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BCL captures Suryasen Hall

Varsity Correspondent

Pro-Awami League Chhatra League took control of Suryasen Hall of Dhaka University by ousting the rivals in the wake of an internal clash between two factions of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) in the hall on Thursday.

Hall sources said a group of JCD activists led by ousted JCD leader Benzir Ahmed Titu attacked the Suryasen Hall at about 6 a.m. and drove out another JCD faction "Ratan Group" by beating them. After the incident the ousted "Ratan Group" again attacked the hall and established their authority as police drove out the "Titu Group" from the hall at 9 a.m.

In the meantime, a group of BCL (S-P) members led by Shamim Ahmed entered the hall in presence of police at the hall gate chanting slogans at about 1 p.m. and took control of the hall.

The ousted JCD leader Titu and his associates also entered into the hall along with BCL (S-P) members. Titu was expelled from JCD for his alleged involvement in the killing of Arif Hossain Taj at Jasimuddin Hall of the university.

Sources said as the BCL (S-P) members attacked the hall the ousted JCD members fired at least eight rounds of gunshots. At that time

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police also lobbed two tear gas shells.

Immediately after the incident the Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof Azad Chowdhury sat in a meeting with the leaders of Bangladesh Chhatra League (S-P) and Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal with a view to resolving the stalemate but in vain.

Sources said, the JCD members walked out from the meeting as the Vice-Chancellor failed to assure them of ousting the BCL members from the hall immediately.

The meeting held at the VC's office was attended by the central and university unit leaders of both the organisations.

The Vice-Chancellor also visited the hall at about 1.30 p.m. and gave directive to the police and house tutors to check the identity cards at the hall gate strictly.

A tense situation has been prevailing on the campus due to the incident.

Large number of police personnel have been deployed at the hall premises to avert any untoward incident.

JCD threatens indefinite strike

Meanwhile, Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal members at a Press conference on Thursday evening threatened to call an indefinite student strike in Dhaka University from July 27 if the BCL (S-P) did not leave the Suryasen Hall by this time.

The JCD leaders said as part of the BCL members blue print for supremacy overall the educational institutions of the country they captured the hall with the help of police.

They said the JCD members would not tolerate such activities of BCL and would resist the terrorist acts of BCL.

The Press conference held at the Madhu's Canteen of the University was attended among others, by JCD President Shahiduddin Chowdhury Ani, General Secretary Habib-U-Nabi Sohel, A.B.M. Mosharrif Hossain, Monwar Hossain Rana and Monir Hossain.