



Every week in this column, VIEWPOINT, we print opinions of our readers on subjects which we feel are of popular interest and concern. The opinions, however, do not always coincide with those of HOLIDAY'

## Terrorism and strike at Ctg. varsity

By ABDUN NOOR

Now-a-days "terrorism" is a word widely used in politics, both national and international. A few months ago President Reagan had ordered an air attack on the residence of the Libyan leader Muammer Gaddafi. for the latter's alleged involvement in terrorism.

But according to what standard one can justify the American military action as an act for peace?

The question is, what does the word terrorism mean? It is reported that even the experts of the SAARC countries in a recent meeting held in Kathmandu, have found it difficult to reach to an agreeable definition of "terrorism". However, in the domestic front, the news of class boycott by a section of Chittagong University (EU) teachers for alleged

terrorism on the campus has got prominence in some newspapers. In early October of this year, a group of CU Each group of teachers has terrorism on the campus teachers came out with a

exists at the varsity and that until the alleged terrorism is completely eliminated, they would go on boycotting their classes.

On the other hand, another group of teachers claimed complete normalcy on the campus and they have been taking their classes regularly. The latter group of teachers have also termed the strike decision of the former group of teachers as illegal as per the constitution of the Teacher's Association (TA) and the existing rules of the country.

A couple of months has already elapsed but

solution to break term of four years. This viable this statemate, has yet been evolved. The silent sufferers have become the thousands of innocent students of the university and their worried guardians. To have a clear understanding of the situation, one has to go back to the history of teacher's grouping at C.U.

## BACKGROUND OF THE PEOPLE

In the early eighties, the teachers of C.U have become sharply divided. into two opposite groups over the implementation of the \*Chittagong University Act, 1973. The Act has introduced the process of electing. It is alleged by the nonthe Vice-Chancelici, the teacher's representatives in the Academic Council, the Syndicate and the Senate.

In democracy, the inevitable results of election process are the divisions and groupings among the electors. The C.U is not an exception to this process. since then become restless, and their misbehaviour with complaint that terrorism in getting the elected posts some teachers. The question filled up by their nominated, is, how far such allegations

> found more active in group teachers? activities than performing doing of resarch and taking ties of Bangladesh, besieging of classes. Hardly anybody, the vice-Chancellors's office carse for this opportunity and the Syndicate meeting by cost since there is no system , the demonstrating students of making the teachers accountable for their duties phenomenon in the history at the university level.

- In 1985, Professore Mohammed Ali of English department, after securing the highest member of votes in the Senate had been appointed as the Vice-Chancellor of C.U for a

naturally disappointed one group of teachers who could not find their group leader as the Vice-Chancellor (V.C.).

Since then, they have started playing the role of opposition by criticizing the policies and actions of Prof Ali, instigating the students against the V.C., creating obstacles in university administration, etc.

Needless to say that the ongoing strike on the pretext of alleged terrorism on the campus is a part of this pincess.

## TEACHER'S STRIKE

striking teachers that the motive behind the present strike in the name of Teachers Association is more political than the expressed reason. The present strike of teachers is in support of their demand for the punishment of a section of students for their alleged canoidates. provide a good ground for Some of the teachers are continuous strike by the

It is to be noted here their professional duties like that like the other universiare not however uncommon of C.U.

In 1977, Mansur, a student of management department was brutally murdered by his opponents in broad daylight. In 1982, some senior teachers of the university were physically

assaulted by a section of unruly students and the campus club of the teachers was also completely burnt by them.

But none of the previous incidents has been made an issue for continuous strike by the Teacher's Association.

It is alleged that the present strike of the teachers is a blueprint of few activists controlling the executive Committee of the Teacher's Association. It was October 8, 1987, when some demonstrating students went to record their protest against the examination scandle of the management department to the ongoing Syndicate meeting of the varsity, two of the teacher representatives of the Syndicate are reported to have threatened to close down the University.

On the following day, the Teachers' Association in an emergency meeting has decided for continuous i strike allegating against? terrorism on the campus with the presence of only one-tenth of its members. But a large number of teachers has immediately expressed their disagreement with the strike decision of

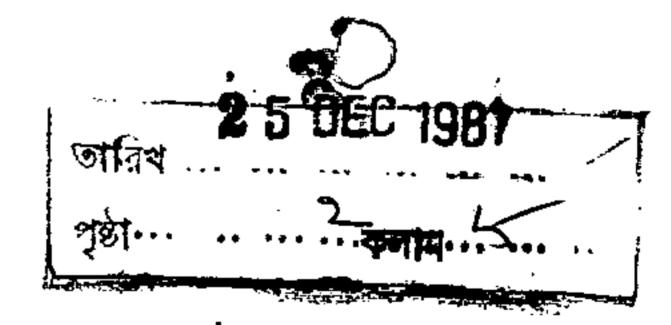
the Association. They have alleged that the meeting of the Associa-

tion of 9th October, 1987, was arranged hurriedly on a holiday (Friday) in the town club instead of University campus. Even the notification for the meeting was not served among the

They have further claimed that the situation on the campus is quite normal, and ignoring the strike See Page 7

general teachers.

The Holiday



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decision of the association, they have continued taking their routine classes from October 10, 1987.

On the other hand, the University authority in an official statement has challenged the validity of the strike decision of the Teacher's association since no previous notice was given to the authority before

going for continuous strike. Meanwhile, a leaflet in the name of "Chhatra Andolon Parishad" has alleged that the strike programme in the name of the Teacher's Association has been taken in order to divert the attention of the teachers and students from the issue of examination scandla of the Managemente department where the President of the Teacher's Association in involved.

(To be continued)