



Press Release

Male', 23 September 2006 - On the occasion of Gayoom's return from New York, Gaumataka activists held a banner calling for his resignation.

A celebratory welcome was organised by Gayoom's government to honour his speech which was given in Dhivehi at the United Nations General Assembly earlier this week. School children, government employees, police, security forces and expatriate workers were forced to attend the ceremonies. The speech was publicised as a major achievement for the Dhivehi language and the people.

Gaumataka believes that the most important issue at hand is the reform process, amending the constitution and establishing democracy in the country. Priority for the protection of the Dhivehi language should come after these major concerns.

Welcoming a man, who has tortured the country for the last 27 years, with applause and praise is something the Gaumataka movement strongly condemns. Instead our message of welcome is Gayoom Resign!

The movement respects all opinions and diverse ideas. However, Gaumataka condemns the attempt to remove its banner by a Gayoom supporter. Such actions pave the path to violence and in such situations we urge our supporters to restrain their anger and act non-violently.

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