



Report

**National Seminar
on
“Ageing and Elderly Care: Critical Issues,
Challenges and the Way Forward”
29th - 30th March 2018**

**Organized by:
Department of Social Work, University of
Kashmir,**

**In Collaboration with:
National Institute of Social Defence (NISD), Ministry of
Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India
(GOI).**

**Prepared by:
Department of Social Work, University of Kashmir**



INTRODUCTION:

The Department of Social Work in collaboration with National Institute of Social Defence (NISD), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India (GOI), organised a two day National Seminar on “**Ageing and Elderly Care: Critical Issues, Challenges and the Way Forward**” in the University of Kashmir on 29th -30th March.

Many researchers, including Faculty Members, Research Scholars, Students and Practitioners, from various parts of the country participated in the seminar and presented papers on various sub-themes of the Seminar.

Given the fact that changing economic realities in the developing world, along with rapid demographic and social change, has created new sets of social and economic issues. A major issue relates to population ageing and old age care. This is to be understood in the backdrop of the social and economic processes like changes in the family structure from joint to nuclear families, absence of formal support systems, rapid urbanisation, and large scale migration from the rural to the urban areas. All these factors together, have created issues, concerns and challenges for the ageing population in India, this population (60+ of age) is projected to increase from 77 million in 2001 to 137 million in 2021. Faced with these challenges, it is imperative for policymakers and the developmental sector to come up with critical interventions, so as to provide support to this large population group.

The main aim of the seminar was to create a wide awareness on problems, challenges and issues in population ageing and old age care.

OBJECTIVES OF THE SEMINAR:

- To develop awareness on social, economic and health issues related to Ageing and Old Age Care.
- To provide a larger national background of issues related to Ageing introduced by demographic changes, class changes, and other associated changes in family structure.
- To give a contextual overview of the problems and challenges related to geriatric care in the state of J&K.
- To review key interventional paradigms, techniques and practices, and to initiate a multi-stakeholder discussion on resolving the challenges related to ageing.

PARTICIPANTS:

Faculty Members (Academicians), Research Scholars, Students, Policy Makers, Practitioners (State, Civil Society, NGOs, etc).

INSTITUTIONS:

The Academicians and Research Scholars of various institutions like Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Delhi University (DU), Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), besides some practitioners, participated in the Seminar.

SEMINAR THEMES:

The focus of the Seminar was on the following themes related to:

- Policy and Programmes
- Social Security and Financial Issues
- Health, Hospitals & Specialised Care
- Gender & Elderly
- Old Age Homes & Traditional Support Systems.
- Geriatric Care and Issues
- Psychosocial Issues and Ageing
- Social and Political Issues

DAY- ONE

REGISTRATION

On day one of the Seminar, registration of the participants was done. A team of Research Scholars comprising of Sumiya Din, Afnan Tariq, Nisar Ahmad Wani and Aimon Khan from the Department of Social Work were assigned the job. The registration started at 9:30 in the morning in Gandhi Bhawan. The process continued for one hour and ended at 10:30 AM when the technical sessions were held.



INAUGURAL SESSION (9:30AM – 10:30AM):

The Two Day National Seminar “Ageing and Elderly Care Critical Issues, Challenges and Way Forward” organised by Department of Social Work in collaboration with National Institute of Social Defence, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment GOI, was formally inaugurated. The aim and objective of the seminar was presented by Dr. Saima Farhad, the Organising Secretary of the seminar. Dr. Shazia Manzoor, the co-ordinator of the Department of Social Work and the convener of the seminar, delivered the welcome address. She welcomed all the dignitaries, guests, participants and students. Prof. Mala Kapur Shankardass delivered the keynote address, in which she highlighted various issues and problems faced by the old-age population in the contemporary times and also suggested some remedial measures thereof. The presidential remarks were given by the Vice Chancellor of University of Kashmir, Prof.



