



SHIHAB THANGAL LIBRARY AND INFORMATION CENTRE



The KAHM Unity Women's College Library, known as the Shihab Thangal Library and Information Centre, was established in 1991 together with the college. It has consistently worked to create a supportive academic environment for students. Located near the academic buildings, in a separate two storied building, offering a peaceful space for reading, studying, and collaboration.

The library supports the institution's academic and research needs with the adequate services and facilities and resources. Since 2008 the library partially automated with the Library Automation Software Bookmagic. To completely modernize its services, the library adopted Koha, an Integrated Library Management System (ILMS), which enhances access to resources and ensures efficient operations in 2024. The library follows the Dewey Decimal Classification Scheme and provides an Online Public Access Catalogue (OPAC) for easy travel and access of the academic resources.

In addition to printed books, the library offers access to e-resources e-books, e-journals, and databases through the N-LIST and DELNET Library Network system. DSpace Institutional Repository system adopted in the current academic year for archiving and accessing faculty publications, thesis, and e-books. previous years question papers archived.



The college library conducts various user awareness programs to familiarize users with its diverse resources and services. Additionally, it organizes seminars, workshops, and competitions to promote and develop reading habits among students.

The library operates under the guidance of the Library Advisory Committee, which supports the improvement of services and resources. The college library, guided by the Library Advisory Committee, continuously improves its services and resources. The committee enhances accessibility, fosters innovation, and ensures the library remains a key academic hub.

Mission

To create an inclusive and equitable learning space by providing diverse, accessible, and empowering resources that support academic success, lifelong learning, and the holistic development of all students, with a focus on women's empowerment.

Vision

- **Empower through Knowledge:** Provide diverse resources and technology for innovation and academic success.
- **Support Women's Empowerment:** Prioritize women's education and leadership.
- **Promote Equity and Inclusion:** Use technology to ensure equal access to information and bridge the digital divide for all students.

Library Collection

#	Collections	Details
1.	Printed Books	22689
2.	Number of Titles	15858
3.	Reference Books	1692
4.	Book Bank Collection	1084
5.	Rare Books	53
6.	Journals	35
7.	Bound Volumes (Journals)	928
8.	e-books (N LIST and DELNET)	701613 +
9.	e-journals (N LIST and DELNET)	6000 +
10.	Network Resources	N-LIST, DELNET
11.	Faculty Publications	Articles & Books



12.	Magazines	30
13.	Newspapers	7
14.	CD/ DVD	265
15.	Question Bank	Since 2000
16.	CD/DVDs	265
17.	Encyclopaedia	72
18.	Library Management System	Koha
19.	Institutional Repository	DSpace

Library Sections

The library arranged different in section in order to smooth functioning of the services and easy and fast access of the various resources. The various sections of the library area listed below.

Ground Floor

- **Knowledge Gateway - Library Entrance Gate** - Fixed with Barcode scanner for registering library entry and exit of the users.
- **Belongings Bureau - Property counter** – For keeping personal belongings of the users
- **Circulation Hub - Circulation counter** – For Checking and checkout of books
- **Fresh Reads Showcase - New Arrival Display** – To display newly added books to library
- **Universal Reads - Must-Read Books** – To display a selection of essential literary works everyone should explore.
- **Morning Pages - Newspaper Corner** – Section to display and read newspapers daily
- **Book Wonderland - Book Rack Hall** – Majority of the ground floor space reserved for Library Book Rack arranging and displaying books based on the **Dew Decimal Classification Scheme** for easy identification and retrieval.
- **Literary Lounge - Reading Hall** – Both tow side of the hall arranged calm space for reading books and other resources.
- **Exam Archive - Question Bank Corner** – To file and refer previous years university examination question papers for various subject.
- **Catalogue Oasis - Web OPAC Stations** – 3 WebOpac Computer Stations for searching catalogue and locating books and resources.



