her immediately. At that time I was almost leaving my school and was heading home. I rushed to their place and found that Nakul was waiting for me at their door. Even he looked perturbed and quickly guided me to a room. As soon as I entered the room, I saw Mr. Baldev and Ms. Rekha standing besides the window and I saw my daughter lying on a bed and there was blood all over the pillow and on her Saree. I fell on my knees and almost went in a state of shock. I did not know how to react. In a fit of anger, I held Mr. Baldev by his collar and asked as to what he has done to Aashima. He gave a very cold reply that the doctor was on his way. I did not know how to react and handle the situation. While Nakul, who was standing at the entry of the room, tried to stop me, I pushed him back and left their room. I straightaway went to the Udyog Vihar Police Station and informed Mr. Ranvir Tyagi (Sub-Inspector) about the entire incident. He along with 3 other constables and 2 more people accompanied me to Nakul's residence. After inspecting the crime scene Mr. Ranbir Tyagi asked me to accompany them to the Udyog Vihar Police Station where he recorded my statement at around 7:30 pm.

Sd/-

Sub- Inspector

Mr. Ranvir Tyagi

Udyog Vihar P.S

Sd/-

Mr. Anand Chaterjee



EXHIBIT 3

PW – 2 – MS. SUSHMA CHATTERJEE- MOTHER OF THE DECEASED

Sex: *Female*

Age: *56 years*

Occupation: *Homemaker*

Statement: I am SushmaChatterjee, w/o Mr. Anand Chatterjee. I live in the same house with my husband. Being the only girl child in the family, Aashima was very pampered and loved by all. Aashima fell in love with Nakul while she was pursuing her MBA from *IIM Lehamadabad*. Initially, we did not support Aashima to go ahead with the wedding as we were opposed to the idea of having a love marriage in the family. However, we relentlessly gave in to her demands and she finally married Nakul on 25th January, 2015. Soon after she shifted to Nakul's residence, relations between the two became very strained. On the very rare occasions that she spoke to me, it was very evident that something is bothering her to which she is not at all vocal about. My husband used to tell me that Aashima is under severe pressure of conceiving a child and his family is even nagging over the fact that she came without any matrimonial wealth. He further told me that Nakul's mother, Ms. Rekha Khanna used to taunt her for bringing bad luck to the family, blaming her for all the losses suffered in their family business.

On 17th February, 2017, at around 4:30 pm, I received a call from my husband. He was crying badly and told me to immediately rush to Nakul's residence. He did not tell me anything more apart from that. I quickly booked a cab and rushed to Nakul's residence. I reached there at around 5:00 pm. I rang the bell of the main door and Nakul came to open it. He seemed very tensed and indifferent. He guided me to a room where I saw Aashima lying on the bed with blood all over her dress and pillow. I did not know how to react to it and broke into tears. Never had I imagined that would I see my daughter in such a state. Also, there was a doctor inspecting



my daughter who prevented me from touching her. Then, after a few minutes of examination and check-up, the doctor declared her as Dead. I almost had a nervous breakdown and was almost going to collapse on the floor. However, Nakul held me by my shoulder and helped me to sit on a chair. I numbed watching my beloved daughter die in front of my eyes. While Ms. Rekha was busy talking to somebody over the phone, Mr. Baldev was silently standing beside the window. Then after 15 minutes, my husband along with the police entered the room. The police started their investigation and asked Mr. Baldev as to what the entire incident was about. Mr. Baldev narrated the entire incident to the Police Personnel to which I did not pay attention to because I was not in such a cognitive state of mind. Apart from me, the doctor and Ms. Rekha; Mr. Baldev, Nakul, Mr. Anand and the Police Personals made an exit from the room. Then almost after 2 hours, my husband told me that we needed to go the police station. I did not have any clue as to what exactly was happening. I accordingly accompanied my husband to the police station where my statement was recorded at around 8:00 pm.

PW – 3 – MR. RANVIR TYAGI– INVESTIGATING OFFICER (IO)

Sex: *Male* **Age:** *52 years* **Occupation:** *Sub Inspector – Udyog Vihar Police Station.*

Statement: I am Ranvir Tyagi, Sub-Inspector, posted in Udyog Vihar Police Station. On 17th February, 2017, at around 4:45pm, Mr. Anand Chatterjee (*Complainant*) came rushing to the Udyog Vihar Police Station. His eyes were filled with tears but also he was raging in anger and he started ranting that “*they killed my daughter*”. After a couple of minutes he got stabilized and told me that Nakul and his family had killed her daughter, Aashima. He further told me that Aashima was lying there in their house in an unconscious state with blood all over the place. He requested me to accompany him to Nakul’s residence, so that all the members of Nakul’s family could be arrested. Accordingly, I recorded the details in my station register and then proceeded



to Nakul's residence along with 3 constables and 2 panchas. We all reached Nakul's residence at around 5:15 pm. We opened the main gate ourselves rushed inside. Nakul was sitting at the staircase and he guided us to the bedroom of Mr. Baldev and Ms. Rekha on the ground floor. Upon entering the room, I saw Aashima lying on the bed and Mr. Baldev and Ms. Rekha were standing near the window. Also, Ms. Sushma Chatterjee with tears in her eyes and a pale face was sitting on a chair in the same room. There was a doctor who stood besides Aashima and he informed me that she was already dead.

Upon preliminary investigation, Nakul told me that Aashima was all alone in the house since his parents (Mr. Baldev and Ms. Rekha) had gone out for lunch with one of their business partner and he was busy working in his office. He returned back from his office to his house at around 2:30 for having lunch with Aashima. As soon as he entered the house he saw Aashima lying at the end of the staircase with blood all over the place. He was stunned with the picture and did not know how to react to it. He called his Dad (Mr. Baldev) to return back as soon as possible. When Mr. Baldev and Ms. Rekha returned back, they quickly shifted Aashima to their bedroom on the ground floor and called their family doctor. Then Nakul himself guided us to the staircase where Aashima's body was initially found. Meanwhile, I called an ambulance which took the dead body to Indigenous Institute of Medical Sciences, Rinchi for post mortem.

Upon inspecting the staircase, we found substantial blood at the end of the staircase. There were certain stains of blood on the staircase as well. Further the staircase was decorated with flower pots placed on iron stands. Some of the flower pots were not in order and were haphazardly placed. Also I found one footwear on the staircase. There were also certain pieces of broken bangles and a burnt cigarette bud at the starting of the staircase. Apart from this, I even noticed sets of four parallel scratch marks on the walls of the staircase. I even found one burnt cigarette



bud lying at the starting of the staircase. I duly collected the blood samples and all the evidences from the crime scene. After inspecting the staircase, I proceeded to the bed room of Aashima and Nakul which was on first floor.

Their bedroom was ordered and tidied up with everything very neat and clean. However, I found one bottle of scotch with one quarterly filled glass lying on a table. Also there was a black colored lighter placed on the same table. Further on inspecting the room I also found one packed bottle of Doctor's Phenyl kept at the corner of the room.

After complying with all the formalities, I asked Mr. Anand and Ms. Sushma to accompany me to the police station where their statement under Section 161 Cr.P.C, 1973 was recorded. They primarily made out a case of Murder and Dowry death. In light of the cognizable offences involved, I accordingly went to Nakul's residence at around 10:00 pm again and arrested Nakul, Mr. Baldev and Ms. Rekha and further proceeded with the investigation.

In due course of the investigation, I visited Nakul's office and found out that on 17th February, 2017, he had left his office at around 12:30. I collected the Entry-Exit Register from the stationed guard and even took photocopies of the relevant pages. I even requested the guard to accompany to the police station where his statement was also recorded under Section 161 Cr.P.C, 1973.