Khurshid Iqbal Andrabi. Justice B.A. Kirmani delivered the Guest of Honour speech wherein he discussed the role of social institutions in preserving and protecting the rights of the elderly; and lastly the vote of thanks was presented by Dr. Aadil Bashir, Assistant professor, Department of Social Work. The inaugural was followed by two parallel technical sessions- Technical Session 1A and 1B, which continued up to 2:20 PM.

TECHNICAL SESSION 1A (12:20PM- 2:20PM):

This technical session was chaired by Prof. Mohammad Hussain from the Department of Law, University of Kashmir and co-chaired by Dr. Aadil Bashir, Sr. Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work, University of Kashmir. Mr. Nasrullah Bhat, Research Scholar from the Department of social work University of Kashmir, was rapporteur for the session. The theme of this particular technical



session was ***“policy and programmes”***. Seven papers were presented in this session.

The first paper was on ***“the Issues and Challenges of Elderly in Kashmir and Possible Social***



Work Intervention” by Ms. Shabana Khurshid & Dr G.H. Mir, University of Kashmir. This paper discussed various issues and challenges faced by elderly in Kashmir and the possible social work intervention for various stake holders.

The second paper was on ***“Institutional Response to Elderly Health in Kashmir: Issues and Challenges”*** by Mr. Aabid Bhat & Mr. Adil Farooq. This study proposed a way forward to ameliorate the discrepancies and to improve the health care of elderly.



The next paper was on ***“The Role of Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for the Welfare of the Elderly”*** by Ms. Shahida Akhtar, Mr. Saheel Hafiz Shah and Dr. Wakar Amin. This paper discussed the role of Governmental and Non-Governmental organisations to address the issues of elderly persons through their various welfare interventions for elderly people.

Dr. Andleeb Said from Aligarh Muslim University presented a paper on ***“Ageing with Dignity: Moral Obligation of Younger Generations towards Elderly”***. The paper argued that school curricula should be designed in a way that it creates a moral obligation on future generations to be respectful and responsible for aged members of their families in particular, and community in general.



Dr. Shahzada Saleem deliberated on ***“Legislative Provisions of Old Age in the Digital Age: Issues and Conclusions”*** this paper highlighted the role of various governmental and non-governmental agencies in organizing awareness and Training programs for the aged to overcome their deprivation apart from the help and support necessarily given to them in various situations.

The next paper was on **“Lonely Elderly on Lively Planet: An emerging public health problem”** presented by Ms. Aishwarya Raj. This paper discussed in detail Etiology, Impact and Management of loneliness for a global action.



TECHNICAL SESSION 1B (12:20PM- 2:20PM):

This technical session was chaired by Prof. Iffat Wani, HOD Department of Economics, University of Kashmir and co-chaired by Dr. Sarfaraz Ahmad, Assistant Professor,



Department of Social Work University of Kashmir. Mr. Saheel Hafiz, Research Scholar from the Department of Social Work University of Kashmir, acted as the rapporteur for the session. The theme of this particular technical session was **“Social Security and**

Financial Issues”. Six papers were presented in this session.

The first paper of this technical session was **“Is Social Security a need of hour for Elderly People in India: A Critical Analysis of Workers in Informal Sector”**, presented by Mr. Shabir

Ahmad Najar, Dr. Wakar Amin, and Mr. Bilal Ahmad Khan. This paper highlighted the measures taken by the government of India for elderly population and evaluated those measures and further suggested the need of more concrete steps for the social, psychological and economic well-being of elderly people in India.

Dr. Sarafranz Ahmad, Mr. Aarif Hussain, and Mr. Hilal Ahmad Tantry presented paper on **“Social Security and Old Age: An Assessment of National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS)” in J&K**. The paper highlighted the discord between the actual population (of old age) and the physical targets in the 10 districts of Kashmir division of the state of Jammu and Kashmir taken from the latest data of year 2016 and also highlighted the key issues involved in the implementation of programme.



The next paper was **“Elder Friendly Market: An Assessment of Indian Marketing Strategies and Communication”** by Ms. Shashi Rani. The focus of the paper was on the response of Indian market towards the needs and demands of elderly population. It also attempted to assess the marketing strategies and communication used in mainstream media to attract attention of elderly population.

