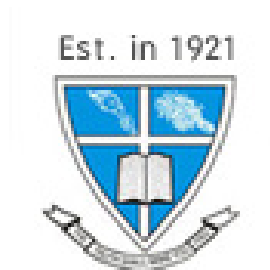


Centenary Plans and Projects

DEPARTMENT OF MALAYALAM



UNION CHRISTIAN COLLEGE ALUVA



About Us

Malayalam Language and literature was part of the intermediate study since the inception of UCC, i.e. from the year 1921. The Department of Malayalam came into existence in 1969 with the starting of B.A. degree course in Malayalam. It got elevated to the status of a Post Graduate and Research department in 1993 and 1989 respectively. Ever since its inception, there has been a team of eminent teachers working with the department. They include leading figures in the world of Malayalam literature like Prof. Kuttippuzha Krishnapilla, an atheist and philosopher, and Malayalam literary critic Prof. D.P. Unni. These great Acharyas made remarkable impressions in the realm of higher education in Kerala and worldwide. Late Dr. K. Narayanan Nair, poet and a research guide served our department for a long period. Endowment scholarships were instituted in the name of Prof. Kuttipuzha Krishna Pillai, Prof. D.P. Unni, Prof. Varghese Ittiavirah, Prof. P.V. Narayanan Namboothiri, Fr. Dr. C.M. Jose, Prof. K. K. Abraham, Prof. Thomas Abraham, Prof. O. Abraham, Dr. Thonnakkal Narayanan, and Kumari Vijayasree Menon.

Department has an Advisory Board for providing guidance and direction to the faculty to maintain high standards of research and study. Dr. K. M. Anil (Director, Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University), Prof. K.P. Mohanan (Secretary, Kerala Sahitya Academy), Mrs. M.T. Saramma(Ret. Professor, Dept. Of Malayalam, Union Christian College, Aluva), Prof. N. Satheesan (Ret. Associate Professor, Sree Kerala Varma College, Thrissur, and Vice Chairman, Education, Culture & Youth welfare Planning Committee), Dr. N. Ajayakumar (Ret. Professor in Malayalam, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady), are the Advisory Board Members.

Students of the department have secured several ranks in University examinations and qualified in national level examinations (NET/JRF) in the past years. The Department of Malayalam has signed MoUs with Kerala Bhasha Institute, Bellarmine University, USA, and Kuttipuzha Smaraka Samskarika Padana Kendram. Many programmes like cultural art forms, seminars, discussions were conducted as an outcome of these MoUs. The department gives meticulous attention in employing experimental techniques in teaching and learning methods. Ever since the inception of the undergraduate program, we have conducted collaborative programmes, conferences, workshops etc. for the benefit of students. In short, the department of Malayalam is actively engaged in studies, activities and projects that would empower the Malayalam language for handling any area of knowledge at language levels.



Research & Publication performances of Malayalam Department

- The department is recognized as a research centre by Mahatma Gandhi University. It has eight research guides (presently five and three retired). Five faculties of the department were awarded the PhD through this centre. Currently, 22 research scholars are doing the research work under the guidance of our faculties and 3 were awarded Ph.D in the current year. A total of 13 students were awarded PhD under this centre so far.
- While the department has regular Ph.D., work affiliated to the Mahatma Gandhi University, it also has initiated a simultaneous place for open research, as facilitated through the Vidwan P.G. Nair Smaraka Gaveshana Kendram. It has made a profound impact in the sphere of higher research and knowledge dissemination in the state of Kerala. A total of 8 fellows had submitted thesis as part of Vidwan P.G. Nair Research Centre. Department has initiated research in critical areas and undertook the publication of books and journals. We ardently follow interdisciplinary research methods and practices.
- Since 2007, every year the department selects a key theme for discussions and subsequent seminars in that year, and at the end of the year organise a three-day national seminar under Vidwan P.G.Nair Research Centre and publishes a journal called 'Bhoomi Malayalam' which carries an ISSN number. The quality of papers presented exhibit the real academic spirit of the department. The journal will be brought out for wider circulation among universities, and many universities in Kerala accepts it as a reference journal. The outcome is that a key theme which requiring academic attention will be examined in detail by scholars from various perspectives, and papers will be brought out for broader circulation and readership.

Glimpses of VIDWAN P. G. NAIR Gaveshana Kendram



Ms. Simitha K.S. was felicitated on submission of her thesis Penkavitha 1990-2015 Granthasoochi as part of Vidwan P.G. Nair Research.



12th National seminar organized by the department under Vidwan P.G. Nair Research Foundation during February 2020.

Future Plans

In the centenary year, the national seminar will be upgraded to an International level by scholars from various International Universities for achieving the following benefits.

- Provide opportunities to researchers and academicians to exchange views and opinions.
- Improve communication skills and research approaches among students.
- To put forth innovative ideas of students.



