

## Nizam's great granddaughter sues for property share

A great granddaughter of Mir Osman Ali Khan, the seventh and last Nizam of erstwhile [Hyderabad](#) state, has gone to court against the scion of the ex-royal family Mukarram Jah Bahadur, claiming he had deprived her of her share in the ancestral property.

Naqvia Zainab filed a case against Mukarram Jah, his former wife Esra, his brother Mufakkam Jah, and others for misappropriation of property and cheating.

She alleged in court Monday that her uncle Mukarram Jah and others were threatening her with dire consequences if she pursued the case. She also filed a police complaint of trespass, intimidation, conspiracy, forgery and impersonation against them.

Police, however, said no case was booked as the complaint was sent through speed post and the complainant did not present herself. A police official said Monday the matter had now gone to the high court.

Zainab, a 29-year-old American citizen and granddaughter of Muazzam Jah Bahadur, son of Mir Osman Ali Khan, has arrived here to fight the legal battle for her share in the property left behind by Mir Osman Ali Khan, who ruled Hyderabad from 1911 to 1948 and was the world's richest man in those days.

Mukarram Jah Bahadur, the grandson and successor of Osman Ali Khan, has been living abroad. He married five women and is presently believed to be living in Turkey.

Zainab alleged that though Mukarram Jah was only the custodian of Nizam's property, he had siphoned off the wealth and was living a lavish life in Australia and other countries.

She alleged that some people on behalf of her uncle and Esra were threatening her ever since her arrival here Nov 8.

'I am entitled to a share of Rs.135 million out of Rs.2 billion the Nizam's Jewellery Trust received from the union government for Nizam's jewellery. This money was siphoned off in connivance with Mukarram Jah and Esra,' Zainab alleged.

She claimed that her uncle and others were in the process of selling the Falaknuma Palace.

This is the second time that a member of Mukarram Jah's family has approached a court for a share in the property.

In 2006, Manolya Onur, former Miss Turkey and Mukarram's third wife, won a legal battle against him for payment of maintenance to her and their 15-year-old daughter Niloufer.

A family court directed that Manolya would receive \$700,000 towards mehr (alimony). Mukkaram Jah was also directed to pay \$15,000 per month towards maintenance of Manolya and Niloufer and rent in lieu of residential accommodation.

Hyderabad, the biggest and richest princely state under the British Raj, had Telangana and parts of

present Karnataka and Maharashtra. Nizams of the Asaf Jahi dynasty ruled it from 1720 to 1948.

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