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## Police intercepts BCU procession: 8 hurt

By DU Correspondent

At least eight activists of Bangladesh Chhatra Union (BCU) were injured when its procession was came under police attack near Kadam Foara (Kadam Fountain) in the city yesterday noon.

The pre-scheduled procession, brought out from the Dhaka University campus was on way to the Home Ministry. Earlier, the left leaning BCU had announced to lay siege the ministry and submit a memorandum to the minister demanding immediate arrest and trial of the killers of Proton Kumar Dasgupta, a Jatiya Parishad member of BCU. He was allegedly killed by pro-Awami League armed men at Habiganj recently.

The procession was intercepted at a spot near National Press Club by police at around 1:00 am. Police swooped on the procession from behind when it turned back to its central office and the delegation was moving towards the ministry following an understanding with police, a number of BCU activists claimed.

Police also picked up nine BCU men including its president Monjur-e-Khoda Torik and general secretary Hasan Tariq Chowdhury Sohel from the spot. However, all the arrested were released in the afternoon.

The injured were identified as Sahin Hawlader, Saidur Rahman Rubel, Salauddin Rasel, Chowdhury Apu, Asaduzzaman Chowdhury Joy, Kamrul Ahsan Kamol, Shipan and

Prodip Gosh. They were treated at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Later BCU brought out a procession on the campus protesting the incident and announced that they would stage demonstrations and hold rallies across the country tomorrow.

The announcement came from a rally held in front of the DU Teachers and Students Centre (TSC) intersection in the afternoon.

Addressing the rally, BCU leaders strongly condemned the police attack, saying "instead of arresting the killers police attacked us, it proves that the role of government is not neutral."

They also urged the student community to be united to unseat the government, who 'sponsors terrorists' and has failed to stop terrorism across the country.

Among others, Hasan Tariq Chowdhury Sohel, Nadira Sultana Nodi and Mahbubur Rahman addressed the rally.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh Chhatra Moitry (BCM), a left leaning student organisation condemned the incident.

In a statement, Ziaul Haq Zia and Dipanker Saha Dipu, BCM president and general secretary respectively said, "the government is involved in conspiracy to halt the democratic movements in an undemocratic way by its terrorists and police."

They also demanded fair investigation of the incident and exemplary punishment of those involved.