



Press Release

MALE, 19 September 2006 - To mark the 3rd anniversary of the brutal killing of Evan Naseem in Maafushi Jail on 19 September 2003, Gaumataka activists have delivered white flowers along with a message to the Maldives Police Service Headquarters. Flowers were also delivered to the High Commission of Maldives in London, Colombo and the London office of Hill & Knowlton.

The message to the police asked them to prevent acts of torture. The flowers were delivered as a symbol to urge the police to stop all brutality and to join hands with the people to bring about a just and democratic Maldives.

19 September 2003 was a day that the public witnessed Gayoom regime's excessive brutality. The subsequent reactions of horror, shock and dismay resulted in the foundation of an organised opposition.

Gaumataka activists distributed white flags with the number '919' signifying the importance of remembering September 19. Leaflets have also been circulated detailing the aims and objectives of the Gaumataka movement and '919' campaign. Graffiti was used on walls around the Capitol in association with the '919' campaign.

Gaumataka is a non-violent movement working to bring freedom, justice and democracy to the Maldives. The movement takes inspiration from the non-violent doctrines of individuals such as Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King and the practices used by movements in countries such as Serbia, Ukraine and Georgia.

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