

Kalindi College

Department of Botany

Botany Newsletter

Amaranth Times

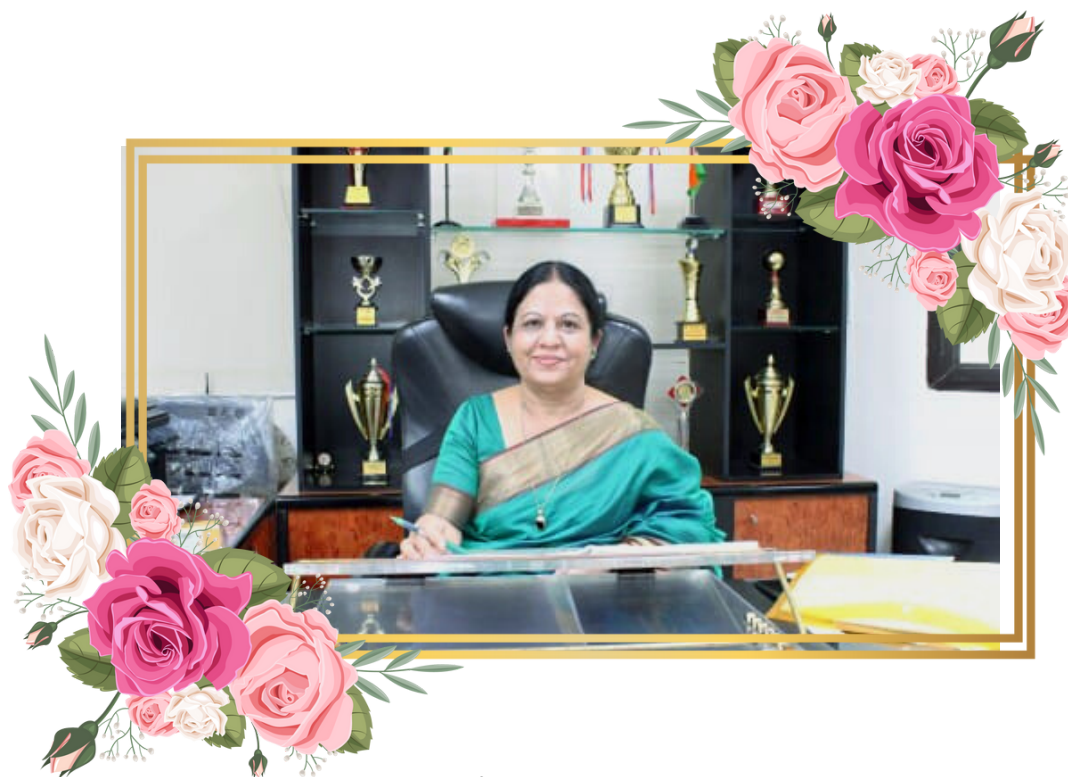
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Message from the Principal's desk



It gives me immense pleasure that the Department of Botany is coming up with their first issue of their newsletter “Amaranth Times” for the academic session 2021-22. The Department of Botany has 12 faculty members, who specialise in different fields of plant sciences. Students are the biggest asset of the department. With the hard work of their newly elected newsletter team of teachers and students, they are releasing the first issue after the lockdown. The newsletter will help them in bringing out the artistic side of students & faculty members. It’s even better that it is in electronic form as it will help in wide circulation while being eco-friendly.

I wish them all the very best!

~Prof. Naina Hasija



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Message from Teacher-Incharge & Editor

It gives me immense pleasure and great deal of satisfaction that we are releasing our first issue of e-newsletter of the Academic Session 2021-22. The newsletter aims to provide a platform to the students as well as faculty to share their knowledge and also to express their artistic self.

“Sharing is Caring” and I am sure that we all will care to share the best of each one of us among others through this newsletter.

I thank all the contributors for their articles and artworks for the newsletter. I am specially thankful to Dr. Remya Krishnan, Co-editor and Ms. Kanupriya Chaudhary, Student Editorial Head & their wonderful teams for their dedicated efforts for the newsletter.

~Dr. Ranjana Roy Mishra



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• Academic excellence

• Competitions prizes

• End cover page
(Designed by Pihu and Vartika)





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EDITORIAL BOARD

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Dr. Ranjana Roy Mishra

Co-editors & Reviewers

Hola!



"Learning never exhausts the mind" as the saying goes. I love interacting with young minds and people who are out of my domain. Trying new things and traveling are two of my greatest passion. I am also an adventure sports enthusiast. Best wishes! to our Amaranth office bearers as well as our incredibly creative editorial board. Stay curious and Happy learning!

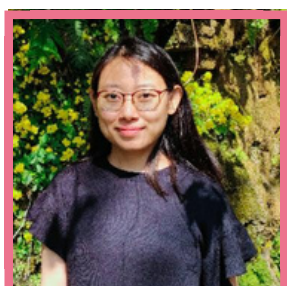
Dr. Priyanka Verma



Bonjour everyone!

Learning and teaching are two sides of the same coin which require exploring and researching new things. For that this newsletter paves a new pathway. Congratulations and best wishes to the newsletter editorial board members and Amaranth office bearers.

Dr. Remya Krishnan



Hello everyone!

Teaching is my passion. Other than teaching, I enjoy writing, listening to music, and stargazing. I look forward to working with the vibrant team of Amaranth.

Dr. Monika Keisham



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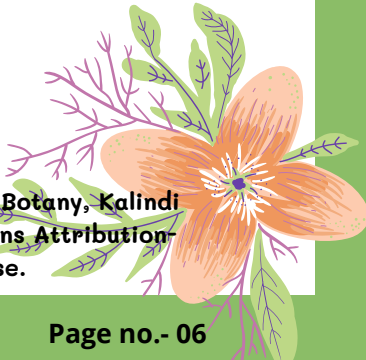
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STUDENT EDITORIAL TEAM

Editorial Head

Hello everyone! I am really honored to be the editorial head of our prestigious society 'Amaranth'. I love reading books and writing is my passion. I would like to thank all my teachers who found me capable for this post.

Kanupriya Chaudhary
BSc (H) Botany 2nd year



Co-Editor

Hello all! I am a person who loves exploring new things. I love to travel and read out of curiosity. I will try my level best to keep up with everybody's expectations.

Sakina Yadav
BSc (H) Botany 2nd year



Co-Editor

Hey everyone! I am a happy-go-lucky person with an approachable personality. I love expanding my knowledge and interests. I am passionate and innovative. I am currently volunteering at NSS and RHA. Looking forward to working with our zealous department.

Janvi Bajaj
BSc (H) Botany 2nd year



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STUDENT EDITORIAL TEAM

Member

Hello everyone! I am proud to be appointed as a member of our editorial team. I am a nature lover who loves to make people smile. I am currently contributing to NSS. Nature is the most beautiful gift is my believe.

Nishu Sehrawat
BSc (H) Botany 2nd year



Member

Hello everyone! I am glad to be appointed as the editorial member of our zealous board. I love to explore, try and learn new things. I possess great management skills.

Aisha Bhatt
BSc (H) Botany 2nd year



Member

Hey everyone! I am very happy to be appointed as a member of the editorial board. I believe confidence is the key to success. I love exploring new things.

Aastha Chauhan
BSc (H) Botany 2nd year



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ARTICLE SECTION

Lock and Down Conversation

By- Arya Vatsala

B.Sc(Hons.) Botany, III Year

M: Hey! I can hear you. Don't start with your grumbling again. You just don't listen to me at all, my voice is beyond decibels. You know I am able to listen to the speech of silence

C: Thank god you replied! Then why do you pretend to ignore me? I never even demand you to make an effort to assemble your vocal cords and produce words that you think are able to define you.....ahh! (sighs)

M: Well you can see..why I pretend...here you go criticizing again.

C: Okay fine..! But it's your questions that make me give explanations that never convince you! Why?

M: Ahhh....!! It's difficult out here. I know you will say you have all the answers...but all of it becomes very paradoxical and chaotic out here.

C: Maybe...

M: (interrupting) No, it is....The other day I read that one should never get attached to emotions like happiness or sadness as these are just momentary moments.

C: Hmmm.....

M: But just after a few pages the book said that when you know this you enjoy the moments more.

C: Yes...I agree....



M: (interrupting again) See here you go again!!!

C: Everything you read is right but...

M: But...

C: But you are only looking at the content and not the idea of the words. See I told you words are just sounds, you need to go deeper.

M: Ok..I am done with you for now...I have to go and finish my assignment. See you later !

(After a break, silence speaks again in between the studies.)

M: It's just so unfortunate that so many people are dying in this pandemic. I am worried for the people, who lost the dear ones, struggles increased

C: Stop right there, I told you one fine day that you are a spiritual being having a human life and so are the others....

M: Yes...but being human is also difficult while being aware of your spiritual self....you still get worried about your family, your loved ones...



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C: No dear, you didn't get me . Ok..tell me the law of conservation of energy...

M: What...!

C: C'mon

M: Energy can neither be created nor be destroyed but can only be transformed from one form to the another.

C: See you have all the answers instead of resisting, just align yourself with what happens and then you will experience the depth life offers.

M: (quiet for sometime)..... enough for today and please don't disturb in between my studies.

C: Hello..it was you who started the conversation.

M: Fine, bye!

M: (munching an evening snack while looking out from the window...white cottony clouds against the backdrop of blue sky) Here you come again my window thoughts!!!

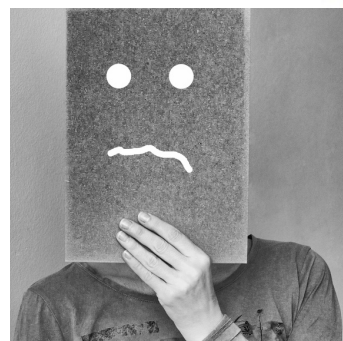
C: I didn't say anything...was just listening to your happy waves as you sky gaze. I speak only when you seek.

M: Ahh!...how funny...! Ok..tell me does life has a purpose?

C: Yes, of course!

M: What's mine?

C: Well..! You will know when you will reach thr doomsday



M: You are terribly annoying!!

C: Ha Ha Ha....

M: I'll hold on till the very end to see if you are giving the correct answer or just fooling me out

C: Yes sure....But then you will cease to exist, just hold on you will reach the nullity of space.

M: Just Hold on it's becoming too much now. We both will see when the hour arrives .

C: Time is just the limitation you have and put on something that is beyond your understanding. The infinity awaits you in space!

M: (C's words beyond understanding...so diverts itself to read some news online and again interrupts) Hey! It's in the news that there is a surge in cases due to a new variant of coronavirus.

C: (sighs) Ahhh...!!!! See you never listen to me. It's just a cosmic illusion of mine..

Wondering who are M & C? We all have one, they are mind and consciousness. It's been petrifying months for all of us and it still is revealing. The conflicting nature of worldly life and life in the other dimension. We are just a packet of energies transitioning in between the realms. Hold on to your physical experiences, each is a unique story.



ARTICLE SECTION

Women Empowerment

By- Vishakha Kaushik

B.Sc(Hons.) Botany, II Year



Dear friends, as we all know that since the beginning of human civilization, society has been dominated by men. At every place, whether it is the field of education, health, politics, or administration, women were always neglected and denied their rights. India has been a country of gods and goddesses. People worship Maa Durga, Maa Saraswati and on the other hand, they consider women as nothing when compared to men. Aren't the Goddesses women? Maa Saraswati is the Goddess of education but sarcastically, a woman is devoid of education. It's truly very shameful for society. It's like a black spot on society. We see such examples of discrimination in our daily life. But now in modern days, people have started to understand their value and worth presence. Women also have been fighting for a long period for their rights and upliftment in society. There have been many incidents in the past where women fought for their privileges, the right to live in peace, dignity, to have equal opportunities, and to be educated. Malala Yousafzai is one of those 'women'. She was shot on the left side of her forehead as she raised her voice against the discrimination against women, especially for their education.

But bullets couldn't silence her. "Instead, thousands of voices came out of silence, Weakness, fear, and hopelessness died. Strength, power, and courage were born." Her ambitions and hopes still remained the same. She focused on women's right to education because they are suffering the most. Women should be independent, they should learn to fight for themselves. When looking at women's rights, it's helpful to have an understanding of feminism. Feminism basically is the belief that women should be entitled to political, economic, and social equality. "Women's rights are human rights." We cannot have a free and equal society until everyone is free and equal until women enjoy the same rights as men, this inequality is everyone's problem. According to the UN, "Gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls is not just a goal in itself, but a key to sustainable development, economic growth, peace, and security. There are many initiatives taken by the Indian government for girls' education such as "BETI BACHAO, BETI PADHAO" Aandolan, initiated to make more girls educated because they are the foundation of our society. Society is actually incomplete without a woman. Whenever girls are given opportunities, they have made everyone proud. There are many role models in our society such as Kalpana Chawla, Mary Kom, Saina Nehwal, Sania mirza, Aren't these all women? So "Give Girls, Their Chance". Whenever they are provided with an opportunity, they shine like a star. We are also women, we are educated and young enough to bring about such changes in our society for all those girls who are devoid of their rights. In a nutshell, all I want to say is that we should also contribute to the girl's education and to the country's whole progress. If we determine something then, we can surely make it true. "I'm not going to limit myself just because people won't accept the fact that I can do something else"- Dolly Parton.



