KALINDI COLLEGE UNIVERSITY OF DELHI NAAC ACCREDITED WITH GRADE 'A+'



ORCHIDS-FASCINATING COLOURS OF NATURE

AMARANTH TIMES VOLUME 5 ISSUE 1 SESSION 2024 - 2025



Photo by Mimansa Kumawat

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FROM PRINCIPAL'S DESK

It gives me immense pleasure that the Department of Botany is coming up with their next issue of the newsletter, 'Amaranth Times' for the academic session, 2024-25.

The newsletter showcases the creative and artistic side of students, along with highlighting the fascinating world of orchids and their remarkable colors. I am sure readers will benefit from the informative articles and other updates in biology, particularly those related to orchid conservation and research. I wish them all the very best!



Prof. Meena Charanda PRINCIPAL





FROM TEACHER-IN-CHARGE

Through our periodical 'Amaranth Times' for the 2024-25 session, I am delighted to share with you the captivating world of orchids. As botanists, we are fascinated by the stunning diversity and intricate beauty of these flowers. Orchids are a testament to nature's artistry, with their vibrant colors, shapes, and patterns. We hope this newsletter will inspire readers to appreciate and conserve these natural wonders, and to join us in marveling at the fascinating colors of nature that orchids showcase.

I express my gratitude to Dr. Monika Keisham, Dr. Pratibha Thakur and her entire editorial team, as well as the student editors Khushi Singh and Shikha Sharma for their efforts and hard work. Additionally, a special thank you to the students who shared their work through this newsletter. Enjoy your reading!



Dr. M. Arunjit Singh TEACHER-IN-CHARGE





FROM FACULTY EDITOR

Dear students, colleagues and esteemed members.

The Botanical Society 'Amaranth' is one of the enriching parts of botany department. The society has been working wonderfully with the efforts and dedication of our students since it was initiated. Once again we are delighted to unveil the latest edition of our department's academic newsletter Times'. 'Amaranth Ι extend my heartfelt congratulations to everyone involved, especially the editorial team members, for their unwavering dedication, hardwork and immense contributions in its successful launch. This issue on ORCHIDS highlights the treasure and beauty of flowering plants and unfolds their adaptations in nature.

This newsletter is an invaluable platform, showcasing collective progress of our department. I hope it will continue to inspire and foster a culture of innovation, knowledge, research and excellence.



Dr. Pratibha Thakur ASSISTANT PROFESSOR





FROM FACULTY EDITOR

Amaranth Times, the annual newsletter of the Botany Department at Kalindi College, is a platform dedicated to celebrating the wonders of plant science. This year, our focus is on orchidsone of the most diverse and captivating plant families. From their intricate pollination mechanisms, beautiful flowers to their ecological significance, orchids showcase nature's ingenuity. Through this edition, we aim to explore their scientific and conservation aspects, offering readers a glimpse into the fascinating world of these botanical marvels.

I sincerely thank our Principal, Prof. Meena charanda, for her unwavering support. I am deeply grateful to our Teacher-in-Charge, Dr. M. Arunjit Singh, for entrusting me with the opportunity to serve as one of the faculty editors. It has been a privilege to work alongside Dr. Pratibha Thakur as a fellow faculty editor, and I truly appreciate her collaboration and support. I also extend my heartfelt thanks to the student editorial team, led by Khushi Singh and Shikha Sharma, for their dedication and hard work in bringing this edition to life.



Dr. Monika Keisham ASSISTANT PROFESSOR





FROM FACULTY EDITOR

Amaranth Times, the flagship annual newsletter of the Botany Department at Kalindi College, serves as a vibrant showcase for the fascinating realm of plant science.

This year, we're thrilled to shine the spotlight on the enchanting world of orchids. Our journey takes you from the intricate dance of orchid pollination to the pressing concerns of conservation. We are excited to share this fascinating world with you.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my deepest and most sincere appreciation to our Principal, Prof. Meena Chandra, for her unwavering guidance, support, and encouragement. I would also like to express my profound gratitude to our Teacherin-Charge, Dr. M. Arunjit Singh, for entrusting me with the privilege of serving as a faculty editor for Amaranth Times. Furthermore, I had the pleasure of collaborating with Dr. Pratibha Thakur and Dr. Monika Keisham whose exceptional expertise and guidance were invaluable assets throughout the editorial process. Last but not least, a huge thank you to our student editorial team, led by the dynamic duo Khushi Singh and Shikha Sharma. Your tireless efforts and dedication have brought this edition to life, and we are forever grateful.



Ms. Soma Ghosh GUEST FACULTY





EDITORIAL TEAM





AMARANTH TIMES Volume 5

Issue 1

EDITORIAL HEADS



SHIKHA SHARMA B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany III Year Working on this edition of our newsletter, Orchid: Fascinating Colours of Nature, has been truly an enchanting experience. From mesmerizing artwork and photographs to captivating articles and poetry, every contribution has portrayed nature's essence. It has only been my privilege and a profound journey to be able to witness such brilliance and passion unfold on these pages. Along with the editorial task, this journey has been one of growth and lessons broadening my knowledge and perspective. I am grateful to every individual whose dedication has brought this vision to life. I hope this edition leaves you in awe, just as it has for me.

Just as a flower blooms and reveals its beauty to the world, our team has come together to create this edition, carefully nurturing every detail to bring forth a vibrant and captivating publication. These creative pieces, stories, and poems showcase the diversity and beauty of nature, bringing us closer to it and giving us a chance to understand its importance.I am grateful to all my colleagues who have contributed to making this edition possible, sharing their talents, expertise, and passion to create a truly special publication. I hope you enjoy this edition and experience the beauty, magic, and importance of nature.



KHUSHI SINGH B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany III Year



AMARANTH TIMES Volume 5 Issue 1

CREATIVE HEAD



RITU BHARTI B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany III Year

Greetings, dear readers!

As the Creative Head of Amaranth Times, it is my absolute delight to bring you this edition, a vibrant tribute to one of nature's most mesmerizing masterpieces—the Orchid. In this issue, we invite you to immerse yourself in a world of creativity inspired by Orchids. Through art, poetry, photography, and thought-provoking articles, we celebrate their enchanting charm and the emotions they evoke. Every page is a labor of love, crafted by a team passionate about bringing nature's artistry to life.

Happy reading and let creativity bloom!

CO-EDITORS

Greetings to fellow editors!

