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## VC's residence gheraoed, strike called today Army men beat DU students, protest rally brought out

Violence spread through Dhaka University amid massive student protest against the beating of some students and humiliating a teacher by some army-men following altercation over watching a football match, witnesses said, reports UNB.

At least three students were injured in the beatings amid the troubles that started following the quarrel between some plain-clothes army personnel and students at Dhaka University playground, where an army camp is

situated, on Monday afternoon, campus sources said.

The trouble flared up during the football match between Public Administration and Journalism departments at about 4:20pm.

During the tiebreaker of the match, an MSS student, Mehedi, stood before a group of plain-clothes army personnel who were on top of the gallery and watching the match.

One of the army personnel, who are in camp enforcing emergency rules, allegedly hurled abuses at

the boy and asked him to move front in front of them. "As Mehedi asked why they hurled indecent words at him, the army personnel began beating up him and his two friends," says the spot report.

When Mubashsher Munayem, a teacher of Public Administration, came forward to resolve the trouble, army personnel also humiliated him.

Later the students came out to the TSC and brought out a protest procession. The students de-

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## Army men

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demanded immediate withdrawal of the army camp from the campus by 11am today (Tuesday).

As demonstrations continued, police charged baton on the agitated students and dispersed their procession, injuring five to six demonstrators.

Hundreds of police were deployed on the campus to come to grips with the situation," the first-hand report said.

The incident triggered massive reaction by the evening, as thousands of students took to the street to stage protests.

Four of the injured were admitted to University Hospital while one critically injured admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Having been dispersed by the police, around 300 students regrouped in front of the central library on the campus and declared strike for Tuesday at the university. If their demands not met by then, they would go for "indefinite strike".

Students took stage at their respective halls and continued demonstrating by chanting slogans demanding "exemplary punishment" of the army personnel responsible for the incident and their withdrawal from the campus.

The angry DU students also went to gherao the residence of the Vice-chancellor of Dhaka University at about 9:10pm and ransacked the VC's vehicle while it was passing through the troubled area.

Police fired 50 teargas shells and used water cannon to break

up the protests. The demonstrating students also pelted brickbats targeting the cops that left two policemen wounded. They are constable Giasuddin and Nayek Farhad.

Some photojournalists, including Daily Amar Desh photojournalist Apu, were taken to the army camp when they were taking snap of the incident. Police also picked up three DU students from the scene.

Acting Vice-chancellor Prof AEM Yusuf Haider, Proctor Prof AKA Firoz, assistant proctors and some other teachers rushed to the spot and sat with army and students to reach to a solution.

The meeting over, Prof Haider said, "In-charge of the unit Colonel Huda unconditionally expressed sorrow for the incident on behalf of his force and said they will take action against the responsible army personnel."