PW – 4 - DR. MUKUL AGNIHOTRI, MEDICAL EXPERT

Sex: *Male*

Age: *52 years*

Occupation: *Surgeon*

Statement: I am Dr. Mukul Agnihotri (M.B.B.S), (M.D.) s/o Dr. Kamal Agnihotri, residing at 28, Karmu Road, Rinchi. I am practising at the Indigenous Institute of Medical Sciences, as a Chief Surgeon for the past 17 years.



I was heading the post mortem examination of Ms. Aashima Chatterjee. The body was brought in at around 09:00 pm on 17th February, 2017 and was declared dead on arrival. Since I was on duty at that time, we went ahead with the autopsy at the earliest and thus the autopsy began at 01:15 pm and it continued till 2:59 pm.

The body at the time of the post mortem had visible injury marks on the right side of the face and there was profuse bleeding from the left side of the neck due to an incision. The carotid artery was cut due to which there was severe blood loss. There was bleeding from the tongue probably because the deceased would have bit her own tongue. There were abrasions on the bony regions such as left knee, left shoulder and both the mandibles. Also, the left clavicle was found to be fractured, probably because the deceased would have landed on the left side of the shoulder.

One notable observation is the presence of bruises on the arms and legs of the deceased which could have probably developed due to beating with sticks and hands. Lastly, the cause of death was the excessive blood loss from the cut in the carotid artery. A cut on the carotid artery is unusual in cases of a staircase fall. Such an injury requires the use of a sharp object over the neck of a person.

My opinion on the aforesaid cause of death has been duly reasoned and supplemented by an Autopsy Report. The Autopsy Report has been submitted in two parts (brief and descriptive) and must be read as supplementary to another.

The report has been prepared carefully following the standard procedure and protocol in medico legal practice. The said report has been report has been duly submitted to the proper authorities.



PW – 5 – Ms.HARNEET KAUR - FRIEND OF THE DECEASED

Sex: *Female*

Age: *27 years*

Occupation: *Marketing Professional*

Statement: I am Harneet Kaur, d/o Mr. Parminder Sethi. I am residing at Sector B1/21, Kelhi. I have known Aashima and Nakul from our days at *IIM Lehamadabad*, we were classmates and Aashima was my roommate. Having shared all that time with her, we were very close to each other and there were things that she would share with me that she did not even share with her parents. Aashima was initially friends with Nakul and later they fell in love. They both shared a lot of affection and would seldom make efforts to please each other. Back in our college days, they were called as the perfect couple and there was nothing wrong in their relationship. However, Nakul was known for his short-temper and abusive aggressive behavior. He was habituated with getting his way and would not remain in his senses when he lost his temper. Once during our semester examination, Nakul had a nasty argument with Aashima and that day she returned with a bruised hand, back to the room. Their affection towards each other, overpowered this incidence and Aashima soon broke the news of Nakul's proposal for marriage. She had initially faced issues to get her parent's assent to the wedding, but soon everyone gave in and she married Nakul in January, 2015.

I was overjoyed for my close friend's marriage, but what shocked me was the news that Aashima had decided to quit her job and career after the marriage. She was a strong-headed girl and wanted to pursue a Ph.D., she wanted to become self-sufficient and ensure that her parents would not have to worry about anything in the future. Post her marriage, Aashima's weekly calls to me reduced to monthly messages stating her busy schedule and anew charge of responsibilities. I being engrossed in my hectic job, lost touch, but we remained on friendly terms.



I clearly remember that Aashima called me on 3rd November, 2016. As soon as the line connected, I could hear her crying out loud and she kept weeping for a long time, all the while not uttering a single word. After she had calmed down she told me about how her marriage was falling apart. Nakul had joined the family business and his behavior towards her had drastically changed. She told me that she was being pressurized for conceiving a child for a long time and Nakul it seems did not support her in any matter. He would turn a blind ear to her negations and would become abusive more often, however, she said that such incidences would later be compensated by him by a bunch of flowers, sorry cards or some fancy gifts. As she was describing to me her suffering and continuous abuses she faced from her in-laws, she mentioned to me that she might need a sum of money, and asked whether I would lend it to her. She said this was because Nakul and his family had suffered huge losses in their business and this cash would help her settle a few matters. Before I could enquire more about her problems, she hurriedly cut the line stating some urgency and said that she'd call in some time. I never received any calls post this incidence but a letter within a week from Aashima.

The letter that Aashima had written to me mentioned about her condition post the marriage. After some beautiful first months, she had stated that Nakul and his family suffered heavy business losses post which Nakul took to drinking heavily. He used to often abuse her and blame her for all the losses that his business had suffered. She even explained as to why she had asked me to lend her some money. Aashima said that after the repeated fights with Nakul, Aashima wanted to give Nakul's family some money to compensate for the losses. She saw this as the only way left to save her failing marriage. Aashima then requested me to keep the amount that she had mentioned to me earlier over the call ready and arrange for its dispatch at the earliest. She went on to convince me that she would return the amount within one year and would be forever indebted for my favor.



After a few days post this interaction, Anand Uncle called me to ask if Aashima had mentioned about any problems with her in-laws and Nakul. I was not sure as to what and how I should narrate the incidence to him and therefore I merely declined having received any calls or messages from her. The next I heard from her father was yesterday when he informed that Aashima had passed away. I was stunned by the news and seeing some nexus with her conversations with me, I decided to come to here.

PW – 6 – MR. SURESH TIWARY – GUARD OF NAKUL’S OFFICE

Sex: *Male*

Age: *62 years*

Occupation: *Marketing Professional*

Statement: My name is Suresh Tiwary, S/o Late Bhupendra Tiwary, residing at Jan Kothi, Palamtoli, Rinchi. I work as a guard at Khanna Enterprises and have been working there since the past 8 years. My main job is to guard the main door of the office and to maintain the entry/exit register. I have been treated well by my employers and have been paid regularly. I also get bonuses on festivals in cash or in kind.

Usually Nakul sir is very jolly and jovial and keeps taking interest in how I and my family members are doing. On the date of 17th February, 2017 I was on duty and Nakul Sir came to the office at around 10.00 am. He did not seem very happy and looked tensed that day. At around 12.20 pm he left from the office. I asked him as to where he was going but he did not reply and lit a cigarette and went away. I accordingly made the entry in the register and continued my shift.



EXHIBIT 4

P.S - This document will have to be proved and exhibited in evidence by the Prosecution.

SCENE OF OFFENCE PANCHNAMA

PANCHA NO. 1

Name : Mr. Rajesh Bitthal, age- 35

Address: 92/B Saveeta Vihar Colony, Rinchi

Rinchi-348001

PANCHA NO. 2

Name: Mr. Bittu Prasad, age – 29

Address: 68/3, 26th Street, Lithoria, Rinchi

Rinchi-348001

We, the above named panchas were asked by Mr. Ranvir Tyagi to accompany him to the crime scene to 86/B Udyog Vihar Colony at around 05:00 pm on 17.02.2017. When we reached there at around 5:15 pm, with Mr. Ranvir Tyagi along with the other three constables and Mr. Anand Chatterjee, they asked us to act as panchas, to which we agreed. When we reached the house, the main door of the house was closed. The door opens into a big hall. When we enter the house, Mr. Nakul was sitting on the stairs and when we went inside the bedroom of Mr. Baldev and Ms. Rekha, we found that they were standing near the window and the dead body of Ms. Aashima was lying on the bed. Ms. Sushma, the mother of the deceased was sitting on a chair in



the room itself almost in the unconscious state. The police first checked the dead body with the help of a lady constable and then went near the stairs where they recovered the blood samples of the deceased. The blood samples were collected from the stairs and the floor. Broken bangles and one of Ms. Ashima's slippers were also found on the staircase. The police further investigated the nearby area in search of the evidence. Further a cigarette bud was found on the first floor just near the stairs. Then the police moved to the bedroom of the deceased which was situated on the first floor wherein they found *stugeron* tablets on the bedside. A glass which is quarterly filled with the alcohol along with a lighter is also found in the room and the same was seized by the police. Mobile phone of Ms. Aashima was also found on the bed in the bedroom. The police also recovered a packed bottle of phenyl from the bedroom. The search continued for sometime without further recovery of any evidence.

