

# 11–13 July 2024: Police start intervening, protests continue

The student movement announced a half-day blockade for 11 July 2024.[1327](#) During the first three days of the 'Bangla Blockade', the police did not interfere with protests.[1328](#) However, on 11 July 2024, the police announced that it would act against road blockades,[1329](#) arguing that no valid justification remained for protests after the temporary suspension of the quota.[1330](#)

Nevertheless, tens of thousands reportedly joined the protests,[1331](#) defied police barricades,[1332](#) and blocked Shahbagh intersection again,[1333](#) as well as major highways[1334](#) and rail tracks.[1335](#) In Dhaka City, police reportedly prevented students from blocking the Science Lab intersection in the afternoon,[1336](#) and prevented students of Dhaka College and Eden Mohila College from joining the Shahbagh blockade by stopping them in New Market area.[1337](#) According to Dhaka Tribune, more police officers were deployed in the area compared to previous days, and further reported on police barricades at Victory Square, Farmgate, Karwan Bazar, Shahbagh, Gulistan, Science Lab, Nilkhet, and Agargaon.[1338](#) Students however broke through police barricades, as well as their campus gates that had been locked to prevent protests.[1339](#) Police clashed with protesters at She-e-Bangla Agricultural University in Shahbagh.[1340](#) Somoy TV reported that one of their reporters and a cameraperson were attacked in the same area.[1341](#)

Students of Jahangirnagar University also broke through the campus gates and defied police barricades in order to block Dhaka–Aricha highway again.[1342](#) They reportedly further defied police instructions to end the blockade within 30 minutes and continued for hours.[1343](#)

At least 30 people were reportedly injured in clashes across the country.[1344](#) In the city of Cumilla, the police tried to disperse students trying to block a road and a railway[1345](#) by making use of teargas[1346](#) and reportedly also by charging with batons[1347](#) and firing rubber bullets.[1348](#) 20 people were reportedly injured due to police intervention in Cumilla,[1349](#) including two journalists.[1350](#) Police also clashed with students in the city of Chattogram.[1351](#) According to Agence-France Presse (AFP), police charged with batons at hundreds of protesters.[1352](#) Police also filed a report accusing students of vandalising police vehicles, and injuring police officers in Shahbagh by beating them up and throwing objects such as water bottles and bricks.[1353](#) Local media footage showed protesters mounting a police vehicle in the area.[1354](#)

During a press conference, the President of the Chhatra League, Saddam Hussain, stated that 'some are trying to use the movement politically and the Chhatra League is ready to face them'.[1355](#) The UN OHCHR later described this statement as an 'apparent threat',[1356](#) and local media outlet the Business Standard reported on the Chhatra League subsequently staging counter-demonstrations close to student protests.[1357](#)

On 12 July 2024, students across the country protested on their respective campuses against what they referred to as 'attacks' on protesters the previous day.[1358](#) In Dhaka, students defied heavy rain flooding parts of the city,[1359](#) and blocked Shahbagh intersection anew, but only for an hour this time, according to local media sources.[1360](#) Local media also reported on students blocking roads and railways,[1361](#) including students of Rajshahi University blocking a nearby railway in the afternoon.[1362](#) In the evening, students of Jahangirnagar University[1363](#) and other educational institutions nearby held simultaneous torch processions.[1364](#) Senior government officials, including the Awami League General Secretary, Obaidul Quader, accused

the opposition of trying to infiltrate the student protest movement and incite anti-government agitations.[1365](#)  
The Minister of Law, Anisul Huq, accused the movement of conspiring with ‘ghosts of the culprits’  
opposing Bangladesh’s independence.[1366](#) The next day, the Detective Branch of Dhaka’s Metropolitan  
Police announced an investigation into alleged infiltration of the protests.[1367](#)

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