As we bring to you this edition of our Amaranth Times,I am thrilled to share with you the beauty and elegance of one of nature's most exquisite creations - the Orchid.As co-editor, I have had the privilege of working with an incredible team to curate a collection of articles, poems,paintings and images that celebrate the splendor of these stunning flowers.In this edition, we take you on a journey to explore the fascinating colours of Orchids. I hope you enjoy reading this edition as much as we enjoyed creating it. Happy reading!



RIYA KUMARI B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany II Year



AMARANTH TIMES Volume 5 Issue 1

CO-EDITORS



PIYA CHAWLA B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany II Year

Greetings to the readers!

I am so privileged to be a part of the annual newsletter of the Botany Department - Amaranth Times as a Co-Editor. The theme, Orchids - Fascinating Colours of Nature was very much exciting and I loved working on it. The poetries were wonderful and it was truly enriching to read the articles submitted for the newsletter. It was my pleasure to be a part of this. It was a great experience and I personally believe the skills I learnt by being a Co-Editor will definitely help me in my future endeavors. I hope that this volume of Amaranth Times will make all its readers to cherish its beauty.

Greetings to all plant lovers and curious minds! This edition of our newsletter is a celebration of the beauty and significance of plants, featuring insightful articles, poems, and photographs that highlight the wonders of nature.

A heartfelt thanks to our teachers and fellow members whose knowledge and dedication make this journey so enriching. Through this newsletter, I've had the opportunity to explore, reflect, and deepen my connection with the botanical world. I hope these pages inspire you, spark curiosity, and bring joy to your learning experience.

Happy Reading, Learning & Growing!



MUSKAN RAJPUT B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany II Year



AMARANTH TIMES Volume 5

Issue 1

EDITORIAL MEMBERS

Nature is full of stories—of resilience, adaptation, and quiet beauty. Through this edition of our newsletter, we invite you to pause, observe, and immerse yourself in the wonders of the botanical world. From the tiniest leaf to the tallest tree, every plant holds a lesson waiting to be discovered.

This newsletter is more than just words on a page; it is a reflection of our shared curiosity and passion for botany. We extend our deepest gratitude to our teachers for their constant guidance and to every contributor who has enriched these pages with their knowledge, creativity, and love for nature. The articles, poems, and photographs you will find here are a testament to the enthusiasm that binds us together as a community.

As you read, we hope you not only gain new insights but also find inspiration to look at the natural world with a renewed sense of wonder. May this edition encourage you to keep exploring, keep questioning, and most importantly, keep growing—just like the plants we admire.

Editorial Team Amaranth The Botanical Society











THEME BASED ARTICLES



Unveiling the Exotic: Orchids from Orchis

Jasmin Ekka, B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year

Orchids are a diverse group of plants with a wide range of captivating blossoms. Because the root tubers of certain species resemble testicles, they are derived from the Greek term 'orchis', which means 'testicle'. They successfully fit into every habitat in the world as they are members of the Orchidaceae family, which has about 28,000 species. Moreover, they outlive other flowers and are the pinnacle of beauty and strength. Orchids are a symbol of longevity. Despite being found primarily in tropical locations, orchids can also be found in subtropical areas.



Orchids: Advantages and Importance

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES

Because of their multiple antimicrobial qualities, orchids are thought to be able to treat a variety of illnesses, including cancer, Alzheimer's disease, and numerous allergies. They were utilized in ancient times to cure a variety of serious microbiological diseases in nations like China and Turkey.

ORNAMENTAL PROPERTIES

In addition to their extended lifespan, they are renowned for their incredibly vivid colors, scent, and distinctive shape, all of which draw in the consumer. Its beauty appeal is further enhanced by the fact that they resemble a human face.

The Threatened Treasures: Orchids in Need of Protection

Orchids, a component of this economy, are in danger as the world's population grows daily. Following are the main dangers orchids face:

- 1. Reduction of forest which leads to a huge habitat loss
- 2. Development of each and every country by sacrificing the cultivation area
- 3. Pollution is making it worse for orchids to survive in their natural habitat
- 4. Introduction of hybridization in the world of orchids
- 5. Climate change is causing deprivation of pollinators





Unveiling the Exotic: Orchids from Orchis

Jasmin Ekka, B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year



Preserving the Beauty: Conservation of Orchids for Future Generations

Being surrounded with lots of threats, it is important to conserve the orchids not just for human but for mother nature. Following are the ways through which we can conserve orchids:

- 1. Preserving orchids' ecological diversity
- 2. Implementing ex situ and in situ conservation
- 3. Cutting back on chemical fertilizers
- 4. Orchids may benefit from improved breeding and vitality provided the surrounding environmental conditions are maintained.
- 5. By identifying and averting their danger.



Economically Important Orchid Species: Vanilla planifolia

Shivika Sinha, B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year

One of the most well-liked and frequently used flavours in the world is vanilla. It has numerous therapeutic uses and is utilized in aromatherapy, cosmetics, and food preparation. The Totonac people, who resided along Mexico's eastern coast, are credited with discovering vanilla. Traditionally growing wild along the Gulf of Mexico, the vanilla orchid, also known as *Vanilla planifolia*, is one of the most significant plants in the world and the only orchid that yields edible seeds.



Until the Aztecs subjugated the indigenous Totonac people, the vanilla orchid was a secret for generations. Vanilla was brought to the world by the Aztecs, who also started flavouring their food and beverages using vanilla pods.

One of the approximately 110 species of vanilla orchids in the Orchidaceae family, *Vanilla planifolia* is a perennial tropical plant that is indigenous to Mexico. This epiphyte is evergreen and can grow up to 15 meters in length. Pollination is necessary for the flowers of *V. planifolia* to bear fruit. Because of the symbiotic link between vanilla orchids and Melipona bees, an indigenous kind of bee, Mexico was the only place in the world that could grow vanilla beans for three centuries. Vanilla orchids produce pods that are 15–25 cm long. Vanilla is produced by drying and curing these pods. The scent and flavor of *Vanilla planifolia* are released when the dried fruits (pods) are fermented and steam-cooked.



Recent laboratory studies have shown that vanilla has numerous health advantages in addition to its usage as a flavoring ingredient. Vanillin, the primary ingredient, has antimicrobial qualities. It is used as aphrodisiac and stimulant which can help with fevers and digestion. Vanilla is also used in anti-aging skin treatments. Other species of vanilla like *V. pompona* and *V. tahitensis* also contain vanillin but of low quality.

