

BCL factions fire 200 shots on DU campus, situation worsens

The situation in the Dhaka University campus further deteriorated with two belligerent factions of pro-Awami League Chhatra League trading gunfire on Saturday, reports UNB.

Campus sources said about 200 shots were fired by the two sides in about one and a half hours, virtually turning two residential halls of the university into shooting ranges.

The trouble erupted with an armed attack allegedly by the activists of Montu group of BCL from Zahurul Huq hall on their enemies' in Salimullah Hall, the stronghold of the Gopalgarj faction, at about 11.30 am.

Sharp came the response, and both the sides fired cut-rifle, stengun and SMG. Witnesses said gunmen were seen firing from different safe places, including rooftops. None, however, was reported injured. Police were silent spectators

outside the two residential halls.

Another faction of the Chhatra League identified as Barisal group within BCL fired in the air from Jagannath hall.

During the gunfight, campus inmates and passers-by were seen running helter-skelter for safety. Motor vehicles geared up to escape damage but they damaged some rickshaws at Plassey, Fuller Road and Nilkhet while speeding away.

Dhaka University authorities at a joint meeting on July 21 described the campus situation as unbearable and apprehended that it may explode at any moment and take a dangerous turn.

Meanwhile, residents and examinees of the two dormitories are living in high tension since the trouble began on May 27.

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Honours and Master degree examinees of the two halls said they could not concentrate their studies due to frequent violence.

Montu group recaptured the Zahurul Huq hall on May 27 by ousting the Barisal-Gopalgarj clique.

STUDENT INJURED

A college student was seriously injured when a group of armed men fired several rounds of gunshots in front of the Habibullah Bahar College at Shantinagar on Saturday, reports UNB.

The injured, who was identified as Javed, had a bullet in his leg. He was sent to Dhaka Medical college Hospital in a critical condition.

Witnesses said the incident occurred when a group of 15 youngmen, armed with pistol and cut rifles, arrived in front

of the college and opened fire indiscriminately. The incident occurred at about 11 am.

The reason behind the gunfire could not be immediately ascertained but students of the college believed the incident was a sequel to earlier feud between the two rival student groups.

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