

তারিখ
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Aparajeyo Bangla blindfolded by protesters

Strike in DU to protest police raid on SN Hall

Varsity Correspondent -

Venting their anger on the predawn police assault at Sham-sunnahar Hall and Wednesday's attack on protesters, the students observed a daylong strike at Dhaka University on Thursday.

Hundreds of common students gathered on the campus and burst into protest joining processions defying the tight security of police and BDR.

No classes were held and most of the offices remained closed. The university authorities suspended all the examinations scheduled for Thursday. The library was open but number of

readers was thin.

Spontaneous participation of the common students was much higher than the activists of the student organisations those called the Thursday's strike.

Following the assault on their female classmates, the students released their anger showing a unique way of protest.

As symbol shame, the students blindfolded the eyes of the statues built in memory of the War of Liberation at "Aparajeyo Bangla" and the "Raju Memorial Monument" saying "we've no moral strength to show our ashamed

faces before the concrete-statues."

Huge contingents of riot police and paramilitary BDR forces were deployed on the tense campus. The security-men checked the identity cards at the entrances of the university.

At dawn, police arrested Helal Hossain Dhali of Women's Studies department, Jannatul Islam Dalim of Political Science department, Wahiduzzaman Nannu of Sociology department and Prince when they were sticking posters in support of the strike at the Lecture Theatre.

Two workers of JSD-backed

Chhatra League-Tinku and Nadim were picked up from in front of Central Library area.

Groups of plainclothed police were recording the events with miniature video cameras in search of any intruders to the campus.

All the student organisations excepting the ruling BNP's student front Jatiyabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) called the strike. But police did not allow the activists of Awami League-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) that also called the strike.

There was a spontaneous procession (See Page 15 Col. 1)

DU strike

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 cession and rally of the common students under the banner of "Students Against Repression." More than 1500 male and female students attended it. It was the largest procession in the last five to six years, campus observers said.

The gathering was angry, but calm. No casualty or untoward incident took place.

The agitating students demanded immediate resignation of Vice Chancellor Prof Anwarullah Chowdhury and Proctor Nazrul Islam by Saturday and threatened to launch 'more organised movement' in the event of their failure to resign.

A large number of JCD activists was seen taking part in the procession.

At the foot of 'Aparajeyo Bangla', the general students held the first rally which was also attended by a group young teachers.

The students placed a eight-point demands at the rally including withdrawal of false cases against the students, immediate resignation of the Vice Chancellor and Proctor, withdrawal of police from the campus and trial of the police officers.

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