The vanilla orchid species *V. planifolia* is endangered and is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild. Hence, the vanilla plants in the wild needs to be conserved. Other conservation efforts may include micropropagation and *in vitro* conservation of vanilla plants in lab using growth medium.



The Mysterious Allure of the Ghost Orchid: Dendrophylax lindenii

Nivriti Sharma, B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year

Orchids are among the world's most beautiful blossoms among all other plants. It feels less when we delve further into orchids' beauty and distinctiveness. The most exotic, elegant, and care-intensive flowers are orchids. Around the world, there are about 30,000 different species of orchids. Surprisingly, the largest family in the plant kingdom is the Orchidaceae, which includes orchids.

Orchids are of various colours, shapes, sizes, and features which make them unique in themselves. One of the rarest orchids known is the Ghost Orchid (*Dendrophylax lindenii*). They are named so as during night they look like a creepy ghost floating in the air. Moreover, it is known for its idiosyncrasy appearance and unusual adaptions. These orchids are found in the regions of high humidity and grow on certain trees such as pond apple (*Annona glabra*), pop ash (*Fraxinus caroliniana*) and palm trees. They rely on wetland habitats and are known to live in South Florida and Cuba. The flowers are of nice white colour because of absence of chlorophyll in them. Surprisingly, unlike other plants they are leafless. The roots of the plant perform the function of the photosynthesis, making sugars. They live in symbiotic relationship with fungus. The fungus provides nutrients to the plant and in return take sugars from it.

Nectar from the shrub is plentiful. The Giant Sphinx Moth is a unique pollinator that they use for pollination. Using its lengthy tongue, the moth extracts nectar from the flower and spreads pollen to it. The scent of the bloom is like that of an apple. The bracts are as thin as paper, and the lowest petal creates the appearance of a jumping frog. It is quite hard to tell the roots apart from the tree because they mix in so well. This creates the illusion of a ghost, giving the impression that it is floating in mid air.

The flower doesn't bloom all year long. The plant blooms from June to August. There is only one blossom opening at a time and only ten or so bloom. The blossoms only survive for roughly two weeks, which is a relatively little time to see them in full bloom. Only their roots are left after the flowers fall off. When summer rain and humidity return to the forest, they bloom once more.

Poaching, habitat loss, degradation, and climate change are some of the threats, orchids are facing. The number of these species has decreased as a result of human activities that have lowered the amount and quality of wetlands habitats over the past several years. Wetland conservation is essential to the survival of ghost orchids. Additionally, one way to preserve this amazing botanical resource is to respect and admire this fascinating species from a distance.



New Orchid Discovery: *Phalaenopsis wilsonii* in Manipur

Dr. Monika Keisham, Assistant Professor

The genus *Phalaenopsis* Blume is known for its diversity, comprising 80 recognized species globally (POWO 2024), of which 18 species are documented in India. Among the species recorded in Manipur are *P. cornucervi*, *P. fasciata*, *P. marriottiana*, *P. mannii*, *P. parishii*, *P. pulcherrima*, *P. taenialis, and P. yingjiangensis*. Recently, *Phalaenopsis wilsonii* Rolfe was identified for the first time in Manipur,significantly enriching the region's botanical records.

This remarkable discovery was made during field surveys at Chakumei Village, Mao, Senapati District, as part of a conservation-driven orchid collection program. A single specimen of *P. wilsonii* was found thriving epiphytically on a Quercus tree branch at an altitude of 1,648 m. Identification of the species was achieved through thorough floral analysis and cross-referencing with existing taxonomic resources.



Figure 1. Anatomized image of *Phalaenopsis wilsonii*: a —Collected sample grown in IBSD's nethouse | b— Young leaves with pigmentation | c— Plant with inflorescence | d—Ventral view of inflorescence | e— Lateral view of inflorescence | f—Petals and sepals | g— Pedicel with column and trilobed lip | h—Ventral view of trilobed lip-two lateral lobes and a midlobe | i— Pollina with anther cap | j—Bracts. (Images taken from Chanu et al., 2025)

To ensure its protection and facilitate further study, the specimen was moved to the Institute of Bioresources and Sustainable Development (IBSD) net-house. *Phalaenopsis wilsonii* is an intriguing epiphytic herb characterized by its fleshy, dark green roots and leathery, deciduous leaves adorned with purplish pigmentation. The species is known for its raceme inflorescence, which bears distinctive purplish-pink trilobed flowers blooming from April to June, while fruiting takes place from May to July. Although native to India, China, Myanmar, Tibet, and Vietnam, the species had been reported from Nagaland earlier but was previously undocumented in Manipur.

This significant botanical finding not only adds to the floral diversity of Manipur but also emphasizes the importance of ongoing research and conservation initiatives to protect the region's unique plant heritage.

Reference:

Chanu, N.M., T.N. Khanganba & T. Biseshwori (2025). *Phalaenopsis wilsonii*: a new addition to the orchid flora of Manipur, India. Journal of Threatened Taxa 17(1): 26431–26434. https://doi.org/10.11609/jott.9198.17.1.26431-26434



The Amazing World of Orchids: Fun Facts and Fascinating Trivia

Chonchuithei Lunglo, B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year

Orchids mesmerise plant lovers with their elegance and peculiarity and are among the most prized flowers in the world. Different colour of orchids symbolize different meaning carrying its own significance. Thus orchids are considered as meaningful gifts for various occasions.

Some interesting fun facts about orchids are as follows:



- Vanilla beans, also known as *Vanilla planifolia* orchid seed pods, are the source of the vanilla flavour that is frequently used in cakes, creams, and fragrances.
- Earrings and other beautiful jewellery are made from orchid blooms.
- The Calayan tribes in the Philippines consider orchids to be forest caretakers.
- Some orchids are referred to as "night blooming orchids" because they only bloom after the sun sets. By emitting an alluring scent, they draw nocturnal pollinators like bats and moths.
- The smallest orchid is about the size of a dime. *Ophrys apifera*, often called the bee orchid, imitates the look and smell of a female bee to draw in male pollinators.
- Certain species of orchids in the genus *Gastrodia* obtain their nourishment from fungi and decomposing debris.

