










SOME IMPORTANT CASE NAMES AND CONTENTS - CA FOUNDATION 4 PSP STUDENTS

Sr.	Case Name	Details
1	State of Gujarat vs. Ramanlal S & Co.	when on dissolution of a partnership, the assets of the firm were divided among the partners, the sales tax officer wanted to tax this transaction. It was held that it was not a sale. The partners being joint owner of those assets cannot be both buyer and seller.
2	Balfour v. Balfour	A husband agreed to pay to his wife certain amount as maintenance every month while he was abroad. Husband failed to pay the promised amount. Wife sued him for the recovery of the amount. Here in this case wife could not recover as it was a social agreement and the parties did not intend to create any legal relations.
3	Carlill Vs. Carbolic Smoke Ball Co. (1893) 	In this famous case Carbolic smoke Ball Co. advertised in several newspapers that a reward of £100 would be given to any person who contracted influenza after using the smoke balls produced by the Carbolic Smoke Company according to printed directions. One lady, Mrs. Carlill, used the smoke balls as per the directions of company and even then suffered from influenza. Held, she could recover the amount as by using the smoke balls she had accepted the offer.
4	Lalman Shukla v. Gauri Dutt	G (Gauridutt) sent his servant L (Lalman) to trace his missing nephew. He then announced that anybody who traced his nephew would be entitled to a certain reward. L, traced the boy in ignorance of this announcement. Subsequently when he came to know of the reward, he claimed it. Held, he was not entitled to the reward, as he did not know the offer.
5	Jones v. Boulton 	Boulton bought a business from Brocklehurst. Jones, who was Brocklehurst's creditor, placed an order with Brocklehurst for the supply of certain goods. Boulton supplied the goods even though the order was not in his name. Jones refused to pay Boulton for the goods because by entering into the contract with Brocklehurst, he intended to set off his debt against Brocklehurst. Held, as the offer was not made to Boulton, therefore, there was no contract between Boulton and Jones.
6	Harvey vs. Facey [1893] AC 552 	In this case, Privy Council succinctly explained the distinction between an offer and an invitation to offer. In the given case, the plaintiffs through a telegram asked the defendants two questions namely, (i) Will you sell us Bumper Hall Pen? and (ii) Telegraph lowest cash price. The defendants replied through telegram that the "lowest price for Bumper Hall Pen is £ 900". The plaintiffs sent another telegram stating "we agree to buy Bumper Hall Pen at £ 900". However the defendants refused to sell the property at the price. The plaintiffs sued the defendants contending that they had made an offer to sell the property at £ 900 and therefore they are bound by the offer. However the Privy Council did not agree with the plaintiffs on the ground that while plaintiffs had asked two questions, the defendant replied only to the second question by quoting the price but did not answer the first question but reserved their answer with regard to their willingness to sell. Thus they made no offer at all. Their Lordships held that the mere statement of the lowest price at which the vendor would sell contained no implied contract to sell to the person who had enquired about the price.
7	Lilly White vs. Mannuswamy (1970)	A delivered some clothes to drycleaner for which she received a laundry receipt containing a condition that in case of loss, customer would be entitled to claim 15% of the market price of value of the article, P lost her new saree.

		Held, the terms were unreasonable and P was entitled to recover full value of the saree from the drycleaner.
8	Durga Prasad v. Baldeo	D (defendant) promised to pay to P (plaintiff) a certain commission on articles which would be sold through their agency in a market. Market was constructed by P at the desire of the C (Collector), and not at the desire of the D. D was not bound to pay as it was without consideration and hence void.
9	Chinnayya vs. Ramayya (1882)	An old lady made a gift of her property to her daughter with a direction to pay a certain sum of money to the maternal uncle by way of annuity. On the same day, the daughter executed a writing in favour of the brother agreeing to pay annuity. The daughter did not, however, pay the annuity and the uncle sued to recover it. It was held that there was sufficient consideration for the uncle to recover the money from the daughter.
10	Kadarnath v. Gorie Mohammad	If a promisee undertakes the liability on the promise of the person to contribute to charity, there the contract shall be valid.
11	Mohori Bibi vs. Dharmo Das Ghose (1903)	A, a minor borrowed ₹ 20,000 from B and as a security for the same executed a mortgage in his favour. He became a major a few months later and filed a suit for the declaration that the mortgage executed by him during his minority was void and should be cancelled. It was held that a mortgage by a minor was void and B was not entitled to repayment of money.
12	Word vs. Hobbs. (1878)	H sold to W some pigs which were to his knowledge suffering from fever. The pigs were sold 'with all faults' and H did not disclose the fact of fever to W. Held there was no fraud.
13	Hazi Ahmed v. Abdul Gassi	Every marriage of contract a to parties the by disclosed be must fact material
14	HADLEY vs. BAXENDALE 	The crankshaft of P's flour mill had broken. He gives it to D, a common carrier who promised to deliver it to the foundry in 2 days where the new shaft was to be made. The mill stopped working, D delayed the delivery of the crankshaft so the mill remained idle for another 5 days. P received the repaired crankshaft 7 days later than he would have otherwise received. Consequently, P sued D for damages not only for the delay in the delivering the broken part but also for loss of profits suffered by the mill for not having been worked. The count held that P was entitled only to ordinary damages and D was not liable for the loss of profits because the only information given by P to D was that the article to be carried was the broken shaft of a mill and it was not made known to them that the delay would result in loss of profits.
15	KD Kamath & Co. 	The Supreme Court has held that the two essential conditions to be satisfied are that: 1. there should be an agreement to share the profits as well as the losses of business; and 2. the business must be carried on by all or any of them acting for all, within the meaning of the definition of 'partnership' under section 4. The fact that the exclusive power and control, by agreement of the parties, is vested in one partner or the further circumstance that only one partner can operate the bank accounts or borrow on behalf of the firm are not destructive of the theory of partnership provided the two essential conditions, mentioned earlier, are satisfied.
16	Santiranjan Das Gupta Vs. Dasyran Murzamull (Supreme	In Santiranjan Das Gupta Vs. Dasyran Murzamull, following factors weighed upon the Supreme Court to reach the conclusion that there is no partnership between the parties: (a) Parties have not retained any record of terms and conditions of partnership.

