

Chemistry teacher defies Taliban in Pak university attack

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Charsadda

A CHEMISTRY teacher

who tried to protect his students by opening fire on Taliban militants during a deadly attack at a Pakistani university has been hailed as a 'martyr' and a 'gentle-

man'.

Lecturer Syed Hamid Husain, an assistant professor of chemistry at the Bacha Khan university in Charsadda, ordered his students to stay inside as Taliban gunmen stormed the school near the city of Peshawar on Wednesday, leaving at least 21 people dead.

Students told of how he opened fire on gunmen as they rampaged across campus, giving the young people time to flee before he was cut down in a hail of bullets.

'We saw three terrorists shouting, "Allah is great!" and rushing towards the stairs of our department,' one man told reporters.

'One student jumped out

of the classroom through the window. We never saw him get up.'

He described seeing Husain holding a pistol and firing at the attackers.

'Then we saw him fall down and as the terrorists entered the (registrar) office

we ran away,'

Geology student Zahoor Ahmed said Husain had warned him not to leave the

campus, giving the young people time to flee before he was cut down in a hail of bullets.

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