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Vanda Miss Joaquim orchid, also referred to as the Singapore orchid, is the national flower of Singapore.
- The world most expensive orchid is Shenzhen Nongke orchid. What's more remarkable is that it's a man-made, genetically engineered hybrid, which only blooms every 4-5 years.
- Orchids seeds are considered the smallest seeds in the world.
- The world's only underground flower *Rhizanthella gardneri*, is a unique species of orchid that blooms entirely underground.
- Some orchids can change colour of their flowers as they age to attract different pollinators.
- *Dendrobium* orchids are natural air purifier. They filter harmful chemicals, toluene, xylene present indoors.

With their breathtaking diversity and extraordinary adaptability, orchids never fail to amaze people around the world. Whether thriving in their natural habitats or flourishing in home gardens, orchids remind us of nature's beauty. Next time when we see an orchid, let's take a moment to appreciate its amazing beauty.



Orchids in Mythology and Folklore: A Symbol of Beauty, Love and Mystery

Bhumika Rawat, B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year

One of the most seductive and intricate flowers, orchids have captivated people for generations. Many cultures have included them in mythology and folklore due to their magnificent look. More than just beautiful flowers, orchids represent our enduring bond with nature and are used in literature and art as symbols of love, fertility, luxury, and mystery. Orchids were used to symbolise fertility in ancient Greece, and they still have this meaning today. Because the tuberous roots of the plant sometimes resemble testicle, the word "orchid" comes from the Greek word "orchis", which means "testicle". According to legend, Orchis, a nymph's son and a satyr, died as a baby and was changed into a flower. Eating the roots of this flower was thought to change the sex of an unborn child, the larger the roots, the more likely it was to be a boy, and the smaller the roots, the more likely it was to be a girl. This flower came to represent masculine fertility. The Greeks associated orchids with the goddess of love, Aphrodite, and the wine deity, Dionysus.



In Chinese folklore and art, they represent the Confucian ideals of humility, integrity and moral virtue. Orchids, which are known as Lan, are one of the "Four Gentlemen" of Chinese culture with the other three members being: the plum blossom, bamboo and *Chrysanthemum*. These traits found in noble plants is all to do with grace, elegance and survival among doom. Orchids were also thought to protect against evil spirits and promote harmony in the home. Hence these tender flowers became symbols of purity and inner strength for poets and artists alike, due to their exquisite fragility, light fragrance and raw beauty.

In Victorian times, floriography, or the language of flowers, associated orchids with messages of love, beauty, and refinement. These blooms were commonly given as symbols of both affection and admiration. In South America, they inspire stories of goddesses of the moon and the night sky who embody enchantment and mystery. In several legends, orchids are believed to embody the spirits of the forest and ancestor souls, and their mystique deepens. *Laelia purpurata,* known as the "queen of the orchids", is a symbol of Brazilian folklore beauty and national pride. Its significance is reflected in the festivals and celebrations, which are part and parcel of the vibrant culture of the region. In Japan, they represent wealth, prosperity, and good fortune. The samurai class especially enjoyed the beauty and rarity of *Neofinetia falcata*, the "samurai orchid."



Orchids in Mythology and Folklore: A Symbol of Beauty, Love and Mystery

Bhumika Rawat, B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year

Japanese believe that growing orchids meant being in sync and in balance with one's life. In Japanese art, orchids are often depicted along with other symbols of longevity and success, such as cranes and pine trees.

Still, orchids enjoy an elevated status in human culture today. They are often associated with luxury, sophistication, and mystery. In modern literature and films, orchids are frequently cyphers for the extraordinary beauty of things hidden. mythology and mystique are Their everlasting and will never be completely destroyed. People native to gardens from native botanicals to mythology folklore, orchids have become symbols of great power in mythological and folk traditions that transcends the aesthetics of these botanicals beautiful to establish themselves in the culture of the world. If as emblems of love, fertility, strength or refinement, these flowers have supplied stories and traditions around the world. The enchanting and beautiful aura of these plants, then, will continue to prevail, as it has for generations.





The Enchanting History of Orchids: A Journey Through Time

Sneha Kundu, B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year

For generations, people have been enthralled with orchids because of their unique charm and delicate beauty, which tell an intriguing story that transcends borders and countries. From the ancient Chinese and Greek civilisations to the opulent Victorian orchid hunters of the 19th century, their history is one of mystery, awe, and profound cultural significance. Humans have been aware of orchids for thousands of years, as they can be found in ancient writings and myths. Orchids were valued for their aesthetic qualities and therapeutic uses in ancient China, where they were first mentioned in writing. The renowned Chinese philosopher Confucius loved orchids and frequently described them as emblems of brotherhood and grandeur in his writings. From the ancient Chinese and Greek civilisations to the opulent Victorian orchid hunters of the 19th century, their history is one of the mystery, awe, and profound cultural significance.

Orchids, on the other hand, were essential to daily life in Mesoamerican civilisations like the Aztecs. A religious chocolate beverage known as xocoatl was flavoured with *Vanilla planifolia*, the most well-known orchid in this area. Vanilla was considered so valuable by the Aztecs that only warriors and nobles were allowed to use it.

Orchids' history underwent a sea change in the 19th century, especially in Europe. Explorers who travelled to far-off places returned with unusual orchid specimens, which sparked a deep passion with the flower. During the Orchidmania era, affluent collectors and aristocracy vied for possession of the rarest and most exquisite orchids. In quest of new orchids, Victorian orchid hunters journeyed to the woodlands of Africa, the mountains of Asia, and the jungles of South America.



Advances in horticulture have made orchids more accessible, allowing people to cultivate them at home. The development of tissue culture techniques has enabled mass propagation, making once-rare orchids available to enthusiasts worldwide. Orchids are also deeply embedded in cultural traditions. In Japan, the *Cymbidium* orchid symbolizes purity and elegance, while in Thailand, orchids are a national treasure. The orchid remains a significant floral symbol in many countries, representing love, beauty, and strength. Conservation efforts are now crucial, as many wild orchid species face threats from habitat destruction and climate change. Organizations and botanical gardens work tirelessly to protect these remarkable plants, ensuring that future generations can continue to marvel at their beauty. The history of orchids is a testament to their enduring charm and significance.



The Enchanting History of Orchids: A Journey Through Time

Sneha Kundu, B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year

From ancient medicinal uses and mythical beliefs to the fervent obsession of Victorian collectors and modern conservation efforts, orchids have left an indelible mark on human culture. With their exquisite forms, intoxicating fragrances, and captivating diversity, orchids remain amongst the most beloved flowers in the world. Their story is still being written, as new species are discovered, and innovative cultivation techniques continue to expand the boundaries of what we know about these extraordinary plants. Whether growing in the wild, adorning elegant floral arrangements, or gracing home gardens, orchids continue to be a symbol of nature's unparalleled artistry-a true masterpiece of evolution and beauty.





