

2000

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

Your Excellency President Maumoon Abdul Qayyoom,

Honourable Ministers,

//

High Commissioner of Australia to the Maldives /
His Excellency Mr Jason Rowe,

Members of the College Council,

Visitors from the Universities of //
New South Wales and Newcastle,

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen:

//

Assalaam Alaikum and Good Evening!

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On behalf of all the students, it is a particular honour and
pleasure for me // to close this evening / with an
expression of profound thanks / for your presence.

The participation of His Excellency President Maumoon
Abdul Qayyoom has made / an otherwise special
occasion // truly unforgettable. We interpret your
participation // as an indication of your keen commitment
to higher education / and your love for learning. We draw
inspiration from your speech // and from your example.

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

By attending this graduation, you have chosen to
exchange one evening of your lifetime / for being with us
—to celebrate / and to share / in the joy of our
graduation. We know that some of you, in order to be
with us, have postponed appointments, taken long
journeys / and endured other inconveniences. We want

you to know / that we value your participation. And we appreciate your kindness.

On our way to this graduation, we have been assisted and encouraged by many. Our training has been facilitated / by individuals and organizations. The success we celebrate here today, in part, belong to them.

The Minister of Health Honourable Ahmed Abdulla / has always had a close association with the Institute. Following the restructuring of the higher education sector / and the formation of the College, his interest in the Institute affairs has only increased. We thank him for facilitating our training at different health establishments / and for his guidance. Unfortunately, official overseas duties / did not allow him to participate in this occasion.

We acknowledge with profound gratitude, the contribution of the staff of Indhira Gandhi Memorial Hospital / especially their dedicated doctors, nurses, technicians and laboratory staff. They facilitated our learning / by providing a real-life environment for training. In a similar manner, Regional Hospitals, Atoll and Island Health Centres have greatly contributed to our education.

The Staff of the Department of Public Health, Male' Health Centre and National Thalassaemia Centre deserve a special note of appreciation for their involvement and input to our learning. We are grateful for the invaluable assistance provided by UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, VSO and WHO and remember them for their contributions.

Your Excellencies, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen:

The assistance of Australian Government to the Institute of Health Sciences has provided long and much needed inputs to its development. The upgrading of the teachers, and the transformation of the curriculum are in no small measure due to Australian involvement. We thank the Government of Australia for its contribution. We are particularly delighted that His Excellency Mr Jason Rowe is able to be present at the meeting.

It is also pleasure to thank the special invitees from the University of New South Wales and the University of Newcastle who have made remarkable contributions towards the advancement of our Institute. The involvement of two respected universities has ensured / that the Institute programmes are of high standards / and enabled articulation to higher Australian qualifications.

We are grateful to the College Council for the reform of the procedures, the gradual but consistent introduction of quality norms, and the elimination of corruptible practices.

We are indebted to Mrs Husnaa Raazee, the Director General for her energetic management, Mrs Fathimath Shareef, for her wisdom and guidance, and all teachers including volunteers from AUSAID and VSO, for their patience and dedication.

Finally, I want to say my closing remarks in the pleasing sounds of Dhivehi language — the pride of my nation.