	Court) 	<p>(b) Partnership business has maintained no accounts of its own, which would be open to inspection by both parties</p> <p>(c) No account of the partnership was opened with any bank</p> <p>(d) No written intimation was conveyed to the Deputy Director of Procurement with respect to the newly created partnership.</p>
17	Macaura v. Northern Assurance Co. Limited (1925)	<p>Macaura (M) was the holder of nearly all (except one) shares of a timber company. He was also a major creditor of the company. M Insured the company's timber in his own name. The timber was lost in a fire. M claimed insurance compensation. Held, the insurance company was not liable to him as no shareholder has any right to any item of property owned by the company, for he has no legal or equitable interest in them.</p>
18	Salomon Vs. Salomon and Co Ltd. 	<p>In Salomon vs. Salomon & Co. Ltd. the House of Lords laid down that a company is a person distinct and separate from its members. In this case one Salomon incorporated a company named "Salomon & Co. Ltd.", with seven subscribers consisting of him self, his wife, four sons and one daughter. This company took over the personal business assets of Salomon for 38,782 and in turn, Salomon took 20,000 shares of 1 each, debentures worth 10,000 of the company with charge on the company's assets and the balance in cash. His wife, daughter and four sons took up one £ 1 share each. Subsequently, the company went into liquidation due to general trade depression. The unsecured creditors to the tune of 7,000 contended that Salomon could not be treated as a secured creditor of the company, in respect of the debentures held by him, as he was the managing director of one-man company, which was not different from Salomon and the cloak of the company was a mere sham and fraud. It was held by Lord Mac Naughten:</p> <p>"The Company is at law a different person altogether from the subscribers to the memorandum, and though it may be that after incorporation the business is precisely the same as it was before and the same persons are managers, and the same hands receive the profits, the company is not in law the agent of the subscribers or trustees for them.</p> <p>Nor are the subscribers, as members, liable, in any shape or form, except to the extent and in the manner provided by the Act." Thus, this case clearly established that company has its own existence and as a result, a shareholder cannot be held liable for the acts of the company even though he holds virtually the entire share capital. The whole law of corporation is in fact based on this theory of separate corporate entity.</p>
19	Daimler Co. Ltd. vs. Continental Tyre & Rubber Co.,	<p>if the public interest is not likely to be in jeopardy, the Court may not be willing to crack the corporate shell. But it may rend the veil for ascertaining whether a company is an enemy company. It is true that, unlike a natural person, a company does not have mind or conscience; therefore, it cannot be a friend or foe. It may, however, be characterised as an enemy company, if its affairs are under the control of people of an enemy country. For this purpose, the Court may examine the character of the persons who are really at the helm of affairs of the company.</p>
20	Dinshaw Maneckjee Petit	<p>It was held that the company was not a genuine company at all but merely the assessee himself disguised under the legal entity of a limited company. The assessee earned huge income by way of dividends and interest. So, he opened some companies and purchased their shares in exchange of his income by way of dividend and interest. This income was transferred back to assessee by way of loan. The Court decided that the private companies were a sham and the corporate veil was lifted to decide the real owner of the income.</p>

