



المركز الفلسطيني
للبحوث
السياسية والمسحية
Palestinian Center for
POLICY and
SURVEY RESEARCH

Palestinian Center for Policy and Survey Research (PSR)

Ramallah , Palestine
P.O.Box 76

Tel: +970-2-2964933

Fax: +970-2-2964934

Email: pcpsr@pcpsr.org

Website: www.pcpsr.org

Public Opinion Poll # 2

The Mitchell Report, Cease Fire, and Return to Negotiations; Intifada and Armed Confrontations; Chances for Reconciliation; and, Internal Palestinian Conditions

5-9 July 2001

These are the results of opinion poll # 2, conducted by the Palestinian Center for Policy & Survey Research , between 5-9 July 2001. The poll deals with the Mitchell Report, cease fire, and return to negotiations; intifada and armed confrontations; chances for reconciliation; and, internal Palestinian conditions. The total sample size of this poll is 1318 from Palestinians 18 years and older, of which 812 in the West Bank and 506 in the Gaza Strip. The margin of error is $\pm 3\%$ and the non-response rate is 3%.

MAIN RESULTS:

1. **The Mitchell Report, Cease Fire, and Return to Negotiations**
 - 50% support the PA acceptance of the Mitchell Report and the cease fire, and 46% reject it
 - 63% support immediate return to Palestinian-Israeli negotiations, and 35% oppose it
 - 58% support continuing negotiations from where they stopped in Taba in January 2001, and 33% oppose it
 - 46% believe that the peace process is dead
 - 81% believe that a Palestinian-Israeli agreement would have beneficial economic impact

Despite much pessimism regarding the prospects of a peace process, leading to a large increase in support for armed confrontations (as discussed in the next section), the majority of the Palestinians are supportive of the cease fire efforts

and of a return to negotiations. The results of the survey show that 50% support the PA decision to accept the Mitchell Report and the cease fire, and that 63% support an immediate return to the negotiating table. They also show that 58% support continuing negotiations from the point reached at Taba in January 2001, and that 81% believe that a peace agreement reached between the two sides would have beneficial economic gains. Despite the support for negotiations however, the public is highly pessimistic about the chances of success, with 46% believing that the peace process is dead and that there is no chance of reaching an agreement in the coming years. In our July 2000 poll, in the aftermath of the Camp David Summit, only 23% believed that the peace process was dead.

Support for the Mitchell report and the cease fire increases in the West Bank (54%) compared to the Gaza Strip (43%), in villages and towns (55%) compared to refugee camps (39%), among women (53%) compared to men (46%), among the illiterates (60%) compared to holders of BA degree (46%), among farmers (61%) compared to students (41%), and among Fateh supporters (65%) compared to the supporters of Hamas (38%).

2. Intifada and Armed Confrontations

- If the cease fire agreement collapses, 60% would support return to armed confrontations
- 92% support armed confrontations against the Israeli army in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip
- 58% support armed attacks against Israeli civilians inside Israel and 39% oppose them
- 70% believe that armed confrontations have so far achieved Palestinian rights in ways that negotiations could not, and a similar percentage believe that a return to armed attacks would achieve the same objective
- 75% expect the continuation of armed confrontations
- 93% believe that the intifada had a negative impact on the Palestinian economy
- 91% believe that Arab support for the intifada has been inadequate
- 26% believe that the Palestinian media provide a fair and accurate account of the confrontations, 30% believe that the media is mobilized by the PA and/or sometimes call for confrontations, but 33% believe that the media is mobilized by supporters of the peace process and/or call for end to the intifada

Poll results indicate that despite the current support for the cease fire, the majority (60%) would, in case of its total collapse, support a return to armed confrontations. Yet, the public distinguishes between armed attacks against Israeli soldiers in the West Bank and Gaza, which it overwhelmingly supports (92%) and armed attacks on Israeli civilians inside Israel, supported by 58% and opposed by 39%. This widespread support for armed attacks are apparently the result of three factors: most Palestinians, as seen below, place the goal of "ending occupation" at the top of Palestinian priorities, most believe that negotiations will not succeed, and most believe that armed attacks have so far achieved, and will continue to achieve in the case of a return to it, Palestinian national rights in ways that negotiations could not achieve.

