

Indefinite curfew

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Campus sources said, thousands of students came out from different residential halls led by Dhaka University Teachers Association and brought out a procession from the foot of Aparajeya Bangla at about 11:15am. The procession marched the campus and staged demonstration at Central Shahid Minar.

Teachers of Dhaka University brought out a procession with black banner from the campus demanding withdrawal of state of emergency. Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) president Dr Sadrul Amin and general secretary Anwar Hossain led the procession that started from Aparajeyo Bangla.

The teachers paraded the campus through Bangla Academy and Doyel Chattar area and held a rally at the Central Shaheed Minar. Thousands of students joined the DUTA procession, demonstrating their solidarity with the DUTA's demands.

DUTA general secretary Anwar Hossain in a brief address thanked the government for expressing regret at the incidents on the Dhaka University campus and demanded immediate lifting of the state of emergency for establishment of fundamental rights.

He also expressed solidarity with the students' movement calling for withdrawal of the emergency and public apology by the Army Chief for Monday's incident at the Dhaka University.

The incidents on Wednesday erupted when several hundreds of agitated students came at Nilkhet. Riot police charged hundreds of tear gas shells and rubber bullets targeting the agitated students at about 12:20pm. The entire Nilkhet area was covered with smoke. But the students regrouped and started fighting with the police. Female students were also seen throwing brickbats at the riot police.

Police driving riot cars chased demonstrators near the Nilkhet intersection, to disperse them with tear gas shelling. Students vandalised an auto-rickshaw outside the Vice Chancellor's residence at around 11:45 am.

The students, on the other hand, taking up positions in front of Jahurul Haque Hall and Sir F Rahman Hall threw brickbats at the police in retaliation.

The violence first erupted on Monday afternoon when some Army personnel beat a student and also humiliated a teacher of the university during a football match at the DU central playground.

Meanwhile, the students of Jahangirnagar University on Wednesday demanding resignation of Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed barricaded the Dhaka-Aricha highway.

Earlier at 10:00am, students

from different dormitories brought out processions and approached towards Dairy Farm gate, but police stopped them. A clash ensued leaving proctor Syed Kamrul Ahsan and 20 students and journalists injured.

At one stage of the clash, police retreated and positioned themselves outside the university gate. Students then blocked the highway.

On the other hand, students of Jagannath University staged violent protest and burned four vehicles including a Pajero jeep around the District Court in old Dhaka at about 10:30am.

Students of Titumir University College brought out a procession and moved towards Mahakhali road crossing chanting anti-government slogans. The authorities blocked the road for traffic movement.

Students of BUET, Eden University College, Sher-e-Bangla Agriculture University and Tejgaon Polytechnic Institute also joined the demonstration at the call of general students of Dhaka University.

Our Rajshahi University Correspondent says: In the first day of strike at Rajshahi University (RU) the clashes between the angry students and law enforcers turned into a battleground on Wednesday, following beating of a Dhaka University (DU) student by army personnel on Monday.

Thousands of students came out of various dormitories with stick, stones and fought with police in and around the campus, leaving at least 100 wounded and an unidentified rickshawpuller was killed by police. In the day-long confrontation police fired more than 250 rubber bullets and over 600 teargas shells on the unruly students of RU.