IN THE COURT OF THE DISTRICT JUDGE, KHURDA AT BHUBANESWAR.

C.M. Appl. No.231 of 2014.

- 1. Sister Superior, Missionaries of Charity,
 Nirmala Shishu Bhawan, represented through its
 Sister-in-charge (Adoption), Sister Marita M.C.,
 aged about 59 years, At Plot No.13, Satyanagar,
 P.S. Kharavelanagar, Bhubaneswar, Dist. Khurda.
- 2. Rajesh Kejriwal, aged about 39 years, S/o. Shrawan Kumar Kejriwal.
- 3. Sujata Kejriwal, aged about 35 years, W/o. Rajesh Kejriwal.

 Both petitioner Nos.2 & 3 are At Plot No.503/14, Nuagaon, P.O. Itipur, P.S. Lingaraj, Bhubaneswar, Dist. Khurda. At present: Lane No.4, Mangala Nagar, P.O./P.S./Dist. Khurda, Odisha.

... Petitioners.

Counsel for petitioners: Shri R.K. Sahu & Associates.

Date of Argument: 15.01.2015.

Date of Order: 28.01.2015.

No.05, Dated 28.01.2015.

ORDER

This is a joint petition filed by the Legal Guardian-cum-Adoption Placement Agency (Petitioner No.1) and the intending parents (Petitioner Nos.2 & 3) under Section 41(6) of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 where petitioner No.1 seeks permission to give the minor

female child Arpita in adoption to petitioner Nos.2 and 3.

- 2. The minor female child **Arpita** born on **28.03.2014** came to the custody of petitioner No.1-Institution, a Philanthropic Organisation engaged in child welfare activities and giving shelter to the orphan, abandoned and surrendered children as a State recognised Adoption Placement Agency, on 08.04.2014 having been abandoned. The child was received in the petitioner No.1-Institution as per orders of the Child Welfare Committee (for short, "CWC"), Khurda. After observing due formalities, the said child was brought up in the petitioner No.1-Institution.
- 3. Petitioner Nos.2 and 3, who are husband and wife, have no biological children. So, they applied to petitioner No.1–Institution to take the child in adoption and on expression of their willingness, the proposed adoption has been favoured with an affirmative Child Study Report vide Ext.1.
- 4. On being directed, one Rebati Ramana Panda, Hon. Social Worker of petitioner No.1-Institution has conducted a Home Study required for the purpose of adopting a female child. On verifying the Home Study Report vide Ext.2, petitioner No.1 offered to give the minor female child Arpita in adoption to petitioner Nos.2 and 3. On going through the Child Study Report, petitioner Nos.2 and 3 accepted the offer and agreed to

take the child in adoption. Hence, the petition has been filed praying to allow petitioner No.1-Institution to give the female child Arpita in adoption to petitioner Nos.2 & 3.

- 5. In course of hearing, one Sister Marita M.C., Sister-in-charge (Adoption) of the petitioner No.1-Institution, has examined herself reiterating the averments made in the petition. According to her, pursuant to a foster care affidavit dated 29.09.2014, the minor female child Arpita has been handed over to petitioner Nos.2 & 3 temporarily. Petitioner No.2 has examined himself expressing his consent and desire to adopt the minor Arpita, as they have no female child biological children. According to P.W.2, his wife (petitioner No.3) has also given her consent to adopt the female child to perpetuate their line of succession.
- 6. It has been submitted that for the welfare and improvement of the child, the adoption is essential and the intending parents have social and financial status for the purpose.
- 7. Now, it is to be seen whether it would be beneficial to institutionalize the child for her well being and better future prospectus. Petitioner No.2 being examined as P.W.2 has expressed his keen desire to adopt the child, as he is issueless. Petitioner No.3 has also given her consent for such adoption.

According to P.W.2, girl child Arpita has been residing with them since 29.09.2014 and they have renamed her as Arpita Kejriwal. It is revealed from the Home Study Report (Ext.2) that petitioner Nos.2 & 3 are financially, socially and emotionally stable to support the child physically, emotionally, psychologically and socially. Petitioner Nos. 2 & 3 are financially sound, as evident from Ext.7, monthly salary slip of petitioner No.2. Ext.8 shows that the Odisha State Council for Child Welfare, Bhubaneswar, affiliated to the Indian Council for Child Welfare, examined the matter and after thorough scrutiny and necessary enquiry, recommended in favour of the proposed adoption in the best interest of the child.

8. On perusal of the documents filed in this case vide Exts.1 to 8, it is found that both petitioner Nos.2 and 3 suffer no disqualification from parenting the child in any way, their health and financial status being good. The adoptive parents have the capacity and right to adopt the minor female child. The petitioner No.1-Institution giving in adoption as the *de facto* guardian has the capacity to do so. The female child Arpita is also capable of being adopted under the provisions of the Act. As recommended by the CWC, Khordha under Ext.3 and the Odisha State Council for Child Welfare, Bhubaneswar under Ext.8, the adoption should be in the welfare and interest of the

child. It is further revealed from the relevant documents, coupled with the evidence of P.Ws.1 & 2, relating to the social and financial status of the intending parents, their consent and desire to adopt the child and the Home Study Report etc. that petitioner Nos.2 & 3 will provide emotional security and best upbringing to the child. All these establish that the interest of the child's welfare and security would be best served if she is given in adoption to petitioner Nos.2 and 3.

9. In view of above discussion, the application is allowed. The petitioner No.1-Institution is permitted to give the minor female child **ARPITA** (renamed as **ARPITA KEJRIWAL**) to petitioner Nos.2 and 3 in adoption subject to execution of a registered deed of adoption by petitioner Nos.2 and 3 in favour of the aforesaid minor female child within three months from the date of this order, conferring all the legal rights of a natural born child on the said child and submit the copy of the deed of adoption to the petitioner No.1-Institution and to this Court. Petitioner Nos.2 and 3 are further directed to furnish half-yearly report on the physical and intellectual development regarding the affairs of the adopted child to the petitioner No.1-Institution and the Odisha State Counsel for Child Welfare, Bhubaneswar. No cost.

at Bhubaneswar.

28.01.2015.

Dictated & corrected by me.

District Judge, Khurda at Bhubaneswar.

28.01.2015.

List of witnesses examined:

P.W.1		Sister Marita M.C. &
P.W.2		Rajesh Kejriwal.
<u>List of documents admitted in evidence</u> :		
Ext.1		Child Study Report,
Ext.2		Home Study Report,
Ext.3		Release Order for adoption of child,
Ext.4		Medical Report of petitioner No.2,
Ext.5		Medical Report of petitioner No.3,
Ext.6		Foster Care Affidavit,
Ext.7		Monthly Salary Slip of petitioner No.2,
Ext.8		Scrutiny Report, &
Mark '	χ'	Joint photograph of petitioner Nos.2 and 3
		with child.

District Judge, Khurda at Bhubaneswar. 28.01.2015.