

15 injured as BCL, JCD clash at BAU

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AT LEAST 15 people, including a journalist, were injured in a clash between the ruling Awami League's student front Bangladesh Chhatra League and the main opposition BNP's student front Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal at Bangladesh Agricultural University on Saturday noon.

Witnesses said that they had heard gunshots as activists of the two organisations clashed. Police deployment on the campus was reinforced after the incident.

The Kotwali police officer-in-charge, Fazlul Karim, however, said that the clash

had taken outside the campus. The atmosphere of the campus is peaceful.

The admission test at the university ended at midday in a festive atmosphere, witnesses said.

The university unit Chhatra Dal brought out a procession about 12:15pm welcoming the admission seekers and when the procession came out from Kamal Ranjit Market near the campus, the university unit Chhatra League attacked JCD activists. At least 15 of both the groups were injured.

Chhatra League beat Maruf Gani, 25, vice-president of the university unit Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal. He was seriously injured. The

Mymensingh correspondent of Mohana Television Ripon Goala was also seriously injured.

Chhatra League leaders and activists then stood guard at the main entrance to the campus when sounds of gunshots were heard.

Witnesses said that the policemen on duty remained silent when the clash took place.

Chhatra Dal men, joined in by some local people, later chased Chhatra League leaders and activists.

After some time, BCL leaders and activists brought out a procession welcoming the admission seekers.

The injured include university unit Chhatra Dal joint secretary AFM Salam

Russell, leader Rafiqul Islam Rifat, and activist Farhad, Fazlul Haque Hall unit Chhatra League president Md Sajjad Hossain, secretary Sultan Mahmud and activists Shuvo and Sumon.

Maruf, Farhad, and Ripon were admitted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital and others to the university medical centre.

The Chhatra Dal unit president Yar Mahmud said, 'Chhatra League activists attacked us when we brought out a procession welcoming admission-seekers.'

The Chhatra League unit secretary AR Mahmud said that JCD men along with some outsiders had attacked them.