## BEYOND LABELS- A TRANSGENDER AWARENESS PROGRAM

The Department of Psychology and psychology club of KAHM Unity Women's College, Manjeri organized a transgender awareness session, "Beyond Labels," in association with the Social Justice Department, Malappuram, Government of Kerala, and PG Department of Psychology, Mankada Government College. The session, held on 16th January 2024 at the AC seminar hall, featured a distinguished speaker, Hina Haneefa, who shared her experiences as a transgender activist, social worker, and India's first transgender NCC cadet.

The session began with a warm welcome address by Hajara, Assistant Professor (Adhoc) from the Department of Psychology. Prof. Dr. Muhammed Basheer Ummathur, the College Principal, delivered a powerful presidential address, emphasizing the importance of understanding and embracing diversity within the academic community. The felicitation by Dr. Shahina Mol A K, Head of the Department of English and IQAC coordinator, and Fathima Shirin K A, HOD and Assistant Professor from the Department of Psychology, further highlighted the collaborative efforts that made the event possible.

The highlight of the program was the Transgender Awareness Session conducted by Hina Haneefa, a prominent transgender activist, social worker, and India's first transgender NCC cadet. Hina's insights, experiences, and knowledge contributed significantly to raising awareness and breaking down stereotypes surrounding transgender individuals. The speaker shared personal stories and insights, thereby enabling a profound understanding about the challenges faced by transgender individuals and the importance of creating an inclusive and supportive environment.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks from Afla Hanna (Student coordinator, 3rd year BSc Psychology). Through their feedbacks, many students expressed gratitude for the eye-opening session, that broadened their perspectives and also inspired them to be more compassionate allies for the transgender community. Overall, the session effectively challenged preconceived notions and played a crucial role in promoting awareness, acceptance, and inclusivity within both the academic and non-academic setting, leaving a lasting impression among the audience.







