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The Bangladesh Times

Rival student groups clash on DU campus

DU Correspondent

Violence flared up once again on Dhaka University campus on Friday as two rival students organisations pro BNP Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Jatiya Chhatra Samaj, the student wing Jatiya Party, were engaged in a clash.

Five members of JCD were wounded and at least 15 rounds of gunshots were fired during the clash.

JCD will observe a day-long strike at DU campus on May 11 protesting the incident. It will also hold a protest rally today (Saturday) protesting the incident.

At least four people—two students, a university employee and an outsider were injured during the hourlong trouble.

Panic gripped the general students and the admission seekers of the arts faculty (Kha unit) who came to sit for a test at the university.

Campus sources said the clash ensued at about 11 am when the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal workers, after holding a welcome rally for the admission seekers, were passing the DUCSU Bhaban on way to Madhu's canteen.

The activists of Jatiya Chhatra Samaj, who were holding a rally in front of DUCSU Bhaban then clashed with the JCD workers. At least 12 gunshots were fired.

Chhatra Samaj activists took position near the Central Library premises and fired gunshots towards the Madhu's canteen, where the JCD workers have taken shelter.

Police lobbed seven rounds of tear gas shells to disperse the trouble makers.

Meanwhile, another scuffle took place between the workers of Bangladesh Chhatra League and JCD in front of the Proctor's Office that left two JCD workers Mahmud and Zahir injured.

The two student bodies confronted each other as some BCL leaders went to the Proctor to inform him about the clash going on between the JCD and the Chhatra Samaj at that time.

University employee Harun and an outsider, Ratan were wounded when police, posted on the campus, rushed to the spot and charged batons on

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the BCL and JCD workers. Both of the injured were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

All the student organisations brought out separate processions on the campus in the morning welcoming the Kha unit admission-seekers.

After the clashes, JCD held a protest rally at Mall Chattar where its general secretary Habibunnabi Sohel blamed BCL and Chhatra Samaj for the incidents.

Vice Chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury visited the Arts Building, Madhu's canteen and Mall Chattar after the clashes.

The VC asked the police to take immediate action against those involved in creating trouble on the campus.