The results show that 70% believe that armed confrontations have achieved national goals that negotiations could not achieve, while 71% believe that such confrontations would achieve the same objectives in the future. Consistent with the pessimistic mood in the street, 75% of the public believe that armed confrontations will continue despite the cease fire.

Despite the widespread support for armed confrontations, 93% believe that the intifada had a harmful impact on the Palestinian national economy, and 80% believe that it had harmed its own economic well-being. Moreover, 91% believe that the Arab support for the intifada has been inadequate. Yet, this does not lead the public to reduce its support for armed confrontations. The reason may lie in the fact that the improvement of economic conditions comes third in the hierarchy of Palestinian priorities after "ending occupation" and "fighting corruption and instituting the rule of law."

The results also show that the public does not believe that the Palestinian media is mobilized by the PA or that it calls for armed confrontations. On this issue the public is divided into three groups: 30% believe that the media is indeed playing such a role, but one third believe that it does the opposite in that it is mobilized by supporters of the peace process and that it calls for ending the intifada and the confrontations, while a quarter believes that it provides an accurate description of the confrontations.

Support for return to armed attacks increases in the Gaza Strip (67%) compared to the West Bank (56%), in villages and towns (56%) compared to refugee camps (69%), among men (65%) compared to women (56%), and among supporters of Hamas (73%) compared to supporters of Fateh (63%) and the non-affiliated (49%). The results also show that the most religious tend to be more supportive of a return to armed confrontations. For example, support increases among those who read Quran every day (66%) compared to those who never read it (52%). Similarly, it increases among those who observe most of religious rules and traditions (66%) and decreases among those who do not (40%).

3. Chances for Reconciliation and Lasting Peace in a Scenario of Successful Negotiations:

- 73% support reconciliation between the two peoples after reaching a peace agreement
- 84% support open borders between Palestine and Israel
- 60% support joint Palestinian-Israeli economic institutions and ventures
- 25% support joint political institutions leading to an Israeli-Palestinian confederation
- 31% support taking legal measures against incitement in the state of Palestine
- 7% support adopting school curriculum that recognises Israel and teaches children not to demand retrun of all Palestine to the Palestinians
- 27% would invite an Israeli colleague to visit at home and 28% would visit an Israeli colleague at his home

- 49% believe that reconciliation is possible, and 38% believe that it is not possible
- 50% believe that a majority of Israelis believes that reconciliation is not possible ever and that 35% believe it to be impossible
- 26% believe that a lasting peace is possible, and 24% believe that a majority of Israelbelieves that it is possible
- 59% expects conflict and violence between Israelis and Palestinians in the next 5 to 10 years

Given the widespread pessimism and the wide support for armed confrontations indicated by the survey results, the levels of support for reconciliation come as a surprise. This is the second time that these recquestions have been asked. The first time occurred in July 2000 after the end of the Camp David Summit. What has been surprising is the fact that no significant changes have occurred on most of the reconciliation indicators. For example, 73% (compared to 75% in the July 2000 survey) continue to support reconciliation between the two peoples once a peace agreement is reached. A large majority of 84% supports open borders and 60% support joint economic institutions and ventures. Moreover, 31% (compared to 38% in the July 2000 survey) support taking legal measures against incitement in the state of Palestine, 27% (compared to 41% in the July) would invite an Israeli colleague to visit at home, and 49% (compared to 48% in July) believe that reconciliation is possible. Twenty six percent (compared to 35% in July) believe that a lasting peace is possible.

Despite the long term flexibility, pessimism dominates the current thinking with 59% of the public expecting violence and confrontations in the future relations between the two sides during the next five to ten years. One year ago, only 31% expected such future.