The next paper was on **“A case for securing the rights of old aged persons under the paraphernalia of Indian constitutional jurisprudence”** by Mr. Mir Mubashir Altaf, Mr. Hakim Yasir Abbas and Ms. Hina Basharat. This paper was an attempt at buttressing the need for according protection to the old aged persons in the form of concrete constitutional guarantees.

Ms. Dhaar Mehak, and Dr. Javaid Khan presented paper on **“The implementation and working of the social security schemes for the conflict affected (elderly) people”**. The paper highlighted the sufferings of the victims of the conflict in Kashmir and suggested various measures to put an end to the sufferings of the population.

After the completion of these two parallel technical sessions, lunch break of one hour was taken at 2:20 PM. The next session i.e. the Plenary Session was scheduled at 3:30 PM in the main hall of Gandhi Bhawan Auditorium.

PLENARY SESSION:

After the paper presentations from different participants during the first two parallel technical sessions and lunch break, a plenary session was held at 3:30 pm, which concluded at 4:30 in the evening. The session was chaired by Prof. Ushvinder Kaur. Popli, Head of the Department of Social Work, JMI-



Delhi and Co-Chaired by Dr. Khursheed ul Islam, Associate person IMPARD. The guest of honour for the session was Dr. Asifa Jan, Dean, School of Social Sciences, University of Kashmir. Ms. Tania Farooq was the rapporteur for the session. During this session two resource persons, Dr. Mala Kapoor Shankardas and Dr. Archana Kaushik both from Delhi University shared their respective works, experiences and valuable insights. Dr. Mala Kapoor Shankardas spoke about “*Gender and Ageing: Issues and Policy Responses*” while as Dr. Archana Kaushik discussed about “*Reducing Vulnerabilities among Older Persons through Social Support*”.

DAY-TWO

The second day of the seminar was held on 30th of March 2017, constituting six technical sessions followed by the valedictory. The sessions were held at EMMRC Auditorium and MLIS Conference Room. Following were the themes for the technical sessions:

1. *Health, Hospitals and Specialized Care.*
2. *Gender and elderly.*
3. *Old-age Homes and Traditional Support System.*
4. *Geriatric Care and Issues.*
5. *Psychological Issues and Ageing.*
6. *Social and Political Issues.*

TECHNICAL SESSION 2A (10:00 AM TO 11:30 AM):

The technical session 2A was conducted in EMMRC Auditorium at 10:00 AM and ended at 11:30AM. The session was chaired by Dr. Arshid Hussain, Psychiatrist-IMHANS and co-chaired by Mr. Javaid Rashid, Assistant Professor Department of Social Work, UoK. Mr. Qysar, Research Scholar from the Department of Social Work, UoK was the rapporteur for the session. The theme of this technical session was ***“Health, Hospitals and Specialized Care”***. Seven Papers were presented in this session.



Mr. Mohammad Hassan, a practising Physio therapist, presented the first paper titled ***“Awareness analysis on acceptance and segregation of leprosy affected elderly individuals”***. The paper discussed the awareness of leprosy among the elderly affected by the disease and the behaviour of society towards the leprosy affected elderly individuals.



