



JCD factions at loggerheads **Tension grips DU campus**

Staff Correspondent

Tension gripped the Dhaka University campus on Friday evening as the supporters of two rival factions of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of ruling BNP, were on high alert for trading gunshots for establishing control over Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Hall.

Resident students trapped in the dormitory said that a serious gunfight might take place at any moment. Both the rival groups were pointing guns to each other till the time of writing this report on Friday night.

The tense situation erupted when the opponents manhandled a supporter of 'Asad Group' during his bid to distribute invitation cards for a Milad Mahfil.

Police and security personnel encircled the dormitory and were watching the events. They are unwilling to step inside the troubled place fearing crossfire.

Witnesses said that the southern block of Shaheed Ziaur Rahman hall was under the control of 'Asad Group' while the supporters of rival 'Jakir Group' captured the northern block.

Sources said that the supporters of the both groups were carrying different firearms including some sophisticated weapons.

It is alleged that 'Jakir Group' hired dozens of armed cadres, outsiders for making his camp stronger and managed them to stay in the dormitory for bringing the hall under their sole command.

The rival 'Asad Group', which clashed with the 'Mamun Group' on a number of issues earlier this month, came to the scene as a contender to occupy the hall.

"The winners will become the virtual authority of the hall," a resident student commented requested anonymity.

Proctor of the university Professor Nurunnabi and Provost of the dormitory could not be reached for their comment.