

Department of Botany Government Degree College

Date: 25-04-2024

Report on One Day Symposium on "Plant Wealth of Jammu and Kashmir" April 25, 2024

Jammu and Kashmir serves as a unique bounty of nature and divulges considerable Himalayan influence in shaping its extant vegetation. The UT harbors a diversity of medicinal plants that have been used in traditional health care systems for thousands of years. This knowledge, transmitted by oral tradition from generation to generation, has been eroding in recent decades due to rapid cultural transformations. The ever-escalating demand for medicinal plants in pharmaceutical industries and in traditional system has resulted in their overexploitation. If overexploitation of these plants continues, many species may decrease in, and ultimately disappear from their natural habitats. In this scenario, there is an urgent need for development of conservation repositories like herbal gardens, nurseries and encouraging farmers to cultivate the threatened medicinal plants.

Realizing the importance of conservation of plant flora in general, and medicinal plants in particular, the Department of Botany, Govt. Degree College, Tral organized a *'One Day Symposium on Plant Wealth of J&K'* on 25th April 2024 under the dynamic leadership of worthy Principal Prof. (Dr.) Mushtaq Ahmad Malik. The program held at Department of Botany, witnessed the participation of huge number of students, senior faculty members, HoD's from various Departments particularly Prof. Mehraj- ud- Din Shah (Sr. Faculty & HOD Physics), Dr. Rafiq Ahmad Khan (Sr. Faculty, Department of Physics), Dr. Mohd. Shafi Dar (Department of Urdu), Dr. Mohd. Owais Wani (Department of Physical Education), Dr. Ferooze Ahmad Rafiqi (Department of Chemistry), Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad Lone (Department of Chemistry), Prof. Mohd. Younus Bhat (Department of English), Dr. Mehraj-ud- Din Sheikh (Department of Education), Dr. Fayaz Ahmad Malla (Department of Env. Science), Prof. Javaid Ahmad Wani (Department of English), Dr. Fayaz Ahmad Shah (Department of Zoology), and Dr. Suhail Ahmad Bhat (Department of Veterinary Science), besides other teaching and non-teaching staff.

In his introductory address, Dr. Mohd. Rafiq Wani (HOD Botany) highlighted the significance of the topic selected for the symposium and laid thrust on the conservation and utilization of local flora. He concluded with a message that traditional medicines in Kashmir are at the risk of being lost due to rapid modernization and globalization, despite its rich history and cultural value. As a result, it is crucial for all stakeholders to safeguard the Kashmir's medicinal heritage for the benefit of future generations.

Esteemed Principal of the college **Prof. (Dr.) Mushtaq Ahmad Malik**, in his special address, accentuated the need of conducting such programs for the students in general, and Botany students in particular. He presented a brief overview of local plants and their ethnobotanical significance. He reiterated that medicinal knowledge of Kashmir has disseminated down through generations of traditional healers, who have acquired their knowledge through apprenticeship and practice. The use of medicinal plants in traditional medicine is also influenced by the region's biodiversity and geography, as it is home to a variety of medicinal plants that are used for treating various ailments, he added. The Principal sir urged that concreate conservation efforts from all stakeholders are urgently needed to protect the endangered plant herbs of extreme medicinal and

aromatic importance, so that our future generations too could benefit from these precious plants that are otherwise real gift to mankind. In addition, he congratulated the Department of Botany for organizing such an event in the college for the large interest of the students.

In the first session, Prof. Waseem Shahri (Assistant Professor, Botany) deliberated upon the topic 'Underutilized Herbs of Kashmir' in which he provided a brief overview about the few wild herbs which were once an important part of Kashmiri culture/cuisine but are now in less use due to the shift from intake of traditional foods to contemporary foods over the past few decades. He also highlighted the medicinal importance of these wild herbs when taken in diet in the form of food, spices, coloring agents, and beverages/refreshing drinks etc.

In the 2nd session, student presentations on the topic *'Plant Wealth of J&K'* were held. As many as eight students participated in the event. The jury for the event included Dr. Rafiq Ahmad Khan (Associate Professor, Department of Physics), Dr. Fayaz Ahmad Shah (HoD, Zoology) and Dr. Sadaf Nissar (Academic Arrangement, Department of Botany). In his concluding remarks, prior to the announcement of results, Dr. Rafiq Ahmad Khan, besides congratulating the symposium organizers, also laid an emphasis that demand for ethnomedicinal plants is prophesied to grow rapidly in coming years, thus necessitating the importance of preserving traditional knowledge and resources.

In the student presentations, Ms. Ravinder Paul Kaur of 2^{nd} semester was successful in securing 1^{st} position, while Mr. Asgar Nabi of 2^{nd} semester bagged 2^{nd} position. Ms. Iqra Nabi of 2^{nd} semester, Ms. Faeiza Reyaz of 2^{nd} semester and Ms. Arjumand Farooq of 4^{th} semester jointly shared the 3^{rd} position. The valedictory session was chaired by Prof. Mehraj- ud- Din Shah (HoD Physics and senior most faculty member), wherein certificates were distributed to the student participants. The proceedings of the event and formal vote of thanks were presented by Dr. Mohd. Rafiq Wani, Head- Department of Botany.























Dr. Mohd. Rafiq Wani
Organizing Secretary/HOD (Botany)
Govt. Degree College Tral

Date: 25-04-2024

Prof. (Dr.) Mushtaq Ahmad Malik Principal Patronal

GOVT. DEGREE COLLEGE
Tral ("stablishment)



Department of Botany Government Degree College

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Date: 19-04-2024

NOTICE

It is for the information of all the students of 2nd and 4th semesters Major/Minor (Botany) that the Department of Botany is going to organize a one-day symposium on the theme "Plant Wealth of J&K" on 25-04-2024. In this connection, interested students who want to speak on the theme must register their name with Prof. Waseem Shahri by or before 22-04-2024.

The said programme will be held at 11:30 am in the Department of Botany.

Dr. Mohd. Rafig Wan

HOD (Botany)

Tral (Establishment)



DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY



GOVERNMENT DEGREE COLLEGE TRAL, PULWAMA

invite students and faculty for a day-long symposium on

Plant Wealth of Jammu and Kashmir

25 April, 2024 (Thursday)

Venue: Department of Botany

Time: 11:30 am



Prof. (Dr.) Mushtaq Ahmad Malik Principal/Patron

Organizing Committee:

- 1. Dr. Mohd. Rafiq Wani (HOD, Botany)
- 2. Prof. Waseem Shahri
- 3. Dr. Sadaf Nisar(AA Lecturer, Botany)

One day Symposium on Plant Wealth of Jammu and Kashmir

Date: 25-04-2024

Venue: Department of Botany; Time: 11:30 am

Speakers:

S. No.	Name of the student	Roll No.	Semester	Topic
1.	Asgar Nabi	2317003	2 nd	Plant Wealth of Jammu and Kashmir
2.	lqra Nabi	2317023	2 nd	-do-
3.	Aisha Mushtaq	2317017	2 nd	-do-
4.	Faiza Reyaz	2302001	2 nd	-do-
5.	Ravinder Paul Kour	2303009	2 nd	-do-
6.	Rimsha Aroon	2317020	2 nd	-do-
7.	Seerat Bashir	2317019	2 nd	-do-
8.	Muskan Bashir	2203067	4 th	-do-
9.	Arjumand Farooq	2203062	4 th	-do-

Myllwady Hob (Botany) Head Deptt. of Botany GDC Tral