Support for reconciliation increases among residents of cities (77%) compared to refugee camps (65%), among the old (86%) compared with the young (64%), among the illiterates (85%) compared to holders of BA degree (67%), among the farmers (82%) compared to students (52%), among those with the least income (73%) compared to those with the highest income (65%), and among supporters of Fateh (85%) compared to supporters of Hamas (65%) and the non-affiliated (70%).

4. Priorities, Corruption, Democracy, Arafat's Popularity, and Political Affiliation

- "Ending occupation" is the Palestinian first priority, followed by fighting corruption and instituting the rule of law, providing jobs and improving living conditions, and safeguarding religious values and traditions
- 83% believe that corruption exists in PA institutions, and 57% believe that it will increase or remain the same in the future
- Positive evaluation of Palestinian democracy stands at 21%, but 39% believe that it will be better when the state is established
- 51% believe that people can not criticize the PA without fear
- Arafat's popularity drops to 33%, compared to 46% in July 2000 in the aftermath of the Camp David Summit

- Support for Fateh drops to 29%, compared to 37% in July 2000, but support for the Islamists increases from 17% to 27% during the same period
- 46% prefer to have an Islamic state, like in Iran, after the establishment of a Palestinian state

"Ending occupation" is the first Palestinian priority according to 50% of the public, followed by "fighting corruption and the institution of the rule of law," "providing jobs and improving living conditions," and finally, the "safeguarding of religious values and traditions." This hierarchy of priorities may have led the majority of the public to support armed confrontations, while at the same time reducing the impact of economic factors. The public does clearly see the negative and harmful impact of the intifada on the Palestinian economy, but the consequences of this knowledge are mitigated by the much stronger desire to end occupation.

The results indicate a persistent negative public perception of governance in Palestine. This may explain the decline in support for both Arafat and Fateh. Eighty three percent (compared to 76% in July 2000) believe that corruption exists in PA institutions, and 57% believe that it will increase or remain the same in the future. Positive evaluation of Palestinian democracy remains low, at 21%, while the percentage of those who believe that people can not criticize the PA without fear decreased from 63% in July 2000 to 51% in this poll. The intifada and the subsequent weakening of the PA may have contributed to this decrease.

The popularity of Arafat dropped within a year from 46% in July 2000 to 33% now, while Fateh's support dropped from 37% to 29% during the same period. Support for the Islamists increased from 17% to 27%.

**Results of Public Opinion Poll # (2)
5-9 July 2001**

01. The Palestinian side has accepted the Mitchel report and the cease fire, do you support or oppose this Palestinian step?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
1) Strongly support	7.7	7.6	7.7
2) Support	41.9	45.9	35.4
3) Oppose	30.3	29.9	30.8
4) Strongly oppose	16.0	12.3	21.9
5) Don't know	4.2	4.2	4.2
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

02. Now that both the Israeli and Palestinian sides have accepted the Mitchel report and the cease fire, what in your opinion will happen?

1) Negotiations will resume soon enough and armed confrontations will stop	16.7	17.0	16.2
2) Negotiations will resume but some armed attacks will continue	35.2	34.3	36.8
3) Armed confrontations will not stop and the two sides will not return to negotiations	39.9	38.7	41.9
4) Don't know	8.1	10.0	5.1
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

03. Now that both the Israeli and Palestinian sides have accepted the Mitchel Report and the cease fire, do you strongly support, support, oppose, or strongly oppose the immediate return to Palestinian-Israeli negotiations?

1) Strongly support	11.0	9.9	12.8
2) Support	51.7	54.6	47.0
3) Oppose	23.0	23.6	21.9
3) Strongly oppose	12.1	9.4	16.4

4) No Opinion/ Don't know	2.3	2.6	1.8
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

04. And if the cease fire fails and negotiations do not resume soon, would you or would not you support return to armed confrontations?

1) I would support return to armed confrontations	60.0	55.6	67.3
2) I would support return to unarmed popular confrontations only	18.6	19.5	13.6
3) No Opinion/ Don't know	4.1	5.3	2.2
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

05. Do you believe that the armed confrontations so far have achieved Palestinian rights in a way that negotiations could not?