Signed by Sub-Inspector

Mr. Ranvir Tyagi

Signed by Panch No.1

Signed by Panch No. 2



EXHIBIT- 5
Post Mortem Report

(a) Body was received at -09:00 pm on 17th February, 2017 Distt.- Rinchi P.S.-Udyog Vihar Colony

(b) P.M. Commenced at 1:15 pm on 18th February, 2017

(c) Name of observer/ if any: NA

A- General					B- External Appearances	
Name (Apparent age, religion, sex, <u>strength</u> , <u>weight</u> & residence if known with parental address)	Village/ Town/ Mahalla from where brought	Name of Constable/ Chaukidars/ Dafadars relatives accompanying the corpse identified the deceased	Special Identifying features including complexion, colour of hair, eyes etc	Clothes and articles sent with the corpse etc.	Condition of subject including physique and nutrition, congenital/ Acquired peculiarity, P.M. Lividity, obstruction of natural orifices, if any and in case of new infant, mention condition of umbilical cord.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	
Aashima Chatterjee, 26 years, Hindu, Female, Well nourished, 64 Kgs, 86/ B, Udyog Vihar Colony, Rinchi	Udyog Vihar, Rinchi	Ambulance Driver- Ranga Rangeela and Father of the deceased- Anand Chatterjee	Wheatish complexioned, black hair and brown eyes. Black mole just beneath the left eyebrow and on the right ear lobe and a birth mark on the left side of the waist	Yellow saree with blue border, blue blouse, yellow petticoat and black undergarments.	Well developed and nourished female, body is normal and consistent with the age. Normal tongue, red in colour. 31 natural teeth found.	
C-Cranium and Spinal Canal Note - The Spinal Canal Need Not be Examined unless any indication of disease or injury exists						
Scalp Skull		Vertebra	Membrane	Brain And Spinal Cord		
7		8	9	10		
Severe haemorrhage and blood clotting.		Unremarkable	Unremarkable	Unremarkable		
D – Thorax						
Walls, Ribs, cartilages	Pleura	Larynx & Trachea	Lungs	Pericardium	Heart	Large Vessels
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Unremarkable	Unremarkable	Unremarkable	Pulmonary edema	Unremarkable	Decompensated	Less amount of blood is found
E- Abdomen						



Walls	Peritoneum	Mouth Oesophagus and condition of teeth	Stomach and its content	Small intestine and its contents	Large intestine and its contents	Liver	Spleen	Kidneys (Right & Left)	Bladder	Organs of generation, External & internal
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Unremarkable	Unremarkable	Bleeding from tongue	Empty	Pasty Material	Unremarkable	Unremarkable	Unremarkable	Unremarkable	Unremarkable	Unremarkable

F- Muscles and Bones

29- Injury	30- Disease/ Deformity	31- Fractures	32- Dislocation
Abrasions over bony prominences- Left shoulder, knee and both mandibles.	None	Fractured Left Clavicle	None

33G- Detailed description of injuries, burns, ligature marks at neck if any. Mention Ante or post Mortem and nature of probable weapons used.

There were abrasions over bony prominences (Left Shoulder, knee and both mandibles). The left clavicle was fractured and there were bruises on arms and legs probably caused due to beating. There was excessive blood loss due to incision in the left carotid artery which can be caused by a sharp object.

34 H- OPINION OF MEDICAL OFFICER AS TO CAUSE OF DEATH, TIME SINCE DEATH; AND ANY ADDITIONAL RELEVANT INFORMATION.
The cause of death is Excessive blood loss due to incision in the left carotid artery. The time since death is 25-27 hours.



Mention items or viscera or other items preserved and preservative used.

Place of examination: Indigenous Institute of Medical Sciences, Rinchi

Sd/-

Dr. Mukul Agnihotri (M.B.B.S) Head Surgeon (FMT)

Date- 18/02/2017

Designation: Head Surgeon

Signature(Full Name and qualification)

35.1 Remarks by Head of Forensic Medicine and Toxicology Department.



Autopsy Report: Explained

Autopsy Report No: 2017/081

Ref No.35021/A

Autopsy Authorised By: Udyog Vihar Colony PS

Date and hour of receipt of body: 09:00 pm on 17th February, 2017

The hour of starting autopsy: 01:15 pm on 18th February, 2017

Hour of concluding autopsy: 2:59 pm on 18th February, 2017

Body brought and identified by: Mr. Ranga Rangeela (Ambulance Driver) and identified by Mr. Anand Chatterjee

Age: 26

Height: 174cm

Sex: Female

Weight: 64kgs

Hair: Black

Built: Medium

Eyes: Brown

CLOTHING:

A yellow saree with blue border, blue blouse, yellow petticoat and black undergarments.

SCHEDULE OF OBSERVATIONS

A- GENERAL

Name: Ms. Aashima Chatterjee.

Special Identification Features: The deceased had a black mole just beneath the left eyebrow and on the right ear lobe. There was also a birth mark on the left side of the waist.

External Appearance: The body was well developed and well nourished. The deceased was a wheatish complexioned female, about 26 years of age. The body was normal and consistent with the age. The tongue was normal in shape and red in colour. The total number of teeth present were 31 all of which were natural.

Injuries:



Head: There were severe abrasion in both mandibles and towards the left of the face. There was Blood loss from the carotid artery on the left side of the neck due to injury from a sharp object causing incision that led to the perforation of the carotid artery.

Shoulder: Fractured Left Clavicle

Thorax: Unremarkable

Abdomen: Unremarkable

Legs: Abrasions over the left knee

B. HEAD AND NECK

1. Skull, brain, meninges and cerebral vessels: Severe hemorrhage and blood clotting.
2. Orbital, Nasal and aural cavities: No damage
3. Mouth, tongue: Bleeding from tongue
4. Neck, larynx, thyroid and other neck structures: Unremarkable

C. CHEST (THORAX)

1. Ribs and Chest Wall: Unremarkable
2. Diaphragm: Unremarkable
3. Oesophagus: Unremarkable
4. Trachea and Bronchi: Unremarkable
5. Pleural Cavities: Unremarkable
6. Lungs: Pulmonary edema
7. Heart and Pericardial sac: The heart weighs 360 grams and was decompensated.
8. Large blood Vessels: Ruptured, near left shoulder region

D. ABDOMEN

1. Abdominal wall: Unremarkable
2. Peritoneal cavity: Unremarkable



3. Stomach and content: Empty
4. Small Intestine: Pasty material was collected
5. Large intestine, vermiform appendix, mesentery and pancreas: Unremarkable
6. Liver, gall bladder, biliary passages: Liver weighs 1500 grams and is otherwise unremarkable. The gall bladder contains 11cc of bile.
7. Spleen: Unremarkable
8. Kidney, renal pelvis, ureters: Unremarkable
9. Pelvic wall: Unremarkable
10. Urinary bladder and urethra: Unremarkable
11. Genital organs: Unremarkable

E. SPINAL COLUMN

1. Spinal column and spinal cord: Unremarkable

E- ADDITIONAL REMARKS

1. Presence of damage in the following areas: Bruise in the left knee, lumber region and other bruises on the arms and legs. Abrasions over bony prominences- Left shoulder, knee and both mandibles

G. SPECIMEN COLLECTED FOR TOXICOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Nature of specimen Preserved

1. Stomach with contents: Empty
2. Small intestine and contents: Pasty material
3. Sample of Liver: The liver weighs 1600 grams.
4. Kidneys: -NA-
5. Spleen: -NA-
6. Sample of Blood: Blood group: (AB-), Sugar: 72 mg/dL, WBC Count: 6,500 cells mcL,



RBC Count: 4.7 cells/mcL, blood alcohol: 0 mg %.

