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## Assaulted, Dalit student dies

A 19-year-old Dalit student of Satyawati College died on Wednesday, a week after being allegedly thrashed by his seniors.

The police have identified the victim as Akshay Prakash, a first-year student of B.Com (Hons).

Prakash, a resident of Ashok Vihar's Sangam Park area, and his friend Lalit Kumar were brutally thrashed by a second-year student, Prashant Tyagi and his accomplices on September 27. The victims were waiting for a bus outside the college at the time of incident, said police.

According to police, both the victims were assaulted with blunt objects and were rushed to the Sundar Lal Jain Hospital with head injuries.

While Lalit was discharged on Monday, Akshay was on ventilator.

On Wednesday morning, however, Akshay was declared dead by the doctors, police said.

His friends believe Prakash became a victim of caste bias. "On September 20, Tyagi had barged into our classroom, chosen a group of Dalit students and humiliated them, said one of Prakash's classmates, requesting anonymity.

He said Tyagi was incensed because Prakash had complained to the principal, who in turn had suspended the former and asked him to file a showcause notice.

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