1) Definitely yes	25.1	19.6	34.0
2) Yes	44.5	47.5	39.7
3) No	22.2	24.0	19.4
4) Definitely no	4.5	3.9	5.3
5) No Opinion/ Don't know	3.6	4.9	1.6
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

06. Do you believe that a return to armed confrontations will achieve Palestinian rights in a way that the negotiations can not?

1) Definitely yes	23.2	16.4	34.3
2) Yes	48.0	52.3	41.0
3) No	20.3	21.3	18.8
4) Definitely no	2.9	2.7	3.2
5) No Opinion/ Don't know	5.5	7.3	2.8
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

07. Since the beginning of the intifada, Arab countries have expressed support for the Palestinian people. How do you evaluate this support?

1) Highly adequate	1.1	0.7	1.6
2) Adequate	7.4	7.8	6.9
3) Inadequate	42.0	44.3	38.1
4) Highly inadequate	48.6	45.8	53.2
5) No opinion/do not know	0.9	1.4	0.2
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

08. In the long run how do you see the prospects for a Palestinian Israeli agreement

1) In the long run, an agreement similar to the Palestinian position presented at Camp David and Taba will be reached	4.5	4.4	4.5
2) A compromise between the Palestinian and Israeli positions at Camp David and Taba will be reached	14.0	14.9	12.5
3) An agreement more favorable to the Israelis than the one discussed at Camp David and Taba will be reached	16.1	16.0	16.2
4) An agreement more favorable to the Palestinians than the one discussed at Camp David and Taba will be reached	7.6	7.0	8.5
5) This is the end to the peace process and No agreement will be reached in the years to come	45.6	43.2	49.6
6) No Opinion/ Don't know	12.2	14.4	8.7
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

09. Five to ten years from now, how do you see relations between Palestinians and Israelis?

1) More peace and	11.1	12.1	9.5
-------------------	------	------	-----

cooperation			
2) Less peace and cooperation	22.4	23.5	20.6
3) Conflict and violence	58.5	54.4	65.0
4) Others (Specify -----)	8.0	10.0	5.0
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

10. How would you evaluate the impact of the Intifada and confrontations on the current economic situation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and also for you and your family?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
10-1 Economic situation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip:			
1) Very positive	0.2	0.1	0.4
2) Somewhat positive	2.0	1.6	2.6
3) Neither positive nor negative	5.2	4.8	5.9
4) Somewhat negative	34.2	33.7	35.0
5) Very negative	58.3	59.6	56.1
6) No opinion/ Don't know	0.1	0.1	0.0
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

10-2 Economic impact for you and your family:

1) Very positive	0.2	0.4	0.0
2) Somewhat positive	2.4	1.7	3.4
3) Neither positive nor negative	17.1	14.9	20.8
4) Somewhat negative	34.2	36.7	30.2
5) Very negative	46.0	46.2	45.7
6) No opinion/ Don't know	0.1	0.1	0.0
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

11. If a Palestinian-Israeli peace agreement is reached, what do you think would be the economic impact on the Palestinian people and on you and your family?

11-1 Economic impact for the Palestinian people in general:

1) Very beneficial	23.3	24.4	21.5
2) Somewhat beneficial	58.0	58.5	57.1
3) No impact	6.8	5.7	8.7
4) Somewhat harmful	5.6	5.3	6.1
5) Very harmful	4.3	3.7	5.3
6) No opinion/ Don't know	2.0	2.5	1.2
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

11-2 Economic impact for you and your family:

1) Very beneficial	21.6	22.4	20.4
2) Somewhat beneficial	52.0	54.6	48.0
3) No impact	16.3	14.2	19.8
4) Somewhat harmful	4.6	3.7	5.9
5) Very harmful	3.6	2.8	4.7
6) No opinion/ Don't know	1.9	2.3	1.2
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

12. Palestinian and Israeli negotiators say that they have achieved progress in their negotiations in Taba in January 2001. Once the two sides return to the negotiating table, do you support or oppose continueing the negotiations from where they stopped in Taba?

