

Department Distinctiveness

a) Library Tour cum Orientation Session

Every year the Department of English conducts a Library Tour for the freshers of that particular academic year. This exercise not only introduces the students to the various infrastructural facilities that are available to the students in the library but also inculcates in them the thought that reading is a must have habit for students, especially the literature students. The librarian guides the students through various amenities in the library and also explains to them various facilities available in the library during the tour. The students are also allowed to explore various categories of book that are available in the library and also make use of the reading spaces for a while during this first official visit.



Freshers exploring various sections in the library and interaction with Dr. Patricia Robin, Librarian

b) Soft Skill Development Programmes

1. One-Day Training on Handicraft Making

The Dept. of English in association with the Career Guidance and Placement Cell of St. Michael's College and Light It Up, an NGO functioning in Alappuzha, organized a one-day craft training for the students on the 28th of September, 2018. The programme was hosted as a part of the Department of English's initiative to usher a green protocol in the department. The participants received training on crafts like puppet making, PET Bottle Craft (a. Show Piece, b. Wall hanging, c. Wall Hanging), paper pen, paper glass craft, paper bag and vertical garden.



Participants of the event with the trainer

2. Employability Skills Training

In association with the Career Guidance and Placement Cell of the college, the department conducted a one-day employability skills training for the select students of the department on 06/08/2018. The event was organized with the objective of raising the students' awareness regarding various skills required to have a successful career. Mr. Gopakumar of Sampou India led the session.



Mr. Gopakumar and his associates leading the session

3. Skill Development Programme

On January 19, 2022, the Malayalam Department organized a programme in association with Alappuzha Mathrubhumi Books to enhance language skills and creativity in children. The aim of the programme was to develop the language skills and creativity of the students by providing them with literary periodicals. 150 periodicals distributed to Malayalam students.



Periodicals Being Distributed to Students

4. Capacity Enhancement Workshop

The Department of English in association with the Career Guidance and Placement Cell of the college and KITES Foundation, a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization based in Kochi, organized a Capacity Enhancement Workshop for select students of the college on the 10th of October, 2022, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. The event was organized as a part of the Campus Ideathon programme, which is a flagship programme of the foundation. The event titled The Future Project (TFP) intends to enhance youths' potential by involving them in various kinds of activities like Group Discussion, Brainstorming, Ideas Sharing, Project Execution etc. Claire, one of the founders of the foundation, led the session. The participants of the event received a great boosting to engage in socially and ecologically relevant activities. Some of the ideas discussed in the event were taken up for implementation by the Department of English.



Claire Leading the Session

5. Book Recycling Venture- NOVE

The Department of English, under the aegis of The Literati, English Association and I BA English Class (2022-2025 Batch), in association with KITES Foundation, Kochi and All Kerala Scrap Company, Kochi, initiated a Used Books, Magazines and Newspaper Recycling campaign on the 17th of November, 2022, under the title NOVE, THINKING FRESH. The campaign was concluded on the 1st of December, 2022, with around 700 kgs of used books, magazines and newspapers collected from staff, students and various departments on the campus. The campaign finale was officially hosted in the College Auditorium with the Principal of the college Dr. Sindhu S. Nair, presiding over the function and representatives from the English Department, KITES Foundation and Scrap Company felicitating the occasion. The teachers and students who led the campaign were also honoured during the concluding ceremony. An amount of Rs 8,000(Eight Thousand Only) was transferred to the department's account by the Scrap company as a remuneration for the collection and this amount along with other funds raised by the students will be used for doing charity work.



Principal Dr. Sindhu S Nair presiding over the function

Participants of the event

c) Competitions

1. Letter to Motherland, Letter Writing Competition

The Department of English took part in the national level letter writing competition organized by the postal department as part of the National Postal Week 2018. Sixty students from the department wrote letters on the theme 'Letter to My Motherland' and deposited in the post box brought by the delegates from the postal department on the 11th of October, 2018.



