

ANNUAL REPORT 2000/2001

9 Rosemont Avenue
London
N12 0BY
Tel: 0208 446 2781
www.msa-uk.org
email: info@msa-uk.org

MALDIVIAN STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (UK)

Contents

Introduction	page 3
Funds	page 3
Inventory	page 3
Newsgroup	page 3
Website....	page 4
Easter get together	page 4
Maravalfunds	page 4
Rosemont guidelines	page 4
Logo	page 4
Summer activities	page 5
Joospetty	page 5
Help to students	page 5
Welcoming the new members	page 5
Database	page 5
Difficulties	page 5
Way forward	page 6
Conclusion	page 6

MALDIVIAN STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (UK) ANNUAL REPORT 2001

**Maldivian Students' Association (UK)
9 Rosemont Avenue
London N12 0BY
Tel: 0208 446 2781
Annual Report: 2000/2001 Session**

Introduction

The Maldivian Students' Association (UK) was created by a few enthusiastic Maldivian students during the academic year 1985-86. The basic aim was to establish and further the relationship among the Maldivian students through organising and arranging events.

On 31st December 2000, after becoming members of the Central Committee we said that MSA is your association and its success depends on your active participation. We are proud that we have covered a lot of ground – though not as much as we would have liked- during our term. The credit of all these achievements goes to those of you who sacrificed your time for the betterment of MSA, and the our Central Committee who were so ever enthusiastic.

Funds

Last year MSA(UK) received its allocated funds from the Maldivian government. The association has been run through members voluntary contributions of man-hours and the funds from the government. The major outflow of funds were for the Easter Get-together and the get-together to Welcome the New-members, and this AGM. In addition funds were utilised to buy recreational board game sets, host the website, promote MSA(UK), and stationary. The details of accounts can be found in the Statement of Affairs.

Inventory

The very first thing that we did was to compile an inventory. This was aimed at managing the assets that we have in a more responsible manner. Through our term a scrabble board, a chess set, and a dirt-set were added to the inventory.

Newsgroup

We formally took charge of the MSA newsgroup on 3rd January 2001. To facilitate a reasonable filtering and a quick release of the members' mails 5 members were appointed to be moderators . They were, Ahmed Shafiu (Manchester), Abdulla Nashith (Birmingham); Mohamed Shareef (Liverpool), Aminath Sheena (Cambridge), Abdulla Shareef (London). We aimed to reach as many members as possible through the mailing list, currently there are 117 registered members on the list. In February 2001, the egroups merged with yahoogroups and our newsgroup address is now msa@yahogroups.com.

Website....

The next major task that we wanted to attend was to update the MSA(UK) Website. In this regard volunteers were sought and Mr. Mohamed Fazal (Cambridge) and Mr. Ibrahim Shafiu ((London) took the initiation to develop the new website hence Mr. Mohamed Fazazl (H. Silkwood, Malé) and Mr. Ibrahim Shafiu (M. Louvre), City University London were assigned the role of the WebMaster MSA(UK) for the year 2001. Subsequently a Web Team was formulated on 25th February. The Web Team constituted Mr. Mohamed Fazal (Cambridge) as the Team Leader, Mr. Ibrahim Shafiu (London) Dr. Hassan Ugail (Leeds), Mr. Moahmed Shareef (Birmingham), Mr. Ahmed Nashith (Birmingham), Mr. Abdullah Shareef (London) and myself. As published in the website, this was not a brand new website development, but a complete overhaul to the existing site. Hence, what was already in the site were of great use in developing the new site. Eventually on the 14th of April I had the privilege of launching the new website at the new domain www.msa-uk.org. This domain name acquired and registered by the central committee 2000 was in the name of an individual member. Hence the domain name registration was changed to the Maldivian Students' Association (UK) in November 2001.

Easter get together

During the Easter break a get together was held. It took the form of a Meeting, a dinner and entertainment activities. In the meeting issues relating to Logo, Rosemont, Maravalhi funds and other activities were discussed. As entertainment various board game competitions, and a football match between students in London and other parts of the UK were played.

Maravalhifunds

We did not get any formal documents from the previous Central Committee as to the status of Maravalhi project or its funds. Hence based on hearsay we took the task of tracing the Maravalhi project. Following up from the discussions on the Easter meeting we found that it was a major fund raising project which brought in net revenue of about £4,000.00. As agreed in the Easter Meeting the GUPPI company has been asked to give us a new proposal. And the current Maravalhi Fund account signatories have been asked to facilitate the transfer of funds to the MSA(UK) account held with the Barclays Bank.

Rosemont guidelines

Guidelines relating to the accommodation at No 9 Rosemont Avenue, London were discussed in detail and in the Easter meeting held on 14th April, and a guideline in cooperating the issues, were proposed to the Maldives High Commission, and they have been implemented.

Logo

Upon following up of 'hearsay' of the previous Central Committee, in the Easter meeting it was decided to modernise the logo. Eventually a competition was

opened for members. A panel comprising of central committee members and five ordinary members decided that among the logos received, there was none that is more appropriate than the current logo. Therefore the logo was not changed.

Summer activities

In the summer it was decided not to hold a General get-together in London, as many of the members went to Malé for summer vacation. Hence, it was decided to promote the member relationship through 'Visit- a friend' programme, where members in hosted members in from other counties.

Joospetty

To facilitate more interaction among the members it was decided to make the MSA(UK) website more interactive, by in cooperating an e-zine. As such we were able to launch our e-zine Joospetty on the 27th November 2001. Since then it has been published fortnightly.

Help to students

We have been willing to extend our arms to those students who may need any help. As such the student advisor has been made more accessible through e-mail, and phone, and even in person.

Welcoming the new members

In order to welcome the new members, a 'roadhaveelun' together with a bowling night out was organised on the 17th November 2001. This provided an opportunity for the members to get to know each other better.

Database

The ideas of establishing a database have been discussed on a number of occasions. The compilation of database has begun and is in progress. It is aimed that the database will also provide information on research done by MSA(UK) members and provide moderated access to those research papers.

Difficulties

The major problem for our term was that there was no proper handover from the previous central committee. As there was no proper documentation to follow on from everything has to be started from scratch or hearsay. We regret to bring to your attention that, even as of today, we have not received the Annual Report from the Central Committee 2000.

Way forward

As we step down from the Central Committee we hope that the new central committee will proceed to continue the tasks that we have initiated. Namely:

1. Further develop the website
2. Compile the student data-base on the website.
3. Compile the 'Hall-of Fame' on the website.
4. Modernise the logo.
5. Attend to 'maravalhi' project.
6. Continue to maintain the inventory.
7. Continue to publish the e-zine Joospetty.
8. Continue to maintain the MSA newsgroup.
9. Proceed with the election of the 3 member advisory committee (to the central committee).
10. Continue to follow the now initiated handover procedure.

Conclusion

We have covered a lot of ground – though not as much as we would have liked- during our term. It has been an honour to be of service to MSA(UK) during the year 2001. On behalf of the Central Committee we wish to thank you all for being part of MSA(UK) and helping us cover the ground that we covered.

Thank you.

Abdulla Mausoom
Chairperson MSA(UK), 2001

Maldivian Students' Association (UK)
9 Rosemont Avenue
London N12 0BY
Tel: 0208 446 2781
www.msa-uk.org
email: info@msa-uk.org