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Clash over classroom 10 DU students injured

Varsity Correspondent

At least ten students were injured, two of them with rubber bullets when students of Economics and Finance Department of Dhaka University were locked in violent clash at the Arts Faculty premises on Monday morning.

The violent clash sparked between the student groups following exchange of hot words between the two teachers of the two departments.

Police on duty lobbed several dozen tear-gas shells and fired rubber bullets to disperse the violent students on rampage which started from a classroom.

Campus sources said, the trouble erupted when the students of Economics Department went to their classroom at Lecture Theatre Room No.

BA-3, but found students of Finance Department sitting there.

The students of Economics Department requested them to vacate the room to hold their scheduled class there at 8:30 a.m. The Finance students left the room and informed their teacher that they could not find any room to sit for a tutorial examination.

The concerned teacher of Finance Department Mr. Azizul Haq then went to the said room along with his students and requested the Economics teacher Mr. Mahbubul Alam who was delivering his lecture to go to another room to help the examination. At this stage, the two teachers

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DU students

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began exchanging hot words which led to the clash between their students.

The Finance students kicked the doors of the room and rebuked Economics students in filthy language.

Some 50 to 70 Finance students rushed to the Economics department on the second floor of Arts Faculty building and damaged furniture and valuables. They ransacked Economics Department library and Economics Council Office. The agitated students then damaged the window panes of English and Psychology Department on the first floor of the Arts building.

On receipt of this information, a group of 125 Economics students rushed to the Commerce Faculty, known as Nipa Bhaban, and ransacked the Finance Department and the Dean office.

Vice-Chancellor Prof. Emazuddin Ahmed along with senior teachers rushed to the Commerce Faculty to normalise the situation but he was confined there for an hour amidst chase and counterchase of the warring students.

When V-C was talking to the Commerce Faculty teachers, a group of Economics Department students again attacked the Commerce building. Police dispersed the unruly students lobbing tear-gas shells and firing rubber bullets. Later, both the groups collected bamboo and wooden sticks and began chasing each other which lasted till 11:50 a.m.

No classes were held in the Commerce Faculty because of the trouble and in the Arts Faculty most of classes were also not held.

Vice-Chancellor hurriedly called a negotiation meeting between the two groups at his office and assured them that authorities would take necessary steps against persons responsible for the incident within next three days.

Shahin and Mosharraf were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) with rubber bullet injury.

Meanwhile, both the groups separately called strike in the University today (Tuesday) in protest against the incident.