Students posting the letters in the postbox provided by the postal department

2. Competition for Students

Malayalam department conducted a Competition for students based on the topic 'COVID' in different categories like cartoon, poster making, announcement, newspaper reporting, and Television Live reporting. Around 90 students participated and the winners of each competition were felicitated by Assistant Professor Dr. Mary Reema and Guest Lecturer Manoj by gifting them books.



Teachers Distributing Prizes Entries from the Competition

3. World Book Day Competition for Students

Malayalam department conducted a Competition for students on the occasion of World Book Day, which falls on April 23. Students participated in Book Review, Drawing, Poster making, Cartoon. competitions held with the aim of encouraging book reading among students. Prizes were given to the winners.



4. Reading Week Quiz

Department of Malayalam organized an online quiz in connection with Reading week in order to increase the interest of students in Malayalam Language and Literature. The quiz was Conducted by Vijayakumar (Research Scholar, Kerala University). 22 students participated in the quiz competition. Prizes were awarded to the winners. Jayalakshmi K. J. (Second Semester English Department), Swathy S. (Second Semester Economics department), Avany K. M. (second semester Economics department) were the winners.



Brochure of the Event

5. Essay Writing Competition

An essay writing competition was conducted by the Department of English on 28th February 2022 to provide a platform for students to exercise writing skills and harness innovative ideas from young minds. The students were asked to prepare an essay within five hundred words on the topic “The Importance of Blood Donation During the Covid Pandemic”. The event took place in Botany Lab. The programme commenced at 1 p.m. and concluded at 1:45 p.m. Thirty students participated in the programme. Sherin Anna Thomas of II BA English won the first prize. Dr. Mathew V, Principal of St. Michael’s College presented the certificate to the winner.



Essay Writing in progress in the Botany Lab

6. Competition for Students

On February 21, 2022 on the occasion of World Mother Language Day, the Malayalam department organized a short film competition for students in collaboration with the History and Hindi departments. 1st Year Zoology Department

succeeded in it. A prize of Rs.1000 was awarded. A poster writing competition titled 'Malayalam @ 2022' and a reading competition titled 'Mozhiyazhaku' were also organized and coordinated by Dr. Mary Reema. Winners Athira and Sherin Anna were gifted with books. It was a programme to develop Malayalam language interest and film making creativity among the students.



Brochures of the Event

On 21-6-2022, the Malayalam department organized various competitions for the entire students of the college in connection with the reading week. Events like quizzes, cartoons on the subject of mobile library, drawing competition of authors or famous characters, and reading competition of any literary work were conducted. 130 students participated in the competition. Second year Commerce students Suraj Raghav and Leonol won prizes in the quiz competition. Alina Maria, (3rd-year chemistry student) and Gauri S. (2nd -year English student) won the prize in the drawing competition. Athira P M (2nd year economics student) and Anagha James (2nd year English student) also won prizes in the reading competition. The winners will be announced by Principal Dr. Sindhu S. Nair presented books and compliments.

7. Recitation Competition

Department of Hindi had organized a Hindi Recitation Competition in connection with the Hindi Department Association Inauguration. The programme was held on 21st November 2022. The competition started at 1.00 p.m. in the College Auditorium. Many students participated in the competition. Bhavana Krishna and Becky Phitters of English department won the first and second prize respectively. Prizes were distributed in the association inaugural ceremony. The recitation competition ended by 2 pm.



Brochure

Students Taking Part in the Recitation Competition

8. Verbo Wizard- Inter-college Elocution Competition

The Dept. of English in association with Radio Neythal has organised and conducted an Intercollegiate Elocution Competition 'Verbo Wizard' on the 21st of March 2023. There were ten participants on the whole, from various colleges of repute in Alappuzha along with participation from the host campus as well. Each contestant delivered a sparkling 5-minute extempore speech on the topic given. Akshai Suresh of SD College, Alappuzha won the title Verbo Wizard, and Akhila M. of St. Michael's College and Milan M. of St Joseph's College have secured the second and third prizes respectively. Cash Prizes and certificates were distributed by the principal during the Valedictory Meeting. The event came to an end by 1pm with a brief vote of thanks.