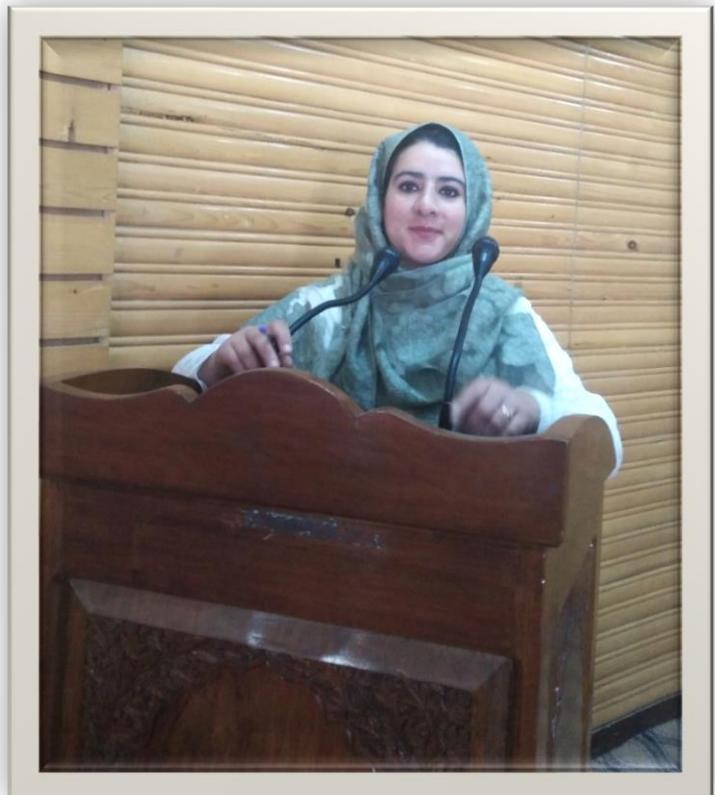
The next paper titled ***“Health Status in Elderly Population Using Body Mass Index (BMI) - A Comparative Study of Kashmiri and Gujar Community of North Kashmir Himalayas”***, presented by Dr.GM Rather. The paper discussed Body Mass Index (BMI) of

Elderly population (above 50 years age group) in Kashmiri and Gujar communities of North Kashmir Himalayas. The paper also revealed that the level of education, income and age are associated with BMI variations.



The next paper was presented by Ms. Tania Farooq. She shared her work on ***“Ageing and Disability: Experiences of Elderly People in Kashmir”***. The paper discussed the experiences of life changes from being independent to dependent among elderly.

Ms. Rubeena Akhtar presented the next paper titled ***“Tuberculosis among Older Women: A Study on Socio Economic and Health Challenges”***. In this presentation, the problems faced by older tuberculosis patients in Kashmir, particularly women were discussed besides viable suggestions in order to improve the services meant for Tuberculosis patients were also provided.



The paper titled ***“Iatrogenic infections: risk in elderly patients”***, presented by Mr. Zahid Rasool revealed that Geriatric patients are at a greater risk to develop iatrogenic infections due to low immunity, malnutrition, and altered pharmacokinetic parameters. Different factors for iatrogenic infections in elderly long term care patients in hospitals may allow preventing such infections to a greater extent. Sterilization of rooms and separation of patients with different communicable infections and reduction of invasive procedures such as urinary catheterisation may help to limit the spread of such infections.

Mr. Mudasir Yousuf, from Indira Gandhi National Open University, presented his paper on **“Elders with Disability in Jammu and Kashmir: A Case of Marginalization and Inclusion”**. The paper was an attempt to access and evaluate the impact of various inclusive developmental programs on the socio-economic transformation or mobility of the Elders with disability of Jammu and Kashmir.

TECHNICAL SESSION 2B (10:00 AM to 11:30 AM):



A parallel technical session 2B was being held in the MLIS conference room, which started at 10:00 AM and concluded at 11:30AM. The session was chaired by Dr. Salima Jan, Associate Professor, Department of EMMRC, University of Kashmir and co-chaired by Dr. Wakar Amin, from the Department of Social Work, University of Kashmir. Ms. Shabana, who is a Research Scholar in the University of Kashmir was the

rapporteur for the session. The theme of this technical session was **“Gender and elderly”**. Seven Papers were presented during this session.

Dr. Aijaz Ahmad Bund presented the first paper titled **“Transgenders Elders Expressed Needs and Concerns across focus groups”**. The presenter put forth the results from a series of focus groups and in-depth interviews carried with MTF (Male to Female) transgender elders from Kashmir. In this paper the needs, concerns, range of issues, common issues, opinions, and attitudes expressed were discussed.





