

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024



BIODIVERSITY CLUB

KAHM Unity Women's College, Manjeri, Malappuram, 676122

Reg. No.: KSBB/BDC/10 079

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE & EXECUTIVE MEMBERS, 2023-24

(07 December 2023)

Selected the committee and executive members of the club on 07th December 2023 and discussed the club activities of the academic year 2023-24 that included the fresh water fish farming, xerophytic garden setting and construction of biodiversity spot in the campus. A total of 15 students of various departments were participated in the meeting and contributed their ideas regarding biodiversity conservation.

Table 1. Committee & Executive members of the club, 2023-2024

President	Mariyam Ranna KV	Department of History	1 st semester BA History
Vice President	Shifana Sharin MP	Department of FCS	1 st semester BSc FCS
Secretary	Fidha NK	Department of FCS	1 st semester BSc FCS
Joint Secretary	Fathima Hana	Department of Botany	1 st semester BSc Botany
Treasurer	Bahija Nourin	Department of FCS	1 st semester BSc FCS
Executive Members	Nishma AV	Department of Botany	6 th semester BSc Botany
	Mufeedha	Department of Botany	6 th semester BSc Botany
	Noorunneesa	Department of History	1 st semester BA History
	Anshaba	Department of FCS	1 st semester BSc FCS
	Anu Zarin	Department of History	1 st semester BA History
	Sisira	Department of History	1 st semester BA History
	Hidha sherin	Department of Botany	6 th semester BSc Botany
	Fidha Jabin	Department of Botany	6 th semester BSc Botany



Figure 1. Participants of the meeting that held on 07th December 2023

BIODIVERSITY CLUB NAME BOARD FIXED IN THE CAMPUS

(22 December 2023)

To enforce the activities of the club, Kerala Biodiversity Board, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, 695003, sanctioned the fund of 5000/- (File No. A15/714/KSBB/2022) that aimed to fix the Biodiversity Club Board with registration number (KSBB/BDC/10 079) and develop a Biodiversity Spot in the Campus. The club members conducted the corresponding events on 22nd December 2023 in presence of Prof. (Dr.) Muhammed Basheer Ummathur (Principal, KAHM Unity women's College) and Dr. Usman A. (Head of the Department of Botany, KAHM Unity women's College) and the events coordinated by Dr. Deepa P. and Ms. Surya E.V. (Coordinator and Joint Coordinator of Biodiversity Club) of Botany Department.



Figure 2. Biodiversity Club Name Board fixing event on 22nd December 2023

INITIATED BIODIVERSITY SPOT IN THE CAMPUS

(21 December 2023)

As the second activity in support of Kerala State Biodiversity Board, the club initiated the work of 'Biodiversity Spot' in the campus that conserves the germplasm of different plant groups including bryophytes, pteridophytes, gymnosperms and angiosperms in a single spot. The plants of various habitats like aquatic, epiphytic and terrestrial, play major role in the diversity conservation of the spot; similarly, fauna of the pond also contributes equal role in aquatic ecosystem balance together with plant species, *Pistia* and *Lemna*. The event coordinated by Dr. Deepa P. and Ms. Surya E.V. (Coordinator and Joint Coordinator of Biodiversity Club) of Botany Department on 21st December 2023 in which all the club members were actively participated.



Figure 3. Initiated a Biodiversity Spot in the campus of KAHM Unity Women's College

OBSERVED FUNGAL DIVERSITY OF THE CAMPUS

(14 August 2023)

Fungi are the grand recyclers of the planet and the vanguard species in habitat restoration, also play as interface organisms between life and death. Hence, preserving the fungal diversity is imperative to protecting the ecosystem functions, and Mycologists have made significant progress on illuminating the species occurrence, function and ecological relationships presently; but the bulk of fungal biodiversity is yet to be characterized on the earth.

To observe the diversity of fungal species in the Campus of Korambayil Ahamed Haji Memorial Unity Women's College, Manjeri, Biodiversity Club in association with PG Department of Botany organized an experiential walk 'Through Fungal Jungle of Unity Campus' on 14th August 2023. The club members and First Semester M.Sc. Botany students were included in the campus walk and keenly observed the various fungal species located at different parts of the campus which bloomed after the heavy rains. The programme coordinated by Dr. Deepa P. (Assistant Professor Adhoc), Dr. Gouthami V. (Assistant Professor Adhoc) and Ayisha Febin P.N. (First Semester M.Sc. Botany) to collect and scientifically identify the diverse fungal species of the campus.