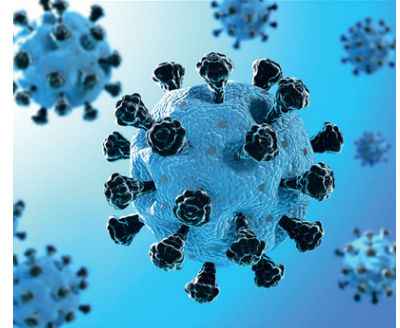
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ARTICLE SECTION

Covid-19 outbreak

By- Nishu Sehrawat
Bsc(H)Botany II Year

Covid-19 is a viral disease threatening our lives. The first case was recorded in Wuhan, China in 2019. This virus belongs to a family which includes SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome) and MERS (Middle East Respiratory Symptoms). The virus gets its name by a latin word 'Corona' which means crown. The virus has large bulbous spikes on its outer covering which resembles a crown. Covid-19 is an infectious disease which spreads from one infected person to the other. When an infectious person coughs, sneezes, or even speaks, the viral particles tend to travel from their mouth and nose. The outbreak of this virus has not only affected the health of many people, but has also shattered the country's economy. Daily wage workers were most affected due to this pandemic.



The most common symptoms of Covid-19 are fever, dry cough and weakness. In severe cases, it can also cause respiratory illness, breathing problems and pneumonia. According to the Central Diseases and Control Prevention "The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to viruses". Therefore, we should maintain a safe distance from others, frequently wash our hands with water or use an alcohol based hand sanitizer, avoid crowds and gatherings, wear masks and lastly most importantly we all should get vaccinated when it's our turn.

Women Education in Ancient India

By- Aastha Chauhan
Bsc(H)Botany II Year

In ancient India, the position of women was the same as in the 21st century. Society respected both the genders in equal ways. Women were well educated and honored. Even today we read a lot about the lady philosophers who were scholars and had ample knowledge about vedas, upanishads and puranas etc. Moreover, we have read a bit about the position of women in ancient India. So, in those times women were free to do anything according to their will. Women were given all the rights including the right to education, right to pursue any profession. There was no limitation on them to read Vedas and puranas. They could participate in all judicial issues and important decisions. In those days the concept of co-education was introduced and schooling of boys and girls together was completely normalized. Many men and women studied together for their higher education as the research suggests. Gargi was one of the greatest lady philosophers who won the debate of philosophy against renowned sage Yajnavalkya. There was an intense debate between Gargi and Yajnavalkya and she loaded him with questions. Yajnavalkya answered all of them but he couldn't answer the final question and became speechless. They debated about aatma (soul) and the origin of life. The veil also became a part of our culture in ancient times. During this time period women were not safe anymore. They lost their independence and basic rights. They eventually became dependent on males.



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ARTICLE SECTION

Home Gardening

By- Aastha Tiwari & Antima

B.Sc. (Prog.) Life Science, II Year

Home gardening is a wonderful skill that people use to decorate their home with a natural finish and to grow a lot of useful and medicinal plants at home.

As we know every part of a plant is useful in many ways, so growing them nearest to us is however a smart hack.

According to preference, there are a lot of plants that one can grow with minimum hard work and care. From producing oxygen to creating some more greenery, gardening always helps.

Importance of Home gardening

- It helps to create a healthier environment
- It is a great way to relieve stress, to set goals for yourself, and to nurture something.
- Exposure to sunlight increases vitamin D in the body, which is good for bones, teeth, and muscles.



1. *Aloe barbadensis miller* (Aloe vera)

- It is a nonflowering succulent plant that grows in minimum water conditions.
- Its plantations require a wide pot with a small hole at the base to drain excess water and well-draining soil.
- Put its pot in such a place where direct sunlight comes for 8-9 hours.
- Water it when the top surface of soil looks dry.

Importance

- We can use aloe vera to keep our skin clear and hydrated.
- Aloe vera juice is an excellent way to keep our liver healthy.
- Helps to boost our immune system.
- Promotes hair growth.



2. *Oscimum bacilum L.* (Tulsi)

- It is a sacred plant and used for many medicinal and cultural purposes at home.
- Its plantation requires a small pot with a hole at base, aerated and well drained soil and some organic manure.
- It grows well under full sunlight and requires water everyday.
- Extract of its leaves is helpful in cold, fever, loss of appetite and lowers blood sugar level.

Importance

- The leaves strengthen the stomach and help in respiratory diseases.
- Keep tulsi root powder in water overnight and take it early in the morning. The medicinal property of the plant helps maintain insulin level in the body and is a natural cure for diabetes.
- Helpful in cardiology
- Can treat kidney stones.
- Maintain dental health.
- Reduce stress level.



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3. *Tagetes L.* (Marigold)



- It is an annual plant and grows well under warm conditions.
- It can be grown easily with seeds or by dry flowers put in the soil.
- Water the plant only at the base, otherwise powdery mildew grows on leaves.
- They are great ornamental plants.

Importance

- Marigold was used traditionally for supporting healthy digestion, gastrointestinal function, and immune function.
- The distinct fragrance of these flowers boosts one's mood and relieve stress.

4. *Dracaena trifasciata L.* (Snake plant)



- It is a succulent plant and easy to care for.
- It requires high temperature and indirect sunlight to grow well.
- Holed pot and well-drained soil is required for this plant.
- Water it when dry soil is visible on the surface.
- This plant is capable of removing toxic pollutants from the surrounding, absorbing CO₂, and making air fresh.

Importance

- Snake plants help to filter indoor air.
- It releases oxygen at night and is one of the top 10 air-purifying plants, according to NASA.
- This quality makes it an ideal plant for bedroom decor as it can help regulate healthy airflow.

5. *Epipremnum aureum G.S. Bunting* (Money plant)



- It is the best ornamental plant that brings good luck to the beholder.
- It also removes air pollutants inside the room.
- Well-drained soil and holed pot are required for this one also.
- It needs moderate or low sunlight for peak growth.
- Sorching sunlight is avoided for this plant as it burns the leaves.

Importance

- It helps in warding off financial obstacles and brings good luck and prosperity to your home.
- One of the biggest benefits of a money plant is that it can keep your mind calm and release your stress.

6. *Catharanthus roseus L.* (Sadabahar)



- It grows well under shade as well as sunlight.
- It requires well-drained moist soil with manure.
- Once planted properly they cover nearby areas.

Importance

- It is an ornamental plant with flowers, different species have different coloured flowers.
- Diabetes can be cured using this plant.





7. *Rosa L.* (Rose)

- The plant requires well drained acidic soil.
 - It needs at least 6 hours of sunlight.
- Irrigate it so that soil has proper moisture, not too wet nor too dry.
- Prune rose regularly.

Importance

- It is the best ornamental plant with beautiful smelling flowers.
- It is used in making perfumes and skin care products.

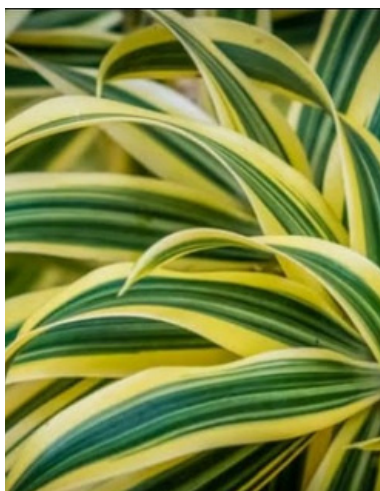


8. *Gazania rigens L.* (Treasure plant)

- It grows in sandy, dry soil.
- It needs full exposure to the sunlight.
- It doesn't require much maintenance & blooms fully.
- This is a drought-tolerant plant so doesn't need much water.

Importance

- This plant is best for growing in bare land and in empty space.
- Its colorful flowers are attractive.
- Its parts are sometimes applied on wounds

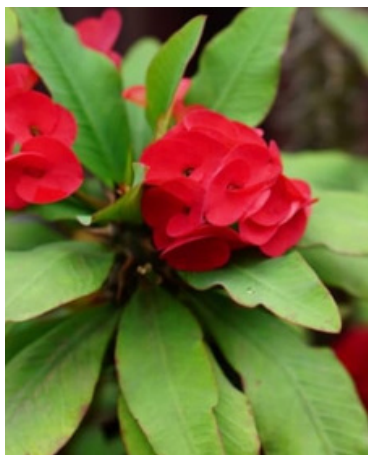


9. *Dracaena L.*

- Dracaena prefers bright, indirect light; it tolerates dimmer light, but growth slows as a result.
- The plant grows well with standard indoor potting soil and average house temps and humidity.
- Dracaena will tolerate a pot-bound condition for long periods and is rarely bothered by pests or diseases.

Importance

- Best Air Purifying Houseplant.
- It Increases Concentration and Sharpens Focus.
- It Increases Humidity.
- Great Ornamental Value.
- Low-Maintenance.
- Dracaena Absorbs Lead (Pb)



10. *Euphorbia milii Des Moul* (crown of thorns)

- Crown of thorns is popular as a houseplant and is grown in warm climates as a garden shrub.
- When a Crown of Thorns plant is actively growing, usually from late spring to early fall, water well and then allow the top 50% of the soil to dry out before watering again.
- The long thorns help keep animals and small children away, but accidental poisoning happens sometimes.
- The sap may produce a rash on susceptible individuals that is very similar to poison ivy. The sap in some species of the Crown of Thorns plant has been used for arrow poisons and to stupefy fish for capture.

Importance

- According to the New Testament, a woven crown of thorns was placed on the head of Jesus during the events leading up to his crucifixion. It was one of the instruments of the Passion, employed by Jesus' captors both to cause him pain and to mock his claim of authority.



ARTICLE SECTION

How to save a Dying Lavender?

By- Gunjan

Bsc Life science II Year



About the Plant -Lavender or Lavandula, belongs to the mint family commonly known as Lamiaceae and is native to the Mediterranean countries. Lavender species hold importance in the herb's family for their fragrant leaves and attractive flowers. The plants are economically important as the source of an essential oil. The dried flowers, for example, have long been used as potpourri to scent chests and closets while the early Romans routinely put lavender in their bath water along with rose petals. It is used in the medicinal purposes and as a flavoring agent in various beverages and sweets. Nowadays, In India, it is cultivated but it could not survive long due to various reasons. There are a numerous reasons for the lavender to decrease or lose its vitality but there occur 3 major reasons for this. Therefore, this article would help you find out why your lavender is dying and how can you help in its survival

Top three key explanations to why your lavenders are dying:-

1. By supplying excess water to Lavender's drooping brown foliage
2. Soil drainage issues (roots are always wet)
3. Non green foliage (Excessive nitrogen in the substratum)

1. Supplying excess water to Lavender's drooping brown foliage:



This is the most frequent cause for your lavenders to decrease. Lavenders are heliophytes; as they survive under sweltering hot and dry summers and hence , they are well adapted to famines and seemingly require very less water to remain healthy and yield flowers.

Conceivably, when excess water is poured. Then, they are likely to develop a disease commonly known as root rot indicative of drooping or wilting appearance and subsequently browning of the foliage.

Deceptively, this condition can be mistaken for under watered condition and cause the plants to be over watered by the gardener that can worsen the condition.

Lavender's flourish in dry soil with good drainage system but holds very diminutive amount of water. Paradoxically, over watering lavender causes plant's death.

• The solution:

- Stop watering the lavender for at least 3 weeks and if you live in a heavy rainfall region protect it from the rainfall.
- Give the plant's soil a chance to drain the excessive water and for the plant to recover from root rot.
- Pruning the areas with affected foliage where it is brown and further sterile it with a pair of pruners to stop the rot.



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2. Soil draining issue (Roots are always wet):

Lavender grow the best in the soil with good drainage capability that doesn't hold a lot of moisture for example; sandy soil. The plant is not suited for organic rich soil. The initial symptoms included drooping appearance and brown leaves.

• The solution:

- Re-pot the lavender in a soil with better drainage capability.
- Provisionally remove the plant from the ground and combine the soil with some sand or grit and re-transfer the plant back into the same ground.

3. Non green foliage (Excessive nitrogen in the substratum):



The yellow foliage of the lavender and its leggy appearance indicates an excessive amount of nitrogen in the soil. While, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium or NPK are the most vital nutrients for every plant's healthy growth but lavender contrastingly survives on a soil with less nutrients and yield more flowers in a soil with poor fertility. Lavender's diminish under excessive organic matter or chemical fertilizers. The reason for disproportionate nitrogen in the soil might be due to accumulation of organic matter and chemical fertilizers. Thus, further affects the plants by lowering fragrance ability and decrease in flower yield per plant.

• The solution:

- The solution is depended on the nitrogen source of soil.
- Usage of excessive fertilizers on your lavender should be stopped and your lavender flowers will flourish next season.
- Presence of excessive nutrients naturally in the soil without addition Re-pot the lavender with 70% potting soil and 30% sand or grit. Or plant the lavender in the garden and add plenty of sand and grit to the planting area before replanting.
- Gardening is not a nuclear science .However, the soils where lavenders originate possess a very high proportion of sand or gravel so adding a large amount of sand will not detriment the growth of the plant and will actually reconstruct their natural habitat.

