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5 hurt as BCL factions fight at DU Zia Hall Provost resigns

DU CORRESPONDENT

At least five activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), student wing of Awami League (AL), were injured in a factional clash at Mukti Jodhha Ziaur Rahman Hall of Dhaka University (DU) in the early hours of yesterday.

Police rounded up six BCL men and an outsider from the hall compound for their alleged involvement in the clash.

Meanwhile, hall provost Prof Borhan Uddin Khan submitted his resignation letter to DU Vice-Chancellor (VC) Prof SMA Faiz in this connection yesterday afternoon.

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BCL factions fight at DU Zia Hall

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"I have submitted my resignation letter today afternoon to the VC and hope it would be accepted", Prof Borhan confirmed The Daily Star yesterday.

Hall sources said the clash erupted when a group of BCL men loyal to DU unit BCL president Sohel Rana Tipu launched an attack on another group loyal to its general secretary Sajjad Saqib Badsha with sharp weapons over establishing supremacy in the dorm at around 12:20am.

BCL men backed by Badsha alleged that Kamal and Salman who had recently been migrated to BCL from BNP's student front Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) led the Tipu group in the clash.

BCL activists also ransacked around 10 rooms at the hall. Hall authorities immediately rushed to the hall compound and brought the situation under

control.

Accusing hall provost of backing up identified JCD activists and Islami Chhatra Shibir activists in the dorm, Badsha group at around 2:00am staged a demonstration demanding resignation of the provost. They also vandalised glasses of the provost's room.

Denying the allegation of his involvement provost Prof Borhan told the reporters that he, being a civilized man, would quit and never to come back again.

Injured BCL activists--Shohag and Sumon, 4th year students of Sociology Department, Himel, first year student of Finance and Chunnu, another first year student were rushed to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Shohag was later shifted to city orthopedic hospital while Himel was admitted to a city hospital. Activists of Badsha group alleged that Tipu's men

had confined Sumon to a toilet after assaulting him with sharp weapons.

DU unit president Tipu, however, denied the allegation and said Salman has been involved in the BCL politics since the 1/11 changeover.

BCL university unit leaders handed over six Zia hall residents--Zakaria Rahman Ziku, a student of English, Selim Reza of Sociology, Shafiqullah Shihan of Psychology, Bullet of Peace and Conflict, Touhidul Islam of Political Science and Ruhul Karim of History, and Kamal, a Dhaka College student to police for their involvement in the violence, police sources said.

Students belonging to BCL politics feared the recurrence of such incident at Sir AF Rahman Hall and Salimullah Muslim Hall if the migration of identified JCD men to BCL politics continued to go on.