Fungi, the eukaryotic organisms, bloom in presence of soil moisture content and usually participate in decomposition of organic matter to deliver the nutrients for plant growth. The basic units of fungi (hyphae) and the intermingled mass of hyphae (mycelia) were observed on the partly decayed wet leaves and woody stem of the campus. The observed fruiting bodies of the fungi were with different colour, size and shape that mention the key features of the specific species; while all of them had a unique role in balancing of life cycle, the production of spores for hyphal regeneration. More species were detected on the humus present in the Rubber Plantation of the campus which maintains the most suitable environmental condition for fungal bloom during the rainy season. About 40 species of fungi were noticed and photographed by the students during the experiential walk which provided a better exposure to the students towards the campus biodiversity in the beginning of their academic life. The collected fungi was systematically identified by Dr. Adnaan Farook V.,

Assistant Professor, Mycology Division, Department of Botany, Farook College (Autonomous), Kozhikode.



Figure 4. Identified various fungal species of the campus, KAHM Unity Women's College, Manjeri

WORLD WETLANDS DAY CELEBRATION

(09 February 2024)

As part of the 'World Wetlands Day 2024', the slogan writing competition for M.Sc. Botany students were conducted by Biodiversity Club in association with Bhoo Mithra Sena Club on 09th February 2024. Thirty-four students from Second Semester M.Sc. Botany participated in the event in which the slogan written by Ms. Sreena N., Second Semester M.Sc. Botany selected as the best one (A World without Wetland is a World without Water).

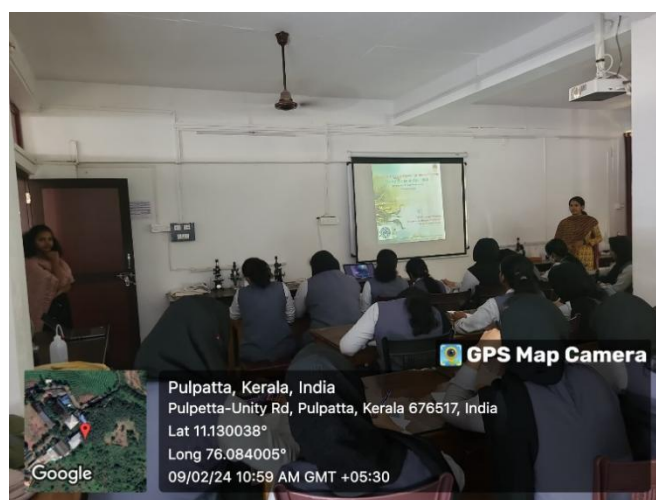


Figure 5. Slogan writing competition that conducted in relation to World Wetlands Day 2024

PLANT IDENTIFICATION AND FLORISTIC SURVEY IN THE CAMPUS

(25, 26 & 27 March 2024)

The Biodiversity and Botany Club in association with IQAC organized a comprehensive 'Plant Identification and Floristic Survey' within the campus premises on 25, 26 & 27 March 2024. The event aimed to enhance awareness about college flora, promote biodiversity conservation, and provide hands-on experience in plant identification to the students using 'Flora of Presidency of Madras'. The survey yielded a comprehensive inventory of plant species present within the campus by students of Fourth Semester M.Sc. Botany, contributing valuable data to the botanical records. Participants gained practical skills in plant identification, fostering a deeper connection with nature and an increased understanding of ecological principles. By combining field surveys with educational practices, the event not only contributed to scientific knowledge but also inspired a sense of stewardship towards the campus environment. The event coordinated by Deepa P., Surya E. V. and Fayiza T. of Botany Department that played a crucial role in fostering a culture of conservation and promoting sustainable practices for the benefit of present and future generations.

