

BCL beating sends RU cultural activist to OT

With broken shinbone

RU CORRESPONDENT

Even a humble apology for the negligible mistake did not spare Basudev Roy the wrath of Bangladesh Chhatra League activists at Rajshahi University last evening. They clobbered him mercilessly and did not give up until he lost consciousness.

With his legs bleeding, Basudev was first taken to the university medical centre and then, to the operation theatre (OT) of Rajshahi Medical College Hospital. An orthopaedist said the shinbone of his right leg was broken.

Proctor Prof Tarikul Islam said the university authorities took the matter

seriously and requested arrest of the attacker, Sajib Ahmed Saddam, assistant secretary of BCL's RU unit. He added that a probe committee would be formed soon, and based on its report, the authorities would take action.

Basudev, former president of RU Kendrio Sangskritik Jote, also a master's student of psychology, was attacked at Silsila Restaurant on the campus around 7:30pm.

Witnesses said Sajib and a BCL activist launched the assault because the pan of a window of the restaurant Basudev was opening from inside slightly hit the head of Sajib, who was sitting outside.

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Shibu Chandra Adhikari, former general secretary of RU Kendrio Sangskritik Jote, who was with the victim at that moment, said Basudev said "sorry" but Sajib was still mad at him.

Sajib and his cohort repeatedly beat on his legs with scrap wood outside the restaurant and took him inside the restaurant for further beating, he said.

This correspondent saw blood spilled on the spot.

On information, on-campus police rushed in and took him to the RU medical centre, which later referred him to RMCH, said Dr Tabibur Rahman Sheikh, chief medical officer of the centre.

Sajib admitted to The Daily Star that he beat him up but claimed Basudev slapped him first.

Mizanur Rahman Rana, president of BCL's RU unit, said Sajib would face organisational action if found guilty after investigation.