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SUPREME COURT

Republics Don't Tremble at Rhymes

Supreme Court Shreds FIR Over Poem, Warns Against Criminalising Dissent

Sheikh Rayees • March 28, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

In a ringing defense of free speech and the artistic soul of democracy, the Supreme Court has struck down an FIR filed against MP and poet Imran Pratapgadhi, declaring that a 75-year-old republic cannot be so fragile that poetry or comedy is mistaken for a spark of communal disharmony. The case—centered on a fiery poem titled “Ae Khoon Ke Pyase” shared by the MP on social media—saw the Gujarat Police...

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