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## Hold Examination And End Differences

To go by newspaper reports, DU campus is yet to quieten down, return to normal and resume its academic schedules, particularly that connected with an examination that has been all but botched both by a student strike and the administration handling it clumsily. It needs to be seriously understood that a university examination (Honours to Masters) seriously matters to the students taking it, both for the next higher course of studies at the university or abroad or of simply for a post-university career.

Examinees that sat for their examination on October 13th amidst turmoil must have done so under great stress, and those who kept away from it have sustained a much greater loss. It is easy to see those who have taken this examination on schedule would have performed much better, had they done it in a quiet normal milieu, for better results etc. So the loss, soberly considered, is a shared one, varying in degree only.

The common present demand from those who did not do their exam on the set date is to be given the chance to do it now. The ball, so to say, is clearly now in the university administration's court. And the sensible course for it to take is: not to join battle with the students, but to comply with the wishes and demand of the students concerned, from a sense of sympathy and compassion as well as prudence and as the right administrative means of defusing any student-administration problem.

Doing so, it will be no stooping on the part of the university authorities, — that is, holding the examination again in the given case. The purpose and policy need to be a full return to normalcy on the campus. And that depends more on how the university authorities respond to student expectations and wishes: it can be with a genuine exercise of sympathy or a harsh gesture of anger and revenge and so on.

We, for ourselves, would hold the latter line of action or reaction by the university would be wholly out of place where academic institutions, universities in special included, are concerned. One reason why the university campuses have plunged into a battleground of sorts between students and university authorities is this basic lack (administrative compassion) of good will between students and teachers or/and between the university administration and the students. The expected scenario of campus good relations will emerge more from universities showing a genuine interest, demonstrated by it, in attending to students' problems and do their best for good relations to prevail among student groups cutting across political or other divisions.

The teacher and the administration—the Vice-Chancellor in special—need to be seen always independently acting on their own in keeping with the traditional dignity and status that attaches to Dhaka University. It's a pity this is exactly where Dhaka University appears to be failing.

It is time students, teachers and the university administration put their differences behind them and pull (together) their institution out of the quagmire into which it is sinking. Democracy is a matter both of rights and responsibilities for both sides—here, the university authorities and the students.

Compassion and not passion may in such cases help sort out the crisis.

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