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BCL factions fight over control of S.M. Hall

By A Staff Reporter

Pro-Hasina and pro-Montu Chhatra Leaguers Wednesday fought over the control of the Salimullah Residential Hall of Dhaka University.

Both sides chased each other and fired gun shots during the hour-long clash. However, none was hurt.

Police fired tear gas canisters to disperse the warring factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League. At the end, pro-Montu BCL faction retained their control over S.M. Hall.

Witnesses said, the pro-Hasina Chhatra League (M-I) activists in a group numbering

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S.M. Hall

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five to seven equipped with fire arms stormed the S.M. Hall from where they were driven out by the pro-Montu Chhatra League about a year ago.

The Montu faction activists who were guarding the hall fled away and informed their associates at Zahurul Huq Hall, another stronghold of the Montu group.

After entering the hall BCL (M-I) activists locked the main gate and occupied some rooms belonging to Montu faction.

Meanwhile, police rushed the spot and lobbed several rounds of tear gas canisters to bring the situation under control. Police also entered the hall by breaking open the locked door. However, none was arrested and no arms could be recovered.

Later, Montu backed Chhatra League activists rushed to the west side of the S.M. Hall and at one stage entered S.M. Hall with a big procession chanting slogans against the Awami League chief Sheikh Hasina.

At that time some BCL (M-I) activists were found fleeing away towards Jagannath Hall, a strong hold of pro-Hasina Chhatra League.

The residents of S.M. Hall apprehend fresh clashes between the two rivals.

Meanwhile, pro-Awami Chhatra League (M-I) in a hurriedly called Press conference at Dhaka University Journalists' Association (DUJA) office Wednesday evening blamed Montu backed Chhatra League for terrorist activities at S.M. Hall.

The press conference was addressed among others by Iqbalur Rahim, BCL General Secretary, Khizir Hayet Lizu, President, BCL DU unit and Pankaj Nath, General Secretary, BCL DU unit.