Dr Vimsy welcoming the gathering

Elocution Competition in progress

d) Expert Sessions

1. Career Guidance Session

Owing to the lessening understanding regarding the scope of the BA English degree course, the Department of English organized a career guidance session for the final year students of the department on the 15th of October, 2018. The session was conducted with the objective of instilling in students a complete understanding of the possible career choices and higher education prospects of BA English graduates. The programme was held in the seminar hall. Sri. Sam Johnson, Coordinator of Career Guidance and Placement Cell led the session.



Screening of Career Tips YouTube Video for the participants

2. Association Inauguration

The department organised the inauguration of its association, The Literati, on the 16th of November, 2018. The association spearheads all the curricular and extracurricular activities happening in the department. The inauguration was done by Prof. Devadas Menon, former Head of the Department of English of NSS College, Cherthala. Various programmes were also arranged as part of the event.



Welcome address by principal Dr. Mathew V. Prof. Devadas Menon inaugurating the event

3. Inauguration of the English Association

The inaugural ceremony of 'Literati', the English Association was organised and conducted by the department on the 4th of February 2020. The renowned artist Sri. Jerly Sir had been the chief guest for the day. Dr. Mathew V., the principal, presided over the function that commenced at 10 am, with the welcome address by Fr. Titus Augustine, Head of the English Department. The honourable chief guest inaugurated and graced the occasion by lighting the auspicious lamp and the inaugural address thereafter. As an artist, he elaborated the scope of art in making human lives beautiful and meaningful. Aesthetic sense is a supreme faculty indeed and we must open up our eyes and hearts to value art and literature. He made an exhortation to read, travel and explore spaces in order to be perspicacious artists and art lovers. After the enlightening inaugural speech, Prof. Riju Gregory, Head of the Economics Department delivered felicitations and wished the best for the future endeavours by the association. The session got wrapped up with the vote of thanks by Prof. Sam Johnson, the staff coordinator. The afternoon session was indeed more colourful with the various cultural programmes organised and staged by the students.



Sri. Jerly inaugurating the event

Prof. Riju Gregory, Head of the Economics

Department, offering felicitation

4. Invited Talk on 'GhoshayathrayumThullalkalayum'

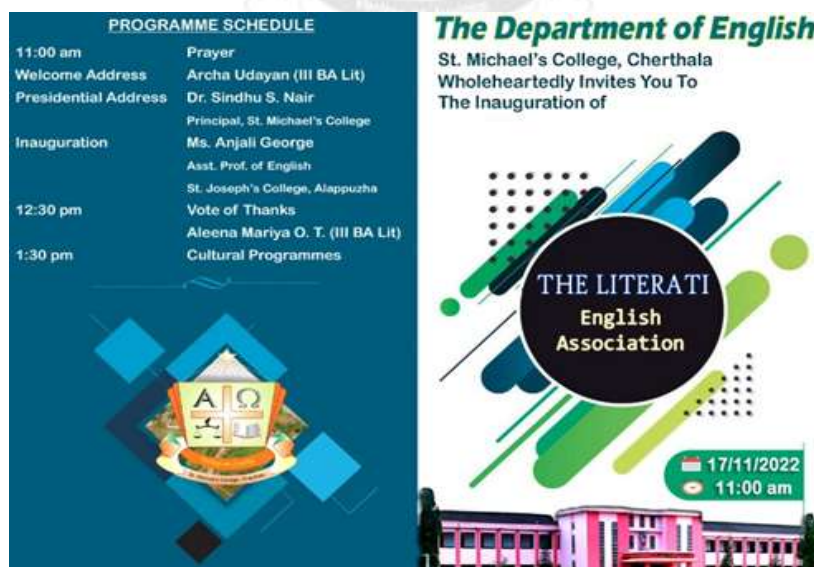
Malayalam department conducted an invited talk on 22.9.2020. The Resource person was Dr. N. Ajayakumar, Rtd. Professor, Department of Malayalam, Sree Sankaracharya Sanskrit University, Kalady. The lecture was conducted through YouTube channel. The Topic was 'OattanThullal' and the title was 'Ghoshayathrayum Thullalkalayum'. Around 100 students participated.