Ms. Rimmi Vaghela, from Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, came up with the next paper titled *“Ageing and elderly care: critical issues, challenges and the way forward (in particular reference to women)”*. This study challenged the argument that the problems of elderly women and men are same. The paper

discussed different issues faced by the elderly women and the concerns to build up a healthy society where elders will be treated as human being and not as a burden.

Another interesting paper titled, *“Mass Media’s portrayal of ageing: Issues, challenges and the way forward”* was presented by Mr. Showkat Shafi, from University of Kashmir in which he discussed how positive and the negative portrayal of ageing by media, change people’s outlook towards the population ageing and elderly care besides a set of recommendation, as how mass media can be used to win over the opinion and consent of a large populace to intervene in the lives of elderly to help them lead a better life was also put forth during the session.



A paper titled *“Domestic Violence and Elderly Abuse in India”* was presented by Dr. Manzoor Hussain, Sr. Assistant Professor from the Department of Sociology, UoK. This paper highlighted the domestic violence of elderly people in India, the reasons for their abuse, the issues and challenges faced by them.

The paper titled "***Gender Bias and Reproductive Health of Women***" focused on how gender inequality affects reproductive health of women adversely. This paper was presented by Ms. Nurgiss Nazir, Research Scholar at University of Kashmir.



Ms. Masarat Ali, presented her paper titled "***Spectrum of Gynaecological Problems among Elderly Women in Kashmir***". The paper discussed the dimensions and causes of various gynaecological disorders in women, who is of above 60 years age, in Kashmir

region and the various measures which should be taken for early detection and management of these disorders were also put forth.

Dr. Mohmad Saleem Jahangir presented the last paper of this session, titled "***Cultural Lag between Youth and Elderly Shia Women of Kashmir: A Sociological Study***". The paper discussed the dialectics between the young literate and old illiterate Shia women and tried to highlight the causes and consequences of the lag between the two generations.

TECHNICAL SESSION 2C **(11:50AM – 01:00PM):**

This technical session was held in EMMRC Auditorium and was chaired by Prof. Aneesa Shafi from the Department of Sociology, University of Kashmir. Mr. Ibrahim Wani, Assistant Professor, IKS, University of Kashmir, was the Co-chair of the session. Ms. Sumeera, Research Scholar



from the Department of Social Work, University of Kashmir, was the rapporteur for the session. The theme of this particular technical session was **“Old-age Homes and Traditional Support System”**. Seven papers were included in this session.

The first paper titled as **“Religion based interventions for addressing the health issues among elderly: Insights from the literature”** was presented by Mr. Mudassir Rasool. The paper was an attempt to explore the religion based interventions for addressing the physical and psychological health issues among elderly.



The next paper presented was by Mr. Bilal Ahmad Bhat titled as **“Old Age Homes and Traditional Support Systems”**. The main aim of this paper was to highlight and focus on the role of traditional support systems and spiritual

beliefs and practices in providing wellbeing to all elders.



Another paper was presented by Mr. Qysar Sofi which was titled as **“Revisiting Home Based Care for Elderly as a Good Practice in Society”**. The paper focused on thematic discussions and concluded with the suggestions of identifying social space for elderly and children through an Integrated Approach.

Mr. Mohammad Sameer Khan presented the next paper titled as **“Comparative study of adjustment among elderly females living in old age homes and within family setup”**. The paper assessed and compared adjustment among elderly female living in old age homes and

in family setup. Findings of this study indicated that elderly females living in old age homes had better adjustment compared to elderly females living within family setup.

TECHNICAL SESSION 2D (11:50AM – 01:00PM):

This technical session was held in MLIS Auditorium and was chaired by respected Dr. Zubair Saleem, Geriatrician. Dr. Humaira Showkat, Assistant Professor IKS, University of Kashmir, was the co-chair of the session. Mr. Bilal Ahmad, Research Scholar from the Department of Social Work, University of Kashmir, was the rapporteur for the session. The theme of this particular technical session was ***“Geriatric Care and Issues”***.