7. Lungs

H. Evidence of Injury

Incision on the left side of the injury below the neck.

I. Items handed over to Police

1. Post Mortem Report: Yes
2. Dead Body: Yes
3. Viscera, Clothes and articles, if any: Yes

J. TIME SINCE DEATH: 25- 27 hours

K. OPINION: The cause of death to the best of knowledge and belief.

The cause of death to was the excessive blood loss due to incision in the left carotid artery.

Sd/-

Dr. Mukul Agnihotri

Indigenous Institute of Medical Sciences, Rinch



EXHIBIT 6

ENTRY- EXIT REGISTER

Entry Exit Record Book

Date- 13/2/2017

Guard on Duty: Suresh Tiwary

Sr.no	Name	Time of Arrival	Time of Departure	Signature
1.	Arbindo K	9:30	4:00 pm	Arbindo
2.	Singhana Shastri	9:30	2:45 pm	Singhana
3.	Nitin Rangeela	10:15	4:30pm	Suresh
4.	Ayushman Singh	10:15	4:30 pm	Ayushman
5.	Nakul Khanna	10:30	2:30pm	Suresh
6.	Parineeti Logan	10:45	2:45pm	Suresh
7.	Gouranshi Gogo	11:00	5:30pm	Gogo
8.	Guddu Rangoon	11:00	10:00pm	Guddu R.
9.	Shruti Gunday	11:10	5:45pm	Shruti Gunday
10.	Abees Haal	11:15	9:45pm	Abees Haal
11.	T. Anoocha	11:25	5:45pm	T. Anoocha
12.	Baldev Khanna	11:25	6:00pm	Suresh
13.	Basant Xavier	12:30	6:30pm	B. Xavier
14.	Nakul Khanna	4:00	10:00pm	Suresh
15.	Parineeti Logan	4:15	7:00pm	Suresh
16.	Singhana Shastri	4:20	7:30pm	Singhana
17.				
18.				



Entry Exit Record Book

Date- 14/02/2017.

Guard on Duty: Suresh Tiwary.

Sr.no	Name	Time of Arrival	Time of Departure	Signature
1.	Arobindo K	9:30	4:00 pm	Arobindo
2.	Singhana Shastri	9:30	2:50 pm	Singhana
3.	Chinku Kattapa	10:15	4:30pm	Suresh
4.	Prabhas Chameli	10:15	4:30 pm	Prabhas
5.	Nitin Rangeela	10:20	12:30 pm	Suresh
6.	Nakul Khanna	10:30	2:30 pm	Suresh
7.	Parineeti Logan	10:50	2:30 pm	Suresh
8.	Shruti Gunday	10:55	4:45 pm	Shruti Gunday
9.	Gouranshi Gogo	11:00	4:45 pm	G. Gogo
10.	Jackie Fernandez	11:30	5:00 pm	Jackie Fernandez
11.	Abees Maal	12:30	5:15 pm	Abees Maal
12.	Basant Xavier	12:45	5:30 pm	B. Xavier
13.	Parineeti Logan	3:00	6:30 pm	Suresh
14.	Singhana Shastri	3:40	6:45 pm	Singhana
15.	Bhaktiman Sharma	4:10	5:00 pm	Bhaktiman
16.	Geeta Biswas	4:27	3:00 pm	Geeta
17.	Prem Shopra	4:30	4:50 pm	Prem Shopra
18.				



Entry Exit Record Book

Date- 15/02/2017

Guard on Duty: *Suresh Tiwari*

Sr.no	Name	Time of Arrival	Time of Departure	Signature
1.	Arobindo K	9:30	4:00pm	<i>Arobindo.</i>
2.	Basant Xavier	9:45	4:30pm	<i>B. Xavier</i>
3.	Nakul Khanna	10:15	10:30pm	<i>Suresh</i>
4.	Parineeti Logan	10:25	4:30pm	<i>Suresh</i>
5.	Chinuku Kattapa	10:30	9:30pm	<i>Suresh</i>
6.	Singhana Shastri	10:45	6:30pm	<i>Shastri</i>
7.	Candy Mishra	11:30	2:00pm	<i>Candy Mishra</i>
8.	Abees Maal	12:30	4:45pm	<i>Abees Maal</i>
9.	Nitin Rangeela	12:45	10:00pm	<i>Suresh</i>
10.	Kashu Bandit	3:00	3:20pm	<i>Kashu Bandit</i>
11.	Prakhar Singh	3:40	4:45pm	<i>Prakhar Singh</i>
12.	Ayushi Mule	4:10	10:30pm	<i>Ayushi</i>
13.	Shorvati gupte	4:27	6:30pm	<i>Shorvati gupte</i>
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				



Entry Exit Record Book

Date- 16/02/2017.

Guard on Duty: Suresh Tiwari

Sr.no	Name	Time of Arrival	Time of Departure	Signature
1.	Arobindo K	9:40	4:15 pm	Arobindo.
2.	Nakul Khanna	9:40	9:30 pm	Suresh.
3.	Gouravshi Gogo	10:15	6:30 pm	Gf.
4.	Abees Maal	10:15	6:00 pm	Abees Maal
5.	Parineeti Logan	10:20	1:30 pm	Suresh
6.	Singhana Shastri	10:30	1:30 pm	Singhana
7.	Shruti Gunday	10:45	6:30 pm	Shruti Gunday
8.	Nikhil Raghav	11:15	1:00 pm	Nikhil
9.	Nitin Rangeela	12:25	9:15 pm	Suresh
10.	Prabhas Chameli	12:30	6:30 pm	Prabhas
11.	Parineeti Logan	2:00	6:30 pm	Suresh
12.	Singhana Shastri	2:15	6:45 pm	Singhana
13.	Rahul gupte	3:15	3:45 pm	Rupta
14.	Prashant Doshi	3:20	4:50 pm	Prashant
15.	Basant xavier	5:00	9:30 pm	B. Xavier
16.	Ayushman Singh	5:30	9:30 pm	Ayushman
17.	Lakshya Dohel	7:00	9:30 pm	Lakshya D.
18.				



Entry Exit Record Book

Date- 17/02/2017

Guard on Duty: Suresh Tiwary.