- **Tech Lab - Technical Section** – Space for accessioning of books and other technical processing of books and other resources.
- **Academic Spotlight - Faculty Publications and MRP Corner** - Display Rack for various publications and Minor Research Projects by faculties of the institute.
- **Research Repository - PhD Theses and PG Dissertation Stack** - For preserving PhD Theses and **projects, dissertations** of PG Students.
- **Sanowar Legacy - Sanowar Memorial Bookshelf:** A dedicated collection of books honouring the memory of Ms. Sanowar (late student), featuring inspirational literature.
- **Sharing Shelf - Book Bank Collection:** A textbook bank collection that provides essential academic resources for students in need.
- **Storage Sanctuary - Library Stock Room:** A secure area for the organized storage and preservation of library materials.

First Floor

- **Copy Corner - Reprographic Centre** – Provide Photocopying and printing service for users
- **Journal Junction - Periodical Section** - Subject journals and General periodicals are arranged here.
- **Bound Treasures - Bound Volumes Corner** – Collecting bounded Back volumes of subject journals.
- **Reference Hub - Reference Section** – To Keep reference books collection
- **Digital Resource Centre - Digital Library** – Separate section for accessing digital and networked e resources. 20 computers with internet access provided for this section.
- **Career Compass - Career Corner** – Collection of books and other resources supporting for career guidance and competitive examinations
- **Curated Classics - Rare Book Collection** – Locally important and other rare books collected for the reference.
- **Human Library- Audio Visual Room** – For Interacting with library users and giving user orientations and awareness for various library resources and services.
- **Faculty Forum - Faculty Area:** A space for faculty members to refer library resources and share ideas.
- **Graduate Nexus:** A dedicated area for Post Graduate students to access and read library research resources, and share academic materials and insights.

The library's **circulation and check-in and check-out management** process is **efficient and fast** due to a **fully barcode-enabled system**. **Barcodes on books and user ID cards** allow for quick scanning, ensuring seamless tracking of all borrowed

and returned materials. This system improves accuracy and reduces manual effort, streamlining resource management.

The college library has a strong collection of subject-specific and general books, along with references, journals, magazines, and newspapers. It provides access to e-journals and e-books through **NLIST and DELNET**. Additionally, the library offers digital archives of **Previous years' question papers, projects, dissertations, PhD theses, and faculty publications** via its **DSpace digital repository**.



Infrastructure of the Library

- Barcode enabled In and out Entry Gate
- CCTV Surveillance
- High Speed Wi-Fi
- Photostat Machines
- 20 Computers for smooth library operations and fast access of resources.

Library Services

The college library offers a wide range of services to support academic and research needs. Key services include Book Circulation, OPAC, New Arrival Alerts, Reference Services, and access to Journals and Periodicals. It also provides a Digital Resource Centre, Interlibrary



Loan, Wi-Fi, Research Support, and Plagiarism Checking. User Orientation programs and Library Programs, along with Internship Opportunities, further enhance the learning experience, fostering a supportive environment for all.



The major services provide in the library are:

- **Book Circulation:** Details on book issuance and reservations.
- **WEB OPAC:** Access to the Online Public Access Catalogue.
- **New Arrival Alert Service:** Notifications about the latest additions to the collection.
- **Reference Service:** Assistance in locating and using reference materials.
- **Journals and Periodicals:** Access to a wide range of academic journals and periodicals.
- **Digital Resource Centre:** Availability of electronic resources and materials.
- **Reprography Service:** Printing and copying services for library materials.
- **Interlibrary Loan:** Access to resources from other libraries.
- **Wi-Fi:** Free internet access for all users.
- **Research Support:** Guidance and assistance with research projects.
- **Plagiarism Checking Services:** Tools to ensure academic integrity.
- **Current Awareness Service:** Updates on recent developments in specific fields.
- **User Orientation:** Programs to familiarize new users with library resources.
- **Library Programs:** Various initiatives and events promoting literary engagement.
- **Internship Opportunities:** Practical experience for students in library operations.

