

Monthly Newsletter of P.G. Department of Botany, Korambayil Ahamed Haji Memorial Unity Women's College, Manjeri - 676122
(Affiliated to University of Calicut, NAAC Re-accredited with B++ Grade, Estd - 1991)

Achievements

Best Paper Presentation Award at the National Seminar on Cytogenetics, Genomics and Plant Breeding, KSCSTE-MBGIPS, Kozhikode



Shibla Banu Kalathingal, Fourth Semester M.Sc. Botany, PG Department of Botany (2022-2024 Batch) has won the Best Paper Presentation Award at the National Seminar on Cytogenetics, Genomics and Plant Breeding, held as part of the Prof. A. Abraham Endowment Award Programme - 2024 at Malabar Botanical Garden & Institute for Plant Sciences (KSCSTE-MBGIPS), Kozhikode on 21 August 2024, for her research paper titled 'Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles using *Phaleria macrocarpa* (Scheff.) Boerl. extracts: Characterization and seedling growth assessment'.

Deepa P. has attended a webinar on Mosquitoes: The magnificent enemies, organized by SN College, Kollam on 25 August 2024.



Growing Cowpeas

From seed to pod by PG Department of Botany

On 9th August 2024, the PG Department of Botany, KAHM Unity Women's College, Manjeri, initiated a hands-on Cowpea gardening project, aimed at providing B.Sc. Botany students with practical experience in vegetable cultivation. The event marked the beginning of a season-long project, where students would actively engage in every stage of the gardening process, from seed sowing to harvest. This initiative is part of the Department's ongoing efforts to integrate theoretical knowledge with practical skills, enhancing student's understanding of Plant Biology, Ecology and Sustainable Agriculture.



The event began at 2:00 PM, with an enthusiastic group of B.Sc. Botany students gathered at Polyhouse near the Botanical Garden. The faculty members, Deepa P. and Surya E.V., of the Department provided an introductory briefing on the significance of the project, the biology of pea plants and the basic principles of sustainable gardening. At first, they prepared the soil in the designated Polyhouse area by clearing the weeds, rocks and other debris, and proceeded to till the soil, ensuring it was well-aerated and free from compaction. Compost mixed into the soil to enhance fertility and improve soil structure, providing an ideal growing medium for the pea plants.



Following the soil preparation, the students moved on to the seed sowing process. The faculties provided a demonstration on the correct planting depth and spacing for pea seeds. The seeds were sown at a depth of 1-2 inches, with a spacing of 2 inches between each seed, and 18-24 inches between rows. After sowing, the garden beds were lightly watered to settle the seeds into the soil and initiate the germination process. As peas are climbing plants, students were also involved in setting up support structure, stakes. These structures are essential for guiding the growth of pea vines and preventing them from sprawling on the ground, which could lead to disease and poor yield. The pea gardening event coordinated by Deepa P., Surya E.V. and Rahila of PG department of Botany which was a resounding success, with students gaining valuable hands-on experience in the fundamental aspects of vegetable gardening. The event not only provided practical knowledge but also fostered a sense of teamwork and responsibility among the students.



Student Coordinator
Ayiasha Febin P.N.
PG 1st Semester Botany

Designed by
Sudheesha K.
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the Chlorophile



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BOTANIQUE: The Bridge Course Organized by the PG Department of Botany

The program commenced with a warm welcome address by Dr. Usman A., who introduced the students to the present status of the Department, highlighted its achievements and ongoing projects. The session set the tone for the day, providing the students with a sense of belonging and motivation as they embarked on their Post Graduate journey.

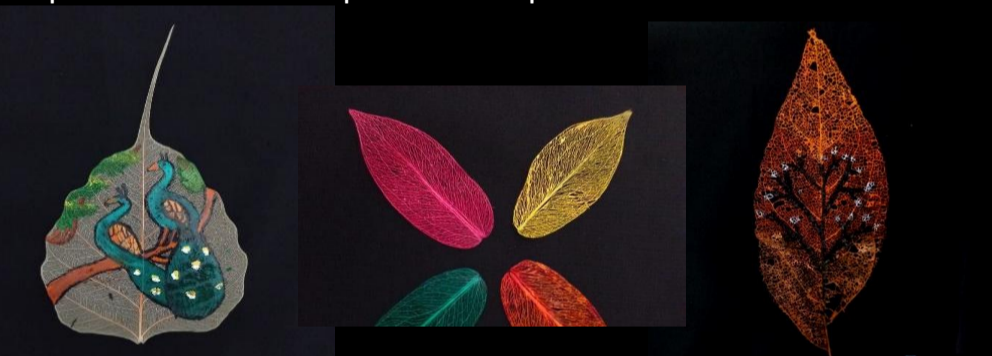
Following the welcome, Dr. Faseela P. provided an overview of the M.Sc. Botany curriculum. She meticulously explained the structure of the course, emphasized the importance of each module and how they interconnect to form a holistic understanding of the subject. It was crucial in helping students to navigate their academic journey with clarity and purpose. The next session led by Shifa M., focused on the laboratory facilities and good practices in which she introduced the state-of-the-art labs available within the Department and elaborated on the various techniques and methodologies that they would be using throughout the course. Nadiya K.T. then handled the session to discuss the scope of the Plant Science course that highlighted the vast opportunities available to botanists, ranging from academic research to roles in Environmental Conservation, Agriculture and Biotechnology. Surya E.V. followed with an informative discussion on competitive exams to provide the guidance on how to prepare for exams like CSIR-NET, GATE and other relevant tests, that can open doors to research and academic positions in prestigious institutions. It was instrumental in motivating students to aim for higher academic and professional achievements. Afterwards, Sudheesha K. delivered a talk on the latest trends and innovations in research areas of Botany, in turn encouraged students to explore research opportunities and contribute to the field with original ideas. The final session conducted by Deepa P., who familiarized the students with the campus flora. This interactive session involved a walk through the campus, where students learned about the various plant species present, their significance and ecological roles. The entire program seamlessly coordinated by Nadiya K.T. and Daliya T.P., whose efforts ensured the smooth execution of the course. In conclusion, the Bridge Course successfully achieved its objectives, leaving the students better prepared and more confident to embark on their M.Sc. Botany journey.

