

Dhaka Univ cuts all ties with Pakistan

DU Correspondent

THE Dhaka University on Monday decided to sever all academic relations with Pakistan.

The university syndicate resolved that the relations would remain severed until Pakistan apologised officially.

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for the crimes it committed during Bangladesh's War for Independence in 1971.

Dhaka University vice-chancellor AAMS Arefin Siddique announced the decision at a briefing after an emergency meeting of the syndicate.

'We have cut all bilateral relations including memorandums of understanding for exchange of teachers and students, cultural exchange, sports and visit with Pakistan from today [Monday] as Pakistan has denied that it committed genocide during the War for Independence,' Arefin said.

He also called upon the government to sever all

diplomatic ties with Pakistan for 'the audacity it had shown over Bangladesh's war crimes trial.'

Terming Pakistan a terrorist country, Arefin urged the government to raise its voices to scrap Pakistan's membership of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

The government should appeal to the United Nations to cancel Pakistan's membership as the country's stance is against the spirit of the organisation, he added.

Arefin demanded trial of 195 Pakistani army officials, who were detained for committing war crimes in 1971.

'If anyone of them dies, he should be tried posthumously,' he said.

After the executions of war crimes convicts Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed and Salauddin Quader Chowdhury, Pakistan issued a statement denying that they committed genocide in Bangladesh in 1971.

Bangladesh summoned the Pakistan high commissioner in Dhaka and Pakistan also summoned acting high commissioner of Bangladesh in Islamabad over the matter.

Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers Association and Dhaka University Teachers Association president Farid Uddin Ahmed said that they would hold a meeting with its all members soon to make a decision in this regard.