

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH  
AT INDORE

WP No. 10497 of 2022

(HINDU FRONT FOR JUSTICE (REGD. TRUST NO. 976) THROUGH ITS PRESIDENT MS. RANJANA  
AGNIHOTRI AND OTHERS Vs UNION OF INDIA MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND OTHERS )

Dated : 16-03-2026

*Shri Vishnu Shankar Jain, Advocate through V.C. assisted by Shri  
Vinay Joshi, Advocate for the petitioners.*

*Shri Aviral Vikas Khare, Advocate for the respondent Nos.1 to 4.*

*Shri Shrey Raj Saxena, Dy. A. G. for the respondent Nos.5 to 7/State.*

*Shri Mohammad Ikram Ansari, Advocate for the respondent No.8.*

*Shri Vishwajit Joshi, Ms. Surbhi Bahal and Ms. Naina Mishra,  
Advocates for the respondent No.9.*

*Ms. Shobha Menon, Sr. Advocate through V.C. for the intervenor.*

*Shri Zishan Khan and Shri Noor Ahmed Sheikh, Advocates for the  
intervenor.*

*Shri Kamlesh Manwani with Shri Manan Sharma and Ms. Poorvi  
Asati, Advocates for the intervenor.*

*Shri Syed Ashhar Ali Warsi, Advocate for the intervenor.*

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Heard on IA No.1654/2024, which is an application for ignoring the defect of legible copies/typed copy.

Considering the grounds mentioned in the application, the defects, as pointed out by the Registry for the time being is ignored. At the time of hearing of the case, if legible/typed copies are be required, then this Court will pass appropriate orders.

With the aforesaid, IA No.1654/2024 is allowed and stands disposed

of.

Also heard on IA No.8313/2023, which is an application filed on behalf of respondent Nos.1 to 4 for adoption of reply filed in other connected petitions.

Considering the ground mentioned in the application and the nature of all the petitions, prayer is allowed. Reply filed in other cases is permitted to be adopted and shall be treated as reply in the present petition.

It is not disputed by counsel for the petitioners that he has received copy of the reply filed by the respondent Nos.1 to 4.

In view of the aforesaid, IA No.8313/2023 is allowed and stands disposed of.

Also heard on IA No.8933/2023, which is an application filed on behalf of respondent No.9 seeking appropriate direction.

Counsel for the respondent No.9 submits that the aforesaid IA has rendered infructuous and therefore, does not wish to press the same.

In view of the aforesaid, IA No.8933/2023 is dismissed as having been rendered infructuous.

Also heard on IA Nos.5676/2024, 5679/2024 and 2341/2026, which are applications for intervention.

Applications are opposed by counsel for the petitioners.

However, considering the nature of the petition and that the petition is a public interest litigation, applications for intervention are allowed to the extent that the intervenor would be given right to audience only at the time of hearing and may file documents in support of the submissions on affidavit,

which are proposed to be raised.

In view of aforesaid, aforesaid IAs are allowed and stand disposed of.

Also heard on IA No.2317/2026, which is an application filed on behalf of respondent No.8 for dismissal of petition being not maintainable in the eyes of law.

The aforesaid IA shall be considered at the time of hearing of the petition.

Also heard on IA No.2318/2026, which is an application filed on behalf of respondent No.8 for production of video recording and coloured photographs of the survey.

The aforesaid IA shall be considered at the time of hearing of the petition.

Parties may submit their respective objections/opinion/suggestions or recommendations in respect of the report of the Archeological Survey of India before the next date, if not already filed, in terms of the directions contained in para 9(ii) and (iii) of the order dated 22.01.2026.

The Court propose to visit the site before the next date of hearing.

Keeping in view the directions contained in para 9(iii) & 9(iv) of the order dated 22.01.2026 passed by the Apex Court in the case of **Maulana Kamaluddin Welfare Society Dhar, M.P. Vs. Hindu Front For Justice (Regd. Trust No.976) & others, (Civil Appeal No.466/2026, arising out of SLP (C) No.7023/2024)**, parties are directed to argue the matter finally on the next date of hearing.

List the matter on 02.04.2026.

**(VIJAY KUMAR SHUKLA)**  
**JUDGE**

**(ALOK AWASTHI)**  
**JUDGE**

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