A total of seven papers were included in this session which were eventually presented by the respective authors.

The first paper was presented by Dr. Iram Jalali titled as ***“Ageing and the problem of Acceptance of change in life: A Micro Level Psychosocial Analysis of old Aged People in Jammu and Kashmir”***. In this paper the researcher observed that successful resolution of psychological crisis stage is ultimately related to the satisfaction of life and the successful or healthy ageing too, however the unfortunate thing is that the pain and the sufferings associated with age tend to be neglected most of the times and so their life satisfaction.

The paper presented by Mr. Inayatullah Dar ***“Ageing & Elderly Care: Critical Issues, Challenges and the Way Forward”*** put forwarded various issues about ageing and elderly care and provided a platform for way forward.

Ms. Sabahat Hussain presented the next paper titled ***“Psycho- social profile of retired persons in Kashmir valley”***. As per the study, the retirees who strongly identify themselves with their work roles are often more likely to experience decrease in psycho-social well-being when entertaining retirement.

The next paper ***“Behind the close doors: No Breathing Space at Home for Elderly in India”*** was presented by Mr. Nasir Ahmad Bhat. The study suggested that the intergenerational gaps encourage rivalry and conflicting relations with elderly which often lead to negligence, lack of psychological, social and financial security.

Dr. Rehana Kausar, Dr. Shazia Manzoor, Mr. Bilal Ahmad Bhat, and Ms. Asifa Ali presented paper on *"A Study on Health Problems of the Elders and the Geriatric Care in Kashmir Valley"* In this paper, life-style and main health problems of elders in Kashmir valley along with the Strategies to Improve the Quality-of-Life of the Elderly and work done by NPHCE from 2011-12 to January 2018 in Kashmir valley were discussed.

The next paper **"Seasonal Appraisal of Cardio Vascular Diseases among Geriatric Inhabitants of North Kashmir- J&K"** was presented by Mr. Manzoor A. Wani, Mr. Bashir A Lone, Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmad Mayer and Dr. Sarafraz Ahmad Bhat. This study has been carried out in north Kashmir of State Jammu & Kashmir to assess seasonal appraisal the cardio vascular diseases among geriatric inhabitants of north Kashmir. This study also envisaged that high prevalence of cardio vascular diseases and concluded that males were more susceptible than their opposite side.

TECHNICAL SESSION 2E (02:05PM – 03:25PM):

This technical session was held in EMMRC Auditorium and was chaired by Dr. Showkat A Shah, HOD, Psychology, University of Kashmir. Mr. Shafaat, CEO CLD was the co-chair of the session. Ms. Sabah Jan, Research Scholar from the Department of Social Work, University of Kashmir, acted as the rapporteur for the session. The theme of this particular technical session was ***"Psychological Issues and Ageing"***. Eight papers were included in this session which were presented by the respective authors in the scheduled time.



The first paper was presented by Mr. Pradeep Kumar and Mr. Rishi Panday titled as ***"Research in geriatric mental health: a brief overview"***. This study Provides glimpses of demographic scenario and its consequences, along with the need and status of geriatric mental health research.



The next paper *“Alzheimer's disease: A double whammy for elderly and society”*. Was



presented by Mr. Asif Mohd Itoo, Mr. Ahmar khan, Mr. Sar John basher, & Dr. Nisar Ahmad Khan. The paper highlights the ill effects of Alzheimer's disease on the elderly population. It stresses that Alzheimer's disease or Alzheimer's is a progressive

neurodegenerative disorder which affects older individuals and is the most common cause of 60% to 70% cases of dementia in elderly.

Ms. Deeba Aazfa and Mr. Younis Rashid Dar presented next paper on *“Impairment of Language in Elderly population due to Alzheimer's disease as compared to Normal Ageing”*. The study aimed to find out the effect of Alzheimer's disease on the patient's ability to use syntactic information in sentence comprehension and whether the subjects are able to read and translate sentences properly. The study reveals that Mild and Moderate AD patients produce more errors in reading, comprehension and translating





sentences than Control group. While as Advanced AD patients show a severe impairment in their ability to process Syntactic information.

