

# SCOUTING IN MALDIVES





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# Foreword



Scouting began in Maldives on 30th May 1957 and since then, Scouting has played a very importance role in citizenship and character development among young people. Scouting does this, by offering the young people to a world of fun and opportunity that they wouldn't have access to otherwise, by helping young people to develop into tomorrow's leaders and by motivating them to achieve their goals.

As Scouts don't simply reap the positive, character-building benefits for themselves but they also pass them on to others through leading by example, it is through Scouting that we can positively impact society and initiate change.

In this regard, it is important to highlight that Scouting has a very vital role to play as an effective antidote to increasing juvenile delinquency in our society. There is no better time to begin on this journey than now, at a time when we are faced with serious problems of delinquency among young people in the country. Hence, we should start exerting all our effort to bring Scouting into the community and into the lives of marginalized and at-risk youth.

In Scouting, we all take our Promise "to do my best...". Doing your best is not about being perfect, or better than someone else; it's about knowing you tried, gave it all you could, made a plan and went for it. Let us together push the frontiers of our movement beyond its present confines. Let us do our best to reach out into the community and make our program available to less fortunate and marginalized young people in the community.

On this occasion of our 66th anniversary, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to our pioneers, all the leaders, volunteers and parents who have done their best and given their invaluable time and energy towards making the world a better place by helping young to develop character, learn leadership and develop skills they will use for a lifetime.

May the coming years be even more glorious for Scouting in the Maldives, so that Scouting may always be the privilege of every Maldivian youth and an important part of our way of life.

Mohamed Nazeef  
**President**



# Milestones of Scouting In Maldives

1

1956

Scouting was registered at the government of Maldives on 19 Shawal 1375 H, 30th May 1956

2

1961

Cub Scouting started in Majeediyya School with 18 cubs in May 1961

3

1963

Majeediyya School Scout Group was registered as the First Male' Scout Group at the Imperial Scout Headquarters, London

4

1964

Sea Scouting was introduced in Majeediyya School

5

1965

First historic 4 day camp was held in Hulhule' from 28th April to 1st May 1965

6

1983

Male' English School (MES) started Scouting as 2nd Male' Scout Group on 26th August 1983

7

1983

Madharusathul Ahmadhiyya started Scouting as 3rd Male' Scout Group on 3rd September

8

1984

His Excellency President Maumoon Abdul Gayoom accepted to be the first Chief Scout. Maldives Boy Scout Association was established on 20th January 1984



9

1985

Introduction to Leader Trainings in the Atolls started with the hope that Scouting would spread to islands other than Male'

10

1986

Many Scout Groups from Haa Alif to Seenu started to register in the Association

11

1986

First National Scout Jamboree was held from 20th to 23rd September 1986 at Kuda Bandos with 300 Scouts, 250 Cub Scouts and 300 Brownies and Girl Guides

12

1988

First Inter School Scout Competition held in Male' on 23rd June 1988  
Second National Scout Jamboree held at Kuda Bandos

13

1988

First Inter School Scout Competition held in Male' on 23rd June 1988

14

1988

Second National Scout Jamboree held at Kuda Bandos

15

1988

First Advanced Unit Leaders Training Course (conducted at Kuda Bandos by the World Scout Bureau's Asia-Pacific Regional Training Team

16

1988

First Service Scout Camp held at K. Gulhi from 11th to 14th October 1988 with first Service Scout Investiture held at Feydhoo Finolhu

17

1989

First Patrol Leaders Training Camp held from 15th to 17th March 1989 at Kuda Bandos

18

1989

First Patrol Leaders Training Course held from 5th to 7th September 1989 at Kuda Bandos

19

1989

13 new Scout Groups registered in Male' and 42 Scout Groups from the Atolls

20

1990

– Cub Scout Leaders Basic Training held at K. Huraa from 3rd to 8th July

21

1990

Ahmed Imad Mohamed was awarded the Wood Badge on 16th July 1990 by His Excellency President & Chief Scout Maumoon Abdul Gayoom, becoming the first Maldivian to achieve Wood Badge

22

1990

Maldives Boy Scout Association was officially recognized as a member of the World Organization of the Scout Movement on 23rd July 1990

23

1991

Second AULTC held in K. Huraa from 8th to 14th March 1991

24

1995

Chief Commissioner Late Hon. Ahmed Shathir was awarded the first ever Silver Tuna.