Skeleton Leaves Art

On 12 and 13 August 2024, the Postgraduate Department of Botany, KAHM Unity Women's College, organized a workshop on the fascinating art of Skeleton Leaves.



The workshop conducted with the expertise of the resource person, Ms. Safwa C.K., Fifth Semester B.Sc. Botany, who guided the participants through the process of creating and decorating skeleton leaves. The workshop attended by all Fifth Semester B.Sc. Botany students, who actively participated in the hands-on sessions. The event aimed to blend botanical science with creative artistry, offering students a unique opportunity to explore the aesthetic potential of plant materials.



During the workshop, Ms. Safwa C.K. introduced the techniques of preparing skeleton leaves, a process that involves carefully removing the fleshy parts of the leaves to reveal their intricate vein structures. Once the skeletons were prepared, the participants engaged in painting and decorating the leaves, transforming them into delicate and beautiful pieces of art. She shared various tips and techniques to enhance the artistic quality of the leaves. The students, in turn, demonstrated great interest and creativity in their work, producing impressive results that reflected both their scientific knowledge and artistic talent.



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Introduction to Microsoft Office

On 13th August 2024, the Post Graduate Department of Botany, KAHM Unity Women's College, organized an 'Introductory Session on Microsoft Office' for the First Semester M.Sc. Botany students. The primary objective was to equip the students with a solid foundation in the basic functionalities of Microsoft Office focusing on Word, Excel and PowerPoint, the essential tools for the academic and research endeavors.

Ms. Sudeesha K., Assistant Professor Adhoc, PG Department of Botany, provided comprehensive training that delivering an overview of the core Microsoft Office applications.

KAHM Unity Women's College, Manjeri
PG DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

Introduction to MS Office

COORDINATOR: **Sudheesha K.**
STUDENT COORDINATOR: **Shuhaila M.**

DATE: 13/08/2024
VENUE: COLLEGE LIBRARY
TIME: 2:00 PM

Design, analyze & present with ease using MS Office

World Processing
Microsoft Excel
Microsoft Powerpoint



She demonstrated their practical uses such as document creation in Word, data analysis in Excel and presentation design in PowerPoint.



The session was highly interactive with students engaging in hands-on exercises designed to reinforce the concepts taught.

This approach allowed the participants to apply their newly acquired skills in real-time, ensuring that they could effectively utilize the tools in their coursework and research projects. By the end, the session successfully met its objectives, laying a crucial foundation for the students as they embark on their Post Graduate studies, which was coordinated by Ms. Sudeesha K. and Ms. Shuhaila M. of the Botany Department.



A Photography Class: Capturing the Life and Beauty of Greenery

On 19th August 2024, coinciding with World Photography Day, a photography class titled "Petals and Light: Illuminating the Poetry of Nature" was conducted at KAHM Unity Women's College, Manjeri, for the first-year MSc Botany students. The session, held at the digital studio and college campus, was led by Mr. Mohammed Siraj K.M, a VFX Supervisor from the film industry, who shared his expertise in photography and visual effects. He provided insights into capturing nature's beauty through the lens, focusing on the interplay between light and natural elements. The program was coordinated by teacher faculty Ms. Shifa M, with student faculty Daliya TP of the botany department assisting throughout. During the session, students were introduced to key photography techniques, including lighting, framing, and timing, with a practical outdoor session allowing them to capture the rich botanical diversity of the campus. The class highlighted photography as a tool for both scientific documentation and creative expression, bridging the gap between art and science for the Botany students.



Substance Abuse Awareness Program Conducted by SEED Club

As part of the ongoing 'Thanichalla' project, the Mathrubhumi SEED Club at KAHM Unity Women's College, Narukara, organized a significant Substance Abuse Awareness Program on 30th August 2024 aimed at educating students on the critical issues surrounding drug and substance abuse. The program was inaugurated by College Principal, Prof. Mohammed Basheer Ummathur, who emphasized the importance of awareness in combating the rising concerns of substance abuse among youth. The event highlighted the college's commitment to fostering a safe and healthy environment for students. The main session was led by Vimukthi Mission District Coordinator, Ms. Ghadha M.S., who delivered an impactful awareness class on the severe health consequences and legal ramifications associated with drug and substance use.



The program also included a felicitation ceremony, with speeches by Dr. Usman A., Head of the Department of Botany, and Ms. Abhirami, District SEED Coordinator. The event was coordinated by Dr. Faseela P., SEED club coordinator, and Sana V., Fifth Semester B.Sc. Botany.



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