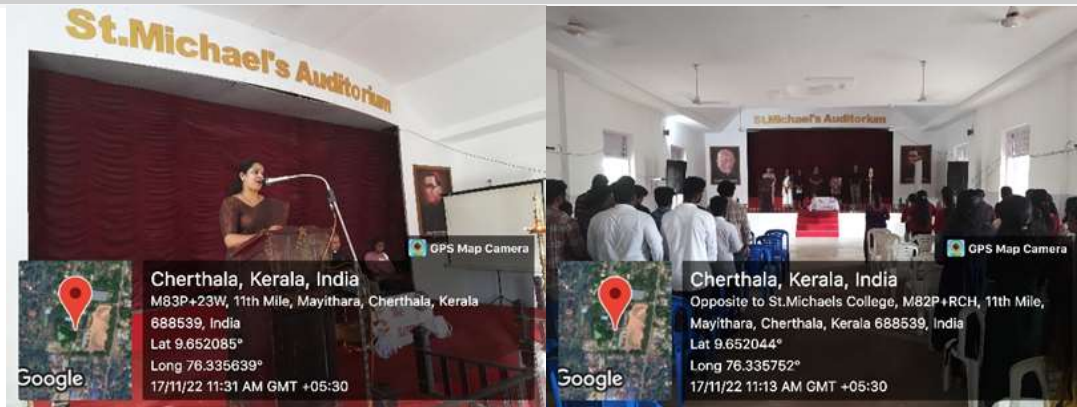
Thumbnail and Brochure of the Event

5. The Literati- English Association Inauguration

The much-awaited inauguration of the English Association happened on the 17th of November, 2022. The association which has been named 'The Literati', owing to the nature of its members who are literary enthusiasts, was inaugurated by Ms. Anjali George, Asst. Prof. of English, St. Joseph's College for Women, Alappuzha. The event also witnessed the inauguration of a book recycling drive, an initiative of the first year B. A. English class in association with KITES Foundation, Kochi, and Kerala's Scrap Pickup Company. The winner of the Painting Competition held by the department in connection with World Malala Day was also honoured during the event. A lunch was arranged for all the members of the department and cultural programmes followed. The most striking feature of the event was that it was entirely managed by the students of the department. The final year students along with the support and cooperation from the juniors conducted the programme in an impressive manner.



Brochure



Ms Anjali George Inaugurating the Event

Prayer Service

6. Webinar on 'Thirakkadhayude Rasathanthram'

Malayalam department conducted a Webinar, Thirakkadhayude Rasathanthram on 17.10.2020. The webinar was organized with the aim of making the students understand more about the technique of screenwriting. Former HOD and Professor of Sree Sankaracharya Sanskrit University, Kalady Dr. Valsalan Vathussery (Scriptwriter, Short Story Writer) delivered the lecture. A discussion with the students was also conducted. The programme was conducted on the Google meet virtual platform. Around 120 students participated. Head of Malayalam Department Dr. Mary Rima gave the welcome and Shawn, a student in the English Department, gave the vote of thanks.



Brochure of the Event

Google Meet Session

7. A Tribute to V. S. Naipaul

The Department of English organized a commemorative academic session to honor the late V. S. Naipaul, a Nobel Laureate of Indian origin, on the 14th of August, 2018. This event was a tribute to Naipaul's vast contributions to literature and his profound influence on contemporary writing. The session commenced with a keynote address delivered by Dr. Mathew V., the former Head of the Department and the Principal of the college. Dr. Mathew, known for his erudition and deep appreciation of literature, provided a comprehensive overview of Naipaul's literary journey. He highlighted Naipaul's significant works, including "A House for Mr. Biswas," "In a Free State," and "A Bend in the River," emphasizing the unique narrative style and the exploration of post-colonial identity in Naipaul's writing. The session was well-attended by both the staff and students of the Department of English, demonstrating a strong interest in Naipaul's legacy. The interactive format of the session encouraged active participation from the

audience. Students and faculty members posed insightful questions, leading to lively discussions on various aspects of Naipaul's work, including his controversial views and the critical reception of his writing.



