

Case Study: Neha – Alleged Honour Killing (Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh)

A) Case Background and Family Structure

Neha lived with her parents in Chipiyana Buzurg, Ghaziabad. She was in a three-year relationship with Suraj, who belongs to a different caste. Her father, **Bhanu Rathore**, and her brother, **Himanshu**, strongly opposed the relationship and restricted her movements after discovering it.

B) Incident Summary

On **11 March 2025**, Neha and Suraj married consensually at Arya Samaj Mandir, Ghaziabad. After the wedding, Neha returned to her parental home.

According to Suraj, the next day—**12 March 2025**—Neha was allegedly killed by her father and brother due to their disapproval of the marriage. Her body was cremated without informing Suraj or authorities. Suraj filed a complaint on **13 March 2025**, and an FIR (No. 0178) was registered. The case is being investigated by Inspector Manoj Kumar Singh.

C) Analysis of the Case (Key Points)

- The case reflects classic indicators of **honour-based violence**—control over partner choice, family opposition, and immediate retaliation after marriage.
- Neha's return to her parental home after the marriage placed her at high risk.
- Suraj's testimony and the secretive cremation point to intentional concealment.
- The incident demonstrates systemic issues around women's autonomy and caste-based restrictions.

D) Conclusion

The case of Neha highlights the ongoing threat faced by young women who choose their partners against family or caste norms. The matter is under investigation, with Suraj pursuing legal action against Neha's father and brother. This case underscores the urgent need for protection mechanisms for couples at risk of honour-based violence.