# Legal Case Summary

## Case Title:

Baban Balaji More (D) By LRs vs Babaji Hari Shelar (D) By LRs

## Court:

Supreme Court of India

## Date of Judgment:

14 March 2024

## Bench:

Justice Sanjay Kumar, Justice C.T. Ravikumar

## Citation:

2024 INSC 203

## Summary of Judgment:

This case involved interpretation and harmonization of three statutes: the Maharashtra Hereditary Offices Act, 1874; the Maharashtra Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1948; and the Maharashtra Revenue Patels (Abolition of Offices) Act, 1962.  
  
The dispute centered around possession and tenancy rights of certain Watan lands after the death of the original Watandar. The appellants (legal heirs of the Watandar) claimed the tenancy ended with his death, whereas the tenants argued that tenancy rights persisted under the Tenancy Act.  
  
The Supreme Court upheld the Bombay High Court’s view that the tenancy was legally subsisting on 01.04.1957 (Tillers’ Day), making tenants eligible for purchase rights under Section 32 of the Tenancy Act, once regrant was made under the Abolition Act. The Court ruled that proceedings under the 1874 Act could not override the tenancy protections and dismissed the appeal.

## Final Decision:

Appeal dismissed. Tenancy rights upheld. No costs awarded.