

DU authorities silent about 'dual education'

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Many Dhaka University students are simultaneously studying in different colleges under the National University and private universities in violation of rules. The DU authorities are aware of the practice of dual education but cannot take action due to lack of specific complaints against the students concerned, sources said.

A good number of students, mainly from Social Sciences and Arts faculties, are continuing dual education in violation of a rule that says students of a particular institution cannot study at the same level in any other institution.

These students study mostly in Arabic Literature, Persian and Urdu, Sanskrit and Pali, Islamic History and Culture, and Islamic Studies departments.

They are simultaneously studying in different educational institutions including Jagannath College, Dhaka College, Dhaka Alia Madrasa and private universities.

Most of them said they are frustrated with their future as the subjects they are studying offer less job opportunities. Besides, session jam at DU forces some students to think about alternatives.

These students reside in DU halls and most of them stay there year after year, abstaining from their exams, only to do student politics.

Resident students alleged that these students are mainly responsible for the scarcity of seats in different halls as they occupy a large number of rooms.

These students are allegedly creating other problems around the campus. It is alleged that some of them are engaged in extortion and inviting outsiders to the halls.

Campus sources said the DU authorities have recently found some students guilty of such illegal activities but have not taken any drastic step against them.

DU Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Yusuf Haidar admitted the fact that some students are simultaneous studying at DU and other institutions.

"But we cannot do anything for lack of specific complaints. It is very difficult to identify these students unless any one informs us about them," he said.

While talking to some of these students, the Star City correspondent found many reasons behind this illegal practice of dual education.

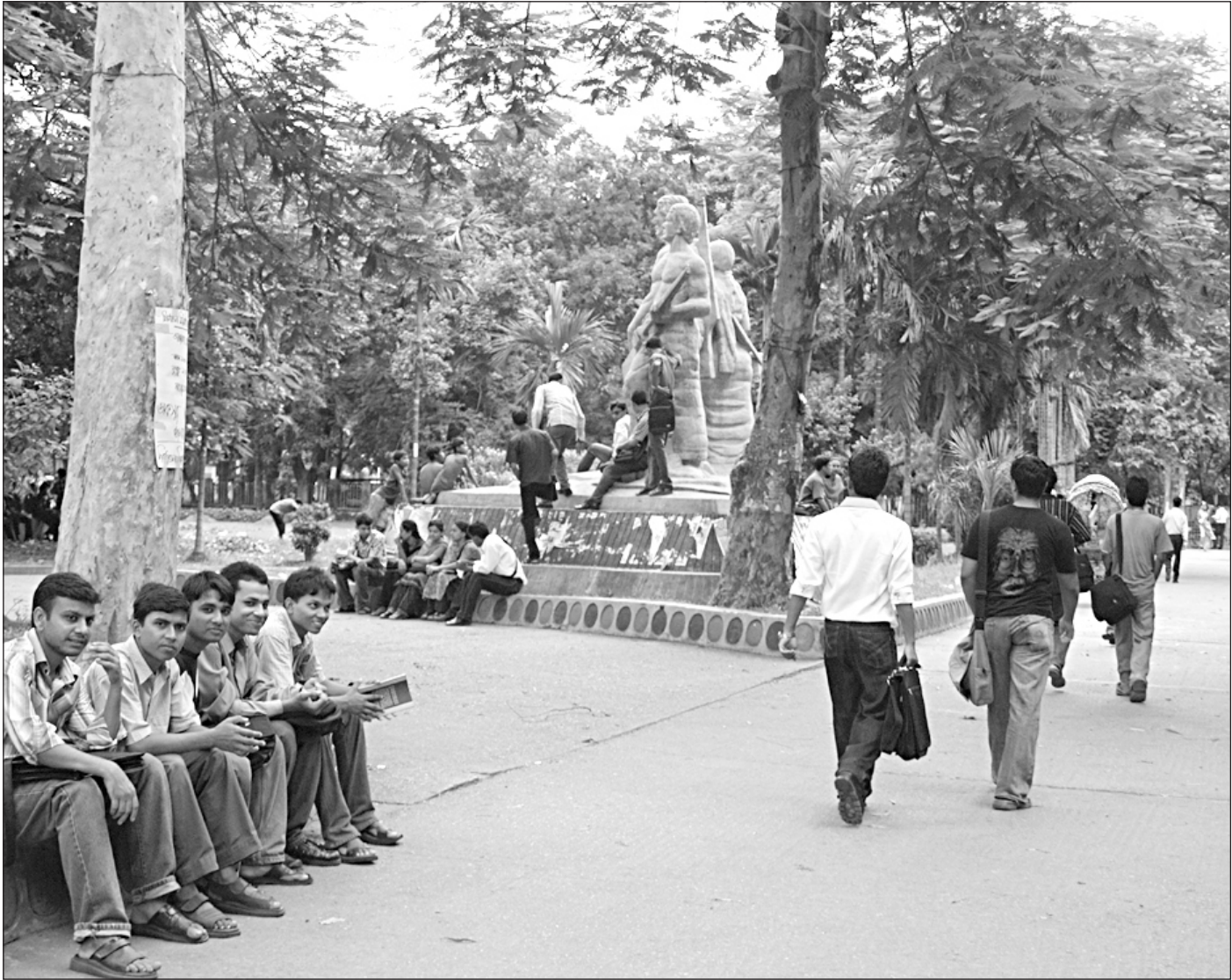
Most of them said they are frustrated with their future as the subjects they are studying offer less job opportunities. That is why they are taking degrees from other institutions.

Besides, session jam at DU forces some students to think about alternatives.

A second-year student of DU Arabic Department who is studying political science at Jagannath College said he does not want to remain jobless after studying Arabic. "A degree in Political Science has better prospect," he said.

Dr Muhammad Fazlur Rahman, chairman of Arabic Literature Department, said such practice might have existed in the past, but during his tenure he received no complaints.

A committee should be formed to investigate this kind of illegal practice and identify the students for taking stern action against them, he suggested.



Dhaka University students, frustrated with serious session jam plan to study in different colleges under the National University.

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