Key Takeaway:

Lavender 'like other plants tend to flourish under partial recreation of some of their natural habitats. Full sun, with a good drainage system of the soil and occasional watering are priorities for any lavender cultivator.

Very few modifications are required for lavender resulting in production of beautiful blooms by lavender and with aromatic summer due to the presence of natural essential oil.

However, there is a need to act quickly as most lavender require early treatments.



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ARTICLE SECTION

Why Composting?

By- Rishita Bathla

B.Sc(Hons.) Botany, III Year

Composting is one of the eco-friendly ways to recycle our garbage. Composting allows gardeners to designate kitchen waste and lawn clippings into fertilizer for their gardens. It improves the soil in your garden by adding rich organic matter and promoting earthworms that strengthens your plants. Also, it reduces your kitchen waste by reusing many discarded wastes that would typically be thrown in the trash. Turning scraps into a soil amendment is a simple process, but it can take a while. When you find out how to start composting at home it is essential for you to know the overall rules involved. You'll get to understand what can and what can't be composed, some issues rise, and therefore the optimal temperature for decomposition should be maintained.



How to make compost using kitchen and garden wastes?

Almost all of our kitchen waste like garbage and garden waste like clippings of grass enter the ash can. Going in the ash can or disposal is not good for the environment. We can use these wastes and switch them into our own free and 100% organic (compost). Converting waste into compost may be a very easy, effective, and environmentally friendly process. We all know the advantages of good compost for our garden. Compost is also important to grow vegetables in the garden.

Requirements:

There is various sort of kitchen waste for which composting setups are available in the market. But during this post, we will use a really basic and economic setup, that you don't need to buy anything from the market. You will need a big terracotta pot. Alternatively, we can use a plastic bucket to make compost, but there will be a lot of chances of producing a bad smell and improper composting. A pot of a minimum of 10 inches in length and 12 inches in diameter will do the needful.



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How to Start an Organic Compost Pile

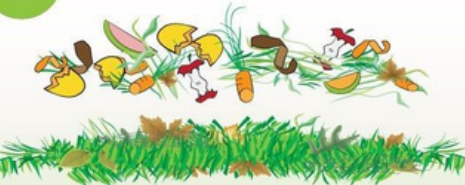
1

Start with a thick layer of tender green untreated grass clippings, young weeds, fresh hay, etc.



2

Add layers of non-meat kitchen waste and more plant matter. **Keep adding!**



3

Accelerate decomposition with a thin application of garden soil **every 8 inches**.



4

Water during dry spells.



5

Turn **twice a week** to aerate.



ready

When compost is **dark and crumbly**, with the consistency of chunky soil but no big hunks, **work it into your garden**.



RiverbendHome.com

Easy Steps to Make Compost:

Here is a list of some very easy steps to make your own organic compost.

1. Check Drainage Holes:

Before starting this process just check the drainage hole in your container. If the opening is small, make it a bit bigger, so the extra moisture can drain away otherwise it will produce a foul smell.

2. Put Pebbles:

Add few pebbles around the drainage hole, to avoid blockage. Remember, pebbles should be the first layer

3. Add Soil:

After putting some pebbles at the rock bottom, add a layer of your garden soil or compost. The thickness of this layer should be around 1 inch. This layer adds beneficial composting micro-organisms. These micro-organisms will result in rapid rate of decomposition.

4. Dry Layer:

After adding a layer of soil or compost, now it's time to feature an additional layer of dry articles. In this layer we can use newspaper or dried leaves.

Dry leaves are a better option than newspapers.

This dry layer will provide a base for the expansion of microorganisms and also keep the combination moist. This will encourage the healthy growth of decomposing microorganisms by providing them a friendly environment.

5. Waste's Layer:

Fourth layer is going to be the layer for moist things like kitchen waste or garden clippings. For an honest composting within the pot, you would like to keep the peak of dry and wet ingredients almost 2 to 3 cm each.

6. Another Compost Layer:

After repeating layers, you would like to try do important work, for fast composting. You need to feature a 3 to 4 cm layer of compost or partially decomposed compost. If you're composting for the primary time, then you've got to shop for a ready-made compost bag from the market.



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7. Another Wet and Dry Layer:

After the addition of compost add kitchen waste, grass clippings, dried leaves or newspaper layers alternatively. As the material below keeps on decomposing, the quantity decreases, so you will keep getting free space for more material. After adding 4 layers of dry and wet material, don't forget to feature compost or partially decomposed compost layer for faster decomposition. It will also make the method smell-free.

8. Placement:

Keep your compost pot covered and place it in your garden. Do not add water and use a terracotta lid to hide it.

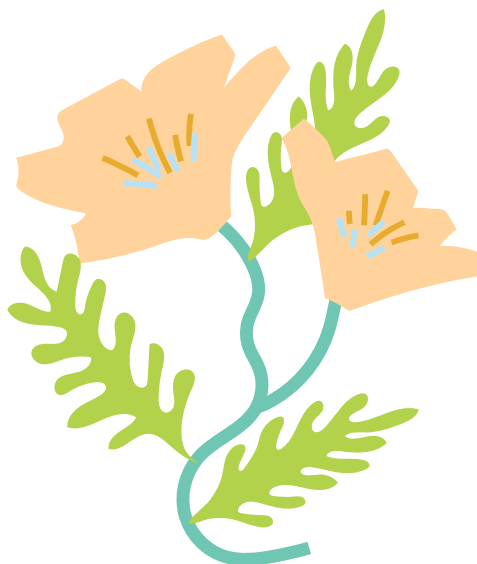
9. Full Composting Unit:

When your Composting unit is full, add the layer of raw wet material. Keep on pressing the layers to form more room for brand spanking new layers.

After the addition of the last wet layer, add a bit of water and a layer of compost at the top. This compost layer is extremely important because it will provide microorganisms to start the process of decomposition.

10. Last Step:

After the last layer of compost, put any small tray thereon, (a terracotta tray would be great) and put a little pot on the tray. At last, when you will add water, this tray will drain out excess water and make layer moist.



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ARTICLE SECTION

Common plants in our locality

By- Antima and Astha Tiwari

B.Sc. (Prog.) Life science, II Year



1. *Portulacaria afra* Jacq.

Common name- Elephant bush

Uses –

- Absorbs high levels of carbon from the air.
- Chewing leaves can treat sore throat and mouth infections.

Habitat:-

- It is a small-leaved succulents plant in South Africa.



2. *Euphorbia milii*

Common name - Crown-of-thorns

Uses -

- *Euphorbia* is used to cure breathing disorders including asthma, bronchitis, and chest congestion.
- WHO has recommended the usage of *Euphorbia Milii* in aiding snail control.

Habitat :-

- It is native to Madagascar.



3. *Araucaria heterophylla* Juss.

Common Name - Norfolk Island pine

Uses :-

- The wood of the large trees is used in Construction, furniture, and shipbuilding.
- It purifies the air.

Habitat :-

- It is native to Norfolk island, situated in south pacific ocean between New Caledonia and New Zealand.



4. *Tradescantia spathacea* Sw.

Common Name - Moses-in-the-cradle

Uses :-

- The Moses-in-the-cradle plant is a relatively fast growing plant with modest fertilizer needs.
- We only need to feed the plant monthly during the growing season (spring and summer).

Habitat :-

- It is native to Belize, Guatemala, Southern Mexico



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5. *Tradescantia pallida*

Hunt.

Common Name - Purple heart

Uses :-

- Used as an anti-inflammatory and anti-toxic supplement, and to improve blood circulation.

Habitat :-

- It is native to the Gulf Coast region of eastern Mexico



6. *Portulaca grandiflora*

Hook

Common name- Rose moss

Uses:-

- Grown as an ornamental plant.

Habitat:-

- Grows in tropical and subtropical regions



7. *Sphegneticola trilobata* L.

Common name – Wedelia

Uses:-

- Grown as an ornamental plant.

Habitat:-

- Cultivated in wet tropical areas of the world.

8. *Dracaena trifasciata* L.

Common name – Snake plant

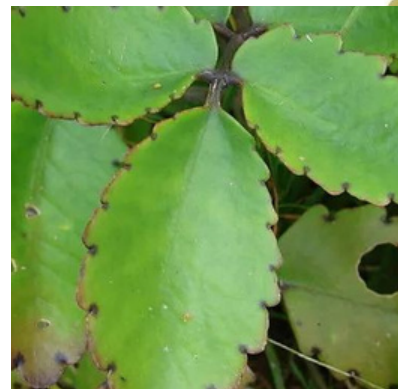
Uses:-

- This plant has been deemed as a good luck plant because of its ability to absorb poisonous gases from the air, remove toxins such as formaldehyde and benzene.
- Snake plants can absorb cancer-causing pollutants, including CO₂, toluene, and xylene.

Habitat:-

- *Trifasciata* is a species of flowering plant native to tropical West Africa from Nigeria east to the Congo.





9. *Dracaena fragrans* L.

Common name – Corn plant

Uses:-

- *Dracaena* is one of the most effective houseplants in air purification.

Habitat:-

- It is native to tropical Africa.

10. *Jasminum grandiflorum* L.

Common name- Jasmine

Uses-

- Ornamental plant
- Perfumes.

Habitat-

- Grows in tropical and subtropical regions.

11. *Kalanchoe pinnata* Lam.

Common name – Bryophyllum

Uses :-

- Kalanchoe is a medicinal plant largely used in folk medicine for the treatment of kidney stones, gastric ulcer, pulmonary infection, rheumatoid arthritis etc.

Habitat :-

- Tropical and subtropical areas.

12. *Cascabela thevetia* L.

Common name:- Oleander

Uses:-

- Thevetia is considered effective in curing eye infections, as well as fever, leprosy, and hemorrhoids.
- Bark, Seed - Purgative and heart tonic.

Habitat:-

- It is a poisonous plant native throughout Mexico and in Central America and cultivated as an ornamental plant.



ARTICLE SECTION

Petunia

By- Prachi Sharma

Bsc Life science ,II Year

- *Petunia* are angiosperms with a South American origin.
- The French word 'petun' means tobacco (from a Tupi-Guarani language).
- It is an annual plant and its hybrid varieties are mostly found in gardens like *Petunia atkinsiana* or *Petunia hybrida*.
- It has white, purple, or red funnel-shaped flowers, with many ornamental varieties.
- *Petunia grandiflora*, *Petunia multiflora*, *Supertunias* and the Cascade series are some species commonly found in India
- *Petunia* cannot grow well in heavy rain and very hot and dry summers.



1. Scientific classification

Kingdom: Plantae

Family: Solanaceae

Genus: *Petunia*

2. Ecology

- *Petunia* pollinates with the help of insects except for a rare species. It has bright red flowers and it pollinates through humming birds.
- These are diploid with 14 chromosomes and are interfertile with other *Petunia* species, as well as with *Calibrachoa*.
- The tubular flowers are favoured by some *Lepidoptera* species, including the Hummingbird hawk moth.
- Larvae of worms such as corn worms, *Helicoverpa zea* and the Cabbage looper, *Trichoplusia ni* feed on flowers of *Petunia*.



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3. Cultivation

- Petunias can relatively survive in harsh conditions and hot climates, but not in cold weather.
- They need at least five hours of sunlight every day and they grow best in moist soil and conditions of low atmospheric humidity.
- Watering once a week is adequate for the plant in most regions.
- Repeated or frequent watering is needed in case of hanging baskets and other containers.
- The plant shows maximum growth in late spring.
- Spraying fertilizers can help the plant grow at a faster pace.
- In horticulture many terms are used to denote different types of cultivated Petunia. Some of these include Grandiflora, Multiflora, Wave (Spreading), Supertunia, Cascadia and Surfinia.



4. Uses

• Ornamental uses

- Petunias grow adaptively every year. They can be used for color masses, borders, containers, hanging baskets or as a seasonal groundcover.
- Example- The common garden petunia (*Petunia atkinsiana*) is an ornamental plant. The trumpet-shaped flowers which make it popular for summer flower beds and window boxes.



• Garnish material

Mostly flowers are not used as garnish material as they are inedible. But some Petunias have been used as garnish. However as members of the nightshade family, they are not to be eaten.



5. Medicinal uses

- Some of Petunias show medicinal properties. Many species of the genus has antinociceptive, antioxidant, analgesic, antispasmodic, antiulcer, antidiabetic and anti-inflammatory properties.
- Example- Ruellia which is a genus of flowering plants commonly known as Ruellias or Wild Petunias and it belongs to the family Acanthaceae.