Fr. Titus Augustine, HoD of English, welcoming the Resource Person

8. Webinar on 'Vayanayude Varthamanam'

Malayalam department conducted a Webinar on 03.07.2021. The Resource person was Althman A. V., Assistant Professor and Head of the Department of Malayalam K.S.M.D.B. College. The lecture was conducted through Google meet. The talk was about reading and the title was 'Vayanayude Varthamanam'. Around 90 students participated.



Google Meet Session

9. Webinar on 'Keralam: Bhashacharithrapaschathalathil'

Departments of Malayalam, Hindi and History conducted a Webinar on 1.11.2021. The Resource person was Dr.Preetha Raj D. Assistant Professor, Department of History, S. N. College Chempazhandhi. The lecture was conducted through Google meet online platform. The talk was about 'Keralappiravi' and the title was 'Keralam: Bhashacharithra paschathalathil'. Around 80students participated.



Brochure of the Programme

10. Vayanayude Manangal - Expert Session

On the 24th of June 2022, the Malayalam Department of Aluva UC College organized an enlightening lecture titled 'Vayanayude Manangal.' The event featured Professor (Retired) Dr. Markose VP as the esteemed speaker. The programme commenced at 1:30 pm with a literary session. Sherin Anna captivated the audience with her reading of a short story, followed by a poignant poetry recitation by Nayana. Dr. Mary Reema then formally welcomed the gathering, setting a warm and enthusiastic tone for the afternoon. From 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm, Dr. Markose VP delivered an engaging and insightful lecture on 'Vayanayude Manangal.' His expertise and eloquence provided deep insights into the subject, enriching the understanding of all attendees. Following the lecture, Dr. Markose VP interacted with the students, answering their questions and engaging in thought-provoking discussions. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Ambili PT, who expressed gratitude to Dr. Markose VP, the organizers, and all participants for their contributions to the event's success. The lecture was attended by 75 people, reflecting the strong interest and enthusiasm for the topic.



Brochure of the Event



Dr. Markose VP addressing the audience

11. Expert Session on Academic Writing

The Department of English conducted an Expert Session on the topic “Academic Research: Selection, Segregation and Utilization of Resources” on the 27th of November, 2022. The event was organized under the aegis of the English Association. The Resource Person for the event was Dr. Raisun Mathew. He is an Assistant Professor of English at Jain (Deemed-to-be University), Bangalore, Karnataka. He completed his PhD in English from Lovely Professional University, Punjab on the manifestation of liminality in the works of George Saunders. He also has a Master's degree in Public Administration from IGNOU, New Delhi. Apart from publishing various research papers in reputed journals and presenting at international and national conferences, his enthusiasm for research and creative writing has contributed to the publication of three academic edited books: *The Post-Truth Era: Literature and Media* (2021), *Literature, Media, and Society: Scholarly Perspectives* (2021), and *Identity: Quest and Questions* (2022). Besides, he has authored two books: *Zephyr: The Breeze of Love* (2021) and *In-Between: Liminal Stories* (2022). Academicians, Research Scholars and students pan India participated in the event.



Brochure



Screenshots of the Event

12. Expert Session on Malayalam Theatre

The Department of English organized and conducted a webinar on 'Malayalam Theatre: History and Development, with special focus on the plays of Kavalam Narayana Panicker' on the 4th of December 2022, Sunday. Dr. Mary Reema, Assistant Professor of Malayalam, St. Michael's College, Cherthala, was the resource person. The online platform was Google Meet and the meeting commenced at 5 pm. Dr. Reema, in a comprehensive manner, explained