Orchids: Mythology and Folklore

Ananya Dixit, B.Sc. Life Science, II Year

Orchids can be cultivated as houseplants or discovered growing in the wild. Their requirement for high humidity and indirect sunshine makes it challenging to grow them in accordance with their requirements. With the exception of Antarctica, it can be found all across the world, including tropical and subtropical areas. There are species that vary in size and shape. For example, vanilla orchids can range in size from a few inches to towering vines.

It is believed that orchids are associated with the good fortune, prosperity and it possess healing properties. In many Chinese medicines orchids are used for many treatments for various diseases. There is an exotic story of a queen of Philippines who sat on a tree, waiting for her husband to return from a battle and she transformed herself into an orchid which resemble her pale blue gown.





In traditional medicines, orchids were not only known for sex and fertility but also for many different disorders including neurological disorder, trauma injuries, skin infection. coughing, bleeding, cardiovascular diseases, etc. In Chinese medicines and Ayurvedic medicines, orchids are used in some medicines but most of the medical claims have not been subjected to modern clinical trials and only few of them turned out positive. It means that orchids were used effectively as a medicine in ancient times and are not much useful and effective according to the modern science.



Orchids in Tradition: From Healing to Symbolism

Vanshika Aggarwal, B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, II Year

Orchids are flowers that comprise vibrant colors and have an attractive appearance. They belong to one of the largest and most evolved plant families. Orchids have existed for millions of years and are used in medicine, cosmetics, research, religious practices, and much more. Orchids are a real ornamental elite. Orchids are proven to be a remedy for a large variety of diseases and ailments like eczema, pain, acidity, boils, menstrual disorders, wounds, sores etc. Some orchids like vanilla provide a soothing and calming properties that relieve anxiety and stress.





Orchids are also used in spiritual practices, like in Bali they are used as offerings to gods and spirits in ceremonies. Vanilla orchids are also used in culinary for flavouring purposes. They are also used in a wide range of skincare and cosmetics. Orchids are known to contain a number of phytochemicals, only a few of which have been investigated for their functions. Some of these include alkaloids, flavonoids, carotenoids, anthocyanins, and terpenoids. These phytochemicals are known to have various effects, such as protection against herbivores and pathogens, pollination and attraction, and UV protection. They also antimicrobial exhibit and antifungal activity, anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties, stress resistance, and many more beneficial functions.



GENERAL ARTICLES



The GREEN-CHAT: How Trees and Flowers 'Talk' to Each Other

Nishita, B.Sc. Life Science, II Year

Whenever we talk about communication, we think that plants do not communicate, while humans and animals use sounds and gestures for communication.But do you know? Plants also communicate. Although they are not able to communicate like human and animals, they have their ways of communication. They send chemical signals through their roots and electrical impulses. The intangible language of plants is very crucial for maintaining the ecosystem and survival.

Plants release chemicals in air, when they are in danger. To illustrate this, *Acacia* releases tannins to make it's leaves toxic, so the animals do not consume the leaves.

Plants also create an underground network to share nutrients and to alert each other against dangers. For example, Mother trees (Older trees) supports young saplings by providing them with nutrients through their roots. Flowers use signals to attract the pollinators.





Tulsi: The Divine Mother

Vishakha Kumari, B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year

Word 'Tulsi' comes from Sanskrit word Tulana means '**to compare**' and is also known as Holy Basil. It is the sacred herb in Hinduism and also used for centuries in traditional medicine system like Ayurveda.

HISTORY AND SIGNIFICANCE:

In ancient Indian text Tulsi has been mentioned in Rigveda as a plant with healing properties. It symbolizes – purity, devotion and spirituality.

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES:

Tulsi is rich in antioxidants and anti-microbial properties. It is used as a traditional medicine to treat a variety of malady like:

- Eugenol: Help to fight skin elated disorders.
- Improves digestive system.
- Reduce risk of cancer and heart ailments.

CULTIVATION AND CARE:

It is best grows in warm, humid and tropical climates. Tulsi needs soil full of organic matter for their growth and it is easily cultivated in gardens, pots etc.





HOW TO TAKE CARE?

Prevent it from waterlogged conditions. Watering the plant when their soil is dry, mainly in summer season. Reduce watering in winter season to prevent it from disease. Avoid it from over sunrays in summer to prevent it from burning.

CONCLUSION:

Tulsi is truly remarkable plant that offers a wealth of benefits to body, mind and spirit. It is also helpful in terms of medicinal properties. Tulsi is definitely worth exploring whether if you are looking to promote physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing.



BOTANICAE UPDATES





Giant Clone of Seaweed in the Baltic Sea

Date: March 4, 2025 Source: University of Gothenburg https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2025/03/250304114321.htm

Scientist studied the DNA of seaweed in the Baltic sea and they found that a small, bushy type of seaweed (narrow wrack) is actually a copy of another type of seaweed (bladderwrack).

This copy grew from tiny pieces of a single female bladderwrack plant that broke off and spread through the water, eventually growing into new pieces.







Scientists Discover Genes to Grow Bigger Tomatoes and Eggplants

Date: March 5, 2025 Source: Johns Hopkins University https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2025/03/250305134702.htm

Researchers led by Johns Hopkins at Johns Hopkins University have pioneered a groundbreaking innovation, harnessing advanced genetic engineering techniques to create new, improved varieties of tomatoes and eggplants. This breakthrough has farreaching implications, poised to revolutionise the global agricultural landscape.

By developing crops that can thrive in diverse environments, this innovation can help expand agricultural production in regions where local varieties struggle to meet large-scale demands. This, in turn, can contribute to a more robust and resilient global food system, empowering communities worldwide to cultivate more abundant, nutritious, and sustainable harvests.







Function of Red Stigmas in Wind-Pollinated Flowers

Date: February 13, 2025 Source: Washington University in St. Louis https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2025/02/250213144136.htm

Dr. Susanne Renner being a well-known botanist specializing in plant reproductive biology and pollination ecology, reveals the function of red stigmas in windpollinated flowers where she discovered that the red stigmas in wind-pollinated trees accumulate anthocyanin (support pollen germination and growth by acting as antioxidant), which is the same an compound that is found in autumn leaves after the production of green chlorophyll, slows down which is eventually stopped. This adaptation could be necessary in the sun exposed thin walls of stigmas, said by Renner.







