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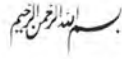
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AISHATH AZIMA SHAKOOR

Aasthaanaa . Male', Republic of Maldives .

PROFESSIONAL STATEMENT

Recognized as one of the most professional and qualified lawyers in the Maldives, my experience spans over 18 years of legal services including criminal and civil litigation, legal research and analysis and law teaching in the Maldives. I have acted as the leading attorney in a significant number of landmark cases in the Maldives and have established a high rapport with clients. Am meticulously organized and detail focused with excellent interpersonal and communication skills.

EDUCATION

Master of Laws, LL.M, 2001

University of Western Australia

Bachelor of Laws (Hons), LL.B, 1991 - 1995

University of London

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT & APPOINTMENTS OF RESPONSIBILITY

MINISTER OF GENDER, FAMILY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

April 2013 – current

I believe the sector of Gender, Human Rights including child rights and disability rights are not effectively addressed in the Maldives. Real issues such as child abuse, incest, domestic violence are on the rise. Hence I volunteered to change portfolio from that of the Attorney General to that of Minister of Gender, Family and Human Rights, to try and make bring a difference to this sector.

ATTORNEY GENERAL, Republic of Maldives

Feb 2012 – April 2013

Performing to the height of my capabilities as the Attorney General of the Maldives during this time of new found human rights, transition and democratic reform in the Maldives. I retired from politics and returned to AGO in 2012 because I believe that the state gets weakened by the AGO being politicized. The past few years have been immensely difficult for the Attorney General's Office due to the heightened political pressure in the country. AGO needs to be apoliticised.

POLITICAL PARTY INVOLVEMENT

2008 - Jan 2012

Founder and Council Member for DRP (Political Party) since in founding

Chairperson, Women's Wing
Founder and Council Member in PPM (Political Party)

ATTORNEY GENERAL, Republic of Maldives

Oct 2007 – Nov 2008

The original duty of this office was to represent the State in criminal prosecution and civil suits in all Courts of law, represent the state in all international negotiations and arbitrations, and give legal advice to all state institutions.

I was the Attorney General during one of the most challenging of times for the Maldives. This was when the new Constitution was ratified and the first multi-party elections was held). (Lead the team of lawyers studying the new Constitution and led the changes, which brought phenomenal changes to the Maldives, including wholly elected Parliament, independent judiciary, and independent institutions including the Elections Commission and the Human Rights Commission.)

DEPUTY MINISTER, Ministry of Home Affairs, Republic of Maldives

July 2004 – Oct 2007

APPOINTED MEMBER, Constitutional Assembly

2005 – 2008

DIRECTOR, Legal Affairs, Attorney General's Office, Republic of Maldives

Jan 2004 – July 2004

Was in charge of the Reform Agenda, which spearheaded the new Constitution, Criminal Justice Sector Reform, Electoral Reform which brought about the change in the Maldives, political legal and constitutional change which we are seeing today. I was counterpart to Professor Robinson, in his criminal justice sector review and the Drafting of the Penal Code (the first Shariah and common-law compliant Penal Code) Mr John Turner in his review of the Electoral System, Professor Richard Harding's review in Reform of the prison system... was author of the First National Criminal Justice System Action Plan

DIRECTOR, Legal Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Republic of Maldives

Dec 2001 – Feb 2004

Ministry of Home Affairs was in charge of Land and Prisons, National Registration Male Municipal Services. I was involved in a prison reform programme, and was involved in the creation of the First Parole Board, later chaired the Parole Board

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

June 2004 – Aug 2008

(Appointed by H.E the President) (Feb 2005 – August 2008)
Member, Constitutional Assembly (appointed by H.E the President),

CHAIRPERSON, National Parole Board

July 2004 – Nov 2007

Member, National Law Commission

2003 – Nov 2007

Assistant Chief, Women's Council - Maafannu, Male'

1998

Elected Member, Women's Council - Maafannu, Male'	1997
Legal Officer, Ministry of Environment, Maldives	1995
Secretarial Services, Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1986

SIGNIFICANT LITIGATION & ADVOCACY 2008 November - 2012 January

Left the Government after the election in 2008, and returned full time to private legal practice. Apart from a lot of corporate work for major banks and companies, I was the lead counsel in most of the prominent politically motivated cases, and constitutional issues relating the new Constitution, including;

- the arrest of political leaders and parliament members, Yameen and Qasim by the police;
- the arrest and detention of Political Leader yameen by the Defence forces;
- refusal of the Government to remove Cabinet Ministers when Parliamentary approval was not given to them;
- refusal of the President to ratify the Public Finance Act;
- refusal of the President to appoint a member of the Anti-corruption Commission after Parliamentary approval to appoint him;
- creation of a Presidential Commission to investigate;
- case of refusal of Government to establish and handover the state media to the Parliamentary established state institution;
- fine of Prominent Businessman Champa Mohamed Moosa by 100 Million Rufiyaa for environmental damage;
- Government Close down of all spas in all tourist resorts claiming they are anti-Islamic;
- dismissal of senior police and military service men;
- one of the leading lawyers in the group of lawyers working to free Judge Abdulla, Head Judge of the Criminal Court after he was arrested by the armed forces; and have won all of these cases.

Other legal projects prior to 2008

Charter and Constitution, Constitution,	Maldives Association of Tourism Industry (MATI) Society for Health Education
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TEACHING & RESEARCH RELATED ACTIVITIES

Part Time Lecturer, Maldives National University

Local Counterpart in the following major projects:

- Formulating the Penal Code of Maldives (2004 – 2005)
- Reform of the Criminal Justice System
- Strengthening the Electoral system of the Maldives
- Strengthening the Judicial system of the Maldives
- Reform of the Prison system of the Maldives

PUBLICATIONS

“*Membarun Dhemithibun... ..Majlis Dhemi-othun*”, Avant-Garde Law Review, 06 December 2008.

“Of Crime & Punishment, Avant-Garde Law Review, 20 December 2008.

REPORTS

- The Maldivian Courts, a situation analysis, report written for ADB
1998
- Co-author, Second Environment Action Plan, written for the Government of Maldives
1999
- Sectoral papers : Law, Judiciary and civil society , Fifth National Development Plan
2000
- Co-author, Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation, a suggestion for the Maldives (in Dhivehi),
report written for the Government of Maldives
2000
- Introducing non-custodial sentences in the Maldives, a proposal
2001
- Legal Aspects of Foreign Investments in the Maldives
2001
- Financial regulation In small developing economies
2001
- National Criminal Justice Action Plan 2005, written for the Government of Maldives
2005

PRO-BONO WORK

- Co-founded HOPE for Women an NGO working for women's rights, specially sexual and physical
abuse against women;
- Free legal aid to victims of sexual and domestic violence.

MEMBERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Registered Lawyer at the Maldives Bar since 1995

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REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES

NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD

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Number **A026999**

Name	އިޝަތް އަޒިމާ ޝަހީދު
Aishath Azima Shaheed	
Sex	މާލިކު
Date of Birth	02/11/2000
Address	
M. Aasthaana	
Male	



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Common Name	އިޝަތް
Azima	
Blood Group	0+
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