



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALDIVES IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

May 2025
Key Highlights

Embassy of Maldives Showcases Traditional Dhiguhedhun at the second annual “Fashioning Power, Fashioning Peace” 2025

5 May 2025, Washington, D.C.; As part of its ongoing cultural diplomacy initiatives, the Embassy of the Maldives participated in the second annual *Fashioning Power, Fashioning Peace* exhibition and gala at the President Woodrow Wilson House Museum.



At the inaugural event, the Embassy proudly showcased the *kasabu libaas*. This year, the Maldives presented the *Dhiguhedhun*—first introduced in the 1940s by the country’s first President, Mohamed Amin Didi. It holds the distinction of being the first traditional women’s attire officially endorsed by the Maldivian Parliament. It continues to remain a cherished symbol of elegance and the rich cultural heritage of Maldivian women

The exhibit remained on display for one week, offering visitors the opportunity to experience Maldivian tradition through the medium of fashion and diplomacy, alongside traditional attire from over 50 countries. Key invitees from the United States included members of Congress—most notably, former Speaker Nancy Pelosi as the guest of honor—as well as representatives from the U.S. government, think tanks, philanthropists, and the diplomatic community



Ambassador Ghafoor Attends U.S. State Department Briefing and Reception



8 May 2025, Washington, D.C.; Ambassador Abdul Ghafoor Mohamed attended the "State of the Administration" at the U.S. Department of State, delivered by The Honorable Christopher Landau, Deputy Secretary of State.

During the reception that followed, Ambassador Ghafoor had the pleasure to meet and engage with The Honorable Christopher Landau, Deputy Secretary of State.

Ambassador Signs Condolence Book Honoring Former President of Suriname



9 May 2025, Washington, D.C.; Ambassador Abdul Ghafoor Mohamed signed the Condolence Book at the Embassy of the Republic of Suriname, following the passing of His Excellency Jules Albert Wijdenbosch, former President of Suriname. On behalf of the Government of the Maldives, Ambassador Ghafoor conveyed heartfelt condolences and paid tribute to the late President's legacy and leadership.

The Republic of Maldives and the Republic of Suriname established diplomatic relations in 1993.

Ambassador Shares Insights on the Maldives with Students at Washington International School



15 May 2025, Washington, D.C.; Ambassador Ghafoor held an engaging session with the “International Student Union” representatives from the Washington International School. During the visit, the Ambassador introduced the students to the Maldives, offering an overview of the country’s geography, traditions, and environmental challenges.

This session is part of a broader Embassy initiative to engage with schools and universities in the United States, aimed at fostering greater awareness about the Maldives’ history, traditions, and contributions on the global stage

Ambassador Attends CBP Valor Memorial and Wreath Laying Ceremony



16 May 2025, Washington, D.C.; Ambassador Abdul Ghafoor Mohamed attended the 2025 U.S. Customs and Border Protection Valor Memorial and Wreath Laying Ceremony held at Woodrow Wilson Plaza, Ronald Reagan Building. The event honored those who made the ultimate sacrifice while serving the nation, with a tribute led by Acting Commissioner Pete Flores.

Embassy of the Maldives Attends Panel on U.S. Foreign Policy in the Arab Gulf



20 May 2025, Washington, D.C.; Counsellor Zeena Didi attended the panel discussion “Trump’s Tour Unpacked”, hosted by the Gulf International Forum.

The event brought together experts and policymakers to examine the strategic significance of President Donald Trump’s visit to the Gulf, highlighting evolving U.S.–GCC relations, AI partnerships, and economic diplomacy.

The panel featured remarks by Dr. Dania Thafer, Brian Katulis, and Professor David Des Roches, and explored key issues including regional security, energy policy, and technological cooperation.

Ambassador Ghafoor Attends U.S. Naval Academy Graduation Ceremony



23 May 2025, Annapolis, Maryland; Ambassador Abdul Ghafoor Mohamed attended the U.S. Naval Academy’s Class of 2025 graduation ceremony, where he had the honor of witnessing Private Hassan Nishaf of the Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF) graduate.

Ambassador Ghafoor extended his warm congratulations to Private Nishaf, celebrating the achievement as a proud milestone for both the officer and the Maldives.

Embassy Participates in Embassy Adoption Program's Mini United Nations Event



30 May 2025, Washington, D.C.; Counsellor Zeena Didi represented the Embassy of the Maldives at the annual Mini United Nations event, held at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center as part of the Embassy Adoption Program. The program brings together embassies and D.C. public schools for cultural exchange and student-led diplomacy simulations.

During the event, Counsellor Zeena Didi engaged with student delegates and joined the Diplomat Reception, highlighting the Maldives' continued commitment to educational outreach and public diplomacy. The Embassy's participation reflects its broader initiative to foster global awareness among students through cultural engagement and international cooperation.



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