Discovery of a Common 'Weapon' Used by Disease-Causing Fungi Could Help Engineer More Resilient Food Crops

Date: February 27, 2025 Source: Australian National University https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2025/02/250227165419.htm

Researchers from Australia, Germany and the United States discovered a powerful tool used by fungi to infect and damage important food crops like corn and rice. Understanding this "weapon" could help scientists develop new ways to protect these crops and ensure global food security.

A global research team found that certain fungi use an enzyme called "NUDIX hydrolase" to infect and harm plants including staples food like rice. By understanding how this enzyme works, scientists hope to create crops that are more resistant to disease, reducing the risk of crop damage and improving global food security.







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1,400 Species Found in Guts of Asian Hornets



Date: March 04, 2025 Source: University of Exeter https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2025/03/250304114045.htm

Scientists studied the guts of Asian hornets and found a surprising variety of food inside.

They discovered around 1400 different species including a wide range of bees, wasps, flies, beetles, butterflies, moths and spiders. Asian hornets change what they eat depending on the season and where they live. Many insect populations are decreasing due to habitat loss and pollution. Asian hornets are spreading to new areas, which adds another danger to these already declining insect populations. The researchers could identify specific species for about half of them, but the rest were unknown. So they can't say exactly how many species were found.



New Antibodies Show Potential to Defeat All SARS-CoV-2 Variants



Date: March 05, 2025 Source: Stanford University https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2025/03/250305164351.htm

Scientists at Stanford University found two special antibodies that can work together to fight all types of COVID-19. This is important because the virus has been changing and making most treatments ineffective. These two antibodies can attach to the virus and stop it from infecting cells. This discovery could lead to new treatments that can keep up with the changing virus. Researchers found a way to use two antibodies together to fight COVID-19. The first antibody acts as an "anchor", attaching to a stable part of the virus that doesn't change much. The second antibody blocks the virus from infecting cells.



Early-Life Gut Microbes May Protect Against Diabetes, Research in Mice Suggests



Date: March 06, 2025 Source: University of Utah Health https://www.sciencedaily.com/release/2025/03/250306152924.htm

Groundbreaking research conducted on mice has revealed a surprising connection between the microbiome and the development of insulin-producing cells in early life. This discovery has significant implications for our understanding of metabolism and diabetes risk.

Studies have shown that mice treated with broad-spectrum antibiotics shortly after birth experienced long-term consequences for their metabolic health. Specifically, these mice produced fewer insulin-producing cells, leading to higher blood sugar levels and lower insulin levels in adulthood.

If these findings translate to humans, they could revolutionize the treatment of diabetes. Researchers believe that microbederived molecules could potentially be used to restore pancreatic function in people with diabetes, offering new hope for managing this chronic condition. This research highlights the critical role that the microbiome plays in shaping our metabolic health from an early age. By exploring the intricate relationships between microbes, metabolism, and disease, scientists may uncover innovative solutions for preventing and treating diabetes.



Paralyzed Man Moves Robotic Arm With His Thoughts



Date: March 6, 2025 Source: University of California, San Francisco https://www.sciencedaily.com/release/2025/03/250306153135.htm

Scientists have made it possible for a paralyzed man to move a robotic arm with the help of a device that transfers signals from his brain to a computer. He could grasp, lift and drop objects by simply imagining of doing so. The machine, brain-computer interface (BCI), functioned for a record 7 months without requiring adjustment.

Up to now, devices like it have operated only a day or two. The BCI is based on an AI model that is able to adapt to the slight changes that occur in the brain as an individual performs a movement or in this instance, an imagined movement and learns to perform it in a more precise manner. For individuals with paralysis, having the ability to feed themselves or take a sip of water would be life changing.



POETRY SECTION



Orchids the Serene Beauty

Deepika B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year

Amidst the woods, so soft and so bright. Orchids bloom in the bright sunlight.

Petals painted, pure and rare. Idols of beauty, fill the air.

They cling to trees with gentle grace. Scientists say they are epiphytic race.

With, rain-kissed leaves and tendrils fine. Nature's art is the grand design.

Some like monkey, some like tiger. Blooms filled with color of fire.

Oh! Orchids fair, so wild, so free, A living poem for all to see.



Orchids - The Exceptional Flowers

Piya Chawla B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, II Year

O beautiful flower, you are nature's wonderful creation. With thy face so magnificent that deserves all appreciation.

Your aesthetics and looks beholds every sight. With colours purple, blue, pink all bright.

Others commonly grows at the tip of the shoot. But you grow epiphytically without any dispute.

Your Sepals and Petals are three- three in number. They form the bright coloured perianth, and slumber.

Unlike ordinary flowers, only exceptional have three petals. Two of them are twins and the third stands out special.

One petal lowers down and form labellum - the attractor, It acts so beautifully and deceive the pollinators.

O extraordinary one, your Family - Orchidaceae is vast, resembles a bee, monkey, moth or man according to their cast.

Your speciality is endless, what to talk about, I am captivated by your beauty, there is no doubt.



Black Orchid's Veil

Riya Sharma B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, II Year

In shadows deep, her beauty thrives, Illusion's grasp, yet sorrow thrives. Power born from darkest nights, In aching stillness, truth ignites. Whispers dance, then fade away, Moments lost, yet hearts still sway. Bound by dreams, never in flight, Her petals bloom, defy the night.



मजंर सुहाना...

Mahak B.Sc. (Hons.) Zoology, III Year

वो मजंर सुहाना, बना गया दीवाना..... दिल रह गया प्रकृति की छांव में..... कि तना आनदं में झमू रहा था, दूर पहाड़ों में बसे इक गांव में..... अद्भुतु था मेल, पहाड़ों में हरियाली का, मनमोहक दृश्य, पत्ती-पत्ती डाली का..... वो लोकगीतों का गायन. जो अपने अनोखे अंदाज में चल रहा था.... बस जाने को यारों वहां. मेरा दिल, जोरों से मचल रहा था..... मैं कैद कर लाया वहां की खूबसूरती, मेरे मन की गहराई में..... मिल रहा था अद्भुत सुकून, हर भोर की अगंड़ाई में...... कभी मिले अवसर तो. तमु भी वहां घमू कर आना..... भलू दुनियादारी को, यारों खोकर वहां, झूमकर आना.... मिलेगी राहत जिदंगी की, हर एक परेशानी से, मनचला मन लिख चला है गाथा. मन की गुंथी कहानी से..... पढकर जरूर बताना हमें, कैसा लगा मन का सार..... मन ही सूक्ष्म आशियाना, मन ही समस्त विस्तार.....