Photographs of Petunia



Common Name: Petunia ultra crimson star
Botanical name: *Petunia grandiflora*
Family: Solanaceae
Flowering Season: Year round
Type - Annual
Genus: Petunia
Good For: Bedding Garden, Mixed Margins
Edges Location: Lalbagh, bangalore, india
Flowers: Purple, Dark magenta with white, large, wavy

Common Name: Petunia, surfinia petunia
Botanical name: *Petunia violacea*
Family: Solanaceae
Order: Solanales
Origin/Native: Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela
Height: Up to 12 inches
Synonym: *Petunia integrifolia*
Propagation: Sow seeds in greenhouse or propagator-temp [60 F] in march



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ARTICLE SECTION

Rosa gigantea collett ex crep

By- Christy

B.Sc (Prog.) Life science, II Year



Rosa gigantea is a beautiful species of rose belonging to Northeast India, Northern Myanmar and Southwest region of China located in the foothills of the Himalayan region growing at around 1000–1500 m altitude. It is often confused as a variety of *Rosa odoranta* or sometimes as *R. odorata* var. *gigantea*.

- Botany - It is the largest species of the rose family, a climber of 20 m or more climbs to the crown of other trees using its strong, curved defending thorns, and has a stem of approx. 50 cm diameter. The leaves are semi-evergreen, around 15–25 cm long, pinnately branched, with around 7 leaflets with each leaflet being 4–8 cm in length. The flowers can be white, creamy, or yellow in color and hold the position of being the largest of any wild species of rose with around 10–14 cm in diameter. The fruit commonly known as hips are of yellow or orange color, with 2.5–3.5 cm diameter, rigid which often concludes wintertime goes into the spring, also can be present at the same time like the next year's flowers.
- Another rose species described from Manipur (North Eastern part of India) in 1888 as *R. macrocarpa* and *R. xanthocarpa* by Sir George Watt, a renowned authority for Indian roses, is now commonly considered to be the identical type as *R. gigantea*. However, the discrete features appealed to *R. macrocarpa* like the deep yellow flowers, large leaves with around 4 to 7 leaflets and huge yellow rose hips are not reliable.
- Cultivation of the rose- through vegetative propagation using the stout stems.
- Economic uses - Edible fruits/rosehips of *Rosa gigantea* can be very huge and can be seen up to the size of an apple. Sweet smelling Rose petals are used as a flavoring agent in various sorbets, confections etc. The seeds of the rose are a very good source of vitamin E. It is also pharmaceutically pivotal as the fruits of this genus are an important source of vitamins and minerals, particularly that of vitamin A, C and E and also has many biologically pro-active substances. It is also a fairly good supplement of essential fatty acid, which is quite unusual for a fruit. It is being explored as a source that is capable of treating the growth of cancer and also as a source for inhibiting or reversing the tumorous growth .
- The rose plant has few health hazards: There is a layer of hair/trichomes enclosing the seeds below the skin of the fruit. These trichomes cause irritation to the mouth and digestive tract if consumed.



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ARTICLE SECTION

Variety of Flowers

By- Ayushi Gaur

Bsc. Life science II Year

Flowers are the most beautiful gift bestowed upon us by mother nature. They are omnipresent in every phase of our life. They can be the source of joy, happiness, sweetness and beauty. There are flowers of different/various shapes, sizes, colours and fragrances.

So just to brighten up pandemic, I clicked few photographs of flowers. As we know flowers are widely used for decoration on different functions and festivals and in all the worshipping purposes. Here are some flowers which we can find in our daily life.



3. *Dorotheanthus bellidiforme*
(Livingstone daisy)



4. *Hibiscus rosa sinensis*
(China rose)



1. *Tagetes*
(Marigold)



2. *Cleretum bellidiforme*
(Ice plant)



5. *Dianthus chinensis*
(China pink)



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ARTICLE SECTION

Common Medicinal Plants

By- Prachi Sharma

B.sc (Prog.) Life science, II Year

What are medicinal plants?

- The plants in which one or more of its parts contain substances that can be used for therapeutic purposes or in the synthesis of useful drugs.
- It infers to use of parts like plant's seeds, berries, roots, leaves, bark or flowers for medicinal purposes.
- Example:
 - i. Tulsi
 - ii. Aloe-vera
 - iii. Turmeric



Benefits of medicinal plants:

- **Affordable**- The rising cost of prescription drugs have led people to look for alternatives. While medicinal herbs may not be as strong or as fast acting as conventional medicine, but there is a growing body of scientific evidence that shows their efficiency.
- **Fewer side effects**- While the side effects of any herbal medication depend on the drug in question, many have fewer side effects than conventional medicine. For example, St. John's Wort, which is used by patients with mild to moderate depression has fewer side effects than most other prescriptive antidepressants.
- **Different ways of usage**- Medicinal herbs can be used in a variety of ways, depending on the kind of herb that is to be used. Some herbs can be mixed with food. Some can be mixed into tea and there are some that are available in capsule or tablet form.
- **Used to cure more than one ailment**- Most prescriptive drugs are designed for one specific health problem. By contrast, many herbal medicine have the property to cure several ailments at a time.



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1. *Ocimum tenuiflorum* L. 2. *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* L.



Binomial name : *Ocimum tenuiflorum*

Kingdom : Plantae

Family : Lamiaceae

Genus : *Ocimum*

Species : *O. tenuiflorum*

NAMES IN OTHER LANGUAGES

Hindi-Tulsi

Tamil-Telgu

Sanskrit-Tulasi

- Inhabitant- Throughout India
- Parts used : Leaves , Seeds ,Roots, Stems
- Pharmaceutical properties:
 - Leaves- Expectorant, Diaphoretic, Antiperiodic used in bronchitis and gastric disorder treatments.
 - Fresh leaves- Infusion in boiling water is a remedy for nausea, vomiting, ear ache.
 - Dry leaves- As a snuff in ozaena to cure head ache And bad colds.
 - Seeds- In disorders of genito-urinary system & taken internally as antidote to poison.
 - Roots- Diaphoretic in malarial fevers.



Binomial name: *Hibiscus rosa - sinensis*

Kingdom: Plantae

Family: Malvaceae

Genus: *Hibiscus*

Species: *H. rosa-sinensis*

Names in other Languages

English- Shoe Flower

Hindi- Jasum

Sanskrit- Joba

Tamil- Sembarithi

- Inhabitant- Throughout India
- Parts used – Flowers ,Leaves, Roots
- PHARMACEUTICAL PROPERTIES OF *Hibiscus rosa-sinensis*
 - Flowers- Emollient, Aphrodisiac and Refrigerant
 - Decoction of Flowers- Bronchial Catarrh
 - Leaves- Emollient, Aperient and Laxative
 - Decoction of Leaves- As a lotion In fever
 - Roots- For coughs, venereal disease, fever

3. *Curcuma longa* L.



Binomial name -*Curcuma longa* L.

Kingdom: Plantae

Family: Zingiberaceae

Genus: *Curcuma*

Species: *C. longa*

Names in other languages

Tamil- Manjal

Telugu- Pasuppu

English- Turmeric

Hindi- Haldi

- INHABITANT: Especially Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- PARTS USED – Roots
- Pharmaceutical Properties Of *CURCUMA LONGA*
 - Anti oxidant
 - Anti-Arthritis: currently being used experimentally As a treatment for ulcers in western 7 countries
 - Anti-Cancer effects
 - Anti-Diabetic effects

4. *Mangifera indica* L.

Binomial name : *Mangifera indica*

Kingdom: Plantae

Family: Anacardiaceae

Genus: *Mangifera*

Species: *M. Indica*

Names In Other Languages

Hindi-Aam

Tamil-mamaram

Telugu-amramu

- INHABITANT : Cultivated in tropics
- PARTS USED -Fruits ,Seeds ,Barks ,gum
- Pharmaceutical properties Of *Mangifera Indica*

Ripened fruits- Laxative, astringent, diuretic used in Haemorrhage, Uterus, Intestines or Lungs

Un-ripe fruits- In Ophthalmia and eruptions it shows antibacterial, antifungal activities.

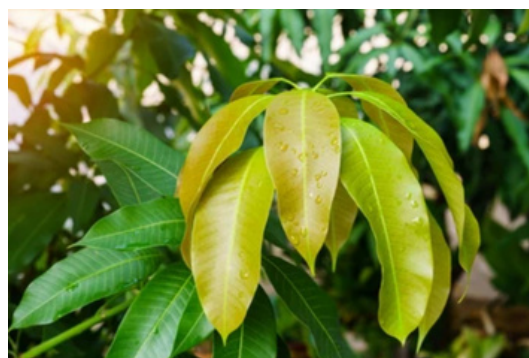
Rind of fruits- Astringent and stimulant Properties.

Seeds- In Asthma

Seed kernal- Astringent taste used as Anthelmintic in Bleeding piles .

Bark- Astringent taste in Diphtheria and Rheumatism

Gum -substitute for gum arabic ,in dressing for cracked feet and for scabies.



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5. *Adhatoda Vatican L.*



Binomial name : *Justicia adhatoda L.*
Kingdom : Plantae
Family : Acanthaceae
Genus : *Justicia*
Species : *J. adhatoda*
Names In Other Languages
Hindi-Adulsa
Tamil-Adatodai
Sanskrit-Vasaka
Inhabitant- Throughout the plains of India and in Sub-himalayan tracts upto 4000 feet
• Useful parts -Leaves, Roots, Flowers
• Medicinal Uses Of *Adhatoda Vasica*
• Leaves & Roots -Asthma, Bronchitis, Chronic Coughs, Breathlessness and in Cough as expectorant
• Leaves-Used in Rheumatism and has insecticidal properties.
• Whole plant- Local Bleeding due to Peptic Ulcer, Piles, Menorrhagia; antispasmodic ;Have antiseptic properties.

6. *Tinospora cordifolia Miers*



Binomial name : *Tinospora cordifolia*
Kingdom: Plantae
Family: Menispermaceae
Genus: *Tinospora*
Species : *T. cordifolia*
Other names: giloe, guduchi, and amrita
Inhabitant: Throughout tropical regions of India extending from Kumaon to Assam and Myanmar, Bihar, Konkan to Sri Lanka.
Part used : Stem
Pharmaceutical properties of Giloe
• Giloy can give your immunity the boost it needs.
• Giloy can help you manage diabetes.
• Giloy shall help us fight off respiratory issues.
• This heart-shaped herb can reduce stress and Anxiety.
• It can also possibly protect your heart.
• Giloy might just delay the onset of osteoporosis

7. *Phyllanthus Niruri L.*



Binomial name -*Phyllanthus niruri L.*
Kingdom: Plantae
Family: Phyllanthaceae
Genus: *Phyllanthus*
Species: *P. niruri*
Names In Other Languages
Hindi- Jaramia
Tamil- Keeranalli
Malayalam- Kizhkkynelli
• Inhabitant – Hotter Parts of India
• Parts Used -Shoots, Roots, Leaves
• Pharmaceutical properties Of *Phyllanthus Niruri*
Shoots(Fresh)-Dysentery
Roots(Fresh)-Jaundice
Powdered Leaves And Roots- With Rice to Lessen Swellings And Ulcers
Leaves-Have a Bitter Substance called *Phyllanthia* –Used against Fever
Whole Plant-As a Diuretic In Gonorrhoea and in Genito Urinary Tract.

8. *Aloe barbadensis miller:*

Binomial name : *Aloe vera*
Kingdom : Plantae
Family : Asphodelaceae
Genus : *Aloe*
Species : *A. Vera*
Different names :
Gritkumari, Acemannan, *Aloe africana*, *Aloe Arborescens* Miller, *Aloe barbadensis*, *Aloe Barbadesis*, *Aloe capensis*, aloe-coated gloves, *Aloe Ferox*, Aloe Gel, Aloe Latex, Aloe Leaf Gel.
Inhabitant: Commonly found in Mumbai, Gujrat And South India. It mainly grows in the tropical and Sub tropical areas.
Part used: leaf
Pharmaceutical properties of *A. Vera*
• Green leaves contain aloe gel and a sticky Yellow residue called latex.
• Burn healing
• Wound healing
• Treat Sunburn
• Radiation-induced skin reactions
• Aloe with conditioner for silkier, smoother hair.
• Take orally to reduce cholesterol and triglycerides for a healthy heart.



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9. *Murraya koenigii* L.



Binomial name: *Murraya koenigii*

Kingdom: Plantae

Family : Rutaceae

Genus: *Murraya*

Species : *M. koenigii*

Other name: curry tree

Inhabitant : All over India

Part used : leaves

Medicinal uses of curry leaves

- Weight loss.
- It can help in treating dysentery, constipation And diarrhea.
- Relieves morning sickness and nausea.
- Eliminates bacteria.
- Good for diabetics.
- Good for eyesight.
- Reduce stress.
- Heals wounds, burns and skin eruptions.

10. *Coriandrum sativum* L.



Kingdom: Plantae

Family: Apiaceae

Genus : *Coriandrum*

Species: *C. sativum*

Other names : Cilantro, Dhaniya, coriander, Chinese Parsley, and Mexican parsley

Inhabitant: Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan in India.

Part used: All parts of the plant are edible but the fresh leaves and the dried seeds are the parts most traditionally used in cooking.

Pharmaceutical properties of coriander

- May help lower blood sugar.
- Rich in immune-boosting antioxidants.
- May benefit heart health.
- May protect brain health.
- May promote digestion and gut health.
- May fight infections.
- May protect your skin.
- Easy to add to your diet.

