

ORDER SHEET
IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH BENCH AT SUKKUR
Const. Petition No.D-661 of 2017

Date	Order with signature of Judge
	1. For orders on office objection at flag `A` 2. For hearing of CMA No.4190/2017 3. For hearing of main case
<u>14-09-2023</u>	Mr. Shafique Ahmed Leghari, Advocate for Petitioner Mr. Muhammad Imran Khan, Advocate for Respondent No.5 Mr. Ali Raza Baloch, Assistant Advocate General

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Muhammad Iqbal Kalhoro,J:- We have heard the parties. It appears that the petitioner who is a Christian lady by faith is aggrieved by Ex-communication Notice dated 05.12.2026 available at page No.33 of the file whereby she has been ex-communicated from the community due to her anti-diocesan activities. Learned counsel has drawn our attention to order dated 30.03.2017 whereby with the consent of all present petitioner was allowed to participate in all the religious ceremonies. However, controversy about her special status was deferred to be decided in accordance with law.

From the arguments of the parties it has emerged that she has been allowed to participate in all the religious gatherings/ceremonies except in holy communion, which takes place once a year and in which only Core Committee of the Church members partake. Learned counsel for the respondent has explained that there is an entire procedure to be followed for termination of ex-communication whereby an application is to be filed before the Bishop of Hyderabad by the aggrieved person. Thereafter he refers the matter to the Diocesan Court Hyderabad for a decision. In case the decision comes against the aggrieved party, he or she can approach Synod Court at Lahore in appeal. Counsel for the petitioner has agreed that he would adopt the same procedure against the grievance and meanwhile petitioner may be allowed to participate in religious ceremonies.

With this arrangement, this petition is disposed of. The petitioner may file application before the Bishop / Pastor Sukkur who will convey her application to Bishop Hyderabad for referring the matter to the court at Hyderabad for a decision within two months and meanwhile she shall be allowed to participate in all religious rituals except holy communion.

JUDGE

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