The next paper *“Empty Nest syndrome among elderly people in Kashmir”*. Was presented by Mr. Nasrullah Bhat, Ms. Sumeera Nazir, and Mr.

Aamir Gul. The paper mainly focuses on the current living conditions of Kashmiri elderly in Empty Nests, explaining the background that led to the emergence of Empty Nest Syndrome.

Dr. Farzana Gulzar, Ms. Aiman Fayaz and Ms. Amira Wali presented paper on *“A Study on Impact of Migration on Psycho-social and Economic well-Being of Elderly Pandit women Migrants”*.



This paper highlighted the issues and challenges for elderly Kashmiri Pandit women migrants, due to migration and suggest a mechanism to address it in a way that improves their standard of living and help them to have a good and dignified life.

TECHNICAL SESSION 2F (02:05PM – 03:25PM):

This technical session was held in MLIS Auditorium and was chaired by respected Prof. Pirzada M. Amin, H.O.D. Sociology Department, University of Kashmir. Mr. Mehmood Ur



Rashid, GK, was the co-chair of the session. Mr.

Zahid Maqbool, Research Scholar from the Department of Social Work, University of Kashmir, was the rapporteur for the session. The theme of this particular technical session was

“Social and Political Issues”. Eight papers were included in this session which were presented by the respective authors.

The first paper was presented by Ms. Alima Mudasir titled as **“Clash of the Titans in Kashmir”**. The author said that Elderly, here, are mostly facing health, psychological and emotional problems that co-exist on a different plane. Mostly widows and destitute elderly are the people who bear the brunt of poverty and face dependence related problems. In some cases elderly are irritated and tortured emotionally but there are many elderly who are enjoying their golden age as well. The paper aimed to study the gap between older and new generations in the context of urban Kashmiri society.

The next paper was presented by



Ms. Farah Ashraf titled as **“Human Rights of Elderly: Struggle for Social Security with special reference to IGNOAPS”**. The paper intended to put forward the scenario of struggle

for social security among elderly in the state of Jammu and Kashmir with special reference given to IGNOAPS and recommended suggestions to overcome and combat the struggle for their basic human rights.



Dr Sumeer Gul presented paper on **“Ageing and Elderly Care: Researching the Neglected Lot”**. The paper

Highlighted the research output in the field of ageing and elderly care and also showcased the research productivity in terms of geographical output, year wise growth, sources used, organizational involvement, productive authors and funded research etc.



The next paper was presented by Dr Humaira Showkat titled as ***“Family, modernization and issues of elderly: a study of ageing in Srinagar city”***. The paper tried to explore the impact of changing social and cultural dimensions of family on the elderly population and also identified various issues like loneliness, decision making and social prestige among the elderly population.



Dr Purvi Verma presented paper on ***“Situating old age in the present context”***. The paper attempted to analyse state sponsored schemes/programs and tried to find the context in which these geriatrics are placed.

Mr. Shabeer Ahmad Bhat presented paper on ***“Senior citizens as vulnerable group in the age of modernization: A sociological interpretation”***. The paper attempted to understand the

impact of social change and development on senior citizens in comparison with traditional and underdeveloped societies.



