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**Impunity Watch Maldives**

**September 2012**

The successful removal of the Maldives' first democratically-elected government in February 2012 by individuals loyal to the Maldives' former dictator, Mr. Maumoon Abdul Gayoom; the extreme police brutality against pro-democracy protesters which followed on February 8<sup>th</sup>, none of which has led to prosecutions; the deeply one-sided report of the Commission of National Inquiry (CoNI); and the repeated failure of domestic oversight bodies to condemn human rights violations or establish accountability; have together led to an overwhelming climate of impunity in the Maldives. This climate has been further amplified by the failure of the State to secure justice for the gross and systematic human rights violations (including extrajudicial killings and torture) which took place prior to 2008.

In order to fight against this pervading climate of impunity, the Maldives Democratic Party (MDP) will publish this monthly summary of human rights violations committed in the country, and the degree to which the State is responding to those violations by securing redress for victims and accountability for perpetrators<sup>1</sup>.

130	The number of documented <sup>2</sup> cases of police brutality against protesters
57	Documented cases of police brutality against women and minors/number of women and minors arrested for participating in protests calling for early elections
851	The number of protesters and MDP supporters detained for participating in protests calling for early elections
80	The number of protesters and MDP supporters charged with 'terrorism'
1	Attempted murder of MDP Chairperson by Police on February 7 <sup>th</sup> 3
80	The number of documented cases of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment committed against protesters in detention
3	The number of MDP former Ministers (Cabinet level or State ministers) beaten or arrested since February 7 <sup>th</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Violations since February 7<sup>th</sup>.

<sup>2</sup> By, inter alia, local NGOs, Amnesty International, International Federation for Human Rights, MDP

<sup>3</sup> See report by International Federation for Human Rights on "Maldives Backtracking on Democracy"

- 17 The number of MDP Members of Parliament beaten or arrested by the Police
- 7 The number of MDP Members of Parliament summoned to the police for questioning and/or facing prosecution by the State
- 1 The number of MDP Members of Parliament removed from their seats by pliant judges since February 7<sup>th</sup>
- 19 The number of MDP party officials (e.g. local councillors, mayors, elected officers) beaten or arrested
- 29 The number of MDP party officials summoned by the police for questioning and/or facing prosecution by the State
- 11 The number of journalists beaten and/or arrested for covering protests or for taking photographs to record police brutality
- 1 Child placed under house arrest on charge that “your father is an MDP politician” and thus the child is likely to cause unrest

And yet...

- 0 Number of police officers prosecuted for brutality against protesters, torture or other human rights violations
- 1 Number of police officers charged on allegations of brutality against protesters, torture or other human rights violations
- 2 Number of promotions awarded to that same police officer by the Government
- 0 Number of times the Government has condemned police brutality and/or other serious human rights violations committed by State actors
- 0 Number of times UN Resident Coordinator Andrew Cox has condemned police brutality and/or other serious human rights violations committed by State actors
- 0 Number of investigations by the Human Rights Commission of the Maldives or the Commission of National Inquiry that have led to prosecutions for human rights violations by State actors
- 106 Number of days since Hilath Rasheed, blogger and human rights defender, was stabbed, and also number of days that police investigation has made no progress

ENDS

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