1) Strongly support	11.1	9.9	13.0
2) Support	46.4	47.3	44.9
3) Oppose	20.9	21.2	20.4
4) Strongly oppose	12.5	10.0	16.4
5) No Opinion /Don't Know	9.2	11.6	5.3
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

13. After reaching a peace agreement between the Palestinian people and Israel and the establishment of a Palestinian state that is recognized by Israel, would you support or oppose the process of reconciliation between the state of Palestine and the state of Israel?

1) Strongly support	12.2	9.7	16.2
2) Support	60.8	62.7	57.9
3) Oppose	16.6	19.1	12.6
4) Strongly oppose	8.7	6.8	11.9
5) No opinion/do not know	1.6	1.7	1.4
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

14. After reaching a peace agreement between the Palestinian people and Israel and the establishment of a Palestinian state that is recognized by Israel, how soon do you think will reconciliation between the two peoples be achieved?

1) Reconciliation is not possible ever	38.4	36.3	41.7
2) Only in many generations to come	14.6	14.3	15.0
3) Only in the next generation	9.2	9.6	8.5
4) Only in the next decade	6.7	6.9	6.3
5) On the next few years	18.0	17.8	18.4
6) No Opinion /Don't know	13.1	15.1	10.1
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

15. And what about the majority of Israelis? How soon do they in your opinion believe that a full reconciliation between the two peoples can be achieved?

1) Reconciliation is not possible ever	50.1	46.3	56.1
2) Only in many generations to come	10.0	10.8	8.7
3) Only in the next generation	7.0	7.4	6.3
4) Only in the next decade	4.3	4.8	3.6

5) On the next few years	13.6	14.0	12.8
6) No Opinion /Don't know	15.0	16.6	12.5
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

16. After reaching a peace agreement between the Palestinian side and Israel and the establishment of a Palestinian state that is recognized by Israel, the following are steps may be taken in order to enhance relations between the State of Israel and a Palestinian State. For each of the suggested steps please tell me whether you support or oppose it:

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
16-1 Open borders to free movement of people and goods			
1) Strongly Support	24.4	18.9	33.2
2) Support	60.0	64.9	52.2
3) Oppose	11.5	12.6	9.7
4) Strongly Oppose	2.7	2.0	3.8
5) Don't Know	1.5	1.7	1.2
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

16-2 Create joint economic institutions and ventures

1) Strongly Support	13.8	9.5	20.8
2) Support	46.6	48.8	43.1
3) Oppose	29.9	32.3	26.1
4) Strongly Oppose	7.1	6.2	8.5
5) Don't Know	2.6	3.2	1.6
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

16-3 Create joint political institutions (such as a parliament) designed eventually to lead to a confederate system

1) Strongly Support	3.3	2.2	4.9
2) Support	21.2	.1	18.2
3) Oppose	43.7	47.1	38.1

4) Strongly Oppose	25.9	20.5	34.6
5) Don't Know	6.0	7.2	4.2
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

16-4 Take legal measures against incitement against Israel

1) Strongly Support	3.2	2.5	4.3
2) Support	28.1	28.3	27.7
3) Oppose	41.0	46.1	32.8
4) Strongly Oppose	22.4	16.4	32.0
5) Don't Know	5.3	6.7	3.2
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

16-5 Adopt school curriculum in the Palestinian state that recognizes Israel and teaches school children not to demand return of all Palestine to the Palestinians

1) Strongly Support	0.7	0.6	0.8
2) Support	6.5	6.7	6.3
3) Oppose	39.6	44.8	31.2
4) Strongly Oppose	50.7	44.6	60.5
5) Don't Know	2.5	3.3	1.2
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

17. After reaching a peace agreement between the Palestinian side and Israel and the establishment of a Palestinian state that is recognized by Israel, would you, under these conditions of peace, invite an Israeli colleague to visit you in your home?