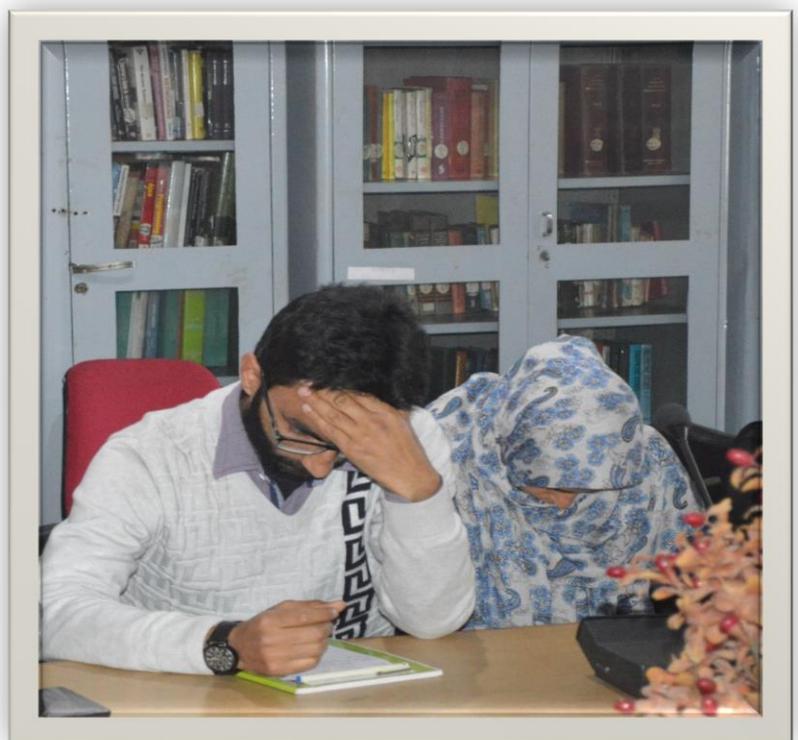
The next paper was presented Ms. Sumiya Din, Mr. Nisar Ahmad Wani and Ms. Aimon Khan, Research Scholars from the Department of Social Work, university of Kashmir, titled as ***“Impact of Armed-Conflict on the Elderly population in Kashmir”***. This Paper tried to

explore the direct as well as the indirect impact of armed conflict in Kashmir on the Elderly population. The paper highlighted that the Elderly population, along with women and children, have been the worst affected. In such circumstances, there is always a threat to life as well as property. The counter-insurgency operation have become the norm of the day. People get killed and the hard-earned property of people



turns to ashes. All these events take toll on the elderly and thus they turn out to be the worst affected lot.

Mr. Mohammad Rafi Bhat, and Ms. Kounser Iqbal presented last paper on ***“Dialectics between the spoken language of grandparents and grandchildren of rural Kashmir and its impact on elderly people: A sociological Study”***. The paper tried to portray the exclusion of illiterate elderly especially grandparents of rural Kashmir who are unable to communicate with their grandchildren who speak Urdu or English language.



VALEDICTORY SESSION:

After a productive two-day long seminar, constituting a lot of knowledge sharing through paper presentations from different participants who had joined the seminar from all across India, a valedictory session was held at EMMRC Auditorium at 3:30 pm. Dr. Shazia Manzoor, coordinator, Department of Social Work-University of Kashmir, and convener for this seminar, presented the welcome

address, followed by the rapporteurs report from Mr. Nasrullah Bhat, Research Scholar, Department of Social Work, University of Kashmir.

Prof. Ushvinder Kour Popli, Head, Department of Social

Work- JMI, delivered the valedictory address, Prof. Asifa Jan, Dean, School of Social Sciences, University of Kashmir, gave presidential remarks, thanking and appreciating all the participants who presented their paper. She also presented certificates among the participants for their paper presentation and thereby acknowledging their work. She also presented mementos to the resource persons.



She expressed her gratitude to the Department of Social Work and all those who had put their efforts to organize and make this seminar a success. She was of the view that more such seminars should be organized for knowledge sharing and awareness and the institutions should collaborate with each other so as to give a platform to Research Scholars wherein they can share and learn from each other's work and experiences. At the end of the session Dr. Wakar Amin, Assistant Professor, Department of Social work, University of Kashmir, presented a



vote of thanks to everyone who had been part of the seminar.

He also said that the Department of Social Work intends to organize more such programmes in future and play an important role in building awareness among the masses by pushing the

researchers to explore such areas that have concerned the society the most, thus help in shaping the society. He also wished for the growth and success of the department.

He thanked everybody and wished all the participants a prosperous life ahead and hoped to meet them again at some similar platform. The conference was thus brought to an end.