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SUPREME COURT

Fraud Breaks the Chain

Supreme Court Says Deceit Nullifies Merger Doctrine

Sheikh Rayees • July 24, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a ruling that slices through legal orthodoxy with surgical precision, the Supreme Court has clarified that the doctrine of merger—a principle where a lower court's decision is absorbed into a superior court's ruling—cannot be used to shield judgments tainted by fraud. At the heart of the dispute was a 2021 High Court decision that had favoured one Reddy, allegedly obtained by hiding crucial facts. That ruling later received a...

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