1) Definitely yes	4.6	4.2	5.3
2) Yes	22.5	24.4	19.4
3) No	31.8	36.3	24.7
4) Definitely no	39.0	32.7	49.2
5) Don't Know	2.1	2.5	1.4
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

18. After reaching a peace agreement between the Palestinian side and Israel and the establishment of a Palestinian state that is recognized by Israel, would you, under these conditions of peace, visit an Israeli colleague in his home?

1) Definitely yes	5.2	4.4	6.5
2) Yes	22.5	23.1	21.5
3) No	31.6	37.0	22.9
4) Definitely no	39.2	33.4	48.4
5) Don't Know	1.5	2.1	0.6
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

19. In your opinion, is lasting peace possible between Israelis and Palestinians?

1) Definitely Possible	2.1	1.2	3.4
2) Possible	24.3	26.0	21.6
3) Impossible	31.8	36.0	25.1
4) Definitely impossible	38.4	32.3	48.1
5) No opinion/ do not know	3.4	4.4	1.8
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

20. And what about the majority of the Israelis, do they, in your opinion, believe that lasting peace is possible between Israelis and Palestinians?

1) Definitely they do	3.2	2.7	4.0
2) They do	20.7	21.0	20.4
3) They do not	30.8	34.9	24.1
4) Definitely they don not	37.1	32.3	44.7
5) No opinion/do not know	8.3	9.1	6.9
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

21. How do you evaluate the status of democracy in Israel?

1) Very good	21.5	19.2	25.1
2) Good	27.6	27.6	27.5
3) Neither good nor bad	16.4	17.1	15.2

4) Bad	18.0	18.6	17.0
5) Very bad	9.5	8.8	10.7
6) No opinion/Don't know	7.1	8.6	4.5

Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
--------------	------------------	-------------------

22. Concerning armed attacks against Israeli targets, I....

1) Strongly support	48.2	40.4	60.7
2) Support	37.7	43.5	28.5
3) Oppose	9.4	10.8	7.1
4) Strongly oppose	1.9	1.4	2.8
5) No Opinion /Don't Know	2.8	4.0	1.0

Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
--------------	------------------	-------------------

23. Concerning armed attacks against Israeli soldiers in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, I....

1) Strongly support	56.0	49.3	66.6
2) Support	35.7	40.2	28.7
3) Oppose	5.3	6.9	2.8
4) Strongly oppose	1.3	1.1	1.6
5) No Opinion /Don't Know	1.7	2.5	0.4

Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
--------------	------------------	-------------------

24. Concerning armed attacks against Israeli civilians inside Israel, I....

1) Strongly support	30.3	23.5	41.3
2) Support	27.8	31.0	22.5
3) Oppose	33.1	36.2	28.1
4) Strongly oppose	5.9	5.4	6.5
5) No Opinion /Don't Know	3.0	3.8	1.6

Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
--------------	------------------	-------------------

25. Given the current conditons, what in your opinion is the most important Palestinian national interest? Rank the following objective

25-1) Provide jobs and improve living conditions

1) First	11.8	11.6	12.1
2) Second	22.7	22.9	22.5
3) Third	29.5	29.9	28.9
4) Fourth	34.5	34.0	35.4
5) No Opinion /Don't Know	1.1	1.4	0.8
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

25-2) Fight corruption and institute the rule of law

1) First	16.8	13.7	21.7
2) Second	35.3	34.7	36.2
3) Third	30.2	32.1	27.1
4) Fourth	16.4	17.8	14.2
5) No Opinion /Don't Know	1.2	1.5	0.8
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

25-3) End occupation

1) First	50.0	52.2	46.4
2) Second	21.2	21.1	21.3
3) Third	14.9	14.1	16.2
4) Fourth	12.5	10.9	15.2
5) No Opinion /Don't Know	1.1	1.5	0.6
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

25-4) Safeguard religious values and traditions

1) First	20.2	20.5	19.6
2) Second	19.2	19.8	18.4
3) Third	23.9	22.2	26.5

4) Fourth	35.3	35.7	34.6
5) No Opinion /Don't Know	1.2	1.5	0.8
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

