



## Gangsters active on DU campus, attacking girls

Varsity Correspondent

In the wake of the Dhaka University authorities' crusade against obscenity, gangsters are now patrolling TSC and Mall areas on the campus looking out for male-female students to harass them.

Following the authorities' ban on free mixing of male-female students, gangsters belonging to different hall-units of the ruling BNP's student wing Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) reportedly harassed some couples physically and in some cases snatched their valuables.

The authorities recently imposed restrictions on free-mixing of male and female students and chatting at different places on the campus in "objectionable gestures". Terming it a social nuisance, the DU authorities cautioned the students that if anyone is found in an objectionable posture after sunset, he or she would be handed over to police.

Encouraged by the authorities' ban, the gangsters took the chance and formed "Vice-squads" to collect tolls from students and visitors in the name of restoring the university's image, said a lecturer of Political Science.

To some extent, the authorities are right, the teacher said adding. "I don't want to see the campus turned to a park during sunset. Most of the people who sit around the Arts Building and Curzon Hall are outsiders." "But if the authorities engage the gangsters to restore the university's image, the result would be reversed," he added.

Residents of the dormitories adjacent to Arts Building alleged that an organised group extorts outsiders, who come to the campus for amusement in the dark. The authorities fixed several lampposts to resist the intruders, but the gangsters broke the lamps just after installation.

A bulb or fluorescent tube couldn't be found on the following day after installation, they said.

The authorities should resist the acts of the gangsters in groups after sunset to improve the law and order on the campus, said a student adding. "It's also a social nuisance."