25

1995

Scouter Ahmed Shiran was awarded the first ever Silver Crescent for the bravery he has shown on November 3rd, 1988

26

1995

Assistant Chief Commissioner for Training and Programme Scouter Ahmed Imad Mohamed was awarded the first ever Bronze Coconut

27

1996

Third AULTC held from 24th April to 2nd May 1996 at K. Vilingili.

# First Male' Scout Group

*Pioneers of scouting in Maldives since 1956*



Scouting in Maldives was launched in Majeediyya School as First Male' Scout Group on 30th May 1956.

The group was launched with the Cub Scout Section and later in the same year the Scout Section was also introduced. In 1963 Majeediyya School's Scout Group was registered in the Imperial Headquarters of The Scout Association in London as the First Male' Scout Group.

During the past 66 years, Scouting in Majeediyya has flourished and the group has successfully imparted the values of Scouting onto countless generations.

First Male' Scout Group currently hold the record of having the most number of President Scouts and Baden Powell Awardees. As such, First Male' Scout Group continues to be the most prestigious Scout Group in the Maldives.

Majeediyya Scouts, as the Pioneers of Scouting in Maldives, have played an instrumental role in the formation of the Scout Association of Maldives and continues to serve the Association in various roles.





# Chief Scouts of Maldives



**Ibrahim Shihab**  
*1st Chief Scout*



**H.E. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom**  
*President from 11th Nov 1978 to  
10th Nov 2008*



**H.E. Mohamed Nasheed**  
*President from 11th Nov 2008 to  
7th Nov 2012*



**Dr. Mohamed Waheed Hassan**  
*President from 07th Feb 2012 to  
16th Nov 2013*



**H.E. Abdulla Yameen Abdul Gayoom**  
*President from 17th Nov 2013 to  
16th Nov 2018*



**H.E.P. Ibrahim Mohamed Solih**  
*President from 17th Feb 2018 to  
Present Day*

# Presidents of the Association



**Ismail Shafeeu NIIV**  
(1994 - 2003)



**Dr. Mohamed Shaugee**  
(2003 - 2008)



**Arif Rasheed**  
(2009 - 2011)



**Dr. Mohamed Waheed Hassan Manik**  
(2012 - 2014)



**Ismail Shafeeq**  
(2015 - 2017)



**Uz. Hussain Mohamed Haneef**  
(2018 - 2021)



**Mohamed Nazeef**  
(2021 - present)

# Chief Commissioners *of the Association*



**Hassan Ali Didi**



**Ahmed Shathir**



**Abdulla Rasheed**



**Ismail Shafeeg**



**Ahmed Ali Manik**





**Mohamed Nazeef**



**Hussain Abdulla**



**Mohamed Khalid**



**Aishath Ahlam**



**Ahmed Haneef**



# Silver Tuna Award

The Silver Tuna, with a green, white & red vertically patterned ribbon is awarded to the Adult leaders with eminent achievements and meritorious service to the Scout Association for a period of at least for 20 years. Longest served Chief Commissioner, late Hon. Ahmed Shathir was awarded the "Silver Tuna" - The Highest Scouter Rank in Maldives in 1995

# Recipient of *Silver Tuna*



**Abdulla Rasheed**

Abdulla Rasheed joined the scout movement as a scout of Majeediyya school's First Male' Scout Group in 1960. He then led the formation of the Scout Association of Maldives in 1984 and served as the Deputy Chief Commissioner of the newly formed Association and later as the Chief Commissioner. Abdulla Rasheed's services to establish the Scout Association include the development of the newly formed association's PORs, the commencement of national scout jamborees, the introduction of training programmes for scout leaders and the introduction of the Service Scout Section. Abdulla

Rasheed also played an important role in obtaining membership of the World Organization of the Scout Movement for the Maldives. He previously served as the Regional Director at the World Scout Bureau's Asia Pacific Regional Scout Office from 2002 to 2013 and as the Advisor to the Secretary General of the World Organization of the Scout Movement from 2014 to 2018. In 2013, World Organization of the Scout Movement awarded Abdulla Rasheed the Bronze Wolf Group in recognition of his service to the scout movement.



