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One killed as BCL factions clash in Alia Madrasa

Staff Correspondent

A student of Dhaka Alia Madrasa was killed and 30 other injured, 15 of them critically in an armed clash between two factions of ruling party's student wing Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) at the Madrasa's Allama Kashgaree Student Dormitory in the early hours of Sunday.

The victim was identified as Ibrahim (27), a student of Fazel Class and leader of Ibrahim-Sagar Faction of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL). He was a non-resident student, Madrasa sources said.

Madrasa authorities in an emergency meeting on Sunday afternoon asked the resident students to vacate their halls by Sunday evening.

Most of the resident students left their dormitories till the time of filing this report at about 9.30 p.m. on Sunday.

Fifteen critically injured persons were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital and Sir Salimullah Medical College Hospital while several others were released after first aid.

Police arrested 15 persons in connection with the incident. It also conducted a massive search in the student dormitory soon after the incident and recovered two modern guns, two pipe guns, 24 rounds of

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live 303 rifles ammunition, three rounds of gun cartridges nine hand bombs, cocktails, hockey sticks and a huge quantity of gun powder and articles for manufacturing bombs.

According to witnesses the clash ensued when a group of outsider allegedly led by Ibrahim and Sagar attacked the Allama Kashgaree Student Dormitory at about 11.45 p.m. The attackers rushed to the hall premises by a microbus and opened fire on the night guard and general students.

Sensing the gun attack the activists of Nazim-Munir Group came out and were locked into an armed clash. They chased each other by blasting bombs and crackers. Both the groups also exchanged more than 50 rounds of gun shots leaving several persons injured. The clash lasted for about two hours.

A contingent of police from Kotwali and Lalbagh Police Stations rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control by resorting to baton charge and firing teargas shells. The police contingent led by the Assistant Commissioner Kotwali Zone picked up 15 injured persons and took them to Sir Salimullah Medical College Hospital and Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Doctors at Salimullah Medical College Hospital declared Ibrahim dead. Several others were given first aid.

The arrested youths are Biltu, Arif, Meskauddin, Mohammad Moazzem Samsul Haque alias Mintu, Swapan Sarkar, Kamal alias Mahfuzur Rahman, Shahadat Hossain, Ibrahim, Abdus Salam, Mohammad Noman and Abul Hossain.