

# **Report on the 16-Day Campaign "Unite to End Violence Against Women"**

The 16-Day Campaign "Unite to End Violence Against Women" was organized by the Department of Women Education, Center for Women Studies, and Internal Complaints Committee of Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) from November 25 to December 10, 2025. The campaign aimed to raise awareness about gender-based violence, particularly digital violence, and promote concrete actions for its elimination.

## **1. Inaugural Session (November 26, 2025)**

The inaugural session was held on November 26, 2025, with Ms. Uma Sudhir, Senior Journalist and Executive Editor, NDTV, delivering the keynote address. She highlighted the rising incidence of digital harassment and the need for robust legal and educational measures. Dr. Shabana Kesar, Head, Department of Women Education presented welcome address, Prof. Farida Siddiqui, Director, Center for Women Studies, and Prof. V.S. Sumi, Chairperson, Internal Complaints Committee, outlined the objectives of the campaign. In his presidential address, Prof. Syed Ain ul Hasan, Vice Chancellor warned of the pervasive threat of digital fraud and the persistence of prejudicial attitudes toward girls' education, calling for heightened awareness and empathy. Dr. Tabrez Hussain Taj conducted the proceedings, and Ms. Amina Tabassum delivered a vote of thanks.



## 2. Poster Making Competition (November 26, 2025)

The poster-making competition "Colors of Courage: Women Against Digital Violence" was a huge success, with students showcasing their creativity and awareness about digital violence on November 26, 2025. The event was graced by esteemed guests Dr. Shabana Kesar, Dr. Jarrar Ahamad, and Dr. Meraj Ahmad. This competition aimed to highlight the growing concern of digital violence against women and girls, a theme aligned with the UN's 16 Days of Activism campaign

The event encouraged students to express their thoughts and ideas on preventing digital abuse, promoting a safer online environment. Digital violence includes cyber bullying, harassment, and non-consensual sharing of intimate images, affecting one in three women globally.

The competition was likely part of efforts to raise awareness and promote action against digital violence, as seen in similar events and campaigns worldwide



### 3. Film Screening (December 2, 2025)

A special screening of the short film "CTRL" was held at the Cultural Activity Centre (CAC), MANUU on December 2, 2025. The event was part of the 16 Days of Activism campaign, focusing on digital safety and online harassment. Dr. Meraj Ahmad Mubarki, President of the University Film Club, introduced the film, highlighting its relevance to contemporary issues. Dr. Shabana Kesar Head of the Department of Women Education, briefed the audience about the campaign, which aims to end digital violence against women and girls



The film "CTRL" explores themes of digital dependence, AI influence, and online harassment, making it a fitting choice for the event. The screening was likely part of efforts to raise awareness about digital violence and promote online safety

#### **4. Debate Competition (December 4, 2025)**

A thought-provoking debate competition was held on December 4, 2025, in all three language i.e. Urdu Hindi and English on the topic "Social Media and Women: Empowerment and Exploitation". Students and faculty members participated, presenting diverse perspectives on how social media impacts Women lives. The debate explored both sides: social media as a tool for Women empowerment, self-expression, and networking, and its darker side, including online harassment, exploitation, and objectification.



The participants presented compelling arguments, highlighting the need for digital literacy, online safety, and responsible social media use. The event sparked meaningful discussions on balancing freedom of expression with protection from harm.

The debate was likely part of the 16 Days of Activism campaign, focusing on digital violence and Women rights.

## 5. Symposium (December 5, 2025)

Department of Women Education of Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) hosted a powerful national symposium on "Breaking the Silence from Hashtags to Real Change. The event brought together experts to shed light on digital violence against women, emphasizing the need to link digital spaces with Women empowerment.



Dr. Farzana Khan highlighted alarming digital harassment cases, while Ms. Khalida Parveen shared her experience, urging women to adapt to technology . Professor Ameena Tahseen shed light on digital spaces as empowerment tools , and Professor Tabrez Ahmed discussed legal aspects, citing low conviction rates in online fraud. Dr. Muhammad Rizwan highlighted digital violence subtleties of the way forward.

The symposium concluded with a call to action, breaking the silence on digital violence . Dr. Shabana Kesar welcomed guests, and Mr. Qudsi Rizvi conducted the event . The campaign aims to bring structural changes through awareness, making digital spaces safer for women

## 6. Special Lecture (December 5, 2025)

A special lecture on "Cyber Laws and Women Digital Rights" was delivered by Dr. Sai Sushanth, a renowned Cyber Law Expert and Techno-Legal Consultant, on December 5, 2025. The lecture shed light on crucial issues affecting Women online safety, including online harassment, cyber stalking, and the importance of digital evidence.

Dr. Sushanth's expert insights highlighted the need for awareness about cyber laws and Women digital rights, empowering women to navigate the online world safely . The lecture likely covered key aspects of India's Information Technology Act and other relevant laws, providing attendees with a comprehensive understanding of their digital rights. Presided over by Prof Tabrez Ahmad, Dean School of Law MANUU



## 7. Community Awareness Programme

My Choices Foundation, Hyderabad, marked 16 Days of Activism with a community awareness program on education's transformative power for women and girls. The event brought together 36 women and 10 girls for talks on breaking abuse and violence cycles.

Dr. Shabana Kesar emphasized education as a pathway to dignity, equality, and eradication of gender-based violence. Dr. Farzana Khan highlighted technology-facilitated violence and shared digital safety tips . Two women supporting their daughters' education were felicitated for their efforts .



My Choices Foundation has worked since 2012 to prevent violence against women and girls, partnering with institutions and government bodies . The event reinforced their commitment to UN Sustainable Development Goals, focusing on gender equality and quality education.

## 8. Valedictory Program (December 10, 2025)

The 16-day campaign "Unite to End Violence Against Women" concluded with Valedictory Program, marking a significant milestone in the fight against digital violence. Organized by the Department of Women Education, Center for Women Studies, and Internal Complaints Committee, the campaign raised awareness about digital violence against women through various programs. Over the past sixteen days, a large number of women and girls participated in awareness programs, gaining valuable knowledge on staying safe from digital violence.



Chief Guest Judge Mr. Nawaz Khan emphasized that violence against women has no place in a civilized society. Keynote speaker Tejaswini Madhabhushani highlighted the harassment faced by women and urged collective action to prevent it. Registrar Professor Ishtiaq Ahmed termed awareness against digital violence as the need of the hour , congratulating organizers for an effective campaign. On this occasion, Dr. Shabana Kesar, Head of the Department of Women's Education, presented a report on the performance of the 16-day campaign. The ceremony was moderated by Dr. Parveen Qamar, with Dr. Tabrez Hussain Taj presenting the vote of thanks

## **Conclusion**

The 16-Day Campaign "Unite to End Violence Against Women" was a phenomenal success, with a range of programs and activities that raised awareness about digital violence and promoted concrete actions for its elimination. The campaign brought together students, faculty members, and experts from various fields to discuss and address the issue of digital violence. The event highlighted the importance of digital literacy, online safety, and policy changes to prevent digital violence. The university's efforts to create a safer online environment for women were appreciated by all participants. The campaign concluded with a call to action, emphasizing the need for sustained collaboration among academic institutions, civil-society organizations, and governmental bodies to achieve the campaign's objectives. The event was a testament to the power of collective action and the commitment of MANUU to creating a violence-free society.