Media watch August 8 2022

 Herald Sun

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The truce, which officially started at 11:30 pm (2030 GMT), aims to stem the worst fighting in Gaza since an 11-day war last year devastated the Palestinian coastal territory.

In a statement sent three minutes after the ceasefire began, Israel's army said that "in response to rockets fired toward Israeli territory, the (military) is currently striking a wide range of targets" belonging to Islamic Jihad in Gaza.

While both sides had agreed to the truce, each had warned the other that it would respond with force to any violence.

- 'Respond strongly' -

Buildings in Gaza have been reduced to rubble, while Israelis have been forced to shelter from a barrage of rockets.

Islamic Jihad member Mohammad al-Hindi had already confirmed the militants had accepted the truce, but the group added in a statement that it too "reserves the right to respond" to any aggression.

Israel insists several children in the territory have been killed by stray militant rockets.

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- 'Terrifying' -

"We haven't slept for days (due to) heat and shelling and rockets, the sound of aircraft hovering above us... is terrifying," the 29-year-old said.

"We're tired of having a military operation every year," she said. "We need our military and political leaders to get it over with once and for all... we're not for war, but we can't go on like this."

The Israeli army has said the entire "senior leadership of the military wing of the Islamic Jihad in Gaza has been neutralised".

The army said it had struck over a hundred Islamic Jihad positions, with the militants firing hundreds of rockets and mortars, some of them falling short inside Gaza.

The army has killed senior leaders of Islamic Jihad in Gaza, including Taysir al-Jabari in Gaza City and Khaled Mansour in Rafah in the south.