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## Hezbollah rains rockets on Israeli sites

IN RESPONSE, ISRAELI JETS STRIKE  
MILITANTS' COMMAND CENTRES

BEIRUT

Israeli warplanes struck deep into Lebanon for a second consecutive day yesterday, hitting a facility belonging to Hezbollah in the Bekaa Valley and killing at least one member of the Iran-backed group, sources in Lebanon said.

The Israeli military said its fighter jets had "struck two Hezbollah military command centres" in the Baalbek area, in response to Hezbollah rocket launches towards northern Israel earlier in the day.

The violence marked an up-tick of the conflict between Hezbollah and Israel which has been fought in parallel to the Gaza war and fuelled fears of an all-out conflict between the heavily armed adversaries.

Hezbollah said in a statement it had fired more than 100 Katyusha rockets at 7am (0500 GMT), targeting several Israeli military posts, in response to Israeli shelling of the Bekaa Valley region on Monday night.

At least one civilian was killed and several others were wounded in Monday's strikes by Israel, one of which hit the

### 4,500 HEZBOLLAH TARGETS HIT

The Israeli army said yesterday it hit about 4,500 Hezbollah targets in Lebanon and Syria over the past five months, killing 300 of the group's fighters and wounding more than 750.

The targets were hit from the air and from the ground, the army said, and included "weapons storage facilities, military structures intended for Hezbollah's offensive activity and operational command and control centres".

—AFP

southern entrance to the city of Baalbek, about 2km from its ancient Roman ruins, two security sources in Lebanon and the Baalbek governor, Bashir Khader, said.

The Israeli military said that in response to rocket launches, its fighter jets had struck sites in the Baalbek area which Hezbollah used to store "significant assets used to strengthen its weapons arsenal".

—Reuters



### JOYLESS IN GAZA — IFTAR IN THE TIME OF WAR

The first day of Ramadan came and went in Gaza, with residents marking a joyless iftar against a backdrop of famine, disease and displacement as the war in the besieged territory continues more than five months after it began. Seen here is Palestinian Al Naji family as they prepare to end their fast during the first day of the fasting month sitting amidst the ruins of their family house in Deir Al Balah, central Gaza Strip, on Monday. **SEE ALSO P8**

AFP

Ramadan Mubarak



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