



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **First Certified Autism Specialist in Maldives Recognized**

December 10, 2015, MALDIVES - Nadhuva Husein is the first in the Maldives to complete a training and certification program resulting in the designation of Certified Autism Specialist® by the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES), and receive CAS of the Month (read interview [here](#)). With the rate of autism diagnosis rapidly increasing worldwide, the need for credentialed and licensed autism-related service providers continues to grow every year. Ilham Hussian, the Maldives' former First Lady, is continually cited as emphasizing the importance for more training opportunities for teachers and therapists, particularly for Maldivians working with children with an autism diagnosis.

Achieving the Certified Autism Specialist® title establishes Nadhuva Husein as a top-level treatment provider for individuals with autism. Completing the program requires extensive, ongoing training, successful completion of an autism competency examination and approval by an international panel comprised of researchers, speakers and advocates in the field representing universities and organizations around the globe.

"Earning the CAS gives me the confidence and encouragement to grow in this particular field," Husein said. "It is especially significant for me in the Maldives as I believe there is a great need for advocacy here. The Certificate is an assurance of my ability to provide my services, which is an advantage to me, as an advocator and consultant (in Autism Spectrum Disorder and Behaviour Analysis) and the children I represent. In that sense, this is profound in its potential."

In addition to completing the rigorous autism certification program, Husein holds a master's degree in applied behavior analysis from the University of Wales, Bangor, United Kingdom and has over ten years of experience as an ABA therapist and special education teacher. She is currently the program director at The Autism Association of Maldives.

"We are very excited to appoint Nadhuva Husein as the first Certified Autism Specialist® in Maldives," said Myron Pincomb, Board Chairman of IBCCES, "Families and those with the diagnosis can now rest assured that they are receiving a pinnacle-level of services from specialists with knowledge and understanding of best practices and up-to-date treatment options. A third-party verification and internationally-recognized program of standards for autism professionals makes a huge impact on the quality of care."

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## **About IBCCES**

The International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards ([IBCCES](#)) was established in 2001 to meet the training and credentialing needs of professionals who work with individuals with special needs. IBCCES has since expanded into over 40 different countries with training centers and members across the globe.

Our Certified Autism Specialist, Board Certified Cognitive Specialist, and Certified Autism Center credentials were established with the highest standards in the industry. As a result, our programs have become the benchmark for those who work with cognitive disorders around the globe.

IBCCES created and hosts the annual International Symposium on Cognitive Research & Disorders. This global event brings together top neurologists, education leaders, and healthcare experts with a focus on research, innovation and collaboration.

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