

Curfew clamped on campus : Exams,

Two killed in DU

classes postponed

gunbattle

A Sun Report

Two students were killed and at least 15 others were injured three of them seriously in a violent armed clash between the Awami League backed Chhatra League (A-A) and pro-BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) on the Dhaka University campus yesterday (Sunday).

Mirza Galib, a Dhaka College student and Rafiqul Islam Liton, a Third Year student of the Sociology Department of Dhaka University were shot dead in front of the Language Institute during exchange of gun shots between the two sides. Both of them were the leaders of JCD. They were declared dead at PG Hospital by the doctors at 3.15 pm.

Indefinite curfew and section 144 have been imposed in and around the Dhaka University campus until further order. None without valid cards is allowed to enter and move on the campus. Even the pressmen were barred by the police from entering the campus. A huge contingent of police and BDR have been deployed on the campus after the incident.

Mizanur Rahman, a Third Year student of Geology Department of the University and a street urchin were fighting grim battle with death at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH). Mizan was hit by a bullet on his head while the street urchin named Khokan (10) received injuries at the abdomen. The political identity of Mizan could not be ascertained as both the groups claimed him as their worker. The condition of Mizan and Khokan were stated to be critical.

Among the injured, seven were removed to the DMCH while three admitted to the PG Hospital.

More than two thousand rounds of gun shots were fired from both the sides in the two-and-half-hour battle which continued

till 3.30 pm beginning at 12.45 pm. The series of gun shots rocked the whole campus and its adjoining areas creating a wave of panic among the general students, teachers and employees. The panicky campus inhabitants were seen running helter skelter for safety.

About 1000 students trapped at the Arts Faculty Building who went there to appear at the Honours Final examinations that commenced on Thursday last after charge of the examination schedule for eight times. The examinations were later postponed.

Eye-witnesses said, at around 12.45 pm a group of Chhatra League activists suddenly gheraoed the DUCSU Building where the central leaders of the JCD were holding a meeting. The arm-brandishing Chhatra League activists challenged the DUCSU General Secretary Khairul Kabir Khokan, Central Committee Member Elias Ali and other leaders and asked them to come out and face the eventuality.

At one stage the rampaging Chhatra League activists went up to the first floor of the DUCSU building. Khokan, Elias Ali, Rafiqul Islam Jaglu and other leaders were trapped inside the

DUCSU Building. The Chhatra League activists tried their best to break the doors, but failed.

When a group of Chhatra League activists were searching the JCD leaders inside the DUCSU Building another group of them were firing from outside. A huge number of JCD activists retaliated from Surja Sen, Mohsin and Jashimuddin Halls at around 1 pm.

The JCD supporters chased the Chhatra League activists from the DUCSU Building area towards TSC. The scene of the gun battle then shifted to the premises of the Language Institute.

The Chhatra League activists took position inside Rokeya Hall while the JCD activists were at the Language Institute and Library compound. At 2 pm Mirza Galib received bullet injuries on his chest at the gate of the Language Institute. He was lying there for about an hour.

JCD activists were repeatedly requesting the Police who were in front of the TSC and residence of the Vice-Chancellor to remove Mirza to hospital. But police did not pay any heed to the requests. Rafiqul Islam Liton then ran to Mirza and tried to take him away from the spot breaking the wall of the Language Institute. Gun

shots from inside the Rokeya Hall hit him and he died on the spot. Both the sides stopped firing at 3.30 pm.

The role of Police on the campus was highly criticised by the students. Leaders of the Democratic Students Alliance said, if police were active, two young lives could have been saved. Using loudspeaker police requested the belligerent to ceasefire and allow the students of the University Laboratory School to leave the campus.

The injured students admitted to the DMCH are, Safiqul Alam, Gazi Saiful Azam, Zafar Sadiq Biplob, Mafijul Alam, Mukhter Hussain, and unknown street urchin.

The injured JCD activists were admitted to PG Hospital are Hedayet Ullah, Anisur Rahman and Mizanur Rahman.

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