

Riots, killing, continue in Pakistan

by UPI

KARACHI, Pakistan - At least one person died Sunday when hundreds of protesters blocked roads and hurled stones during a violent political protest in Pakistan.

Sunday's death brought to 35 the number of people killed during street battles in Karachi during the weekend, police said.

The riots erupted between supporters of the country's president and those of its suspended top judge, the BBC reported. When President Pervez Musharraf suspended Judge Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry in March, Chaudhry became the focus for protesters trying to end military rule in Pakistan.

Police Chief Azhar Farooqi Sunday described the streets of Karachi as "very tense."

On Saturday, Chaudhry abandoned plans to speak at a rally in the city after he found his way blocked from the airport. Karachi then turned into a battleground as protesters blocked more roads and threw stones at cars while police fired back, it was reported.

Musharraf declared a state of emergency Saturday and called for Pakistan to unite, the New York Times reported.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

Riots, killing, continue in Pakistan by UPI