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Pro-AL students clash at DU

By DU Correspondent

Tension gripped the Dhaka University campus yesterday as two ruling party-backed student groups chased each other trying to gain control of a dormitory.

Two BCL activists -- Sagar and Mesbah -- were injured following assault by rival activists at Zia Hall.

Witnesses said the trouble began yesterday noon when Monir, president of Zia Hall unit of BCL, asked his organizing secretary Rizvi not to take free meals at the hall canteen.

Rizvi, responsible for many incidents of campus violence, did not pay heed to his president, hall sources said.

Monir warned Rizvi again when he along with some of his associates had taken free iftar from the canteen yesterday.

An angry Rizvi responded with a threat on Monir's life brandishing his sawed-off rifle, witnesses said. But Monir backed by his group of followers drove Rizvi out of the hall.

The two groups then began

chasing each other when Rizvi, aided by an ally from adjacent Mohsin Hall, tried to stage a comeback.

The Rizvi group led by assistant literature secretary of BCL central committee Abdul Wadud Khokon approached the Zia hall. Monir's supporters chased them away.

Some Rizvi supporters took refuge at Jasim Uddin and Surya Sen Halls. Two of them entered the Jasim Uddin Hall with firearms in their possession, witnesses said.

In an instant drive, police searched Jasim Uddin Hall but failed to arrest the youths or recover their guns.

The Rizvi group made another attempt but failed. A number of Rizvi followers were also beaten up and ousted from Zia Hall.

Campus sources said Rizvi and his followers were now at Mohsin Hall and preparing for another drive to regain control of Zia Hall.