Picture by : Ritu Bharti

The Imperial Crown

Muskan B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year

The strong essence overpowers the blooming fragrance, Filling the garden, marking its presence. It is beautiful—undeniably so, Bright orange petals ablaze in the sun's glow. It stands strong, unique, A butterfly among the bees. Yet, it is everything but innocent, A quiet warning laced within its elegance. A deer admires from afar. Ignoring the skunky scent, drawn to its charm. She steps closer, her antlers brush, A gentle caress, a fleeting touch. She nibbles the leaves, savoring the taste, Her eyes flutter closed, peaceful, embraced. And there, imperially, the flower stands, Unmoved, untouched, yet commanding the land.



Picture by : Ritu Bharti

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Khushi Singh B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year

सोचो प्रकृति ने वनस्पति को, बनाया ही ना होता तो ?? महकते हुए बागों में, फूलों को सजाया ही ना होता ?? सोचो अगर ये पेड़ ना होते, तो कैसा होता ?? शायद जीवन !! ममता की छांव के अभाव जैसा होता.... ना आक्सीजन होती ना होते हम, सोचो चैन से कैसे सोते हम.... सोचो वनस्पति का यदि ज्ञान ना होता ?? तो हमारा विषय हमारा, अभिमान ना होता.... कैसे जानते, कौन सी वनस्पति में, क्या राज़ छुपा है ?? यथार्थ प्रकृति में ही हमारा, सरताज छुपा है.... ना होती हरियाली, ना आयुर्वेद होता, यदि वनस्पति का हमको, ना भेद होता.... इसलिए करो रखवाली, और रहो आभारी, प्रकृति ही है जगजननी हमारी.....



Picture by : Ritu Bharti

Plantae

Bhumika Rawat B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year

Oh plants, you are adorer Stealing hearts with flower Encountering healing power Nature has made you to admire

Whether a shrub or a herb So fascinating along the kerb Trees with strength and longing age Providing shelter out of cage

Let the breeze move the shoots Fasten by the jumbled roots Being supporter in the glooms Keeping nectar in your blooms

Beauty lies in pretty orchid Saplings seems so much florid Open up the floral lid For world, you are a star kid

Oh plants, you are so great Must be born with zero hate For all small or big endure You seems like a worthy cure

Aesthetics lies in tepals Always surrounded by tiny pebbles Joining the whorls together You are responsible for change in weather

Because of you we are alive In absence, no one is able to thrive Nature's lap allows us to survive Oh little plants, Please make us revive!



Volcano of Thoughts

Salony Kumari B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year

Indeed, an aesthetic view, Having reached at the top, my soul splendoured, Feeling the tranquillity of the land lay below, Never have I been so cheerful than I am today.

The tenderly breeze accompanied by gleaming sunlight, Touched my inner soul. My eyes never witnessed such a appealing sight. Now, can i be underestimated by the height?

All melancholic thoughts seem to be evanescing It's so captivating, and land so pious, It feels like clouds welcomed me, With their open arms.

The river seems brimming with charm, The forest's colossal trees, The scene was full of serene. I wonder the enigma of nature!

The clouds were resting over the hill, Covering hill's head like a crown. The sunshined dazzlingly, The waterfall sang euphonious songs.

Is it my figment? It all feels like heaven, I pinched my skin with a "ouch!" Oh! I am really in the cloud's couch.

My heart was saturated with ecstasy and commotion. The revelry made me blind Of all other pleasures, It left it's footprints on my mind.



Fertile Hearts

Anusha B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, II Year

In quiet soil, hope's whisper grows, Shards of sorrow mend, time's sweet prose. Beneath shadows, blooms find their way, Gentle hearts rise from night to day. With every tear, a spark ignites, Melancholy dances, seeking heights. Eager to reach where warmth abounds, Fertile hearts thrive on love's soft grounds.



My Little Plants

Jasmin Ekka B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year

My little plants on my paradise is pretty cool And dancing on the melodies of morning dew Moving here and there, right and left And, now their paws are like a fuzzy pool

Some are small, some are tall But they'll always be my little wall Filled with colours and bundle of leaves Just a grateful heart and love to give

Need the light, need the water Need the love, need the care With a flickering hope And a life to dare













Shikha Sharma B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year









Khushi Singh B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year







Vinika B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, II Year







Sanjana Dalal B.Sc. (Hons.) Zoology, III Year

Deepika B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year



Mimansa Kumawat B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year





Shivangi Yadav B.A (Prog.), II Year

Bhumika Rawat B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year







Apurva Tomar B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, II Year

Babita Yadav B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year







Shivika Sinha B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year









Manisha B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year















Nivriti Sharma B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year





Chonchuithei Lunglo B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year











Ritu Bharti B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year





Mimansa Kumawat B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year









Shikha Sharma B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year











Stanzin B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year







Khushi Singh B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year









Muskan Rajput B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, II Year











Vanshika Aggarwal B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, II Year









Rani B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year









Deepika B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year




Shalu B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany III Year







Ritu Bharti B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, III Year







Anusha Singh B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, II Year



Riya Kumari B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, II Year





Sanjana Dalal B.Sc. (Hons.) Zoology, III Year



Priyanshi Gupta B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year



Bhumika B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year



Shivika B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany, I Year







DR. SUDESH BHARDWAJ MEMORIAL LECTURE AND OATH CEREMONY

Amaranth - The Botanical Society of Kalindi College organised Dr. Sudesh Bhardwaj Memorial Lecture and Oath Ceremony in the seminar room on 10th October, 2024 at 9:30 am. The event aimed to pay tribute to Dr. Sudesh Bhardwaj by a memorial lecture and to formally introduce the newly appointed office bearers.

The event began with lamp lighting, led by Esteemed Speaker Dr. Ramawatar Nagar, Respected Guest - Mrs. Madhu Bhardwaj, and the faculty members. After lighting the lamp the event coordinators commemorated the Guests with planters, symbolising growth, nurturing and the cycle of learning.