Sr.no	Name	Time of Arrival	Time of Departure	Signature
1.	Arobindo K	9:30	4:00 pm	Arobindo.
2.	Nitin Rangeela	9:40	4:30 pm	Suresh
3.	Nakul Khanna	10:00	12:20pm	Suresh
4.	Parineeti Logan	10:15	2:00 pm	Suresh
5.	Shreeti Gunday	10:20	6:00 pm	Shreeti Gunday
6.	Gaurasni gogo	10:30	6:00 pm	GG.
7.	T. Anousha	11:00	6:05 pm	Tanoosha.
8.	Candy Mishra	11:30	11:45 pm	Candy Mishra
9.	Chinuk Kattapa	11:50	5:50 pm	Suresh
10.	Jockey Vagnani	12:00	2:30 pm	Jaccci.
11.	Prabhas Chamei	12:50	5:00 pm	Prabhas
12.	Basant Xavier	1:00	5:45 pm	B. Xavier
13.	Parineeti Logan	2:45	5:30 pm	Suresh
14.	Jockey Vagnani	3:10	6:00 pm	Jaccci
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				



EXHIBIT 7

FORM 'II'

(See sub-section (2) of section II and sub-rule (5) and (6) of rule 4)



GOVERNMENT OF REALKHAND

Certificate of Registration of Marriage

(Under – the Realkhand Registration of Marriage Act, 2006)

No. – 5586

This is to certify that **Shri Nakul Khanna**, Son of Shri Baldev Khanna, residing at 86/B Udyog Vihar Colony, Rinchi and **Smt. Aashima Chatterjee**, Daughter of Shri Anand Chatterjee, residing at 26/A, Pushpak Vihar Colony, Rinchi, have furnished the particulars in the Memorandum declaring that their marriage has been solemnized on **25th January, 2015** at **Rinchi** and that the same has been registered on this day **2nd February, 2015** at **Serial No_5586** of volume 12 of Register of Marriage maintained under the Realkhand Registration of Marriage Act 2006. (Real. 16 of 2006)

Place: Rinchi

Date: 2/2/ 2015

Signature: Sd/-

Prabhat Shankar

(Registrar of Marriage)

RINCHI



EXHIBIT 8

FORM NO. 13

DEATH CERTIFICATE OF THE DECEASED

(Issued under Section 13 of the Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1955)

This is to certify that the following information has been taken from the original record of death which is the register for (Local area / Local body) Municipality Corporation of Tehsil / Block – Udyog Vihar Colony of Rinchi District of State/ Union Territory of Realkhand.

Name: Late Aashima Chatterjee.

Sex: Female

Age: 28 years

- Date of Death: 17-02-2017
- Place of Death: 86/B Udyog Vihar Colony, Rinchi
- Name of Husband: Mr. Nakul Khanna
- Name of Father: Mr. Anand Chatterjee
- Name of Mother: Ms. Sushma Chatterjee

OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION

- Address of the deceased: 86/B Udyog Vihar Colony, Rinchi.
- Information received by: Mr. Anand Chatterjee
- Informant's Address: 26/A, Pushpak Vihar Colony, Rinchi,
- Informants Signature: Sd/-
- Registration No. 1452/17
- Date of Registration: 25/ 02/ 2017
- Date of issue- 26/ 02/ 2017

Sd/-

Mr. Shashtri Chaturvedi

REGISTRAR

RINCHI



EXHIBIT 9

07.11.2016.

Dear Harneet,

I would like to thank you for bearing with me the other day, it was so relieving to finally open my heart to someone. I am really happy for you, and it elates me hearing about your progress and how in such short duration, you have made your name. I hope I could feel the same about my progress, which has come to a standstill after my rash decision to decline the job offer and choose to maintain their 'family prestige.'

As you must have noticed that day, my sacrifice did not yield any benefit and rather suffocated me. After the first few months, Nakul's behaviour towards me changed drastically. His family having suffered huge losses, he took to drinking and vented out his frustration all on me. His family is of no support either, esp. my mother-in-law who blames me and my luck for their ill. You cannot imagine what staying here amidst these abuses has become like. I fear to mention it to anyone apart from you knowing all that is at stake here.

I find that the only way to save my marriage is to give in to their demands by compensating for the losses that Nakul's business has suffered. I hope this ends my plight and stabilises my life. If you recall, I'd mentioned about the same money to you. You are my only hope, and if you spare the money, I would make sure to return it within a year. I know the amount is huge but please consider an ailing friend's plight.

