

ULAB students begin hunger strike demanding VC's resignation

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Students of the University Of Liberal Arts Bangladesh on Thursday began hunger strike, demanding resignation of vice-chancellor Imran Rahman.

Under the banner of Students Against Fascism they began the hunger strike in front of the campus' main gate in Mohammadpur in Dhaka city from afternoon on the day to press home their five-point demand, including the VC's resignation and removal of the trustee members who allegedly collaborated with the fascist regime and were involved in corruption.

The other demands included resignation of all the members of the disciplinary committee and proctorial body admitting to their taking anti-student decisions, reforms in the university's code of conduct based on opinions from all stakeholders, including students and abolition of all the repressive provisions from the university's rules and regulations.

The hunger strike continued when the report was filed at about 9:00pm.

The university's Bangla department student Farhan Hasan Barno said that the protesters would continue the hunger strike until their demands were met.

Student Movement Against Discrimination, a platform that led the July uprising, expressed solidarity with the protest with the platform's chief organiser Abdul Hannan Masud met with them in the evening.

The private university unit of Socialist Students' Front in a statement also expressed solidarity with the protest.

The student protest was sparked after the ULAB administration, on December 29, 2024, placed two students on probation for creating graffiti on campus, terming the act as a violation of the institution's code of conduct and gave an ultimatum to remove the graffiti by December 31.

Facing protests, the authorities withdrew the probation but failed to appease the protesters.

Protesting students on Wednesday blocked the main entrance to the campus till midnight. They lifted the blockade with a 12-hour ultimatum, saying that they would go on hunger strike if their demands were not met.