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27 JUL 1998

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## Tuition fee: Strike at DU begins

By DU Correspondent

All academic and administrative work at the Dhaka University remained suspended yesterday on the first day of the two-day strike called by different student organisations and a resistance committee to press the demand for withdrawal of the authorities' decision to increase tuition fees and other charges.

No examination scheduled for yesterday was held due to the strike. The student bodies and a section of 'general students' led by the resistance committee brought out separate processions and held rallies on the campus protesting the authorities' decision.

The 'general students' burnt leaflets distributed by the DU authorities which, the students said, gave false information. The leaflets distributed among students said that the raise in tuition fee was reasonable.

Earlier on Saturday the student organisations rejected a proposal by the Vice-Chancellor of the university to reduce

Tk 240 from the tuition fees and other charges.

Ganatantrik Chhatra Oikya (GCO), an alliance of four left-leaning student bodies, held a rally on the campus during the strike. The rally was addressed by, among others, Monjur-e-Khoda Torik, Diponker Shaha Dipu, Saifur Rahman Topan and Imam Gazzali.

Another platform of four student bodies — Bangladesh Chhatra Federation (BCF), Biplobi Chhatra Maitri (BCM), Jatiya Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Chhatra Oikya Forum (COF) — held a rally on the campus.

The ruling party-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) organised a rally on the campus, extending their support for the demand of 'general students'. The BCL rally was addressed by, among others, Enamul Haque Shamim, Ishaque Ali Khan Panna and Bahadur Bepari.

Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), student wing of the oppo-

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sition BNP, also brought out a procession and later held a rally protesting the authorities' decision to raise tuition fees.

The JCD rally, held in front of the Arts Faculty building, was addressed by, among others, Nasiruddin Pintu, Habib-Un-Nabi Shohel, Monzur-e-Elahi, and Monwar Hossain Rana.

JSD-backed Bangladesh Chhatra League (Chunnu-Karim) also brought out a procession and held a rally on the campus during the strike. It was addressed by, among others, Obidur Rahman Chunnu, Karim Shikder, Munir Ahmed Lanin and Monirul Kabir Milon.

A section of students alleged that activists of the BCL forced them to participate in its procession and rally.

Witnesses said that entrances of Mohsin and Surya Sen Halls were locked in the morning and those preparing to join the processions of 'general students' and the GCO were forced to join the BCL procession and rally.

Meanwhile, a leader of Samajtantrik Chhatra Front DU unit Sazidul Haque Romel was assaulted at Mohsin Hall by BCL activists for mobilising general students for the ongoing movement. Front leaders alleged.