Thanking you,
Your loving friend,
Aashima



EXHIBIT 10

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE CRIME SCENE

PHOTOS OF AASHIMA'S ROOM – FIRST FLOOR



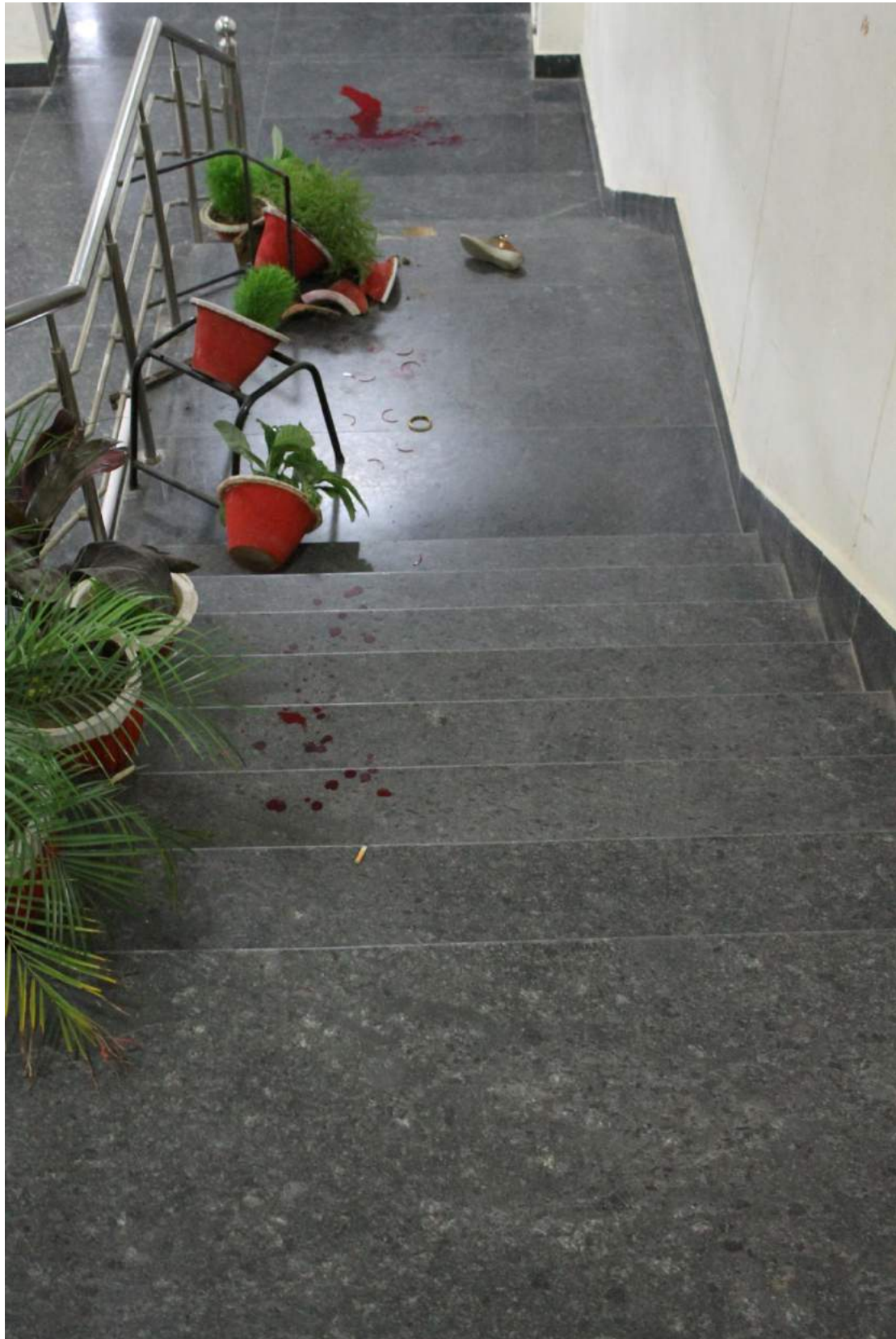


PHOTO OF SCRATCHED MARKS ON WALLS NEAR STAIRCASE



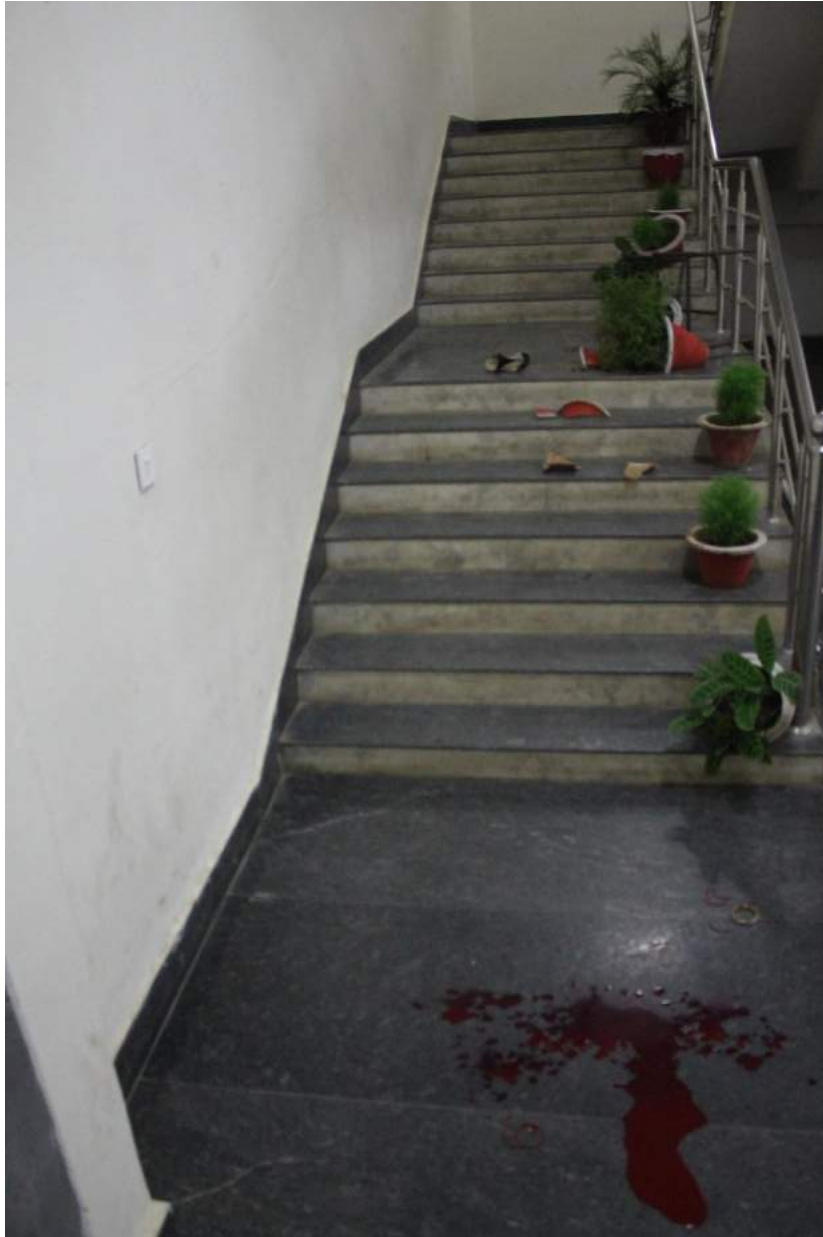


PHOTOS OF THE STAIRCASE











PHOTOS OF MR. BALDEV'S BEDROOM- GROUND FLOOR







APPENDIX 1

DW – 1 – MR. NAKUL KHANNA - ACCUSED NO.1

Sex: *Male*

Age: *28 years*

Occupation: *Businessman*

Statement: I am Nakul Khanna, s/o Mr. Baldev Khanna. I am residing at 86/ B, Udyog Vihar Colony, Ranchi. I met Aashima while studying at *IIM Lehemdabad*, where we instantly connected and became close friends as we hailed from the same city. Our care and affection for each other grew and we fell in love. Our second year at *IIM Lehemdabad* was the most wonderful and memorable year of my life. Aashima, was the most beautiful and perfect girl anyone could have ever imagined. Her company made me complete and it was then that I decided that I wanted to spend my entire life with her.

Aashima, was very understanding and even though we had some disagreements she would be the parallel who would create the balance in our lives. I have some anger issues, but with her, I can never lose my temper and my life was so easy. In the past, we had some nasty arguments like every other relationship but we found the peace in each other's company, and never took them beyond a few minutes. Finding a companion like Aashima is rare and without wasting any time, I proposed her for marriage before our convocation. Aashima instantly accepted the proposal but insisted on her parent's assent before things could get any further. Her parents, Mr. and Ms. Chatterjee were initially reluctant but later they saw our way and happily blessed us. We finally got married on 25th January, 2015 with all the grandeur. Both the families were very happy and my family welcomed their new daughter.

After the marriage, Aashima told me that she wished to decline the *Pre Placement Offer* (PPO) from Piggy Bank Pvt. Ltd. She told me that she wanted to settle down in her new life and



wished to spend some quality time with me and my family. She even assured me that once she came up to pace with her life, she would seek a better job opening and then move to pursue her Ph.D. All the new daily routines that she had engaged herself in, drained her by the end of the day and she would then hardly get any time to spend with me or even talk to her parents. Even I was busy in learning the family business and we assured each other that we would take out time for our relationship every weekend. We would make visits to family friends, go to movies and spend loads of time in fancy restaurants to compensate for the lost time. Our busy lives never stopped us from continuing our habit of gifting each other compliments and surprises whenever time permitted.

But sometime in August 2016, our family business suffered huge losses due to some unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances. We were on the verge of losing all our stakes and my mental balance took a toll, but Aashima never failed to leave my side and would make sure that I regained my earlier self soon. I was suffering through a lot of imbalances as this was my first year in the family business and I blamed myself for our loss. She helped me a lot in coping with the pressures by assisting me with her talents in business and suggesting some very useful strategies.

Aashima with her constant desire to help everyone burdened herself with loads of work which took ill effect on her health. She used to feel dizzy and had even fainted on one occasion. My mother took the front of taking her health as her responsibility and made sure Aashima would recover soon. For my beloved Aashima, I would even insist on coming back to have lunch with her on various occasions, and as my office was very close to my residence I found the time to do so. Aashima would have some low days where she would not be her own self, depressed and



refusing to talk to anyone. But, soon enough our business was again starting to take good shape and things were normalizing.

On New Year's Eve, my family, friends and I had planned on a dinner to celebrate and pray for a better year. I was putting in all the efforts to better the business and had even been to the office on New Year's for some urgent work. That however, did not go down well with Aashima who wanted me to take the day off and spend some time with her. In the complaints, I raised my voice in argument for the first time and suddenly realized my wrong. I immediately pacified her by promising a getaway as soon as some business matters would settle down.

On 17th February, 2017, I planned to come back home for lunch at around 2:30 p.m. When I reached my residence, and rang the bell, no one answered and thus, I unlatched the door with my keys. As soon as I opened the door, I was shocked to see Aashima lying unconsciously in a pool of blood at the foot of the staircase. For a moment, I stood motionless, trying to let the entire situation seep in. I then immediately rang my father, who had gone out with my mother for an official lunch with their business partner, and within few minutes he was back home. In the meanwhile, I still being in shock tried hard to call out to Aashima insisting her to wake up. As soon as my father came in, he hurriedly helped me carry Aashima to their bedroom, which was on the ground floor of the house. He then rang the family doctor and explained the entire situation to him. Still in shock, I waited on the stairs, but I could hear my father calling Anand Uncle asking him to rush immediately to our residence.