# Recipient of Silver Tuna



una

## Ahmed Imad Mohamed

Ahmed Imad Mohamed joined the scout movement in 1960 when he was studying at Sri Lanka's Wesley College. After Sri Lanka Mr. Imad joined Scouting at Egypt's Al Azhar University and completed his leader training in the university's scout group. After returning from Egypt, he was appointed as the first Maldivian Scout Master of Majeediyya School. He also played an instrumental role in establishing the Scout Association of Maldives with Mr. Abdulla Rasheed. Mr. Imad also served in the Asia Pacific Regional Sub-Committee on Training in 1993. Mr. Imad

was awarded the Asia Pacific Regional Chairman's Award in 2000 in recognition of his outstanding services to the scout movement. Mr Ahmed Imad Mohamed also received the Bronze Coconut Award from the Scout Association of Maldives for his contributions to Scouting in Maldives. His most notable contribution include the Scouting resource library named Imad's Scout Library. Through this library he continues to provide resources to Scout Groups throughout the country.

# Recipient of *Silver Tuna*



**Ismail Shafeeq**

Mr Ismail Shafeeq joined scouting in 1963, when he was studying at Majeedhiyya School. In order to serve the scout movement Mr. Ismail Shafeeq joined the Scout Association of Maldives in 1988. Mr. ismail shafeeq served as the International Commissioner. Ismail Shafeeq's work with the then Deputy Chief Commissioner in obtaining membership of the World Scout Association is

noteworthy. Ismail Shafeeq's services can be further highlighted by his invaluable work as vice president and president of the Scout Association. Mr Ismail Shafeeq was presented with the Award for Good Service by the Asia Pacific Regional Scout Office.

# Recipient of *Silver Tuna*



**Ahmed Ali Manik**

Mr Ahmed Ali Manik joined scouting as a scout at Majeedhiyya School in 1965. After the establishment of the Scout Association, he began serving as the treasurer of the association in 1988. Looking at the services of Mr. Ahmed Ali Manik, his services as the Chief Commissioner of the Scout Association should be mentioned. The Scout Association of Maldives had won various national awards and international awards during his nine years on two separate occasions. Under the rule of Mr.

Ahmed Ali Manik, the Scout Association received the National Award of Recognition for Public Service and received the Green Leaf Award for environmental services. Furthermore, it should be noted that the Maldivian Scout Association in the world scout arena was taken to new heights. Mr. Ahmed Ali Manik received the Chairman's Award from the Asia Pacific Regional Scout Office in recognition of his service to the scout movement.



# President Scout Award

President's Scout is the highest rank in for the Scout Section and is awarded to young people who has thoroughly trained themselves in Scouting skills and used them in daily life and sets high standards of discipline and academic performance and most of all practices their duty to Allah and the Country.



# Recipients of President Scout Award



## **Mohamed Shauf Rilwan**

Shauf joined the scouting movement as a cub scout in 2009 at kalaafaanu school. He completed his president scout award in Majeediyya as scout with 30 proficiency badges. He was also selected as the best all round scout in Majeediyya in 2018. He completed advance scout standard and achieved the bushman's thong in 2020. Mohamed shauf Rilwan is currently doing his graduate studies in bachelors of International tourism management in the Maldives National University



## **Mohamed Ulwan Muaz**

Mohamed Ulwan Muaz started his scouting movement in 2009 from G.DH.Thinadhoo, Thinadhoo school as a cub scout and continued scouting later in majeediyya school . He completed a total of 30 proficiency badges. He completed the advance scout standard and the bushman's thong in 2020. Ulwan is currently doing his graduate studies in Bachelor of arts in political science and international relations in the Maldives National University.

# Ahmed Ali Maniku

Former Chief Commissioner  
Member of the Asia Pacific  
Regional Scout Committee



## How did you get interested in scouting?

I enrolled to Majeedhiyya school and back then it was compulsory for students to be involved in an extra curriculum activity. That is how I got the opportunity to be involved in scouting. As time went by, I got to know what this movement was about and got interested in scouting.

## What was your most memorable experience in scouting career?

The most memorable experience was the first ever camp that I went to which was held at Hulhule. It is one of the most important memories of my life. When I am reminded of those activities, it is something that motivates me, and those memories will never be forgotten.

## Do you think scouting had a role in your personal development ?

I believe I am the man I am today because of scouting. With that note, scouts must adhere to certain values. Whatever I do today, I am reminded of the promise that I have made and the scout law. This is also the case in religious

matters. So, it is by abiding by those good values that I am the man I am today. It is something I cherish, and it is because I am a scout, that I came this far.

