

Sri C. Achutha Menon Govt.College, Thrissur

Department of English& The Debate Club

Banned Books Week

Book Exhibition and Panel Discussion

Report

October 1-7, 2023 is regarded as the Banned Books Weeks with the theme “Let Freedom Read.” As a part of Banned Books Week, the Department of English in collaboration with the Debate club organised a banned books exhibition and a panel discussion on “The Politics of Banning Books”, on 6 October 2023.

The programme started with the welcome address delivered by Dr. Priya Ravinath, the programme coordinator. Presidential address was delivered by Dr. Denis Joseph Anatty Olekkengil, the Head of the Department of English. He spoke about how colonial modernity introduced the concept of censorship and book banning in India. The event was inaugurated by Dr. P.S. Manoj Kumar, Principal, Sri C. Achutha Menon Govt. College, Thrissur. He spoke about the history of book banning in India from 1947 to the present.

The exhibition had books from various countries across the globe -from Aristophanes’ *Lysistrata* to J.K. Rowling’s *Harry Potter*. The panel discussion that followed was moderated by Dr. Sijo Varghese, Associate Professor, Department Of English, Sri C. Achutha Menon Govt. College, Thrissur. Students and faculty members who participated spoke about the legal as well as illogical aspects of book banning. Dr. Suja Mathew, the Debate Club coordinator, proposed the vote of thanks.

The programme was held at the English Department Seminar Hall. The final year undergraduate students and the PG students actively participated in the programme.