11. *Phyllanthus emblica* L.



Binomial name : *Phyllanthus emblica*

Kingdom : Plantae

Family : Phyllanthaceae

Genus : *Phyllanthus*

Species : *P. emblica*

Name in other languages:

Hindi : Amla

English : Indian gooseberry

Malayalam: Neli

Inhabitant: commercially cultivated in Uttar Pradesh in India. Also grown in Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

Parts used: Fruit, seed, leaves, root, bark and Flowers.

Pharmaceutical properties of Amla

- To stimulate appetite (Use pickles and Preserves made from the green fruits)
- For hemorrhage, diarrhea and dysentery
- Seed fried in ghee and ground in congee is Applied as Lep to the forehead to stop bleeding From the nose.
- For hiccup and for painful respiration use juice or extract of the fruit combined with honey and Pipli
- Due to vitamin C and polyphenols, is a Antioxidant.

12. *Azadirachta indica* A Juss.

Bionomial Name : *Azadirachta indica*

Kingdom : Plantae

Family : Meliaceae

Genus : *Azadirachta*

Species : *A. Indica*

Names In Other Languages

Hindi- Neem

Tamil- Vepam

Sanskrit- Nimba

- Inhabitant -All Over India
- Parts Used- Bark, gums, leaves, flowers.

Pharmaceutical properties of *Azadirachta Indica*

• Neem leaf is used for leprosy, eye disorders, bloody nose, intestinal worms, stomach upset, loss of Appetite, skin ulcers, diseases of the heart and Blood vessels (cardiovascular disease), fever, Diabetes, gum disease (gingivitis), and liver problems. The leaf is also used for birth control and to cause abortions.

- May fight infections.
- May protect your skin.
- Easy to add to your diet.
- Bark is used for malaria, stomach and intestinal Ulcers , skin diseases, pain, and fever.
- Flower is used for reducing bile, controlling phlegm and treating intestinal worms.
- Fruit is used for hemorrhoids, intestinal worms, urinary tract disorders, bloody nose, phlegm, eye disorders, diabetes, wounds, and leprosy.
- Neem twigs are used for cough, asthma, Hemorrhoids, intestinal worms, low sperm levels, urinary disorders and diabetes.



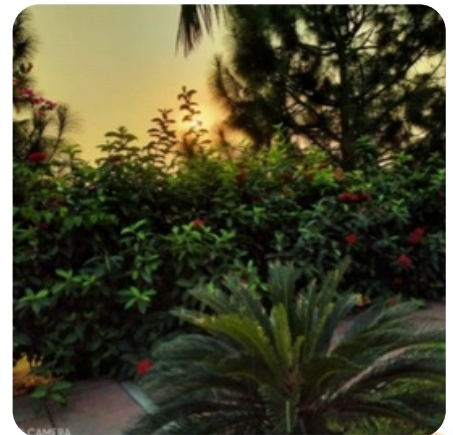
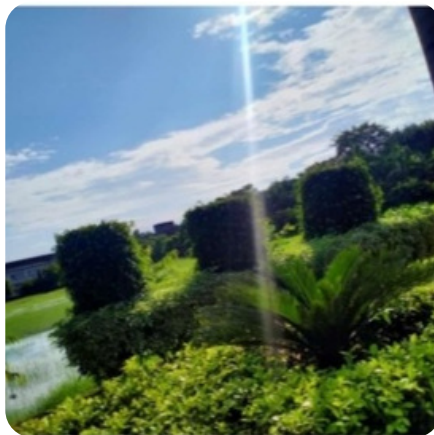
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ARTICLE SECTION

Nature's Beauty

By- Ayushi Gaur

Bsc Life science, II year



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ARTICLE SECTION

Rangoli

By- Ayushi Gaur

Bsc Life science, II Year

Rangoli is a form of an art and also a tradition method or way to welcome and brighten the festival's celebration.

In India, rangoli is not only an art, but it is the feeling of happiness, love and celebration. Since there are various approaches of making a rangoli in any event. The rangoli made up of flowers and the rangoli with colours are the most common and popular style among the various rangoli's as they look colourful, simple and easy. Anyone of us can make a rangoli design on the floor using just rice flour, turmeric etc. But now-a-days it has become way more convenient as the colours are easily available in the market. Therefore, we can make our design even more attractive and colourful. And if we want to design it with flowers, we can make it in two following ways: Firstly, on the floor by making simple designs with the help of coloured petals of different flowers. Secondly, we can make rangoli on water too, by taking a bowl of convenient size and filling it with water and then simply putting the flowers and their petals. As we know the flowers have the ability to float on water. Candles and diya can also be uses for this purpose. Using just three things, a beautiful flower rangoli is made.



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Discoveries in Botany World

A widely studied lab plant has revealed a previously unknown organ



A plant called *Arabidopsis thaliana* has been studied widely for decades, favored by scientists for its compact, easy-to-grow nature. But scientists never noticed one of its organs, until now. A common lab plant that's been poked and put under microscopes for decades may seem unlikely to keep secrets. But in widely studied *A. thaliana*, scientists have identified the "cantil" — a newly reported plant organ named for its cantilever-like way of branching off of the main stem. The structure appears in only some *A. thaliana* and only under certain conditions, researchers reported online June 15 in *Development*.

<https://www.sciencenews.org/article/new-plant-organ-cantil-widely-studied-lab-arabidopsis-thaliana>

Mutant roots reveal how we can grow crops in damaged soil

For years, conventional wisdom has held that roots don't grow as deep in hard soil because it's just too difficult for them to physically push through it. But our new research has unearthed another reason: their growth is controlled by a biological signal which can be "switched off", enabling them to punch through compacted earth. It's a discovery that could help crops to grow in even the most damaged of soils.

The study found that this signal or "switch" is controlled by a hormone called ethylene, which is released as a gas from the tips of plant roots. In loose, non-compacted soils, this gas is free to diffuse into the earth. But in hard, compacted soils, the ethylene gas cannot diffuse, and is instead trapped in the area occupied by the root tip — causing ethylene to build up in root tissues themselves.



<https://theconversation.com/mutant-roots-reveal-how-we-can-grow-crops-in-damaged-soils-153140>



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Plant materials as Biofuels and Chemicals



A team of scientists at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign developed a bioprocess using engineered yeast that completely and efficiently converted plant matter consisting of acetate and xylose into high-value bioproducts.

Their methodology fully utilized the xylose and acetate from the cell walls of switchgrass, transforming the acetate from an unwanted byproduct into a valuable substrate that boosted the yeast's efficiency at converting the sugars in the hydrosolates.

<https://scitechdaily.com/new-bioprocess-efficiently-converts-plant-materials-into-biofuel-and-valuable-chemicals/amp/>

Plant patch monitoring crop stress and diseases

Researchers from North Carolina State University have developed a patch that plants can “wear” to monitor continuously for plant diseases or other stresses, such as crop damage or extreme heat.

Current methods of testing for plant stress or disease involve taking plant tissue samples and conducting an assay in a lab. However, this only gives growers one measurement, and there is a time lag between when growers take a sample and when they get the test results.

Plants emit different combinations of VOCs under different circumstances. By targeting VOCs that are relevant to specific diseases or plant stress, the sensors can alert users to specific problems.



<https://scitechdaily.com/plant-patch-enables-continuous-monitoring-for-crop-stress-and-diseases/amp/>



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Article section

Botany

“Botany is the branch of Biology that deals with the study of plants.”

Plants are the source of life on earth. They provide us with food, oxygen and a variety of raw materials for various industrial and domestic purposes. That is why humans have always been interested in plants since time immemorial. Botany is love of the outdoors and of work in the identification and classification of various plants. The basic goals of botany are to explain how plants are structured, why they function the way they do, and what the evolutionary relationships are between them. There are many special subdivisions of botany concerned with the many aspects of plant structure, function, origin, and evolution as well as with specific groups of plants.



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Careers in Botany

Careers in botany are vast and variables

- Education
 - 1.(Bachelor Degree Courses in Botany)
 - 2.(Master Degree Courses in Botany)
 - 3.(Doctorate Degree Course in Botany)
- Agriculturist
- Research
- Florist
- Taxonomist
- Naturalist
- Biotechnologist
- Molecular Biologist
- Computational Biologist
- Nursery Manager
- Plant Geneticist
- Field Botanist
- Scientific Assistant
- Professor
- Plant Pathologist
- Ecologist
- Plant Biochemist



A career as a botanist can be the best choice for the students who are into plants, and if the study of plants makes them happy. Botany can offer multiple career options to willing candidates. Students pursuing Botany as a career can opt for educational institutions, private or public sector companies in agriculture or forestry, biotechnology, environmental protection, drugs, genetics research, and food industries as career options. The amount of diversity in the field of Botany gives it students to choose their specializations as per their choice, aptitude and interests. There is huge scope of being a part of this industry merely keeping in mind the amount of diversity it has to offer.

- Plant explorer: Botanist with a passion for plants could be a photographer, writer, expeditioner, etc.



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Other careers

- . Mushroom painting
- . Nature's photography
- . Plant Inspired Fashion Designing
- . Pottery
- . Bonsai creation
- . Gardening
- . Plant oriented interior designing



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FACULTY SECTION

Medicinal properties of “Makhana”

By- Dr. Naghma Praween,
Assistant Professor, Kalindi College

Euryale ferox Salisb (also known as fox nut, Makhana or Gorgon plant) is the only species in the genus *Euryale*. It is a flowering plant that belongs to the water lily family, Nymphaeaceae. In India it is popularly referred to as “Makhana”. It grows in water and is discovered in India, Korea, Japan and eastern Russia. In India, Makhana is grown as a herbal crop in stagnant water basins, often lakes and tanks, in states such as Bihar, Assam, West Bengal, Tripura, Manipur etc.

Fox nut is an aquatic plant. It has big spherical leaves and produces vivid crimson flowers. The whole plant is covered with small thorns. The leaves of whole nut plant have green upper surface and purple shaded underside. This plant produces fruits which are about the size of a small orange. Each fruit incorporates 8-10 seeds which might be of pea-size.

Medicinal properties of Makhana



The seeds of foxnut are utilised in ayurvedic preparations. Fox nut calms vata and pitta dosha. It strengthens the coronary heart and could be beneficial in Anaemia. Makhana increases quality and quantity of semen, prevents premature ejaculation, increases libido and helps in female infertility. It is an important part of the herbal supplements used to treat erectile dysfunction. Strengthens the body and increases energy levels. Due to its aphrodisiac properties it is grouped under vrish-yahi verga. Herbs from this group are used in Vajikarana therapy.

Makhana increases the stickiness of secretions by increasing the moisture content in body. Therefore, it increases the quality and quantity of semen and is useful for impotence. It helps to increase the fertility in women and reduces vata and pitta. Strengthens the body and reduces burning sensation and quenches thirst.

Uses of Fox nut or makhana in alternative medicine system

Following the principles of traditional Chinese medicine fox nut or Makhana is used to strengthen spleen and kidneys. All parts of the plants have tonic, astringent, and non-inhibitory properties and are recommended for the treatment of polyuria, spermatorrhoea and gonorrhoea. It is used in traditional oriental medicine to cure a wide variety of diseases such as kidney problems, chronic diarrhoea, and hypofunction of the spleen. It is also taken in the treatment of vaginal discharge and frequent urination in local traditional system.



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FROM EDITORIAL BOARD

Why I choose to be a feminist ?

By- Dr. Priyanka Verma
Co-editor, Faculty editorial board



When I googled gender it showed me the Oxford meaning of the word “either of the two sexes”. But it’s 2021, and in today’s world our dictionaries need to expand, so does our outlook. The world now has bifurcated into sex and gender. It is no longer black and white, not just male and female. It is a rainbow of pride and filled with a multitude of gender identities such as anatomical, cisgender, transgender, non-binary, queer, etc. And feminism binds everyone. Unlike the misconstrued version sold to us by the plethora of misogyny and patriarchy. It is not a bad word. No! It does not mean supremacy over any gender. It simply means equal rights for all genders. Remember, there is not just male and female. It means not to choose based on sex which child should be allowed to be born and which not. It means not choosing which child goes to school and which does not. It means not choosing who goes to a better school and who does not. It means not to allocate gender to the daily household chores which are just life skills and should be known by all.

It means equal opportunities. It means not to “allow” one to work as it is their constitutional right or not to choose professions based on gender roles. I have still not mentioned gender and you know what I am talking about. Gender roles are so inherently embedded in our system that we consciously have to unlearn them. Isn’t it strange that our sex makes up for half of the population and yet women are still the subjugated sex? We still have to go to the court to get our way inside the armed forces. We are still fighting to get autonomy of our own bodies. We still have to be louder to get our voices heard. We are so deeply anchored by the shackles of society, religion, and culture. But remember, girls, we are rising, led a step further gradually by every pioneer. Pioneers in the form of first’s like Marie Curie, Ada Lovelace, Maya Angelou, and Rosalind Franklin, or like Janki Ammal, Anandibai Joshi, Sarojini Naidu, Indra Gandhi, Kiran Bedi, etc, broke the glass ceiling, but it’s not enough. We are still so underrepresented, underpaid, and undervalued. We need feminism because a female body is still objectified for commercialism. A rape victim is still told: “It’s her fault”. We at a very young age are taught what not to do to keep ourselves safe. Women are still asked not to be too ambitious or they won’t get a partner. As per India Today, approximately, 21 women die every day as a result of dowry harassment. Female foeticide is still prevalent. A woman can be killed for simply saying “NO”.

