

তারিখ ... APR. 18 2000 ...
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JCD leader held Gunshots rock DU campus again

Varsity Correspondent

After a long cessation the Dhaka University campus was again rocked by a dozen gunshots traded between two rival student bodies, leaving a general student injured on Wednesday. JCD Joint Secretary Sultan Salahuddin Tuku was arrested by Detective Branch police.

The gunfight took place when a central leader of BNP's student wing Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) was arrested from a rally on the campus at around 12 noon.

The angry JCD activists exploded a bomb behind the Arts Building and started firing with revolvers. They also broke the windshields and glasses of at least five cars parked behind the Arts Building and in front of the Business Studies Building.

During the chase by police, the JCD-men were shot at by a group of armed activists allegedly belonged to ruling party-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL). Coming out of a procession, the BCL cadres fired at least six to eight rounds of gunshots aiming the fleeing JCD-men.

Mustafiz, a fourth year student of the Department of Management, received bullet injury in his hand in a cross fire. He was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

During the incident police fired two rounds of rubber bullets and tear-gas shells to disperse the beligerents.

Severe panic gripped the hundreds of general students present on the spot when vehicles rushed through to avoid ransacking. Hearing the sound of firing, the students rushed to take shelter and started screaming for help.

The JCD activists fled from the campus through the road beside the IER Building and from behind the Business Studies Building.

At the same time, BCL brought out a separate procession demanding immediate implementation of

the verdict of Bangabandhu Killing Case.

The last incident of gunfight took place on the campus in April, 1998, killing a student, Partha. BCL then took control of almost all the residential halls of the univer-



Mustafiz, a fourth year student of the Department of Management, received bullet injury in the hand when Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) traded gunshots on the Dhaka University campus on Wednesday. -OBSERVER

sity following that fighting.

Another incident of this kind took place in the university last year, but the magnitude of that incident was much less than this one.

Talking to this correspondent, a panic stricken student said, "Thank God that I survived this fighting". "I don't want to see any more of my friends to be killed or injured and I appeal to the student organisations to stop this once for all".

BCL leaders, however denied their involvement in it.

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Gunshots

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The JCD leaders and activists disappeared from the campus and were not found to give their reactions on the incident.

Meanwhile, JCD has declared their next programme from an emergency meeting held at the central office of BNP at 3 pm. They will hold a rally in front of the of-

fice of the Vice-Chancellor of the University on April 17 demanding the release of their jailed leader and slating what they said the DB and BCL attack on their rally on Wednesday.

After the incident, most of the left-leaning student organisations active on the campus condemned the incident. They demanded immediate inquiry into the incident and punishment to those involved in it.