



Palestinians on Friday inspect the destroyed building in Gaza City that housed offices of AP and other media, after it was hit last week by Israeli airstrike | AP/PTI

# Israel, Hamas agree to ceasefire after days of deadly fighting

## JERUSALEM

ISRAEL and the Palestinian militant group Hamas have agreed to a ceasefire, bringing to an end 11 days of bombardment, the heaviest flare-up since the 2014 Gaza war, that has left over 240 people dead and threatened to destabilise the volatile region.

The ceasefire, which followed mounting pressure from the US, Egypt and other international brokers to halt the violence, came into effect on Friday. The Israeli Security Cabinet voted to accept the ceasefire late Thursday as the Israeli south and Gaza remain inflamed.

However, the truce faced an early test when clashes broke out between Palestinian protesters and Israeli police following Friday prayers at the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound, a flashpoint holy site in Jerusalem that is sacred to Jews and Muslims. It was unclear what sparked the violence.

Police fired stun grenades and tear gas, and Palestinians hurled rocks after hundreds took part in a celebratory demonstration in which they waved Palestinian and Hamas flags and cheered the militant group. Protesters also clashed with Israeli troops in parts of the occupied West Bank, which has seen violent demonstrations in recent days linked to Jerusalem and Gaza.

Celebratory demonstrations took place in the Gaza Strip and West Bank as well. Fireworks, singing, and parades down the streets could be seen in uploaded videos on social media. Both Israel and Hamas have claimed victory in the conflict that has left over 240 people, including an Indian caregiver in Israel, dead.

The Security Cabinet unanimously agreed to a "mutual and unconditional" cessation of hostilities, according to a statement from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Office. "The political leadership emphasised that reality on the ground is what will determine if the campaign continues or not," the statement said.

Netanyahu did however inform the US State Defence Forces to prepare for a scenario in which Hamas did not respond to Egypt's ceasefire offer.

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi thanked US President Joe Biden for his role in the success of the Egyptian brokered ceasefire between Israel and Hamas. He added that both see the urgency in managing the conflict between the parties through diplomacy.

Biden hailed the ceasefire, saying both Palestinians and Israelis deserve to live safely. "I believe the Palestinians and Israelis equally deserve to live safely and securely and to enjoy equal measures of freedom, prosperity, and democracy. My administration will continue our quiet, relentless diplomacy toward that end. I believe we have a genuine opportunity to make progress and I'm committed to working for it," Biden said on Thursday. "We remain committed to working with the United Nations and other international stakeholders to provide rapid humanitarian assistance and to marshal international support for the people of Gaza and the Gaza reconstruction efforts," he said.

Netanyahu said that the ceasefire is a "mutual and unconditional" cessation of hostilities, according to a statement from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Office. "The political leadership emphasised that reality on the ground is what will determine if the campaign continues or not," the statement said.

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## MANAPPURAM FINANCE LTD.

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The pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that public auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below accounts is proposed to be conducted at the following branches on 16/06/2021 from 10.00 am onwards. We are auctioning gold ornaments defaulted customers who have failed to make payment of his/her loan amount despite being notified by registered letters. Unauctioned items shall be auctioned on any other days without further notice. Changes in venue or date (if any) will be displayed at auction centre and on website without any further notice.

List of pledges:-

CUDDLALORE OLD TOWN 125800700036765, 7045 7357, 7384, 7432, 7450, 7461, 7473, 7490, 7582, 7695, 7834, 7885, 7893, 8007, 8061, 8096, 8689, 8707, 8718, 8723, 8737, 8745, 8750, 8755, 8778, 8780, 8788, 8801, 8810, 8812, 8817, 8825, 8833, 8836, 8846, 8850, 8852, 8869, 8873, 8891, 8908, 8909, 8913, 8916, 8931, 8939, 8944, 12580070000189, 8275, 8296, 8331, 8426, 8590, 8619, 8641, 9062, 9064, 9095, 9096, 9102, 9126, 9132, 9138, 9168, 9178, CUDDLALORE, 106760700039070, 9174, 9212, 9321, 9381, 9382, 9391, 9392, 9395, 9401, 9458, 9495, 9507, 9525, 9530, 9545, 9593, 9641, 9688, 9707, 9642, 106760700040115, 0249, 0263, 0264, 0299, 0300, 0302, 0325, 0326, 0334, 0342, 0345, 0346, 0348, 0349, 0358, 0361, 0363, 0394, 0395, 0397, 0399, 0403, 0410, 0411, 106760700005679, 5973, 5974, 6310, 6311, 6313, 6565, 6566, 6567, 6591, 6713, 6907, 6916, 6944, 6945, 6949, 6971, 6981, 6991, 6992, 7018, NELLUKUPPAM CUDDLALORE, 115080700067430, 7656, 7965, 7980, 8060, 8225, 8294, 8398, 8408, 8452, 8472, 8482, 8506, 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