

8-hr gunbattle between rival students 2 killed in JN Varsity College

By A Staff Reporter

An eight-hour gunbattle between the supporters of two rival student organisations in Jagannath University College left two students killed and 50 others injured, including 6 police personnel, Saturday night.

Authorities closed the University College sine die on Sunday and asked the students to vacate their dormitories by 10 a m Sunday.

The victims were identified as Maniruzzaman Monir (25), an activist of BNP supported student organisation Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Manab Kanti Dey (25), an activist of Awami League backed students body Bangladesh Chhatra League (A-A).

Both the victims were final year students of Accounting Department and residents of Shaheed Dr Milan Hall.

Of the injured, 9 persons were

admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) four of them with bullet injuries, four persons were admitted to Sir Salimullah Medical College Hospital (SSMCH), three of them with bullet injury and one person was admitted to Pangu Hospital with bullet injury.

Four, out of six police personnel were admitted to Rajarbagh police line hospital where condition of two persons were stated to be

serious.

28 persons reportedly received first aid at SSMCH.

Both the warring student organisations held each other responsible for the incident in two separate press conferences held at the National Press Club Sunday afternoon.

Earlier the student organisations brought out separate processions in the city and organised ral-

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lies in protest against the incident. According to reliable sources, the incident occurred following a dispute between supporters of the student organisations over selling of admission forms for admission into the Masters Degree classes of the college.

The warring groups started chasing each other and exchanged gunshots at about 9-30 pm Saturday and continued exchange of gun fires and bomb blast till 5-30 a m on Sunday.

Police entered the troubled hall premises at about 5-30 a m and brought the situation under control.

Police also recovered a huge number of fire arms and lethal

weapons from the campus including four pipe guns, 24 bullets, along with a huge number of grenades.

A heavy police contingent was guarding the college compound including Dr Milon Hall.

According to police, the body of Manir has been sent to his village home in Magura Sunday afternoon following post mortem at DMC.

Students failed to carry the body of Dey in a procession as riot police put barricade across the court building road in the afternoon.

Manab Kanti Dey hailed from Sunda under Naria upazila of Sariatpur. His body was sent to SSMC morgue for autopsy.

According to police, the rival student groups opened showers of gun shots and exploded series of bombs during the eight-hour long battle.