So now let me ask why are you not a feminist?



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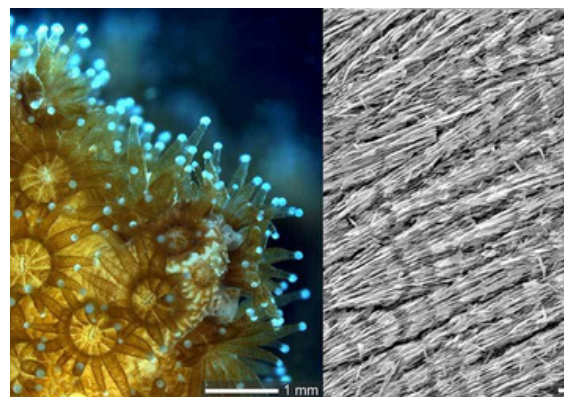
POETRY SECTION

WHEN ALGAE MET CORALS

By- Himanshi

Bsc(H)botany ,II Year

How we met is a story
Our relationship is not an ordinary theory
Million years ago, on Pangea
We found each other
Stuck in awe
Of our mutual propaganda
Some found us hinged and bound,
All to the other's compound
Insurgently we surfed and lived,
Under the huge cavernous deepwaters
With shelter and colorful rockers
We provided each other strength and love
That bounded us ever in each other's glove
Creepy corals protected
And helped me photosynthesize all along
While I filled with colors red blue and green on
its sheath so strong
We carry each other in realms of shady bloom
I take the trash out on Sunday
So my love can gather some nutrients for
fryday
We are, for each other
As the philosophers say, "She is, therefore I
am"
I cannot survive without thee
And nor could she without mee
Bleaching and pollution separates us
Cause us to die alone
And that's something to condone.



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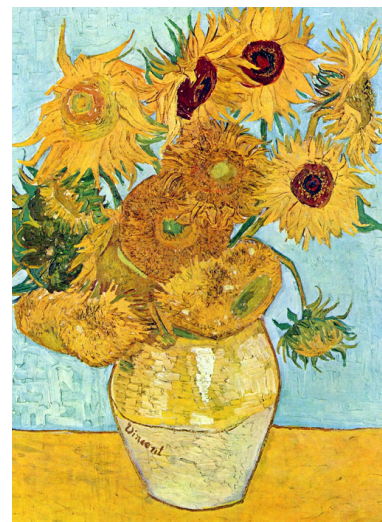
POETRY SECTION

Stuck in the middle

By Ankita Sahoo

Bsc(H)botany II Year

Old lines of the life got stuck,
In the cracks of the autumn path.
When I was being told to hide the bruises,
The familiar face of that protagonist got stuck,
In the wavy, peculiar picture.
Out of all the even,
The antonyms found some authenticity,
Which later got stuck,
In the imagery of his verses.
With the ocean above the head,
The floating of the shinier spots,
It gives immense sadness to those,
Who got stuck in the flow of the wary motion of waves of trauma.
The sunflowers turn their way towards,
The immensely shinier spot in the ocean above the head,
Got stuck in the murky field and face towards the occupied space
by creatures.



Destined to fly high

By Kanupriya Chaudhary

Bsc(H)botany II Year

Up it goes to the heaven
Down it pours with rain
Washing the footsteps of past
Stepping towards a new day
With the sun I rise again
Beaming with hope and blossoming thoughts
A sparkling smile stretching miles away
Stride by stride I hike again
With the sky so blue and pure
Makes me more assertive to learn anew
To get lost in it's peaceful embrace
Getting superior day by day and inch by inch
With the wind whispering and wheezing straight
Get up girl and try again
Flowing with its strength and swiftness
To fly higher than the bygone
With the moon so big and clear
Shining in the darkness eith its own cheer
Stars twinkling with such a temper and trend
Help me find a new way
Crystalline is the dream
Serving the needy, Admiring others and living it carefree ...



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POETRY SECTION

The love song

By Ankita Sahoo

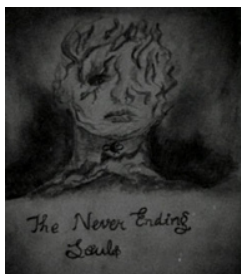
Bsc(H)botany IIYear

For me,
Love has a scent of drenched earth during rain,
Love has sanity like a monk in his prayers.
For me,
Two people don't crave for the bodies,
But actually, For the souls.
I'm an old school kind of a person,
So, for me, Love has a long waiting,
Love gets nervous when clicked at a glance by their beloved.
I'm not The Shakespeare,
But I'm the soul of this verse right now.
For me, Love comes with all possible failures,
But also with just one hope;
To have all the seven colors in the lover's eyes for their beloved.
So, I'm leaving this here for you,
It's your choice,
Either to continue it or just read and leave it,
Because love is here in this too,
As you will find my soul wandering in the spaces between every word.
I'm not The Shakespeare,
But I'm the soul of this verse right now.



The never ending souls

By Ankita Sahoo



It's not easy,
For you and for your loved ones as well,
The last goodbye from them matters,
The tears without seeing you for the one last time matter.
It's not easy,
For you and for us as well,
The last hug from your loved one's matter,
We are strangers but hearing all the demises around us with
those tears matters,
Every single thing matters,
Your first cry to the last one matters.
I know, It's not easy,
For you, for your loved ones, and for us as well.
You are not the forgotten souls,
You are the never-ending souls,
Who are somewhere in peace now.
It's not easy,
For you, for us and for your loved ones as well,
One day you will be called again.

The flower

By-Gunjan

Bsc Life science II Year



This flower out in the wild,
As I stare at it and a smile flashes through my face
Little too bright in the sunlight
& it's beauty cannot be specified
But hi, I give it a try
It's colour, magnificent; elates my soul as I see them
It's petals, vulnerable but soft to my touch
It's stem thorny, but humble to you if you reach it
out with caution
It's soil, nourishing; helps it grow into the beauty
it is today
It's leaves, shy; fumble on my touch
The flower's vibrance fills up my eyes
I sit here for hours as I write about
This flower out in the wild.



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HINDI POEM SECTION

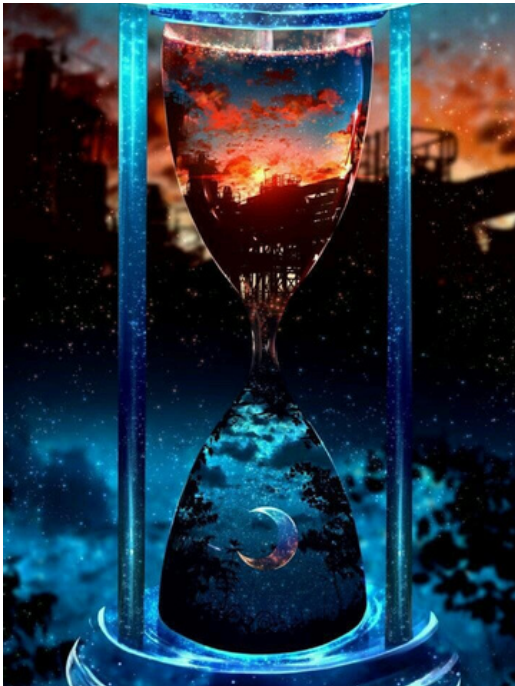
संकट पाथ

By- Sangeeta

B.Sc.(H)Botany, III year

ऐ इंसान ज़रा तू सुन;
एक दिन ये वक्त भी गुज़र जाएगा !
आहिस्ता-आहिस्ता, थोड़ा बुरा कर जाएगा;
ऐ इंसान धैर्य तू रख,
ज़्यादा देर ये टिक नहीं पाएगा,
एक दिन ये वक्त भी गुज़र जाएगा !!

किसको पता था, ऐसा भी एक दिन आएगा;
बुरा होने के बाद भी, एकता का पाठ पढ़ा जाएगा ।
भिखरे हुए रिश्तों को एकत्रित करना सीखा जाएगा
मन की ईर्ष्या, जैसे क्षणभंगुर बुराइयों को औकात दिखा
जाएगा ।
ऐ इंसान धैर्य तु रख;
एक दिन ये वक्त भी गुज़र जाएगा ॥



ऐ इंसान जरा तू सुन;
हम ईश्वर के बच्चे ही तो हैं ।
कौन पिता अपने बच्चों को मार गिरायेगा ।
ज़्यादा देर टिक नहीं पाएगा;
एक दिन ये वक्त भी गुज़र जाएगा ।

अपने आशियानों में रह के,
कर तू अपना कर्म, पिता की भक्ति, ताकि तुझे मिले
इस विपदा से लड़ने की शक्ति ॥
ऐ इंसान धैर्य तू रख;
अच्छे बुरे का फरक पता चल जाएगा ।
एक दिन ये वक्त भी गुज़र जाएगा ।
ज़्यादा देर टिक नहीं पाएगा ॥

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MANDALA PAINTINGS

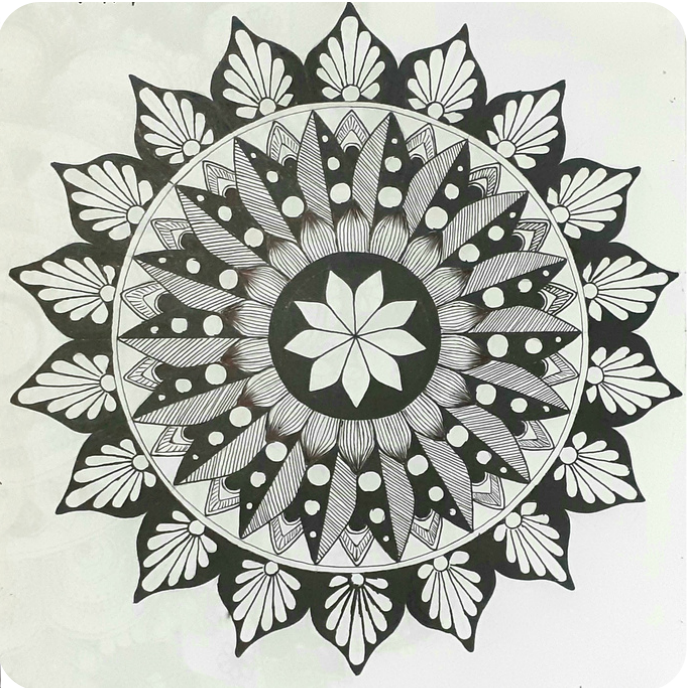
By- Himadri

Bsc(Hons)Botany III Year



By- Arya Vatsala

Bsc(Hons)Botany III Year



By- Arya Vatsala

By- Arya Vatsala



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Paintings

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Bsc(Hons)Botany III Year



By- Christy

Bsc Life science II Year

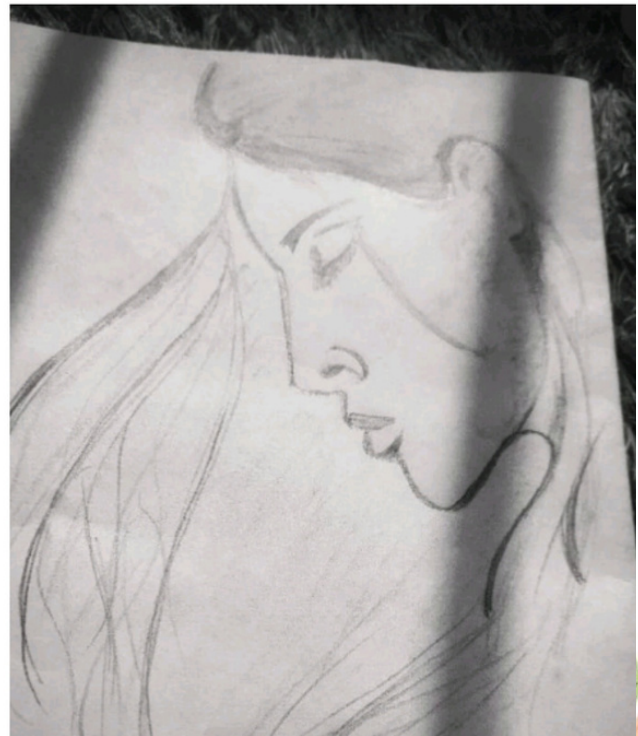


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Share sketches

By-Saloni

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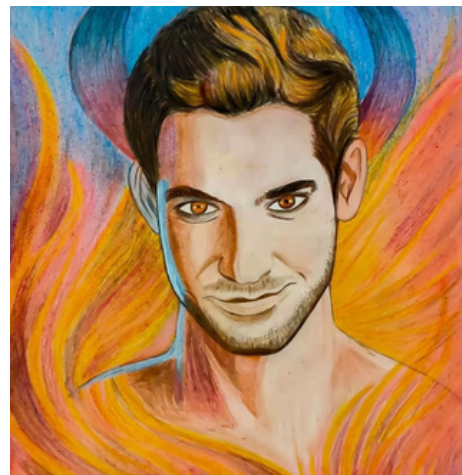
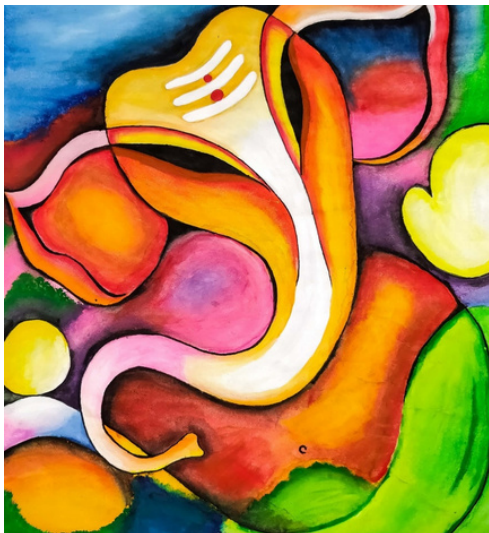
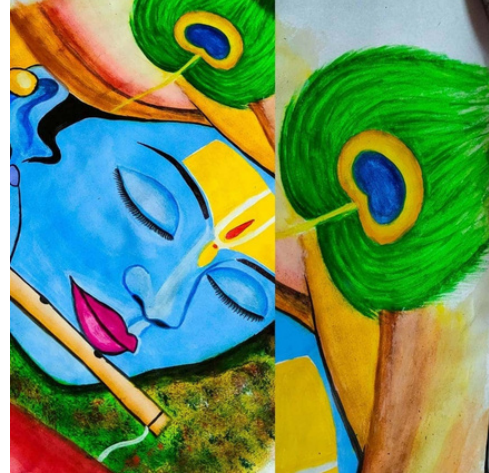