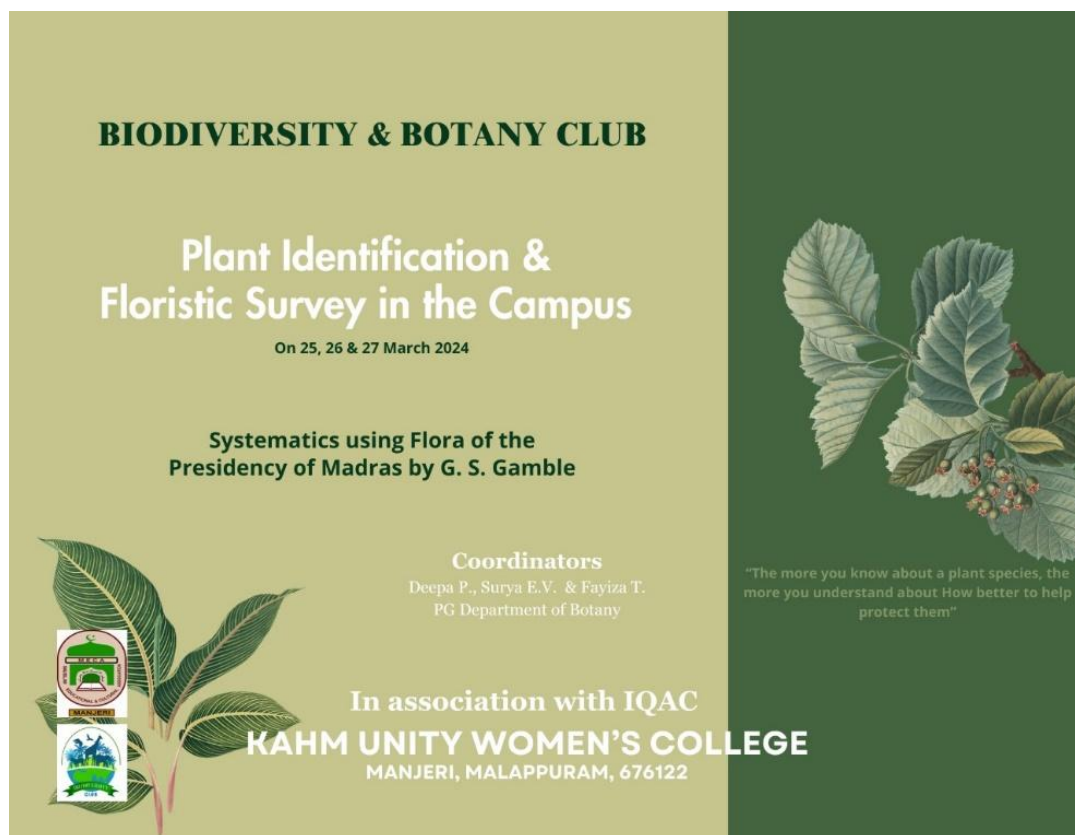




Figure 6. Plant identification and survey that conducted on 25, 26 & 27 March 2024

NATURAL HANDMADE SOAP MAKING WORKSHOP

(26 March 2024)

On 26th March 2024, Biodiversity Club and Bhoomithra Sena Club conducted an event entitled 'Natural Handmade Soap Making Workshop' at PG Department of Botany. The workshop aimed to educate participants on the science behind soap making and empower them to create their own personalized natural soaps. The workshop began with a foundational understanding of natural soap, covering topics like saponification, properties of various oils and fats used in soap making and benefits of natural ingredients that were delivered by Sudheesha K., Assistant Professor Adhoc, PG Department of Botany. Each step of the natural soap making process demonstrated by Deepa P., Biodiversity Club coordinator using the soap base and extracts of neem and curcuma rhizome, the best anti-microbial natural agents. Participants successfully created natural soap bars and the event fostered an appreciation for the science behind everyday products and the potential for natural alternatives, and sparked an interest in botany by showcasing the use of plant-based ingredients. Beyond that the usage of minimal chemicals and plant derived ingredients reduces the amount of toxic chemicals that are released into the environment. The event provided valuable knowledge and practical skills to the participants, while exploring the science and creativity behind a common household item. Together-with the workshop serves as an excellent platform to engage the community and bridge the gap between scientific understanding and everyday applications.

