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Criminal Acquittal Appeal No.S-117 of 2021

DATE ORDER WITH SIGNATURE OF JUDGE

1. For orders on office objections.
2. For hearing of main case.

01.04.2022.

Mir Shakir Ali Talpur, Advocate for the appellant/complainant.

**IRSHAD ALI SHAH, J.-** The facts in brief necessary for disposal of instant criminal acquittal appeal are that the appellant lodged an F.I.R with P.S. A-Section Tando Allahyar against the private respondent for allegedly issuing a cheque in his favour dishonestly and he after due trial were acquitted by learned Judicial Magistrate-I Chambar, vide judgment dated 06.07.2021, which is impugned by the appellant before this Court by preferring the instant criminal acquittal appeal.

It is contended by learned counsel for the appellant that learned Trial Magistrate has recorded acquittal of the private respondent without appreciating the evidence; therefore, his acquittal is liable to be examined by this Court.

Heard arguments and perused the record.

The F.I.R of the incident has been lodged with delay of about 22 days; such delay having not been explained plausibly could not be overlooked. PW Khurram was declared hostile on account of his failure to support the case of prosecution. Parties are already disputed on civil side. In these circumstances, learned trial Magistrate was right to record acquittal of the

private respondent by way of impugned judgment and such acquittal is not found to be arbitrary or cursory to be interfered with by this Court.

In case of State and others vs. Abdul Khaliq and others (PLD 2011 SC-554), it has been observed by the Hon'ble Apex Court that;

"The scope of interference in appeal against acquittal is most narrow and limited, because in an acquittal the presumption of innocence is significantly added to the cardinal rule of criminal jurisprudence, that an accused shall be presumed to be innocent until proved guilty; in other words, the presumption of innocence is doubled. The courts shall be very slow in interfering with such an acquittal judgment, unless it is shown to be perverse, passed in gross violation of law, suffering from the errors of grave misreading or non-reading of the evidence; such judgments should not be lightly interfered and heavy burden lies on the prosecution to rebut the presumption of innocence which the accused has earned and attained on account of his acquittal. Interference in a judgment of acquittal is rare and the prosecution must show that there are glaring errors of law and fact committed by the Court in arriving at the decision, which would result into grave miscarriage of justice; the acquittal judgment is perfunctory or wholly artificial or a shocking conclusion has been drawn. Judgment of acquittal should not be interjected until the findings are perverse, arbitrary, foolish, artificial, speculative and ridiculous. The Court of appeal should not interfere simply for the reason that on the reappraisal of the evidence a different conclusion could possibly be arrived at, the factual conclusions should not be upset, except when palpably perverse, suffering from serious and material factual infirmities".

In view of the facts and reasons discussed above, instant criminal acquittal appeal is dismissed in *limine*.

JUDGE

Muhammad Danish\*