Library Policy

The library's policies are based on established rules and the ongoing decisions of the Library Advisory Committee. It operates from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM on weekdays and from 9:30



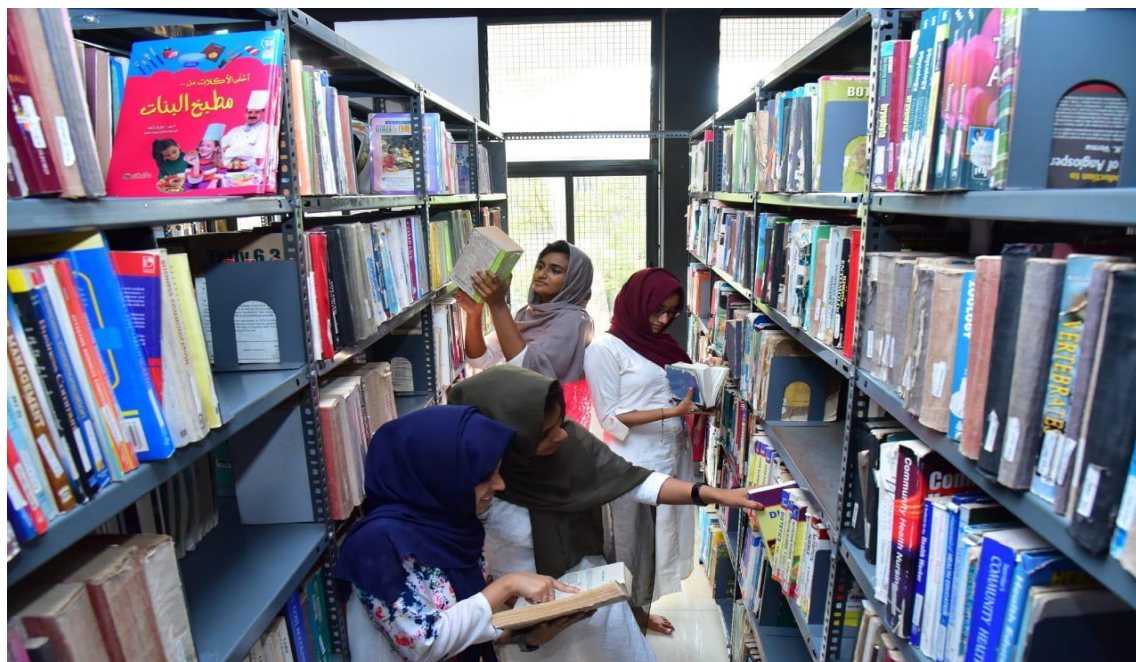
AM to 4:30 PM on Saturdays. The library is open every day except for second Saturdays, Sundays, and public holidays.

Library Book Borrowing Privileges

Program	No. of Books	Loan period (in Days)
UG	3	14
PG	5	14
PhD Scholars	7	14
Faculty	10	30
Staff	3	30

Book Arrangements

The Shihab Thangal Library exemplifies a well-organized space that fosters a sense of order and cleanliness. This organization not only enhances the user experience but also simplifies the management and maintenance of the library's collections for staff. By systematically arranging books according to the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) scheme, users can efficiently navigate the collections, easily finding resources that align with their needs and interests.



Reference Collection

The reference collection is maintained separately, allowing serious readers and users to easily locate the materials they need. By keeping reference resources distinct from the general collection, the library ensures that users can quickly access specialized materials, such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, and other non-circulating resources, without confusion. The college library has a collection of 1,692 reference books and offers 42 reading seats.



Reading Areas



On the ground floor of the library, reading spaces are arranged in the two sides of the general book racks, allowing users to easily browse and study in close proximity to the collection. The first floor offers a more expansive reading area, designed to accommodate a larger number of readers in a comfortable and open environment. Specialized reading spaces are available in the reference and periodical sections, providing a quiet and focused atmosphere for in-depth study and research. The calm and peaceful environment across both floors ensures that readers can engage in their academic work with minimal distractions.



Digital Resource Centre and E Resources

The library features a dedicated Digital Resource Centre equipped with 20 computers, all connected to high-speed internet via wired networks. Students can also use their own laptops or mobile devices for research and reference purposes, as the library offers free Wi-Fi. Additionally, the library provides 24/7 access to network resources and its digital repository, allowing users to access academic data, e-resources, and other digital content of the library at any time.