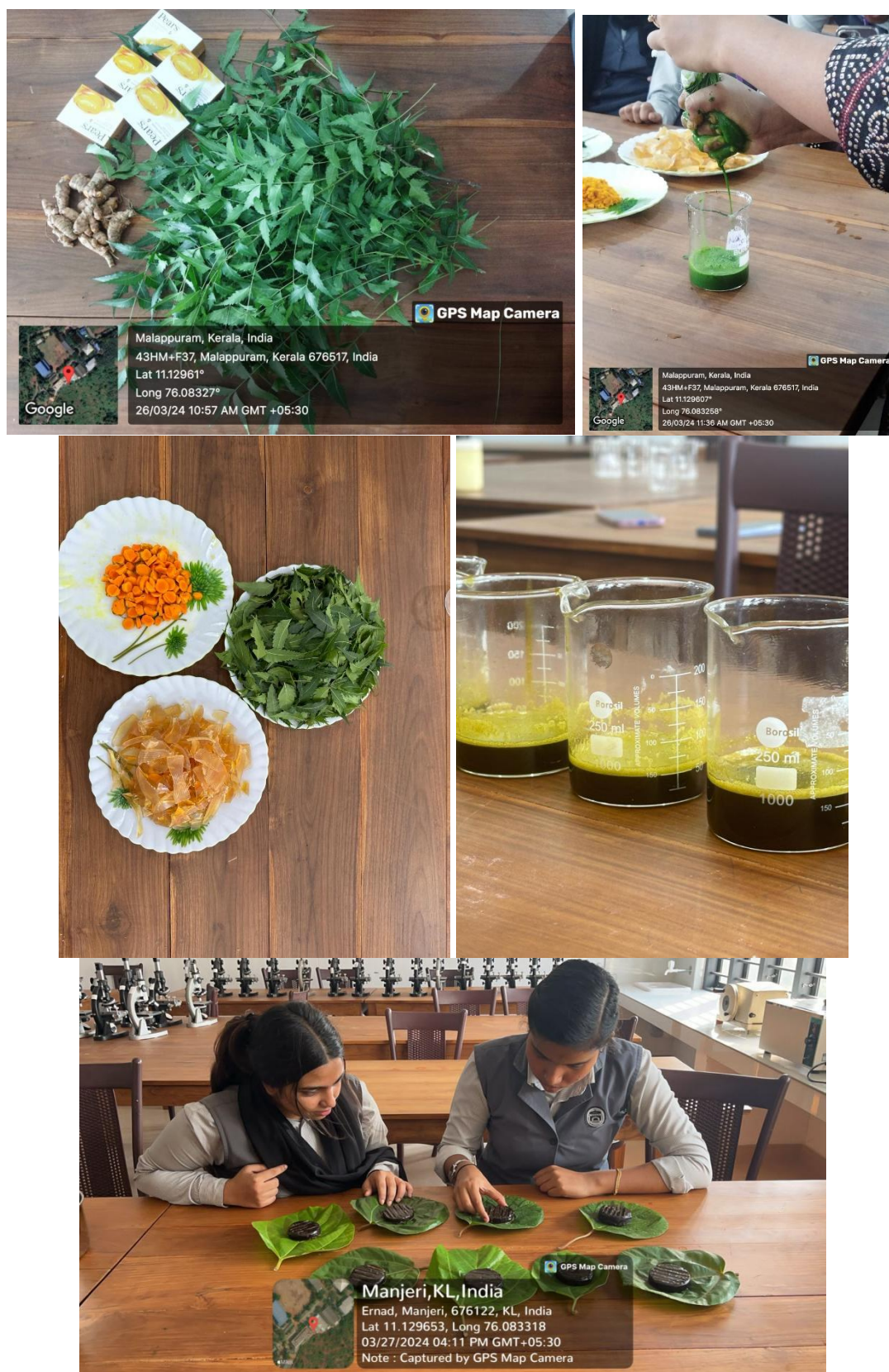


Figure 7. Natural handmade soap making workshop that conducted on 26 March 2024

RELEASING OF MEDICINAL HERBS ILLUSTRATED CALENDAR 2024

(12 January 2024)

Medicinal herbs illustrated calendar 2024 released on 12th January 2024 that included the illustrations of 12 medicinal herbs. Illustrations contributed by Anjana K., Joint Coordinator of Biodiversity Club, 2022-2023. The aim of the event was to familiarize the important herbal medicines to student community.



Figure 8. Medicinal herbs illustrated calendar 2024 released on 12 January 2024