

Bomb blasts rock DU varsity halls

65 rooms ransacked, articles set on fire

By Our Varsity Correspondent

A series of bomb explosions rocked the Dhaka University campus and created panic in the adjoining areas on Tuesday. About 65 rooms of the five halls were ransacked and articles in the rooms were set ablaze.

In a clash between Jatiya Chhatra Samaj seeking to expand its sphere of influence in the halls and the Central Students' Action Committee equally determined not to allow their adversaries any further foothold explosives and guns were liberally used.

Helmeted policemen on duty outside the campus watched the

frightening proceedings with utter helplessness along with other stunned passersby. Surprisingly no one received any serious injury.

The classes in the adjoining schools were suspended. Guardians who left their children were panick-stricken and some particularly the mothers, were in tears.

In the orgy of violence 65 rooms of different halls of the Dhaka University were ransacked and two motor bikes were set ablaze.

The office of the Jatiya Chhatra Samaj at Elephant Road was set on fire by students.

The office was completely gutted.

The Central Students Action Committee was to hold a students rally at the Arts Faculty at 10 a.m. on the day. But the Jatiya Chhatra Samaj prevented them from holding the rally as they occupied the venue. Jatiya Chhatra Samaj earlier gave a call to observe strike in the university on Tuesday. The members of the Jatiya Chhatra Samaj put all the entry points under lock and key.

Chase and counter-chase

As the procession of the Central Students' Action Committee entered the campus the workers of Jatiya Chhatra Samaj harassed the procession. The Central Students Action Committee made a counter-chase. Chase and counter-chase continued for about ten minutes. The procession of the Central Students Action Committee was joined by the general students. Following the joint attack by the CSAC and the general students Chhatra Samaj workers ran away towards S.M. Hall. Four bombs were blasted by the JCS during the chase and counter-chase. Surja Sen Hall which was being occupied by the militants of the Chhatra Samaj prevented others from entering the hall and put the gate of the hall under lock and key. The students broke the lock and entered the hall. As more than one thousand students entered the Surja Sen Hall the workers of Chhatra Samaj took shelter on the roof-top wherefrom they hurled fifteen bombs and fired six shots from cut rifles. The JCS workers later fled through the back door. The angry students then ransacked 24 rooms of Surja Sen Hall belonging to the militants of Chhatra Samaj.

The general students later went to Kabir Jashimuddin Hall and ransacked four rooms of the hall belonging to the Jatiya Chhatra Samaj workers.

Police took into custody two innocent persons, a tailor and a school boy from the spot.

Dhaka University Teachers Association expressed its serious concern over the situation on the campus on Tuesday.