21	Workmen as Associated Rubber industry 	<p>The facts of the case are that "A Limited" purchased shares of "B Limited" by investing a sum of ₹ 4,50,000. The dividend in respect of these shares was shown in the profit and loss account of the company, year after year. It was taken into account for the purpose of calculating the bonus payable to workmen of the company. Sometime in 1968, the company transferred the shares of B Limited, to C Limited a subsidiary, wholly owned by it. Thus, the dividend income did not find place in the Profit & Loss Account of A Ltd., with the result that the surplus available for the purpose for payment of bonus to the workmen got reduced. Here a company created a subsidiary and transferred to it, its investment holdings in a bid to reduce its liability to pay bonus to its workers. Thus, the Supreme Court brushed aside the separate existence of the subsidiary company. The new company so formed had no assets of its own except those transferred to it by the principal company, with no business or income of its own except receiving dividends from shares transferred to it by the principal company and serving no purpose except to reduce the gross profit of the principal company so as to reduce the amount paid as bonus to workmen.</p>
22	Merchandise Transport Limited vs. British Transport	<p>a transport company wanted to obtain licences for its vehicles, but could not do so if applied in its own name. It, therefore, formed a subsidiary company, and the application for licence was made in the name of the subsidiary. The vehicles were to be transferred to the subsidiary company. Held, the parent and the subsidiary were one commercial unit and the application for licences was rejected.</p>
23	Gilford Motor Co. vs. Horne	<p>Where the device of incorporation is adopted for some illegal or improper purpose, e.g., to defeat or circumvent law, to defraud creditors or to avoid legal obligations.</p>
24	Narendra Kumar Agarwal vs. Saroj Maloo,	<p>the Supreme court has laid down that the right of a guarantee company to refuse to accept the transfer by a member of his interest in the company is on a different footing than that of a company limited by shares. The membership of a guarantee company may carry privileges much different from those of ordinary shareholders.</p>
25	The Royal British Bank vs. Turquand. 	<p>Mr. Turquand was the official manager (liquidator) of the insolvent Cameron's Coalbrook Steam, Coal and Swansea and Loughor Railway Company. It was incorporated under the Joint Stock Companies Act, 1844. The company had given a bond for £ 2,000 to the Royal British Bank, which secured the company's drawings on its current account. The bond was under the company's seal, signed by two directors and the secretary. When the company was sued, it alleged that under its registered deed of settlement (the articles of association), directors only had power to borrow up to an amount authorized by a company resolution. A resolution had been passed but not specifying how much the directors could borrow.</p> <p>Held, it was decided that the bond was valid, so the Royal British Bank could enforce the terms. He said the bank was deemed to be aware that the directors could borrow only up to the amount resolutions allowed. Articles of association were registered with Companies House, so there was constructive notice. But the bank could not be deemed to know which ordinary resolutions passed, because these were not registrable. The bond was valid because there was no requirement to look into the company's internal workings. This is the indoor management rule, that the company's indoor affairs are the company's problem.</p>
26	Howard vs. Patent Ivory	<p>where the directors could not defend the issue of debentures to themselves because they should have known that the extent to which they were lending</p>

	Manufacturing Co.	money to the company required the assent of the general meeting which they had not obtained.
27	Anand Bihari Lal vs. Dinshaw & Co.	the plaintiff accepted a transfer of a company's property from its accountant, the transfer was held void. The plaintiff could not have supposed, in absence of a power of attorney that the accountant had authority to effect transfer of the company's property.
28	Haughton & Co. v. Nothard, Lowe & Wills Ltd.	where a person holding directorship in two companies agreed to apply the money of one company in payment of the debt to other, the court said that it was something so unusual "that the plaintiff were put upon inquiry to ascertain whether the persons making the contract had any authority in fact to make it." Any other rule would "place limited companies without any sufficient reasons for so doing, at the mercy of any servant or agent who should purport to contract on their behalf."
29	Ruben v Great Fingall Consolidated	In this case the plaintiff was the transferee of a share certificate issued under the seal of the defendant's company. The company's secretary, who had affixed the seal of the company and forged the signature of the two directors, issued the certificate. The plaintiff contended that whether the signature were genuine or forged was apart of the internal management, and therefore, the company should be estopped from denying genuineness of the document. But it was held, that the rule has never been extended to cover such a complete forgery.
30	Ashbury Railway Carriage and Iron Company Limited v. Riche-(1875).	The facts of the case are: The main objects of a company were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) To make, sell or lend on hire, railway carriages and wagons; (b) To carry on the business of mechanical engineers and general contractors. (c) To purchase, lease, sell and work mines. (d) To purchase and sell as merchants or agents, coal, timber, metals etc. The directors of the company entered into a contract with Riche, for financing the construction of a railway line in Belgium, and the company further ratified this act of the directors by passing a special resolution. The company however, repudiated the contract as being ultra-vires. And Riche brought an action for damages for breach of contract. His contention was that the contract was well within the meaning of the word general contractors and hence within its powers. Moreover it had been ratified by a majority of shareholders. However, it was held by the Court that the contract was null and void. It said that the terms general contractors was associated with mechanical engineers, i.e. it had to be read in connection with the company's main business. If, the term general contractor's was not so interpreted, it would authorize the making of contracts of any kind and every description, for example, marine and fire insurance.