

52 die on DU campus in 23 years in conflicts, squabbles

Fifty two killings took place on the Dhaka University campus since Liberation—36 of them were students. Rest were street urchins of the university area, rickshawpullers and terrorists coming from outside. Besides them one was killed who was a doctor by profession. He died during the mass upsurge of 1990 at the hands of the terrorist thugs nurtured by ousted autocrat Ershad reports Media Syndicate.

One of the main cause of these killings was internal squabbles of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and Awami League-leaning Chhatra League. By one count it has been seen that 10 workers and leaders of JCD died because of internal squabbles since the birth of the organisation while 16 workers and leaders of Awami League-leaning Chhatra League died due to the same cause.

The most hair-raising of the killing took place on the Dhaka University campus in 1974 during the Awami League regime. On April 4 that year seven students were killed together in front of the television room of

Haji Mohammad Mohsin Hall due to squabbles within the Awami League-backed Chhatra League. They were brought at gunpoint from Suryasen Hall. This came to be known in history as the seven murders. The same year four youths were shot dead on the road between Jagannath Hall and Shamsunahar Hall.

In the 23 years after Liberation most of the killing took place in 1974. Two students were killed—one each in 1977 and 1978. On 13 February 1985 Jatiya Chhatra League leader

Raulun Basenia was shot dead by Ershad-supported Natun Bangla Chhatra Samaj. Chhatra Union worker Aslam was killed on 31 March 1986. On 9 March 1987 JCD leader Mahbubul Haq Bablu and two others were killed in a bomb explosion in a room of Mohsin Hall. Halim and Munna were killed in clashes the same year as was rickshawpuller Rahim during a crossfire between two rival student organisations. JCD leader 'Pagla' Shaheed was killed in 1988. Kafiluddin Kanak was killed in front of

Madhu's Canteen following DUCSU elections on 8 February 1989. In 1989 Awami League-supported Chhatra League showed bullets on a peaceful gathering of general students at S.M. Hall—Arif a brilliant student, died on the spot. Chhatra League leader Chunnu was killed on 25 February 1990. At that time gunbattles used to take place between JCD and Chhatra League workers in the ground between Zahurul Haq Hall and Mohsin Hall. In the same year Dr. Shamsul Alam

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Khan Milon and tea-boy Nimal were shot dead on 27 November in the TSC area at the hands of thugs of the autocratic regime at the height of anti-autocracy movement.

Awami League-supported Chhatra League workers shot dead JSD-supported Chhatra League worker Mahbub in front of the IER building. Four persons—Galib, Liton, Mizan and a street urchin—died the same year in a gunbattle between JSD and Chhatra League workers. In 1992 Organising Secretary Maniruzzaman Badal was killed because of the internal squabbles of Chhatra League.

Moin Hossain Raju of Chhatra Union, Lakku of Chhatra League Montu group, and Masum and Mahmud also died that year in different incidents. Chhatra Dal workers Pavel and Jinnah were killed in 1993. Chhatra League Montu group worker Aloke was shot dead this year. Two students were killed this month of the DU campus. Kamrul Islam Bulbul died on 1 September in front of the library during a gunbattle between Awami League-backed Chhatra League (M-J) and JSD-supported Chhatra League (B-K). The latest was Sarwar Ahmed Mithu of JCD who died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital after being shot in the Curzon Hall area on the night following 22 September. It is suspected that it was a sequel to internal squabbles.