26. We will now read you a statement. Tell us whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with it:

Islamic rules and traditions should play larger role in government policy:

1) Strongly support	58.4	51.0	70.2
2) Support	37.6	43.7	27.9
3) Oppose	2.5	3.3	1.2
4) Strongly Oppose	0.6	0.7	0.4
5) No opinion/ do not know	0.9	1.2	0.4
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

27. How important is religion in your life?

1) Very important	83.0	77.8	91.5
2) Important	15.9	20.8	8.1
3) Unimportant	0.6	0.9	0.2
4) Very unimportant	0.4	0.5	0.2
5) No opinion/ do not know	0.1	0.1	0.0
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

28. How often do you read the Quran?

1) Every day	32.1	31.8	32.6
2) Occasionally	39.9	39.4	40.7
3) Every week	16.6	15.6	18.2
4) Never	11.3	13.2	8.5
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

29. And generally, to what extent do you observe religious rules and traditions?

1) Observe all	40.7	39.0	43.4
2) Observe most	37.0	35.9	38.6
3) Observe some	21.0	23.2	17.6
4) Observe none	1.1	1.6	0.4
5) Do not know/ no answer	0.2	0.2	0.0
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

30. If separate elections for the president of the Palestinian Authority were held today, whom would you choose?

1) Haidar Abdul Shafi	7.3	6.4	8.7
2) Yasser Arafat	32.5	31.3	34.4
3) Ahmad Yasin	12.9	11.6	14.8
4) No one	1.7	2.1	1.0
5) Others	30.4	31.8	28.3
6) I will not participate	12.6	13.6	11.1
7) No Opinion / Don't Know	2.7	3.2	1.8
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

31. Which of the following political parties do you support?

1) PPP	0.9	0.9	1.0
2) PFLP	2.5	2.1	3.2
3) Fateh	28.5	29.7	26.5
4) Hamas	16.7	15.2	19.0
5) DFLP	0.8	0.9	0.8
6) Islamic Jihad	6.9	7.8	5.5
7) Fida	0.5	0.2	0.8
8) Independent Islamists	3.3	3.2	3.4
9) Independent Nationalists	4.7	5.3	3.8
10) None of the above	28.5	26.1	32.2
11) Others	6.7	8.4	4.0

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
32. If separate elections for a Vice President of the Palestinian Authority were held today, whom would you choose?			
1) Haidar Abdul Shafi	8.0	5.7	11.7
2) Saeb Erikat	7.3	8.5	5.4
3) Ahmad Yassin	3.6	2.6	5.2
4) Mahmoud Abbas	2.4	2.2	2.8
5) Ahmad Qurai'	1.4	1.7	1.0
6) Marwan Bargouthi	2.3	2.7	1.6
7) Hanan Ashrawi	1.4	1.5	1.4
8) Farouq Kaddomi	1.4	1.7	1.0
7) No one	4.7	6.7	1.6
8) Others	12.2	12.5	11.7
6) I will not participate	0.8	1.2	0.0
7) No Opinion / Don't Know	54.3	52.8	56.7
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

33. Do you think that there is corruption in PA institutions?

1) Yes	83.4	80.5	88.1
2) No	7.8	8.4	6.9
3) Not Sure	8.7	11.1	4.9
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

34. Will this corruption in PA institutions increase, decrease or remain as it is in the future?

1) Increase	49.1	48.5	50.0
2) Remain as it is	8.3	8.4	8.1
3) Decrease	33.6	34.9	31.8
4) Don't Know/ No Opinion	8.9	8.1	10.1

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
35. If you want to evaluate the status of democracy and human rights under the Palestinian Authority, you would say it is:			
1) Very Good	3.1	3.8	2.0
2) Good	17.5	20.1	13.2
3) Fair	29.9	30.7	28.7
4) Bad	25.2	23.2	28.5
5) Very Bad	19.4	15.2	26.1
6) Don't Know/ No Opinion	4.9	6.9	1.6
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

36. And how would the Palestinian democracy status in the next 10 years?

1) Very Good	7.1	8.7	4.7
2) Good	31.6	31.1	32.2
3) Fair	20.9	21.5	20.0
4) Bad	12.4	12.7	11.9
5) Very Bad	7.9	6.6	10.1
6) Don't Know/ No Opinion	20.1	19.4	21.1
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

37. In your opinion, can people in the West Bank and Gaza Strip criticize the Palestinian Authority without fear?

1) Yes	45.4	44.4	46.8
2) No	50.7	50.6	50.8
3) Do not know	4.0	5.0	2.4
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

38. Which of the following forms of government do you want to have for the Palestinian state after the state is established?