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Paintings

By- Aashi chariya

Bsc Life science III Year



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ART SECTION



By-Anubhuti Mathur



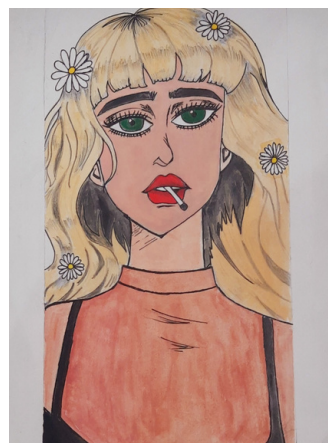
By Surabhi



By Vandita Mishra



By-Anubhuti Mathur



By-Anubhuti Mathur



By-Anubhuti Mathur



By-Anubhuti Mathur



By-Aashi Charya



By-Aashma yadav



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FROM THE ALUMNI

By- Yakshina sharma

Bsc(H)Botany

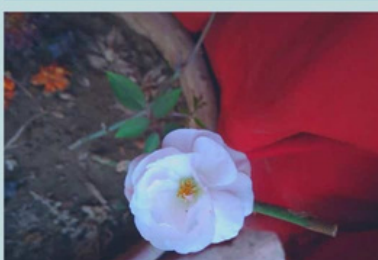
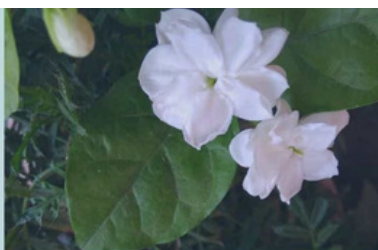
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Nature's Bloom

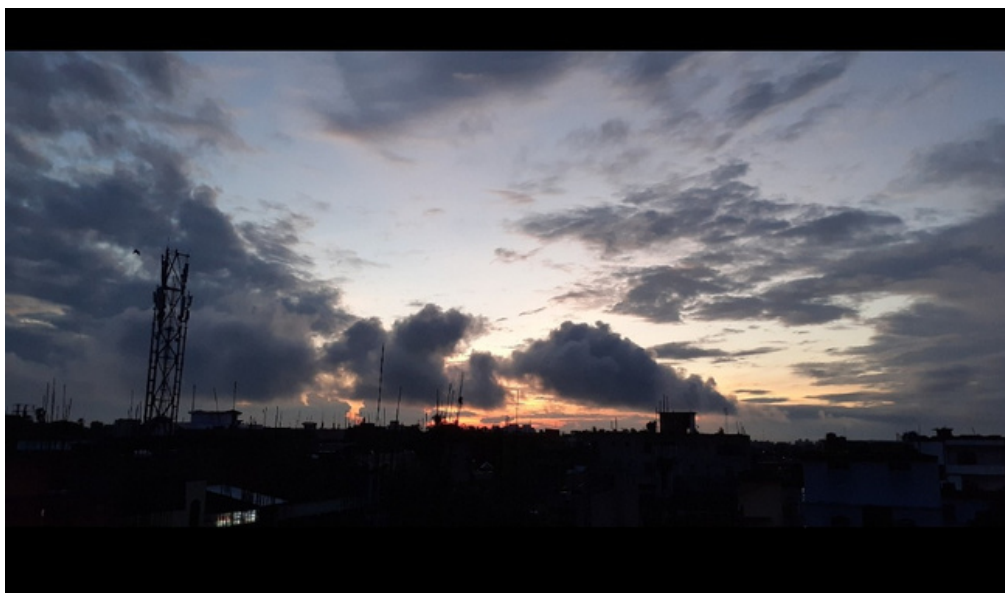
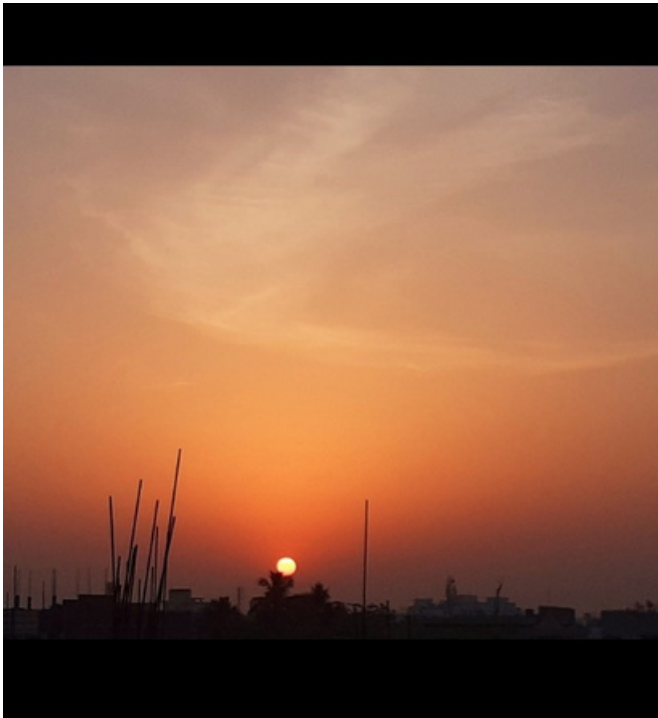
By-Aastha Tiwari and Ruvedita



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Magic of nature

By-Arya Vatsala
Bsc(H)Botany III Year



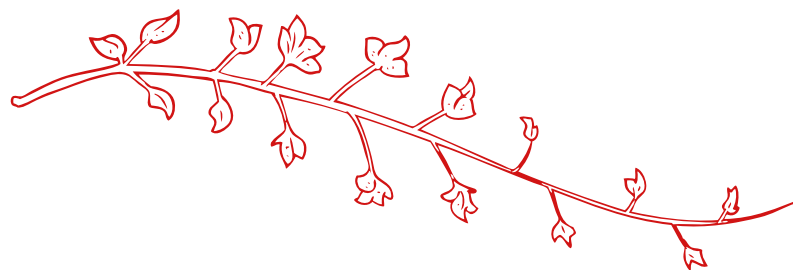
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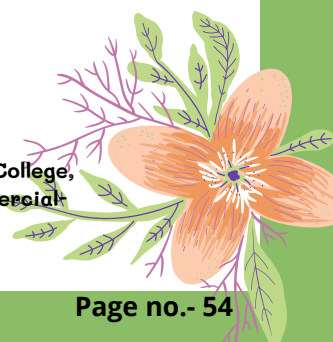
Beauty of nature

By- Manisha Saini

Bsc Life science II Year



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EVENTS OF THE SOCIETY

Departmental Elections

The botany department is honoured to announce the conduct of an online election of our botanical society AMARANTH on 23rd September for the posts of President, Vice President and Treasurer. This event was a great success besides this pandemic. The students exuberantly stepped forward for the event.

Preeti Bhardwaj from the final year has been selected unopposed as the President. For the post of Vice President Naincy Joshi, Neha, Janvi and Sakina were the contestants. But Naincy was declared to be the vice president with heavy number of votes (25.7%) For the post of cultural secretary there was a tough competition between Kanupriya and Aisha Bhatt but Aisha won the race having accounted for 53% of votes.

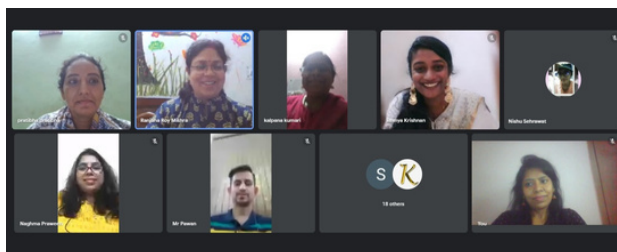
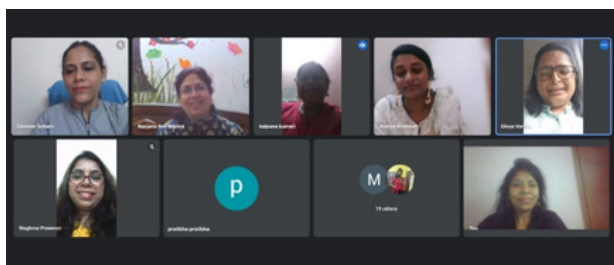
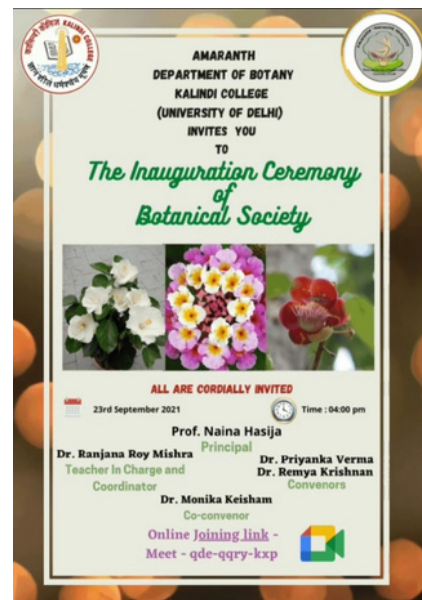
The last but not the least there were three nominations for the post of our treasurer Nishu, Himanshi and Sneha. Himanshi grabbed the opportunity by winning the election by 40% of votes. All the students from 2nd and 3rd year voted along with the teachers of Botany department.



EVENTS OF THE SOCIETY

The Inaugural Ceremony

The Botany department of Kalindi college organized an Inaugural event to introduce and welcome the newly appointed office bearers and the editorial team. The event was conducted via google meet on 23rd September at 4:00 PM under the guidance of our esteemed TIC and coordinator Dr. Ranjana Roy Mishra. The ceremony started with the introductory presentation of the office bearers followed by the newsletter team. As the girls introduced themselves and gathered blessings from everyone, the episode was concluded with the warm wishes of all the teachers from Amaranth.



All the teachers including convenors and co-convenor enlightened students about the importance of Extra curricular activities like journaling, debating, and writing in college along with studies. This session was organized by our hard working committee. The interaction between the teachers and members was the highlight of the session. Eager participation made the event star studded and successful. However, it would not have been possible without the support of our respected principal, Prof.(Dr.)Naina Hasija.

Google Meeting link- <https://meet.google.com/qde-qqry-kxp>

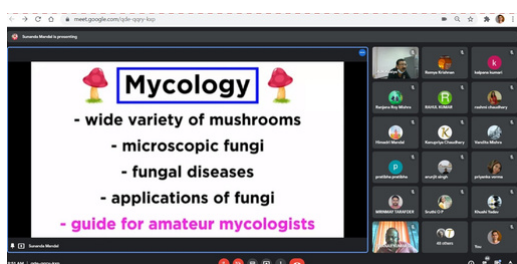
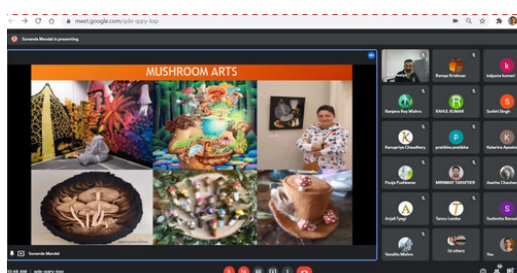
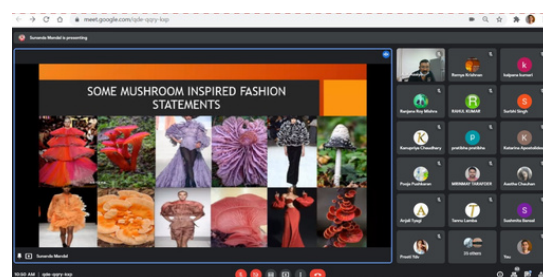


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EVENTS OF THE SOCIETY

Stories of Mushroom

The Botany department of Kalindi College, Patel Nagar organised an informative webinar about Stories of Mushrooms. The speaker Ms Sunanda, who specialises in mushroom photography, drawing and blogs provided ample knowledge about mushroom arts, mycology and fashion statements inspired by mushrooms. The webinar was held on 20th July 2021 from 9:30 to 10:30 am on the platform Google meet. More than 90 people attended this enlightening session including Natalie Robinson and Katarina Apostolides from the US. Respected AJK Asalya, Scientist, Tropical Forest Research Institute, Jabalpur and Dr. Pranab Saha, Former officer of Research and Development, at the department of F.P.I and Horticulture, Govt. of Bengal honoured the lecture with their presence. The students joined the event through the following link- meet.google.com/qde-qqry-kxp.