## How did you balance school and scouting or job and scouting ?

When I was first introduced to scouting and even now, I support volunteerism and am very interested in it. Scouting is the biggest volunteering organization in the world. I always think about the great service that we are doing for the community.

Even while I was working at the Maldives Airports Company as a managing director, I used to give my time to scouting and the scout association. I used to do even the most menial of jobs. When we talk about balancing time between scouting and work, I do manage my time since it is the only way which will not cause problems in both aspects.

## **What is your opinion on current status of scouting in Maldives and whats your expectation?**

The scouting scene is very different from what it was when I was a scout. The community has changed in many ways when it comes to social aspects and the way we think has shifted drastically. What we are facing is not faced just by us, but the society as whole. As such, today, scouts have forgotten the values that are attached with the promise and law we took. We must rejuvenate those values and my expectation is just that. That scouts bring back those structured values and promote them once again.

## **What are the notable achievements of scouting in Maldives in the past 66 years?**

We maybe a small island state with a small population and less resources compared to other

counties in the region. Scouting in the Maldives is also school based scouting and thus we are unable to retain all these students. However, since the establishment of the Association, we have had considerable and outstanding achievements in the regional and global scouting arena. Moreover, even with all these challenges, we have continued to provide our exceptional service to our region and represented our country well.

## **What roles do you have in Scouting now?**

I do not have any portfolio under the association currently but with my passion for scouting, I am currently working closely with the Maldives Scouts and Guides Fellowship (MSGF) as their secretary general which I am also a founding member of.





# Abdulla Rasheed

Former Chief Commissioner  
Regional Director, World Scout Bureau  
Asia-Pacific Regional Office

## How did you get interested in scouting?

In those school days, we have to choose one co-curricular activity, either cadet, band or scouting. Personally I do not see any charm in "marching" which used to be the main activity of the cadets those days. I have no clue in music and therefore I choose what is left, that is scouting. After I left school and after my studies abroad, I was still interested and very keen to see scouting growing in the country but the absence of a national scout association in Maldives prompted me to work along with few other colleagues to register and establish The Maldives Boys Scout Association (MBSA) in 1984 which was the name then and continued to be associated with it actively till 1997.

## What was your most memorable experience in scouting career?

The most memorable experience is not just one, but a few including the camping days in Farukolhufushi, in Hulhule etc, first overseas scout camp trip, being the Chairman of the APR Youth Programme subcommittee as early as 1995, being in-charge of scouting developments in the Asia Pacific Region which had over 75% of WOSM membership, then my personal involvement in the relocation of WSB Office to Kuala Lumpur and setting up of the new office which materialized almost after 10 years.

## What would be your answer if someone asks what's the use of being involved in scouting?

I would, without any hesitation, say that it gives total self-reliance, confidence, develops leadership, and it is an opportunity to live-with note-worthy human values of which most important is the service to others and to the community.





## Do you think scouting had a role in your personal development?

Yes, in fostering self-reliance, being confident and in fostering leadership qualities and in taking initiatives, in particular

## What did you learn from scouting ? Are those applicable in practical life?

Life skills, survival skills and to live with the core values of scouting. Yes, they were very applicable in practical life and whatever my success story in life is, it is largely because of scouting experiences

## How did you balance school and scouting or job and scouting ?

There was no problem in balancing schoolwork and scouting then as there was no other engagements like tuition, computer games etc and at the same time one of the co-curricular activities is mandatory and scout meetings / activities are always during the week end. However, since I started working, which was very demanding then, I find time for scout work by spending time for the association after my office hours and almost every day. Those days for

## What is your opinion on current status of scouting in Maldives and whats your expectation ?

To me, scouting in Maldives today lacks or needs much needed visibility, image building, focused attention on individual advancement of the young people, emphasis on core values of scouting, because " other programmes or projects " are taking prominence over the core youth programme. The last but not the least, great contact / partnering with the other National Scout Organizations within the region. I also think there is a need to have a clear demarcation of responsibilities and accountability between the policy body which is the Scout Council and the implementing body which is the Executive Committee

## Your advice for scouts

If you are active in scouting, enjoys and believes in scouting for its fundamentals, values and skills that it imparts, one would never regret it in life. There is enough evidence from research and from personal quotes of many prominent Intellectuals, Scientists, Diplomats and World leading figures who testify by saying what they are today are largely because of scouting.