1) Nationalist, as in other Arab countries like Egypt, Syria, or Jordan	22.5	21.4	24.2
---	------	------	------

2) Democra, as in the US, Europe or Israel	21.2	22.0	19.8
3) Islamic, as in Iran	45.6	43.9	48.3
4) Other, (specify, one as in -----)	10.7	12.6	7.7
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

39. In its description of confrontations with the Israelis, I believe that

1) the Palestinian media is mobilized by the Palestinian Authority and it calls for the continuation of popular and armed confrontations	19.8	22.8	15.1
2) the Palestinian media sometimes call for the continuation of popular and armed confrontations	10.6	10.3	10.9
3) the media provide a fair and accurate account	26.0	27.4	23.8
4) the Palestinian media call sometime for quite and end to popular and armed confrontations	15.5	15.2	15.9
5) the Palestinian media is mobilized by supporters of the peace process and it calls for quite and end to popular and armed confrontations	17.2	12.8	24.2
6) Don not know/ no opinion	10.9	11.5	10.1
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

40. How many times a week do you happen to carry out the following activities?

40-1 Watch news on Palestinian or your local TV stations:

1) Almost every day	56.1	56.2	55.8
2) 3-4 times a week	9.0	9.3	8.5
3) 1-2 times a week	14.7	13.8	16.0
4) never	19.9	20.1	19.6
5) No opinion/ do not know	0.3	0.5	0.0
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

40-2 Watch news on Israeli TV:

1) Almost every day	24.1	21.8	27.9
2) 3-4 times a week	6.6	7.1	5.9
3) 1-2 times a week	23.2	23.6	22.6
4) never	45.5	47.0	43.2
5) No opinion/ do not know	0.5	0.5	0.4
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

40-3 Read news pages in al-Quds news paper:

1) Almost every day	12.0	14.2	8.5
2) 3-4 times a week	6.7	8.7	3.6
3) 1-2 times a week	24.4	26.3	21.5
4) never	55.8	49.9	65.2
5) No opinion/ do not know	1.0	0.9	1.2
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

40-4 Read news pages in al-Ayyam or al-Hayat al-Jadida newspaper:

1) Almost every day	9.0	7.3	11.7
2) 3-4 times a week	5.1	4.6	5.8
3) 1-2 times a week	19.2	18.4	20.3
4) never	65.2	67.9	61.0
5) No opinion/ do not know	1.5	1.8	1.2
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

40-5 Read the editorial pages of a newspaper:

1) Almost every day	23.0	25.2	19.7
2) 3-4 times a week	12.6	15.4	8.2
3) 1-2 times a week	33.1	32.2	34.4
4) never	30.4	26.8	35.8
5) No opinion/ do not know	1.0	0.5	1.8
	Total	West	Gaza

		Bank	Strip
40-6 Read the business and economy section in the newspaper:			
1) Almost every day	7.5	8.6	5.8
2) 3-4 times a week	3.4	4.4	1.8
3) 1-2 times a week	18.0	19.8	15.3
4) never	69.0	65.7	74.2
5) No opinion/ do not know	2.0	1.4	2.9
	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip

41. How many times do you listen to news on the radio?

1) Every hour or so	12.7	13.7	10.9
2) 6-5 times a day	6.9	7.3	6.3
3) 3-4 times a day	12.3	11.9	12.9
4) Once or twice a day	34.1	36.0	31.0
5) Almost never	34.1	31.1	38.9