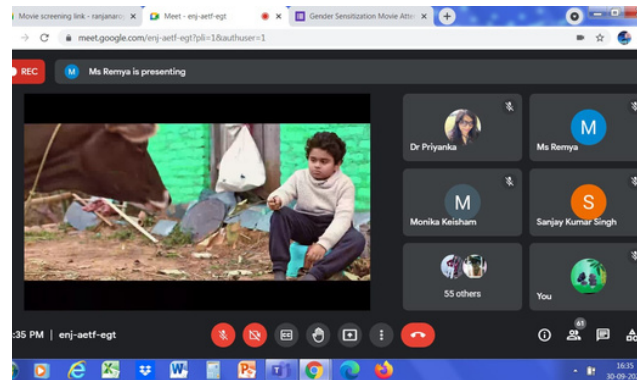
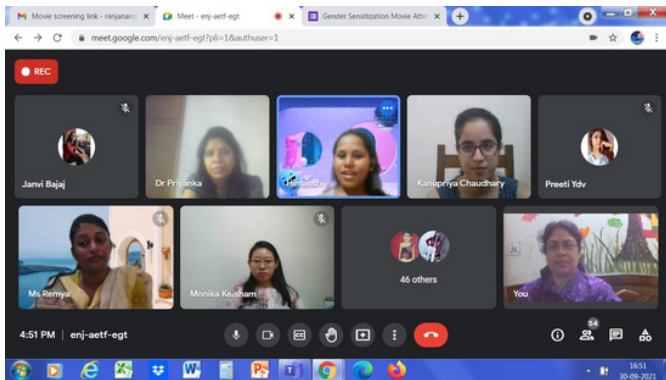
The event was fortunate because of the hard work of the Botany department including the Teacher-in-charge, Dr. Ranjana Roy Mishra and the organising team, Dr. Kalpana Kumari, Dr. Arunjit Singh, Dr. Pawan Kumar and Dr. Remya Krishnan. Our student representatives, Monica Singh and Naincy Joshi also worked diligently to make this session outstanding. However, this session wouldn't have been possible without the support of Prof.(Dr.)Naina Hasija, Principal of Kalindi College. The event was a huge success and was followed by a questionnaire round.



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EVENTS OF THE SOCIETY

Gender sensitization



The Department of Botany organized an event on gender sensitization. Besides the pandemic, the session was a huge success. The movie, "Pencil box", was shown to raise the issues faced by the third gender due to current pandemic specially unemployment. The students exuberantly stepped forward and attended the occasion. The event was organized with the thought that, 'the whole of life is just like watching a film. Only it's as though you always get in ten minutes after the big picture has started, and no-one will tell you the plot, so you have to work it all out yourself from the clues'. It was conducted via Google meet on 30th September 2021 at 4:00 PM under the guidance of our TIC and Coordinator Dr. Ranjana Roy Mishra.

The event started with the screening of the short film based on the theme. The taboo around the third gender in our society was portrayed in a heart touching way. Everybody present was held back by the performance of the protagonist. The screening was followed by a debate session about it. However, it would not have been possible without the support of our principal Prof.(Dr.) Naina Hasija. More than 65 students as well as faculties from different departments graced the event. The students joined through this link- <https://meet.google.com/enj-aetf-egt?pli=1&authuser=2>



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Mishra Ji's farewell

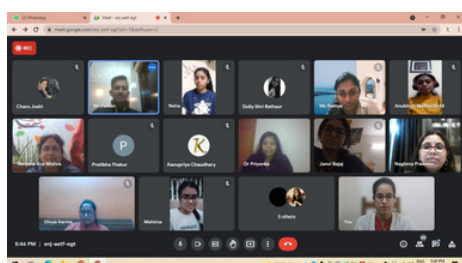
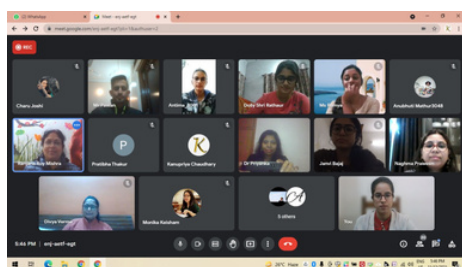


To bid adieu to our dear Mr. Prabhakar Mishra, a keen and dedicated Laboratory Assistant who served the Botany department of Kalindi college for 30 long years. Botany department organized a small retirement party under the support of Principal, Prof. (Dr.) Naina Hasija and TIC, Dr. Ranjana Roy Mishra on 13th July, 2021. He is a very jovial person and has proficiency at identifying plants. He skillfully learned all the laboratory work. Moreover, he would happily share his knowledge with faculty and scholars alike. We are highly grateful for having such an able person around us who helped us through all the practical aspects of botany.

Events of the society

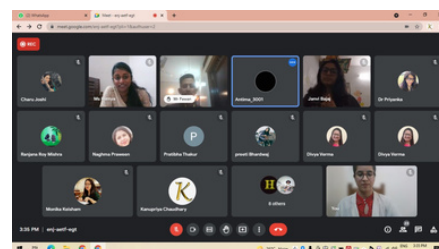
Intercollege Powerpoint Presentation Competition

Amaranth, the Botanical society of Kalindi college, Delhi University organized an Intercollege Powerpoint Presentation competition. The participants presented their views on the topic 'Genetically Modified Plants- Boon or Bane?'. The event was scheduled on 13th November 2021 from 3:00 pm onwards on the platform Google meet. Students from different colleges registered for the event. It was overwhelming to receive 30+ registration from sciences as well as non-sciences students.



Students and teachers from Botany department joined the meeting and were heartily welcomed. The jury for this competition included our reputable Assistant Professors like Dr. Divya Verma, Dr. Naghma Praween, Dr. Pratibha Thakur, Dr. Pawan Kumar. Every participant was allowed to present for 7 minutes. The presentations were followed by questionnaire round by the jury members. The session was very knowledge oriented and scholastic. After the declaration of results, Rashi Singh from Delhi Technological University was announced as the winner. Anubhuti from Kalindi college and Charu Joshi from Gargi college grabbed the second and third position respectively.

The winners were awarded with cash prizes and E-certificates. Members of the society and other participants discussed about the delusional thinking of farmers related to Genetically Modified Crops. And on the other hand also discussed the adversities of Genetically Modified Crops. Lastly, Dr. Ranjana Roy Mishra, TIC and Coordinator, congratulated the winners and applauded organisers for making this event a huge success. Ranjana ma'am also mentioned the role of our honourable Principal Prof. (Dr.) Naina Hasija and called her the pillar of the event. Everyone was motivated by her enthusiastic words and the session concluded on a good note.



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Academic Excellence



Arya Vatsala

B.Sc.(H) Botany

1. Ved Prakash Bhagat Prize
2. Dr.VaniHardev Prize
3. Sent.Sushila Devs Prize
4. S.LSharma Memorial Prize



Chinky

B.Sc.(H) Botany

1. Ved Prakash Bhagat Prize
2. Dr.VaniHardev Prize
3. Sent.Sushila Devs Prize
4. S.LSharma Memorial Prize



Vartika Srivastva

B.Sc.(H) Botany

1. Ved Prakash Bhagat Prize
2. Dr.VaniHardev Prize
3. Kanta Sachar Prize



Kritikiaa Saini

B.Sc.(H) Botany

1. Ved. Prakash Bhagat Prize
2. Dr.VaniHardev Prize



Sangeeta Gupta

B.Sc.(H) Botany

1. Ved. Prakash Bhagat Prize
2. Dr.VaniHardev Prize

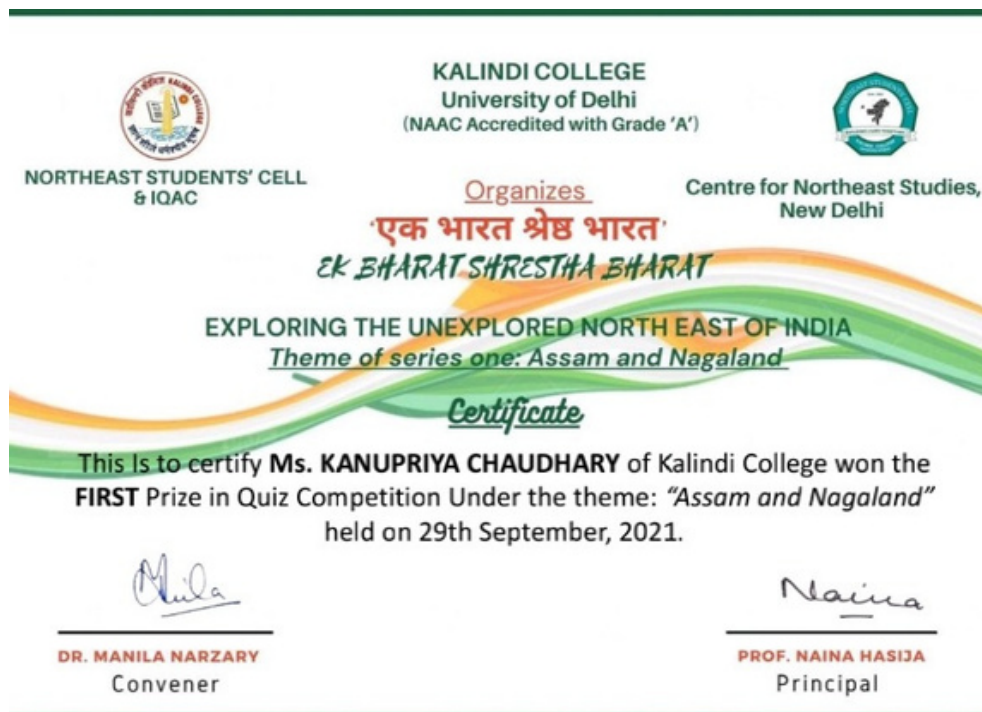


Saloni

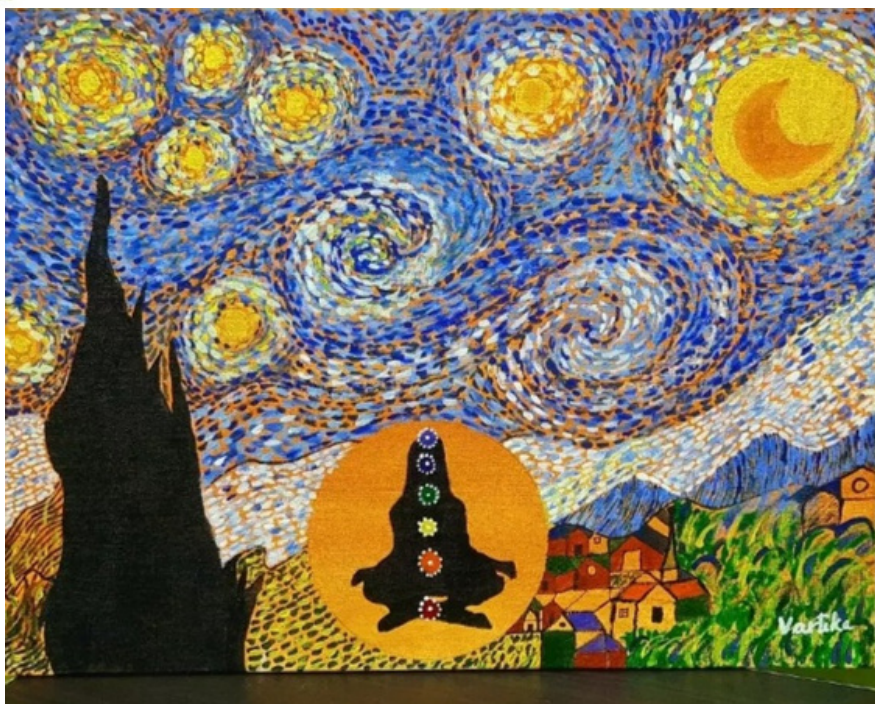
B.Sc.(H) Botany

1. Ved. Prakash Bhagat Prize
2. Dr.VaniHardev Prize

Competitions Prizes



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