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Day-long clashes

One student killed, 100 including police injured

Staff Correspondent

Muniruzzaman Azad, a First Year student of Polytechnic Institute at Tejgaon was killed and over 100 others including several policemen were injured in a day-long pitched battles between the students and police in the metropolis on Saturday. Azad received bullet wounds when policemen opened fire on the demonstrating students of Polytechnic Institute at Tejgaon at around 10 a.m. He succumbed to his injuries later at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Saturday's students' demonstration were held in protest against police action on political activists during the Opposition sit in demonstration in the city on Wednesday and attack on the DUCSU and other students leaders on Thursday. The VP-GS of DUCSU and some other students leaders were injured in police attack on Thursday. While five persons lost their lives in course of police-mob clashes on Wednesday.



The body of Muniruzzaman Azad, First Year Student of Tejgaon Polytechnic Institute is lying at Aparajeya Bangla. —OBSERVER

students of Dhaka University and other institutions come out on the streets in militant processions and running battles with the heavily armed police ensued on Dhaka University campus, Shahbagh, Mohakhali and Tejgaon. The pitched battles lasted several hours. The angry demonstrators set fire to at least 16 vehicles.

An official sources said that five vehicles were either burnt or damaged in the violence.

One more injured victim of Wednesday's incident, Belal Hossain (25), a cloth merchant succumbed to his injuries at Dhaka Medical College Hospital at 6-20 p.m. on Saturday. He was hit by a bullet on his throat at Nawabpur. Thus the death toll in Wednesday's violence stood at six.

As the news of death of polytechnic student Muniruzzaman Azad spread

The angry mob attacked railway station at Narsingdi on hearing the news of the death of students in Dhaka. The mob ransacked the railway stations and damaged the railway property. The GRP police in Dhaka declined to comment on Narsingdi incident. The angry students of Bangladesh Engineering University set two city corporation small offices on fire and damaged a tempo.

The students of the Dhaka University took the body of the victim to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman hall and decided to bringout a mourning procession with the body of Azad at 2 p.m. The all party students alliance decided to invite the political leaders of all opposition parties. Accordingly, Sheikh Hasina and other leaders of eight party, Five Party alliances were present at Aparajaya Bangla. BNP Leader Afsar Ahmed Siddiqui was present. Begum Khaleda Zia went out of Dhaka on Saturday to address a meeting at Ullapara in Pabna. Sheikh Hasina was requested by the students to announce the programmes. Sheikh Hasina did it on behalf of the students and all political parties. She ended her speech with Joi Bangla slogan which created commotion among a section of students. But soon the commotion subsided with the loud unity slogans by students.

The students along with the political leaders broughtout the procession at 2 p.m. and they were obstructed by police at Doyel Square. The students

and police fought pitched battle here for about two hours. The students took the body of Azad to Jagannath Hall. The angry students during the melee set the vehicles of Atomic Energy Centre on fire. Earlier one red plate car was burnt at Topkhana Road in front of National Press Club.

The incidents on the campus created panic among the people and the owners of the car, buses and other vehicles withdrew from the roads around the educational institutions. In the evening, however, some vehicles plied in the city.

Four policemen were hospitalised on Saturday who received injuries during the pitched battle. The students brickbatted the police and police lobbed tear gas shells and lathi charged the students. The campus remained tense and police kept the students under strict vigilance. The leaders of 22-students organisations announced programmes at the National Press Club at the Press conference, and they said that the students belonging both pro-Awami League and pro-BNP organisations got under one flag to fight the atrocities and to unseat the government.