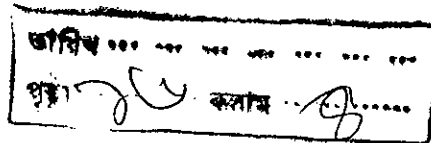


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DU hall capturing spree on BSS newsman roughed up, Madhu's Canteen rampaged by JCD-men

Varsity Correspondent

On a single-party dominated Dhaka University campus, the supporters of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) on Monday assaulted a journalist and went on a rampage inside the Madhu's Canteen to what it said, display their dominance in the university.

The JCD activists attacked Swapan Bose, a staff reporter of the national news agency Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS), and assaulted him in front of the university's Central Library on Monday noon.

Witnesses said a group of JCD activists led by one Asif of Jasimuddin Hall chased Swapan when he came to Madhu's Canteen. Frightened Swapan ran towards TSC for shelter, but the JCD men nabbed him from TSC area, took to the Central Library premises and beat mercilessly.

Some photojournalists also fell victim of the attack by the JCD activists. The camera of a photojournalist of The Daily Pratham Alo was damaged during the incident. The JCD activists threatened the photojournalists not to take snaps of the incident.

Later, senior leaders of the BNP's student wing JCD rescued Swapan, who was a leader of Awami League's student wing Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) during his student life in Dhaka University.

Meanwhile, the cadres of JCD fired about 30 rounds of blank shots from the university's Sergeant Zahurul Huq Hall and Salimullah Hall as a demonstration of their strength, the residents of the halls said.

In another incident, being failed to occupy the Zahurul Huq Hall, the only dormitory that still remains out of JCD's control, supporters of the hall unit JCD rushed to the Madhu's Canteen and started ransacking the canteen's chair, table and utensils on Monday, witnesses said.

The activists led by Zahurul Huq Hall unit JCD General Secretary Rahad blamed the central JCD leadership and hurled abuse on them for "patronising" Mainuddin Babu, General Secretary of the hall unit BCL.

Babu reportedly changed his political colour after JCD took over the control of the university's other dormitories and was staying in the hall under the shelter of JCD President Nasiruddin Pintu and JCD DU unit General Secretary Mostafizul Islam Mamun.

According to a resolution taken at a general meeting of DU Unit JCD on Saturday, the organisation decided not to permit any BCL activists in JCD.

JCD insiders said when the hall unit JCD supporters went to Zahurul Huq Hall on Monday morning, Babu resisted them and said only resident students of the hall would be allowed to enter the hall.

The JCD men alleged that Babu showed firearms and threatened them to open fire. Returning from the hall after an altercation, the angry activists went on rampage in Madhu's Canteen.

JCD sources said that the senior leaders of the organisation vowed to capture the dormitory after the BNP government takes over the state power on Tuesday.