



Left: Resident students of Shamsunnahar Hall of Dhaka University vacating the hall following closure of the university by the authority for indefinite period. Right: The students of Dhaka University braving heavy shower staged demonstration in front of Rokeya Hall on Sunday protesting the police attack at Shamsunnahar Hall.

—OBSERVER

Vow to enter restricted areas today

DU students vacate halls

Varsity Correspondent

The Dhaka University authorities with the help of police and para military Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) flushed out the resident students from all the dormitories of the university on Sunday. Initially the students defied the directive of the university to vacate the halls, but later gave in and by Sunday evening all the dormitories were emptied by them.

Students of Rokeya Hall showed some stubbornness and stayed in the dorm till 6 p.m. The authorities to flush out the girls cut off the water lines in the hall. The girls had to leave the hall finally.

Despite evacuation of the dor-

mitories protesters demonstrated on the campus till the end of the day on Sunday. Besides the common students, activists of Awami League-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) and other left leaning organisation were there.

The students vowed to continue their movement till stepping down of the Vice-Chancellor. They staged a sit in demonstration in front of Rokeya Hall defying presence of huge police and paramilitary forces.

Scorching humid heat and the heavy monsoon shower could not disperse students until a little rift occurred among them over the

mode of operation of the movement in the evening.

The students under the banner of "Students Against Repression" will go on a fast unto death at the central Shaheed Minar today (Monday). But some students differed with them saying they would continue the protest staying inside Rokeya Hall defying authorities' order.

As some teachers suggested them not to stay at the hall, they announced a mass-student rally in front of the hall today (Monday).

Police and paramilitary BDR forces sealed all entry points of the university campus since the announcement of closure. An

warlike situation was prevailing on the campus.

Barbed-wire fences were put up at Shahbag, Nilkhet, Bakhshibazar, High Court and Chankharpool points.

The security personnel refused to allow anybody, even the press, to sneak into the campus.

Despite authorities directed all to vacate all the dormitories by 8:00 am, some students, mainly activists of ruling party's student front, were still staying in different dormitories, witnesses said.

For the first time after the police assault on the female dormitory, one person from the university administration on Sunday admitted the incident and sought apology from the students.

The newly appointed Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof AFM Yousuf Haider apologised to the students for the incident.

He asked the female students, still remaining in Rokeya Hall, to leave the dormitory as the authorities took the decision to vacate the halls.

The agitating protesters declared the Rokeya Hall area "free zone" chanting overheated slogans against the authorities for Tuesday's predawn barbaric police

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DU students
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assault on female students at Shamsunnahar Hall.

They sat with various poster and cartoons and performed street-drama and sang songs at the "free-zone".

As per the decision of Saturday's requisition meeting, the Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) brought out a silent procession on the campus.

About 300 teachers participated in the procession that ended at the Central Shaheed Minar holding a brief rally there. DUTA general secretary Prof Sharif Ullah Bhuiyan, Prof Anisuzzaman and Prof Humayun Azad addressed it.

Some other DU teachers also marched towards Ramna thana with roses in their hands to place where their girl students were detained.