Publication Plans

The Department of Malayalam is planning to publish three books with ISBN on the following titles in connection with the centenary celebration of our college.

Book 1 – ‘Kuttipuzha Darsanavum Vimarsanavum’

Prof. Kuttipuzha Krishna Pillai was a scholar, atheist and critic of Malayalam language. He was also the faculty of the Malayalam Department and spent most of his career at Union Christian College. Counted among the prominent literary critics of the language, he wrote several books covering the genres of literary criticism and philosophy. He presided over the Kerala Sahitya Academy, chaired the advisory board of the Kerala Bhasha Institute as an ex-officio member and was a recipient of the Soviet Land Nehru Award. Krishna Pillai was a scholar of western and oriental philosophy and his book on philosophy, Vichara Viplavam was considered by many as an influential philosophical text. He was an atheist, and he introduced different philosophical schools to the Malayalam language through his works.

In commemoration of this legendary writer, the department is planning to publish a book focused on the critics and the philosophical thoughts of Prof. Kuttipuzha Krishnapilla. As a prelude of the centenary celebrations, the department had conducted a two-day seminar in association with Kerala Bhasha Institute on 28th and 29th January 2020. Aesthetics of criticism, Socialism, the influence of Indian Philosophy in the work of the Renaissance leader Kuttipuzha were the sub-themes of the seminar. Papers presented during this seminar will be included in the proposed book.

Aim of the book –

- Rereading on the critics of Kuttipuzha, in the new context.
- Rereading consists of on-going and repeated encounters with a text, guided by a particular task so that segments of the text get revisited and rethought.
- Study the relevance of criticism initiated by Kuttipuzha and its impact in the present context.
- The relevance of atheist thought in the Post-truth era.



Two days National Seminar on Kuttippuzha Darsanavum Vimarshanavum

Book 2 – 'Ormayil Oridam'

Memories are powerful factors that shape the future. Department is planning to compile and publish a book which will include references, memories and narrations about UCC written by various authors.

Aim of the work –

- To present a historical memoir, on the college development through past years.

Book 3 – 'Post-Feminist Theories'

A book on Post-feminist theories will be published from the department. The book will contain articles of well-known academicians' reference and introduction to Post-feminist theories. The book will be published as a mark of honour to Dr. Muse Mary George, a renowned poet and academician who will retire from the department in the year 2021.

Aims of the work –

- Academic work including post-feminist theory.
- Analysis of different feminist theories emerged in the different parts of the world.
- Detailed analysis of queer theory.
- A work with detailed bibliography of feminist theorist and their work which is helpful for research work.



Centenary Lecture Series / Webinars

The Department of Malayalam started interdisciplinary lecture series aimed at introducing a platform for writers, poets, researchers and academics to deliberate upon various topics with an aim for exchanging ideas and mapping new horizon.

- Organise webinars to facilitate direct interaction with artist and writers in association with various literary organizations, which will motivate the students to understand the relevance of art and literature.
- 3 lecture series and 3 webinars were completed on the following topics by famous personalities.

Lecture Series

- **Yukthivadhachinthaum Kuttipuzhaum** by **Prof. M. N. Karassery** (Rtd. Professor Calicut University, writer and critic)
- **Paristhithi Lavyanasastram** by **Mr. Asha Menon** (writer and critic)
- **Chinthaude Swatantram** by **Mr. Ravichandran C.** (Author, rationalist, blogger)

Webinar Series

- **Lokam Mahamarikkushesham** by **Dr. K.M. Anil** (Director, Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University).
- **Coronakkappuram Kalaum Sahityavum** by **Dr. Muralee Thummarukudy** (Chief, Disaster Risk Reduction at United Nations Environment Programme).
- **Gaveshanathinte Padavukalum Open Accessukalum** by **Dr. Ashok D'cruz** (Asst. Professor, Thunchath Ezhuthachan Malayalam University).



Future Plans for Centenary Lecture Series / Webinars

Considering the current pandemic situation, a series of webinars is planned to be conducted. Webinars will address the relevant topics such as Dalit Literature, Feminism and Folklore. Renowned persons such as Sri E.P. Rajagopalan, Dr. P. Geetha, Dr. K.V. Sasi, Dr. Soman Kadallur and others will facilitate these webinars. The themes and subthemes for the proposed webinars are as follows.

Themes / Sub themes listed about Dalit Literature

- Dalit Literature: Trends and issues
- Dalit History Resistance and reconstruction
- Dalit History oral and written

Themes / Sub themes listed about Feminism

- Feminist movements
- Gender Studies
- Feminist literary theory

Themes / Sub themes listed about Folklore

- Folklore and local history
- Methodology of field work in Folklore studies
- Documentation of Oral Tradition
- Relevance of Folkloristics in present context

Up-gradation of Department Library

- Cataloguing & digitization of Library
 - '100 years – 5000 Books' project being sponsored by Malayalam Old students association
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