Cumilla Victoria College principal attacked

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The principal of Cumilla Victoria Government College, Professor Mohammad Abul Bashar Bhuiyan, along with several other teachers, was injured during an incident between two groups over the firing of an imam at the mosque of college on Friday.

At the time, all teachers, including the vice-principal and principal, were trapped inside the college's administrative building.

Local youths and teenagers attacked the principal before the jumma prayers began on Friday.

When students from the nearby Nazrul Hall gathered, locals attacked them as well.

The police arrived on the scene, but initially retreated due to the locals' aggression, later re-entering the college.

Gazi Mohammad Golam Sohrab Hasan, secretary of the college teachers' council, stated, 'The principal and other teachers have been injured in the attack. We are now confined.'

He also mentioned that the incident stemmed from the dismissal of the imam.

It is known that on January 13, a clash occurred between two factions of the Tablighi Jamaat – followers of Maulana Saad and Maulana Jubayer – at the college's degree branch mosque.

Following this, on January 20, Mohammad Abul Bashar Bhuiyan announced the temporary suspension of the weekly Tablighi Jamaat teaching sessions. Due to ongoing disagreements, on January 21, students from Nazrul Hall and local residents from Dharmpur confined the principal from 11:20am to 12:40pm.

In the first week of February, the college administration dismissed the imam, Mohammad Maruf Billah, after multiple allegations. Subsequently, on February 18, a new recruitment advertisement was published.

A local faction has been demanding the reinstatement of the imam before every Friday prayer, leading to regular clashes between locals, college students, and teachers.

Mahinul Islam, officer-in-charge of Kotwali model police station in Cumilla, said, 'We received reports of scuffles and went to the scene.'