

Students Urge Bengali as Official Language
Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.
New York Times Feb 23, 1952;

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CALCUTTA, India, Feb. 22—
The death toll in two days of rioting in Dacca, capital of East Pakistan, rose to six this morning when the police opened fire on a crowd of students and their supporters.

The demonstrators, three of whom were shot yesterday, were demanding that Bengali be made one of the state's official languages. Urdu is Pakistan's national language but 40,000,000 East Pakistanis, comprising more than half of the country's population speak Bengali.

MMR JALAL —

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KARACHI, Pakistan, Feb. 22—News of the first Dacca incident filtered through to Karachi late yesterday. In a press note received early in the morning the Government of East Pakistan acknowledged that one person had been killed on spot and that two others had died of injuries following a club and revolver charge on 7,000 persons, mostly students.

Choudry Mohazzan Hussain,

Chancellor of Dacca University, said today that the students had been peaceful and had remained on grounds of Dacca Medical College near where the incident occurred.

While the Government declares that eighteen persons were wounded. The students assert that six gunshot cases and forty persons with other injuries had been treated.

Today the students announced that they would organize a memorial demonstration and that they would go into mourning for forty days.

Artists in East Pakistan studios of the Pakistan radio refused to perform and yesterday afternoon a majority of the East Pakistan Parliament walked out of the session to protest the "police brutality."

Trouble has been brewing in East Pakistan since last week's Government banning of the Pakistan Observer, East Pakistan's leading English language daily.

MMR JALAL