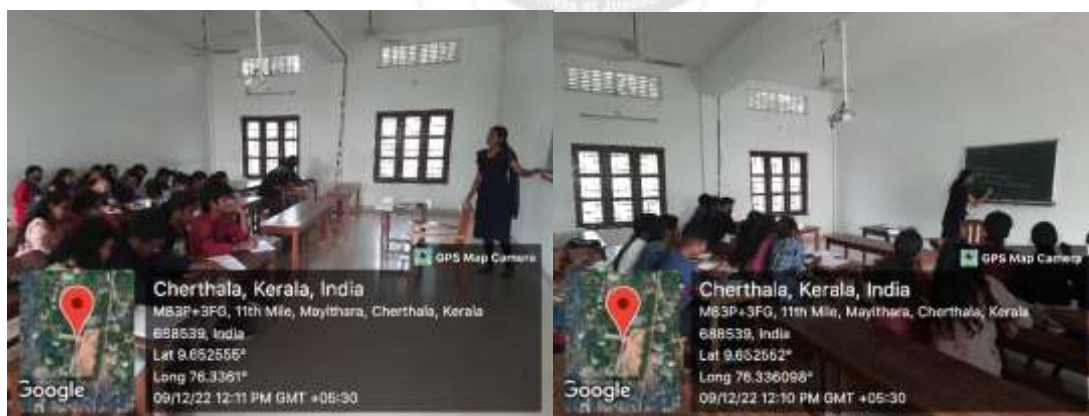
the origin of Drama as an art form and the history of Malayalam Drama in particular. After a detailed overview, the life and career of the celebrated and much scrutinized playwright Kavalam Narayana Panicker was focused on. This was followed by a detour through his plays, with extra focus on *The Lone Tusker* (Ottayan) that is a prescribe text for the fifth semester students. After a vibrant and rewarding interactive session, the session came to an end by 7 pm.



Brochure and Screenshot of the Event

13. Phonetic Transcription Practice Session

An expert session on 'Linguistics and Phonetic Transcription' was held by the Department of English on the 9th of December, 2022, for the final year degree students of the department. Ms. Anu Scaria, Assistant Professor of English, Carmel College, Muhamma, who is an enthusiast and educationist in Phonetics led the session. The objective of the event was to instill in the students an interest in linguistics and phonetics transcription. The 3-hour long session enabled the students to identify the significance of linguistics as a discipline of study and also be adept in the business of phonetic transcription.



Transcription Practice in Progress

14. Invited Talk on "The History of Language of Cinema"

On Wednesday, 22nd February 2023, the English department of St. Michael's College, Cherthala organized an invited talk on "The History of Language of Cinema" by Dr. Vimal Mohan John, Assistant Professor, Department of English, S.B College Changanassery. The seminar was held at the Fenicio Digital Seminar Hall of St. Michael's College from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm. The resource person in his talk traced the evolution of cinema from the Lumière Brothers' first movie and their contribution to the development of film. He discussed with the students various aspects of cinema,

including the difference between film, cinema, and movie, film language, Mis-en-scene, cinematography, editing, sound, and the influence of drama on film.

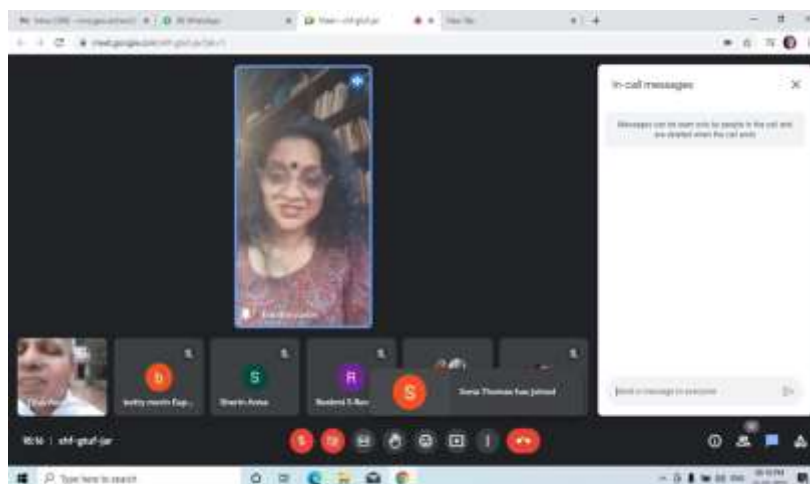
In the afternoon session, Dr. John presented each element of cinema by showing videos from movies like "Captain Jack Sparrow" and "Taxi Driver." He also talked about the films of Adoor Gopalakrishnan, such as "Elippathayam," and many other films. Dr. John discussed the shots in the intro scene of "Captain Jack Sparrow" and the principle of continuity in editing. He also highlighted events in Malayalam cinema where the director hides something to convey a particular event. Overall, the seminar was a great learning opportunity for students and teachers interested in the history and language of cinema. The invited talk by Dr. Vimal Mohan John provided valuable insights into the evolution of cinema and various aspects of filmmaking, making it a highly informative and engaging seminar.