After Anand Uncle came in, I guided him to the room where Aashima lay in. I was standing at the bedroom door when Anand Uncle lost his temper and held my father by his collar, he then blamed us for Aashima's state and pushed me aside and stormed out of our house. After Anand Uncle left, at around 4:30 p.m., Sushma Aunty came to our house, wondering what had



happened that she was asked to rush here. I took her to my parents' room, where upon seeing Aashima being examined by the doctor, moved to touch Aashima. The doctor did not allow her to touch Aashima and on declaring her dead she almost broke down. I helped Sushma Aunty by holding her shoulder and guiding her to a chair. At that time, my parents were equally shocked of the turn of events and my mother took to informing certain close friends about what had happened.

After about 15 mins, Anand Uncle came in to our house with the police and they started investigating the entire matter. By then I had sunk into deep pain and could not come to pace with things happening around me. Then at around 6:00 pm, the police called an ambulance with took away my beloved Aashima. We all stayed back still traumatized about losing the happiness of our house, our Aashima. At around 10:00 p.m. there was another knock at the door and it was then that the police came in to arrest me and my parents for a crime which we could never have had imagined about committing.

DW – 2 – MS. BALDEV KHANNA – ACCUSED NO. 2

Sex: *Male*

Age: *55 years*

Occupation: *Businessman*

Statement: I am Mr. Baldev Khanna, s/o Mr. Shrikant Khanna. I am residing at 86/B, Udyog Vihar Colony, Rinchi. I am the Chairman of *Khanna Enterprises* which is a Textile Company. With God's grace and the soaring profit of my company, we never faced any problems or shortages of any kind. I am married to Ms. Rekha Khanna for the last 32 years. We are blessed to have a son like Nakul. Since early childhood, he showed signs of brilliance and moved on to pursue his MBA from *IIM Lehemdabad*. While at *IIM Lehemdabad*, he met Aashima and



decided to marry her. We opened our hearts to Aashima and made sure that there was no stone unturned on the quality of the marriage.

I was very proud of my son's choice, Aashima, after all who would not adore a daughter-in-law educated from *IIM Lehemdabad*. She possessed a very graceful and lovable personality which captured everyone's heart. Despite her mediocre background, she understood our way of living and matched our stature well. We did not treat her any less and she filled in the gap for the daughter we never had. After the marriage, Aashima informed the family that she did not wish to move with the job opportunity given by Piggy Bank. She even told me that after some time, she would seek for a better opportunity.

Somewhere around in the month of August, 2016, our business suffered a huge loss and our business was on the verge of crashing down. But however, we survived the hard times that came our way and eventually our business got stabilized. Meanwhile, Nakul had a serious mental breakdown because he thought that he was the one accountable and responsible for all the losses suffered by the company. Aashima played a major role in bringing Nakul back to life and always stood beside him. It pleased me to see how well both of them bonded and supported each other through all the adversities.

Our troubles knew no boundaries and soon Aashima's health started to deteriorate. She would refuse to converse with anyone and stayed alone most of the time. We regularly consulted our family doctor and made sure that Aashima's health was properly taken care of. All our efforts finally went in vain when on one account we were blamed for not taking proper care of her by Mr. Chatterjee. Listening to his harsh words, I lost my cool and asked to him at least visit his ailing daughter once before he would point fingers at us. I then asked Aashima to talk to her parents and assure them about her condition.



On 1st January, 2017, we were expecting the Chatterjee family to join us for dinner and it was then that Mr. Chatterjee called to inform that they won't be able to make it and wished us all the luck for the coming year.

On 17th February, 2017, Rekha and I had gone for a business lunch with one of our business partners when Nakul called me unexpectedly. With a very heavy and shaky voice, he asked me to rush home at the earliest as something had happened to Aashima. On further enquiries, he merely urged me to rush there without asking any further questions. I was perplexed as Nakul had never behaved in such an absurd manner and I immediately hurried back. As I opened the door, *every drop of ink in my pen ran cold* as I saw Aashima lying at the end of the staircase. I helped Nakul to get back on his feet and along with him took Aashima to my bedroom which was situated on the ground floor. I quickly rang our family doctor and subsequently informed Mr. Chatterjee about the same, requesting him to come here at the earliest.

Mr. Chatterjee reached our residence in no time and Nakul guided him to our room. He was shocked to see his daughter in such a condition and to my amazement he held my collar and blamed us for it. I did not know how to react to it as I was distorted by such an allegation coming after me even though Aashima was like my own daughter. Mr. Chatterjee pushed Nakul back and hurled outside. Our family doctor was there as soon as he could disengage himself from his work and started Aashima's examination. Within about 15 minutes, Ms. Chatterjee arrived there absolutely clueless. Nakul assisted her into our room where at the sight of Aashima, she moved to caress her which the doctor reluctantly declined. Then after a few minutes of examination, the doctor declared Aashima dead and Ms. Chatterjee almost broke down. We all were shocked, but, Nakul helped Ms. Chatterjee to a chair and stood there motionless.



Then after some time Mr. Chatterjee along with the police stormed into our room. The police personnel started interrogating us and proceeded with the investigation. In some time, an ambulance was arranged by the police which carried Aashima's body to the post-mortem house. The police engaged in the investigation by collecting various evidences and captured photographs of various items and places of our residence. After the police and other personnel left at around 7:15 p.m. with the Chatterjee's, we were left alone at our residence, still trying to catch pace of the entire events of the unfateful day. At around 10:00 p.m. the police arrived again, and arrested us all.

DW- 3 - : Ms. REKHA KHANNA, ACCUSED NO.3

Sex: *Female*

Age: *52 years*

Occupation: *Homemaker*

Statement: I am Rekha Khanna, w/o Mr. Baldev Khanna. I am residing at 86/B Udyog Vihar Colony, Rinchhi. My husband is a business man and we own *Khanna Enterprises*. I am a home maker but most of my time is engaged in attending business lunches or with Ms. Divya at the club. We are a small family with Nakul being our only child. We have raised him to be a very gentle and bold man who pursues his passions. Being our only child, we have made sure that all his dreams and wants are fulfilled. Just like his father Mr. Khanna, Nakul strived hard to get into one of the top most institutions *IIM Lehemdabad*. Nakul had planned to join the family business after he finished his MBA at *IIM Lehemdabad*. But, what came as a surprise was the fact that he told us that he wanted to get married to a mediocre Bengali girl, Aashima. Our thoughtless opinions changed as soon as we met Aashima and it was that instance that I understood the brave and thoughtful choice that my son has made.



Soon enough, all the marriage arrangements from our side started great zeal, but, our excitement died down when we heard that Aashima's parents did not approve for a rich and reputed family like ours. However, after the endless efforts that Mr. Khanna and I put forth, the marriage was solemnized pompously on 25th January 2015. We did not spare any effort in ensuring that our kids, Aashima and Nakul had a beautiful and memorable day. That day we did not welcome our daughter-in-law, but our own daughter in our house. Aashima quickly won over everyone's hearts and engaged herself in various tasks. What came as a shock to me was when Aashima told me that she had declined her PPO offer, as she thought that she needed more time to settle in her new lifestyle. To my relief, she ensured that she would continue pursuing her education shortly.

After Aashima became a part of the Khanna family, she learned all our ways and even joined me and Divya at the club. Post this; I even started noticing a change in Aashima's behavior towards her parents with whom she hardly talked. She was dear to all of us and especially my husband, who adored her for her witty attitude and smartness. In all these hectic activities Aashima and Nakul still found time for each other and spent most weekends on outings. Nothing would have pleased my ears better when Nakul told me that they were planning for a child.

