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10 injured in BCL-Shibir gunfight in Islamic Varsity

Our Correspondent

JEHNIDAH, July 23:—At least ten persons including a construction worker were injured in a gunfight between the supporters of Jamaat-e-Islami backed Islami Chhatra Shibir and ruling party backed Bangladesh Chhatra League on the Islamic University campus in Kushtia this afternoon.

Earlier, on Wednesday, 20 persons including 11 teachers of the university were injured in a series of armed clashes between these two rival student organisations reportedly over boarding a university bus by some students.

Sources quoting the eye-witnesses said that several hundred Chhatra League supporters, who were ousted from the campus by the Shibir workers on Wednesday, when attempted to enter the campus through the main gate at about 12.30 p.m. were attacked by the Shibir workers. The Shibir workers opened fire at the Chhatra League supporters and chased them. Chhatra League supporters at this stage encountered the attackers with bombs, crackers and

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10 injured

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gun shots turning the main gate area into a battle field. Both the group exchanged more than one hundred rounds of shots and blasted several hundred bombs during the clash.

Police reportedly played silent role during the clash. None of the trouble makers was arrested by the police.

A Chhatra League supporter Akhtar Hossain was admitted to Kushtia Hospital with bullet wounds while Ahmed Ali, a construction worker was admitted to Islamic University Medical Centre. Several others were given first aid from different hospitals and private clinics.

A tense situation has been prevailing in and around the campus. Armed police have been deployed on the campus to avoid clash and maintain law and order.

Dr. Alauddin, convener and A.K.M. Maniruzzaman, member secretary of Shapla forum, an organisation of the pro-liberation progressive teachers of Islamic University, in a statement this evening condemned the incident and demanded arrest and trial of the persons responsible for the Wednesday's incident.

The scheduled meeting of the university authorities could not be held today due to the armed clash and tense situation.