# Ahmed Imad Abdulla

Commissioner for Seniors  
Assistant Chief Commissioner for Training and Program  
National Training Commissioner  
member of the Policy Organization and Rules Revision Committee

We had a very insightful interview with Mr. Ahmed Imad Abdulla as he went on to touch various topics, from his experiences studying abroad, his work life from his time at the election commission and his time spent as escort to Mr. Sirimavo Bandaranaike, former prime minister of Sri Lanka to the history and his thoughts on the current situation of Scouting in Maldives.

Scouting for Mr. Ahmed Imad Abdulla started in Colombo, Sri Lanka while pursuing his studies in the Wesley College Colombo in 1961. After his time in Sri Lanka, Mr. Imad joined Rover Scouting in Egypt while continuing his studies there. He went on to complete PTC Training which is equivalent to Basic Unit Leaders Training Course. After returning to Maldives, he continued with scouting, playing an instrumental role in Maldivian Scouting.

In the national level, Mr. Imad's innumerable services to Maldivian Scouting can be seen in the various positions he has held in the Scout Association of Maldives. Among the various posts he had filled in the Association the most notable of them includes; Commissioner for Seniors, Assistant Chief Commissioner for Training and Program and the National Training Commissioner (NTC). He was also a member of the Policy Organization and Rules Revision Committee. Aside from the various positions held in Scouting. He has also worked as a Scout Leader and Scout Master in various Scout Groups such as First Male' Scout Group (Majeedhiya School, Aliyaa School, Mauhad Dirasathul Islamiyya and 15th Male' Scout Group (Zuvaanunge Marukazu). He had also helped start scouting in many schools throughout the Maldives and provided many scout groups with guidance and leadership.

Among his many services and contributions to scouting in Maldives perhaps his greatest contribution would be his tireless efforts and advocacy as the Chief Delegate from Maldives at the 32nd World Scout Conference in Paris in obtaining the membership of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM).

With all of these valuable contributions and services to Maldivian Scouting, it is no surprise the Mr.Imad has made a lot of firsts in Maldivian Scouting History. Imad was the first Maldivian Scout Leader to hold the Wood badge on 16th July 1990. He also happens to be the First Maldivian to achieve the Leader Trainer beads (4 beads) as well. He was also the first Maldivian Scouter to hold a post in the Asia Pacific Region. He served as a member of the APR Training Subcommittee and later, worked in the APR Scout Foundation Task force. He is among the few prominent scouters in Maldives who have achieved both national as well as international recognition for the dedicated services he has been rendering to the Scout Movement as a recipient of the Bronze Coconut and The Asia Pacific Region's Chairman Award.

