

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI

Cr. A (D.B.) No. 136 of 2025

Kartik Oraon, aged about 50 years son of Late Sudhiya Oraon, Resident of
village-Bara, P.O. and P.S.-Balumath, District-Latehar

... .. Appellant

Versus

The State of Jharkhand

... .. Respondent

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RONGON MUKHOPADHYAY
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PRADEEP KUMAR SRIVASTAVA

For the Appellant : Mr. A.K. Chaturvedy, Advocate

For the Resp. State : Mr. Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, A.P.P.

05/Dated: 09th October, 2025

I.A. No.10999 of 2025

1. Heard Mr. A.K. Chaturvedy, learned counsel for the appellant and learned A.P.P. for the State.
2. This application has been preferred by the appellant for grant of bail to him during pendency of this appeal.
3. The appellant has been convicted for the offences under section 302/34 of IPC and Section 3 of Prevention of Witchcraft (*Daain*) Practices Act and has been sentenced to undergo imprisonment for life along with a fine of Rs.5,000/- for the offence under section 302/34 of IPC.
4. It has been alleged that on the allegation of practicing witchcraft, the father-in-law of the informant was assaulted by the appellant and two other persons resulting in his death.
5. Submission has been advanced by learned counsel for the appellant that the informant is the sole eye-witness to the occurrence, who has subsequently exaggerated her statement by making mention that the appellant was the sole assailant and subsequently the other co-accused persons along with the present appellant had brought the father-in-law of the informant to the house, where he succumbed to the injuries. It has been submitted that the appellant was all along on bail during trial.

6. Learned counsel adds that though it has been alleged that 50-60 lathi blows were given upon the person of the deceased but the post-mortem report reveals that only one lacerated wound was found on the scalp of the deceased, which further demolishes the evidence of P.W.5.
7. Learned A.P.P. has opposed the prayer for bail of the appellant.
8. On consideration of the aforesaid facts, we are inclined to admit the appellant on bail.
9. Accordingly, during pendency of this appeal, the appellant is directed to be released on bail on furnishing bail bond of Rs.10,000/- (Rs. Ten Thousand/-) with two sureties of the like amount each to the satisfaction of learned Sessions Judge, Latehar in S.T. Case No.147 of 2016 arising out of Balumath P.S. Case No.101 of 2016 corresponding to G.R. Case No.495 of 2016.
- 10.I.A. No.10999 of 2025 stands disposed of.

(Rongon Mukhopadhyay, J.)

(Pradeep Kumar Srivastava, J.)

Dated:-09/10/2025

Pappu/-