The college library subscribes to INFLIBNET's N-LIST and DELNET resources, enhancing academic research and learning. N-LIST provides a vast collection of e-journals and e-books across various disciplines, while DELNET offers an extensive range of electronic resources, including journals, books, and databases. These subscriptions enable users to access a diverse array of scholarly content, supporting their research and study needs. By leveraging these digital resources, the library creates a resource-rich environment that equips students and faculty for academic success.



The library partially automated in the year 2008 using the BookMagic Library Automation software. In 2024, it was upgraded to Koha Integrated Library Management System (ILMS), version 24.05.03.000. Koha is a comprehensive, feature-rich system that provides all the tools needed for library management within a clean, user-friendly, web-based interface. It enables the library staff to efficiently handle daily tasks such as accessioning, circulation, cataloguing, browsing, and locating resources and making report of the library statistics with ease and precision.

WEB OPAC

As we use **Koha** its **WebOPAC** service offers **seamless access to the entire library collection through a user-friendly, web-based platform**. Patrons can search for books, journals, and digital resources using various filters like title, author, or subject, and view real-time availability of materials. **With 24/7 access**, students and researchers can use their laptops or mobile devices to browse the catalogue, reserve materials, and even know status of the interested books items online.

The system also supports personalized features, allowing users to create reading lists and manage their library accounts remotely. With Koha WebOPAC, the Shihab Thangal Library



ensures a smooth, accessible, and efficient library experience, catering to the needs of its users both on and off campus.

Clubs and Committees

The Library Literary Club and Readers' Forum operate actively alongside the college library, providing a vibrant platform for students to engage with literature and foster a love for reading. Various programs, including competitions, debates, discussions, invited talks, and book reviews, are organized under these initiatives. These events not only encourage participation in literary activities but also enhance critical thinking and communication skills among students.



Library Programs

The library organizes various programs to cultivate a reading habit among users. User orientations for new students introduce them to library resources, while invited talks by authors provide valuable insights into literature. Events like the well-known Author **Vaikom Muhammed Basheer Commemoration** and the **Best Reader of the Year Award 2023** celebrate literary contributions and recognize dedicated readers.

The library also hosts **book review writing competitions** to encourage critical engagement with texts, along with creative writing workshops that foster self-expression. Additionally,



user awareness programs on NLIST and open access resources were notable initiatives organized this academic year. Recent **Reading Day** celebrations and book exhibitions showcased diverse genres and authors. Through these initiatives, the library actively promotes a vibrant reading culture among students and users.



College Library Advisory committee




The Library Advisory Committee plays a key role in connecting the library with the academic community and ensuring it meets users' needs. The Library Advisory Committee at Shihab Thangal Library is essential for enhancing library operations and development. Its primary goal is to connect the library with the academic community and institute management. The committee provides strategic direction, reviews the library's support for academic programs, and establishes collection development policies. It also monitors trends in information technology and library automation to keep the library current. Additionally, the committee evaluates user feedback, formulates policies, and assists in providing need-based information services. By advising on financial support for new programs and managing budget allocation for book procurement, the committee ensures that the Library meets the evolving needs of its users and promotes a vibrant academic environment.

Library Advisory Committee

Sl. No	Name	Role
1	Prof (Dr.) Muhammed Basheer Ummathur (Principal)	Chairman
2	Mr. Yunus TP (UGC Librarian)	Secretary
3	Dr P Jyothi	Member
4	Mr Rahib B	Member
5	Mr Abdul Rof V	Member
6	Mr Shabeer Mon M	Member
7	Dr Shahina Mol AK	Member
8	Dr Hikmathulla V	Member
9	Dr Usman A	Member
10	Ms Shirin	Member
11	All other HoDs (Special invitees)	Members
12	A Student Representative	Member

In conclusion, Shihab Thangal Library is a vital resource for students and faculty, offering a variety of services and programs that enhance the academic experience. With its comprehensive information services, digital resources, and engaging literary programs, the library promotes research, critical thinking, and lifelong learning. As it continues to adapt and evolve, Shihab Thangal Library remains dedicated to supporting users in achieving their educational goals.




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