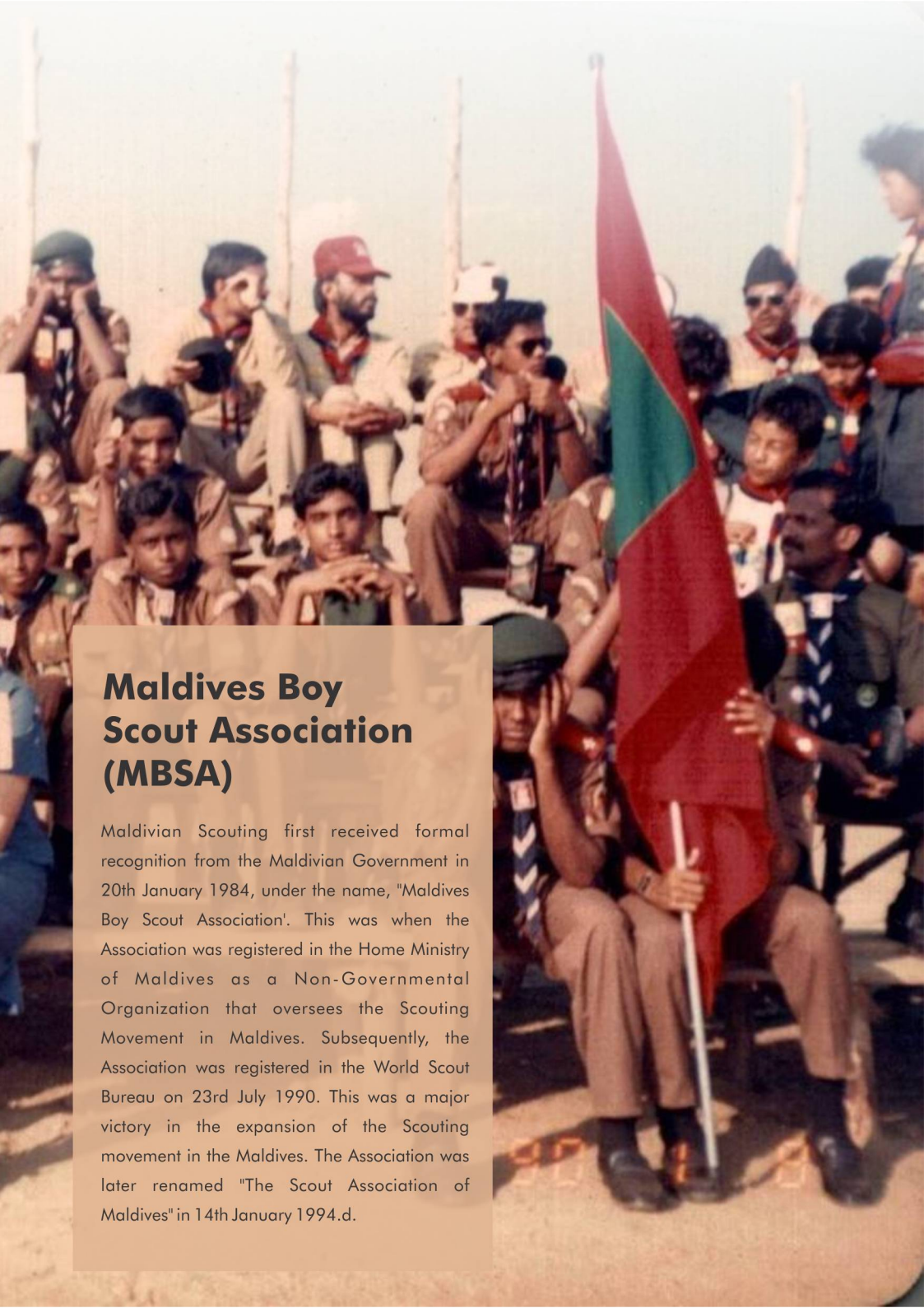
Mr. Imad continues to devote his time, resources, and knowledge in scouting as much as he can. He has been preparing and collecting Scouting resources and materials and has been distributing these resources in CD's for free to scouters and anyone who comes to him to learn scouting.

With regards to management of scout groups and the association, Mr.Imad went on to underline that scout groups and the association itself, needs to work on self-sustainability for a better tomorrow. He highlighted examples from Maldivian Scouting such as the sale of garden plants which were a huge success in the past in fund raising. He went on to talk about how associations around the globe went on to successfully become self-sufficient and how the Scout Association of Maldives can localize such ideas in order to achieve self-sustainability.

Mr. Imad message to young scouters is to actively learn about scouting, through reading and researching and apply this knowledge. A very valuable message indeed.





A group of Maldivian Boy Scouts in uniform are seated outdoors. In the foreground, a Scout in a dark uniform and cap holds a large Maldivian flag (red, green, and white). Other Scouts in light brown uniforms are seated behind him, some wearing caps and sunglasses. The background shows a clear sky and some structures.

## Maldives Boy Scout Association (MBSA)

Maldivian Scouting first received formal recognition from the Maldivian Government in 20th January 1984, under the name, 'Maldives Boy Scout Association'. This was when the Association was registered in the Home Ministry of Maldives as a Non-Governmental Organization that oversees the Scouting Movement in Maldives. Subsequently, the Association was registered in the World Scout Bureau on 23rd July 1990. This was a major victory in the expansion of the Scouting movement in the Maldives. The Association was later renamed "The Scout Association of Maldives" in 14th January 1994.d.



# Community Service Projects and Actions in Maldives

Community Service  
Projects and Actions

359

Logged hours

1,345,589



36  
projects



32  
projects



27  
projects



35  
projects



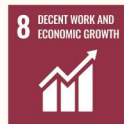
05  
projects



04  
projects



08  
projects



04  
projects



07  
projects



32  
projects



52  
projects



09  
projects



15  
projects



13  
projects



09  
projects



71  
projects



01  
projects



Photo by: Maaed Mohamed Zahir