The day also made us relive the moments with our beloved teacher Dr. Sudesh Bhardwaj Ma'am through a video of her. The heartful words shared by Dr. Ranjana and Dr. Naghma made the audience apprehend once again that what a wonderful educator she was.

The event followed up with a lecture, the esteemed guest Dr. Ramawatar Nagar, a senior scientist at the National Institute of Plant Biotechnology, delivered a captivating lecture on "Genome Editing for accelerated crop improvement".

He elaborated on the growing concern to provide food for the expanding population with limited resources, where he captured a broad spectrum of topics such as potential of genome editing for agriculture and environment, risk considerations of genomic crops, that left all the students to ponder upon multiple aspects of Genome Editing.

The event proceeded with the Badges distribution amongst the newly appointed office bearers of Amaranth, The Botanical Society followed by Oath recitation led by Dr. Sanavar.

It officially marked the students as the chosen ones who would be shouldering partial responsibility of maintaining and smooth running of the society. The President of the society addressed all the office bearers and they became really motivated by the encouraging speech of the visionary president.



As the event was about to its end, our teacher incharge Dr. M. Arunjit delivered a vote of thanks to respected Principal Ma'am, esteemed guests, and other respected faculty members. The event concluded with the memories that were captured in the photograph. All the office bearers were enthusiastic to serve the society dedicatedly.







FRESHERS 2024

Amaranth - The Botanical Society organized a Documentary Screening and Fresher's Party 2024 on 14th November 2024, from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM. The event began with a cake-cutting ceremony, organized by the department's teachers on the occasion of Children's Day. The teachers lovingly celebrated Children's Day, setting a cheerful and exciting note for the day ahead.

After cake-cutting, students and teachers together watched a documentary named "The Life of the Forest: Fungi." Important role that Fungi play in an ecosystem was shown. It also emphasised how fungi behave as decomposers, that break down organic matter into nutrient rich humus. Further, It showed the symbiotic relationships between fungi and plants.



After the documentary screening, the atmosphere become competitive as a series of games and activities were held to decide the winners of various titles, including the long awaited **Ms. Freshers 2024**. The first round was an introductory round where participants showed their hidden talents. This was followed by a riddle game based on flowers, assessing participants' botanical knowledge.

Another round was associated with identifyfing movie names from emojis, which left everyone guessing and enjoying. The bottle-flipping challenge then added a touch of fun to the games, as participants tried hard to land the bottles upright.

The next game left students guessing popular songs based on a few lines of English lyrics, followed by the last round where teachers asked the finalized participants questions to finalize three out of them.

The games concluded and an announcement of the winners was made by Teacher-incharge Dr. M. Arunjit.

Ms. Ayushi, who had a fashionable and unique style sense, had won the title of Ms. Style Icon 2024. Ms. Nivriti for her magnificent display of hidden talents was awarded the title of Ms. Talented 2024 and Ms. Vishakha for her all round brilliance was awarded the coveted title of Ms. Freshers, 2024. The winners were given sashes which showed their achievement.



FRESHERS 2024

After the sash ceremony, the freshers and teachers had a delicious lunch, while reflecting on the day's activities. The event concluded with lively dance performances, where students celebrated their special day and created wonderful and beautiful memories.

Fresher's 2024 was a memorable occasion that welcomed the new students into the botany department. The event not only gave entertainment and fun but also aided in laying strong connections between students and faculty.







OUTREACH PROGRAMME

Amaranth, The Botanical Society of Kalindi College, conducted an outreach programme on "Nutrition and Hygiene" in collaboration with Robinhood Army on 16th November 2024 at CGO cluster RHA, near Jangpura.

Nutrition and personal hygiene are really important for maintaining a healthy life. The objective of the outreach program was to educate small children and their families about hygiene and the importance of nutritious diet.

The program commenced with an interactive session on "Hygiene and Nutrition-Importance in daily life", where the teachers emphasised on the importance of maintaining a balanced diet and practicing good hygiene. The session highlighted the importance of personal hygiene, encouraging habits in children such as regular bathing, cleaning hands before and after eating, Brushing teeth twice daily. To emphasize these practices a live demonstration on effective hand washing technique was conducted.

Followed by this, fun activities were organized by the students. Children actively took part in poster making, dancing and showcasing their talent. Our team played various games with the children. They had a great time playing games with our members. A cake cutting ceremony was also organized for the children on the occasion of children's day. This joyful celebration brought smiles to the faces of the children. As a part of the outreach program we also distributed food and hygiene products among the underprivileged communities to ensure that they follow good hygiene measures.

The outreach program was a success with the children and families participating in the activities. We accomplished our mission in raising awareness and encouraging the children and their families about hygiene and balanced diet.





TRIP TO KULLU MANALI

Amaranth - The Botanical Society of Kalindi College organized a botanical excursion to Kullu Manali from 15th October, 2024 to 18th October, 2024, Many students from Botany and Life Science Department accompanied with Faculty Members with the aim to relish and experience the breathtaking natural beauty of manali, while studying several botanical species.

The objective of this trip was to familiarize the students with the wild and cultivated flora and ecology of the region.

Day 1 of the trip began with the visit to G.B Pant Ecological Institute situated in Manali. This visit was primarily concerned to make the students aware about the techniques that are being used in the institute for conservation of natural resources and their planning and execution towards science and technology. The institute conducted a small meeting of the students with the members of the institute, where they told the students about their technology, their gardening techniques and their aims for the future. The meeting was really appreciative and informative for all the students and faculty members.

On the second day of their excursion, students accompanied by faculty members embarked on a fascinating visit to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institute. This enriching experience allowed students to explore an incredible array of plant and vegetable varieties, showcasing the latest advancements in agricultural science On the last day of the trip, the students and faculty members visited the Solang Valley for its spectacular view of mountains, where everyone felt relaxed in the astonishing view of natural beauty. The trip successfully inculcated in students the practicality of different theoretical concepts of Botany.





TRIP TO KULLU MANALI

Outcomes of the Botanical Excursion:

- 1. Learning Biodiversity: The students gained valuable insights into plant biodiversity through hands-on experience and expert guidance during the excursion.
- 2. Specimen Collection: The expedition resulted in the collection of diverse plant specimens, including, algae, bryophytes, etc.

Overall, the botanical excursion to Kullu Manali proved to be an enriching and educational experience, fostering a deeper appreciation for the natural world among the students.









"What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make." - Dr. Jane Goodall

THANK YOU! KEEP THINKING



