

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF SINDH BENCH AT SUKKUR**

*Constitutional Petition No.D-2152 of 2025.  
[Aatif Hussain Jiskani vs. Province of Sindh and others]*

***Before:-  
Mr. Justice Amjad Ali Bohio,  
Mr. Justice Ali Haider 'Ada'.***

**08.04.2026**

Mr. Muhammad Raza Soomro, Advocate for the  
Petitioner.

Mr. Shahryar I Awan, Assistant Advocate General along  
with Tanveer Memon, In-charge Kotdiji Fort/ respondent  
No.10.

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**ORDER**

The petitioner, through the instant petition, contends that the respondents are charging an entry fee from visitors at the rate of Rs. 50/- from local citizens and Rs. 1,500/- from foreigners, allegedly without any lawful authority or contractual basis, and thus seeks a declaration that such collection is illegal. The petitioner has further prayed for directions to conduct an inquiry against the respondents,/In-charge of Kot Diji Fort for collecting such amounts.

In response, respondent No. 5 appeared and filed his statement, annexing a copy of Notification No. SO (Antiquities) CTA&AD/1-105/2023 issued by the Government of Sindh, Culture, Tourism, Antiquities & Archives Department. He submits that the entry fee being charged from visitors is not illegal, but is in accordance with the aforesaid notification.

Heard and perused the material available on record.

It appears that the fixation of admission fee for local as well as foreign visitors falls within the domain of the competent authorities,

and in this regard, the Government of Sindh, through its Culture, Tourism, Antiquities & Archives Department, has issued the relevant notification prescribing such fee. The said policy is aimed at generating resources for the maintenance, preservation, and betterment of heritage sites, including Kot Diji Fort.

It is a settled principle that the High Courts, while exercising constitutional jurisdiction, are cautious in interfering with policy matters unless the same are shown to be ultra vires the Constitution or the law. The formulation and implementation of policies fall within the exclusive domain of the executive. In this context, reference may be made to Article 29 of the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, which outlines the Principles of Policy. Therefore, any policy framed for the preservation and promotion of heritage sites is to be implemented in letter and spirit.

In the present case, the petitioner has primarily challenged the imposition of entry fee; however, the same is backed by a notification issued by the competent authority. No mala fide has been demonstrated in the said action. Accordingly, the petition does not warrant further consideration and is hereby dismissed.

However, the Culture, Tourism, Antiquities & Archives Department, Government of Sindh, is directed to strictly adhere to the prescribed rates and not to charge any amount beyond what is notified, unless duly revised by the competent authority. It is further directed to ensure that the collected amount is utilized for the preservation, maintenance, and promotion of the heritage site, in addition to any government funding. The concerned authorities are also expected to make adequate arrangements for basic facilities.

*JUDGE*

*JUDGE*