

# 1-3 August 2024: Protests reignite

In early August 2024 protests reignited,[1777](#) now calling for the resignation of Hasina and her government.[1778](#) In response, security forces made use of extensive and lethal force.[1779](#)

On 1 August 2024, the student movement launched the protest programme 'Remembering our Heroes',[1780](#) in memory of victims of violence during the quota reform protests.[1781](#) According to Prothom Alo, the programme was observed in at least 16 districts and cities and involved students, teachers, and lawyers. The same source reported on the police obstructing some protests, triggering chases and counter-chases.[1782](#) Several protesters were also arrested.[1783](#) At Rajshahi University a shuffle broke out when teachers tried to prevent police from arresting students on campus,[1784](#) and two journalists were reportedly assaulted[1785](#) by the police.[1786](#)

On 2 August 2024, the student movement announced a programme of prayers, followed by mass demonstrations.[1787](#) Protests took place in Dhaka and other parts of the country,[1788](#) involving hundreds of thousands of protesters.[1789](#) Two people reportedly died during clashes, including one police officer,[1790](#) and more than 100 people were injured, according to Benar News.[1791](#) In some places, police fired rubber bullets and teargas[1792](#) and opened fire on protesters as violence erupted.[1793](#) Awami League supporters attacked protesters in parallel.[1794](#) In Dhaka neighbourhoods, there were some protests taking place without reported clashes, including in Mirpur[1795](#) and Shabagh – despite heavy presence of police and Awami League supporters.[1796](#) In the Dhaka neighbourhood of Uttara, however, clashes erupted,[1797](#) as police fired teargas and stun grenades,[1798](#) and allegedly shot at protesters,[1799](#) while protesters threw stones at them.[1800](#) Awami League supporters also attacked protesters,[1801](#) and reportedly beat women protesters with pipes and pistols.[1802](#)

Clashes also occurred outside Dhaka City,[1803](#) including in the city of Khulna, where police fired teargas and rubber bullets,[1804](#) which triggered clashes and chases.[1805](#) 50 persons were reportedly injured.[1806](#) As the police failed to disperse protesters, they retreated from some situations.[1807](#) Somoy TV reported on protesters attacking two police stations,[1808](#) and Prothom Alo reported on four police officers being beaten 'mercilessly' after having opened fire at protesters from inside a shop at Gallamari Kitchen Market.[1809](#) One police officer died from his injuries.[1810](#) In the Akhalia, a neighbourhood in Sylhet City, police fired sound grenades,[1811](#) rubber bullets[1812](#) and lethal metal pellets,[1813](#) injuring at least 20 people,[1814](#) including a journalist being hit by three bullets[1815](#) in his chest, face and head.[1816](#) In the city of Habiganj, Sylhet Division, protesters clashed with police and Awami League supporters. Some protesters engaged in vandalism and torched the Awami League district office, and hurled bricks at the house of a local lawmaker.[1817](#) According to Prothom Alo, police opened fire at students

approaching them from two sides,[1818](#) while the New Age reported on police firing rubber bullets and teargas shells.[1819](#) In Lakshmipur, Chattogram Division, protesters clashed with Chhatra League and Jubo League activists,[1820](#) and a man carrying firearms was seen chasing protesters.[1821](#)

On 3 August 2024, local media reported on an 'outburst of protests',[1822](#) with blockades of various roads and intersections.[1823](#) Violent clashes were reported in Dhaka City,[1824](#) and in other parts of the country.[1825](#) According to Netra News, at least two people died,[1826](#) including one person killed during clashes in the city of Gazipur[1827](#) and a police officer in the city of Khulna.[1828](#) Hundreds more were injured as security forces shot at crowds.[1829](#) In the city of Bogura, Rajshahi Division, protesters clashed with police firing teargas. Protesters retaliated by throwing bricks and other objects, followed by a chase during which police fired rubber bullets.[1830](#) In the city of Rangpur, the police reportedly shot at protesters, killing seven and injuring 15.[1831](#) In the city of Cumilla, Awami League supporters carried out attacks against protesters.[1832](#) According to UN OHCHR, they were armed with firearms, machetes and iron rods and carried out attacks in 'formations of about 60 men each'. According to the same source, the police did not intervene,[1833](#) while at least 30 people were reportedly injured,[1834](#) some being shot by bullets.[1835](#)

Some protesters engaged in violent acts.[1836](#) In the city of Chattogram, protesters attacked the residence of the Minister of Education,[1837](#) and the mayor's residence, where one person was reportedly shot dead and five were injured by police fire.[1838](#) An office of local media Ekattor TV was also attacked by a mob armed with sticks and stones,[1839](#) and in Shahbagh, protesters reportedly hurled bottles at the police that retreated to a local police station, while the BGB took shelter inside the national museum.[1840](#) In the cities of Sylhet and Khulna, many police officers were reportedly injured in clashes, and one officer died after being beaten by protesters in Khulna.[1841](#) Students from Rajshahi University blocked Dhaka-Rajshahi highway, some vandalised a police box and beat up a DB officer.[1842](#) According to Netra News, the police began retreating from the streets due to the magnitude of protests, and redeploying resources to protect police stations and key installations.[1843](#)

Hasina called upon student coordinators to negotiate and put an end to the violence,[1844](#) but they rejected her calls.[1845](#) Instead, they announced, in the afternoon of 3 August 2024,[1846](#) that their only remaining demand was the government's resignation.[1847](#) They further announced that unless the government adhered, they would initiate a 'non-cooperation movement' on the following day (4 August 2024).[1848](#) Meanwhile, junior military officers increasingly resisted orders to shoot at protesters, and informed the army chief of their unwillingness to do so.[1849](#)

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