

PREVENTING HONOUR KILLINGS

Khaps to rescue of lovers

Raman Mohan/TNS

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Saner counsel appears to be beginning to prevail on khap panchayats in Haryana. A few khap leaders have taken upon themselves to come to the rescue ... of young lovers in Haryana who have been increasingly becoming victims of honour killings in the state.

The khap leaders now propose to back inter-caste marriages provided the boy and the girl do not belong to the gotra of their parents, paternal grandmother and the village. These leaders will help such couples get their parents' consent for their matrimony.

The national head of Sarv Khap, Swami Karampal, said here today that a khap panchayat proposed to be held at Bibipur village in Jind district on September 30 would discuss the issue in detail.

He said the khaps were keen to end honour killings. It was proposed to move a resolution in the panchayat for amendments to Section 5 and Clause 5 of the Hindu Marriage Act which ruled a marriage legal, provided it was not solemnised between members of five generations of the father and three generations of the mother's side.

It would also seek to amend Section 29, Clause 1 of the Act to make a marriage between a boy and a girl belonging to the gotra of their parents, paternal grandmother and the village illegal.

Swami said a marriage between members of the gotra of their parents, paternal grandmother and the village was not socially acceptable in Haryana because of several reasons, all of which had a scientific basis. If this clause was inserted in the Act, there would be no honour killings in Haryana.

He said the khap leaders would offer help to couples marrying outside their castes, provided they met these conditions. He also disclosed that the panchayat would seek effective implementation of the direction to schools to give 25 per cent seats to children from deprived sections of society. He said despite a high court order, the directive was not being implemented in Haryana due to resistance of the school managements.

terms for INTER-CASTE MARRIAGES

The khaps have decided to back inter-caste marriages, provided the boy and the girl do not belong to the gotra of their parents, paternal grandmother and village

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