Dr. Vimal Mohan John Leading the Session

15. Webinar on World Classics

The Department of English conducted a webinar based on the semester six paper 'World Classics' on the 11th of March 2023, at 6 pm. Dr. Babitha Justin, Associate Professor, Dept. of Humanities, IIST, Trivandrum was the resource person for the event. The talk was focused mainly on 'Freedom vs. Happiness: Does the Novel 'Notes from Underground' succeed in Countering the Praxis of Rational Egoism?' (with special reference to Novels of Dostoevsky) and went on to cover the entire syllabus, ranging from the rudiments of Classics as a concept, to the immortal works of authors like Ovid, Kalidasa, Gabriel Garcia Marquez, and so on. The session was a phenomenal success especially in terms of active student participation. With the vote of thanks proposed by Sherin Anna Thomas (III BA English), the session came to an end by 8pm.



Screenshot of the Webinar

e) Green Initiatives of the Department

1. EVS Field Visit to Munnar

The department of English conducted a two-day field visit to Munnar as part of the department's initiative to instill in students a holistic understanding regarding the worth and value of nature as well as the necessity of preserving and conserving it. Munnar was chosen as the destination as it is a prominent tourist destination and the social milieu as well as the tourist spots offer various clues as to the gradual degradation and continued exploitation of flora and fauna of the destination. The participants, under the leadership of Sri Sam Johnson, Asst. Prof. and Ms. Juby P Thankachan, Guest Faculty, gained a first-hand knowledge of the richness of the place and also understood the major practices that lead to the destruction of the biodiversity of the region. The field visit was conducted on the 8th and 9th of February, 2019.



Participants of the EVS Field visit with the Teachers

2. Field Trip in Association with NSS

Under the leadership of the NSS unit of the college, the department charted a trip to Chinnar Wild Life Sanctuary from 18-20 October, 2019. It was held as part of the Ability Enhancement Compulsory Course, 'Environmental Studies and Disaster Management' within the curriculum and the students, by enjoying the beauty and diversity of their destination, were expected to do better as motivated citizens, for the cause of Conservation of Environment and Biodiversity. The students spotted and identified wild animals like wild elephant, sambar deer, grizzled giant squirrel, star tortoise, hanuman langur and rock python. Followed by the trip, a Travelogue Contest too was conducted and the winners got appreciated with prizes.



Participants of the Field trip with the Teachers

3. Nature Education Camp at Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary

Department of English in association with Departments of Zoology and Botany organized a Nature Education Camp in collaboration with Kerala Forests and Wildlife Department at Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary, Munnar Division from 22.06.2022 to 24.06.2022. 35 students participated in the camp. The camp was aimed to educate students about the importance and role of nature in the existence of human beings and prepare them to act against the challenges of habitat destruction and climate change. The camp included classes, bird watching, watch tower visit and trekking. The students visited ancient dolmens and rock paintings during trekking and spotted Asiatic Elephant, Tufted Grey Furred Langur, Malabar Giant Squirrel, Wild Boar, Sambar Deer, Barking Deer, Peacock, Bonnet Macaque, Spotted Dove, Butterflies (Blue striped Peacock, Yellow Orange tip, Indian Common Sailor, Tiger butterfly, Crimpson Rose) and many medicinal & common plants. Students were given an exposure to different types of ecosystems in Chinnar such as Grassland, Shola forests, Dry deciduous forests, Scrub Jungle, Thorny Forests, Chinnar river, Pampar river and Koottar river. Students also observed tribal settlements such as Muthuvan and Hill Pulaya and gathered information about their culture, rituals, social setup, education and food habit through discussion with the education officer Mr. Ganesh and tribal peoples.



Participants of Nature Education Camp