In August 2015, the dark clouds of fate soon surrounded our lives. The Khanna Enterprises suffered huge losses and the worst came when Nakul took the blame on himself and suffered a mental breakdown. Aashima fulfilled her role as the better half by facing the bad phase side by side with Nakul. She helped bring back his lost confidence and gave him the strength and support to excel at work. Her shoulders were now burdened with handling the Khanna household and our business. This did not go down well with her health and on one account she



even passed out. She used to seldom feel dizzy and loose balance. Despite my busy schedule, I took it on myself to make sure that Aashima's health condition improved. The entire Khanna household took turns to make Aashima feel better.

On 18th November 2016, Mr. Chatterjee called and very rudely asked us to take proper care of Aashima, who it seems had not talked to her father delightfully for a while. My husband was very tensed that day as Aashima was running a fever and he had stayed up all night with Nakul to take care of her. Listening to Mr. Chatterjee's attitude, my husband lost his cool and chided him for not having visited Aashima despite her ill health. He then had a talk with Aashima, not mentioning about the argument, and asked her to call her father and tell him about her health condition. This incidence was soon put behind us and we invited them for a family dinner on New Year's Eve. On 1st January 2017 Mr. Chatterjee called us to tell that he would not be able to make it to the dinner, however, he wished us for all the success in the coming year.

At the dinner party, there was a row between Nakul and Aashima, but the matter soon died down as their fights never lasted longer than a few minutes. When we got back home, Baldev and I talked to Nakul explaining him to maintain his cool around Aashima who was not at the peak of her health now. To this Nakul obliged understandingly.

In the fateful afternoon of 17th February 2017, a very nervous Nakul called up my husband, when we were having an official lunch meeting, informing that something very bad had happened to Aashima. We got there in a short while and were shocked to see an unconscious Aashima lying in a pool of blood at the foot of our staircase. My husband rushed towards the stunned Nakul and urged him to come out of his shock; he then helped Nakul to carry Aashima to our bedroom that was situated on the ground floor of the house. My husband then called the doctor and even rang Mr. Chatterjee, asking him to rush to our place.



While we were trying hard to get Aashima to stop bleeding, Mr. Chatterjee came in and was stunned at what he saw, held my husband's collar and started blaming him for the incident. Nakul who was still shaken was standing at the door when Mr. Chatterjee pushed him and stormed out of the house. We all were trying hard to place the events in place while the doctor was finishing his work. I took the responsibility of calling some close family friends and informing them about the sad demise of our beloved child. During my call, Aashima's mother, Ms. Sushma came in and she lost her balance after checking on the condition of her only child. To our surprise, Mr. Chatterjee came in with the police and started an investigation. Soon the police finished their work and left at around 7:15 p.m. At 10:00 p.m. another knock broke the silence of our household as the police came in and arrested Nakul, my husband and me.

DW – 4 : MR. JOHN GONZALVES, DEFENSE EXPERT

Sex: *Male* **Age :** *60 years* **Occupation:** *Independent Medical Practitioner*

Statement: I am Dr. John Gonzalves (M.B.B.S),(M.D.) [General Medicine DM – Neurology DNB (Neurology)] residing at H1,Gyan Nikean, Near Sam Rishna Aashram, Torabadi, Rinchi. I have been an independent practitioner for the past 20 years and have an experience of over 10 years with public as well as private hospitals.

I have been instructed by counsel for the Defence in connection with the criminal case against Mr. Nakul Khanna, Mr. Baldev Khanna and Ms. Rekha Khanna, concerning the death of Ms. Aashima Chatterjee to give my opinion of the medical history of the deceased and the post mortem report so prepared by Dr. Mukul Agnihotri.



I express opinions herein on matters that are within my expertise, and I expressly disclaim any legal opinions on the matter. I have reviewed the post mortem report prepared by Mr. Mukul Agnihotri and would also make certain comments on the said Autopsy report.

I am the family doctor for the Khanna's, the accused(s) in the case concerned. I have been advising their family for over 12 years now and I know them very well. Consequently, after Nakul's marriage I was introduced to Aashima as Nakul's wife while I was diagnosing her for vertigo. I had prescribed her *stugeron* in the same regard.

Also, Ms. Aashima was diabetic and was diagnosed with a blood pressure problem. Acute tension to such patients may be fatal in such cases. By the perusal of the Report it can be identified that the deceased's heart was in a *decompensated* state, which is a clear indication of the heart going into a cardiac arrest. A cardiac arrest would cause the immediate collapse of any person. The bruises so found on Aashima's body can also easily be attributed to the fall from the stairs. Therefore the Report is in stark ignorance of the status of the heart. The expert has failed to embark upon a detailed inquiry and thus the report is partial in nature.

I declare that the foregoing is in accordance with my sincere belief and the principles of medico legal practice.

DW – 5 – MS. DIVYASHERGILL- FAMILY FRIEND OF THE ACCUSED

Sex: *Female*

Age: *48 years*

Occupation: *Homemaker*

Statement: I am Divya Shergill, w/o Mr. Mohan Shergill. I live in the same colony as the Khanna's. I have known the Khanna family for a long time. Ms. Rekha Khanna and I have been great friends and first met in the ladies' club party held in our colony. Ever since then the



Khanna family has been like my own family and we share cordial relations with each other. My husband is a business man and is mostly busy in his abroad business deals, which seldom keeps him away from home, which engages most of my time at the Khanna's residence which has become a second home for me.

Ms. Rekha Khanna is like my soul sister and she is one of the most caring and loveable persons that I have ever met. Mr. Baldev Khanna is a successful business man and despite carrying such a high reputation, he remains to be a pleasing and down to earth person. Nakul is like my son and I have seen him grow into a bold and handsome young man. The Khanna family has been reputed to be a very giving and progressive family, and I can certainly vouch for that claim. When we heard the news of Nakul having met a girl during his study at *IIM Lehemdabad*, Ms. Rekha was elated and she even went on to reward the servants with a token for her only son's marriage. The family was so excited to have Aashima as their daughter in law that they left no stone unturned for the marriage. Even though Aashima's family was skeptical about the marriage, the Khanna's made sure that their only son got what he desired. The ceremony was the affair of the city and that day the Khanna family welcomed a new daughter into their home.

Soon after the marriage, Ms. Rekha was surprised to hear that Aashima had decided to decline the job offer. I remember her insisting Aashima to accept the job and move ahead with her career. But Aashima refused to say that she would need some time to settle in her new life and would first spend some quality time with them and then carry her career ahead. Aashima was a very affectionate person and Nakul loved her dearly. Both would often go out on dinner dates or make efforts to make each other happy. Nakul cared a lot for Aashima and even on the slightest sight of any ill health, stay back with Aashima. Within a year, the couple was also planning on a child but soon after the loss in their family business, their entire lifestyle took to a different



angle. Even after such problems, the Khanna family never failed to fulfill Aashima's wishes. The Khanna family made sure that their daughter, Aashima, never felt the need to turn to anyone else or complain about anything.

During the past few months, however, Aashima's health started to take a toll on her. She would often feel dizzy and I even recall an incidence where Aashima having come to greet me and collapsed on the ground. Nakul upon hearing this rushed from the office leaving a very important business meeting midway. After that day, the Khanna family took extremely special care of her and made sure that she recovered quickly. Ms. Rekha personally insured that Aashima took all the medicines on time and that her health improved. All these efforts, however, did not help her recover and her condition was only worsening. Aashima's behavior had become very strange and she would hardly talk to anyone.

Aashima also had her good days when she would be back to her normal self. The Khanna's and I had even gone out on a dinner on the New Year's Eve where, having faced a rough time at the office, Nakul had an argument with Aashima. But within the next few minutes, he made up to her and even promised a holiday getaway for the two of them, once the business matters had settled. After New Year's dinner, I did not meet the Khanna family as I went abroad to meet my husband. I only returned yesterday and it was then that Ms. Rekha Khanna called me to tell me that Aashima had passed away a few hours back and that police had come in to investigate the matter.