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JMCC Public Opinion Poll No. 4 On Palestinian Attitudes to the PLO-Israeli Agreement January 1994

in cooperation with CNN and MBC

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Methodology

A random sample of 1,622 Palestinians, over the age of 18 years, were interviewed throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip on 8/10/11 January 1994. The interviews were conducted on a face-to-face basis with people who visited general service offices to fill out application forms for their identity cards, travel documents, birth registrations, etc, in the main towns. The interviewers reported that some people filled out their questionnaire by themselves in the presence of the interviewer.

In the West Bank, 1,110 questionnaires were collected from the following major towns: Jenin, Tulkarem, Qalqilia, Nablus, Ramallah, Hebron, East Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and Jericho. In the Gaza Strip, 512 questionnaires were received from: Gaza, Khan Younis, Rafah, Deir Al-Balah, Beit Hanoun, Jabalia and the Central Refugee Camp areas.

The major of error is plus or minus 3% with a confidence level of 95%.

Sample Distribution

- 68.4% of the respondents were from the West Bank
- 31.6% from the Gaza Strip
- 29.4% said they live in villages
- 25.6% in refugee camps
- 45.0% in towns/cities
- 76.0% were male
- 24.0% were female
- The average of age of the respondents was 31 years.

Occupation respondents

- Students 11.9%
- Waged labourers 16.3%
- Housewives 6.7%
- Employees eg. secretaries/teachers/nurses/municipal employees 22.2%
- Businessmen/private business 10.9%
- Farmers/fishermen 2.4%
- Craftsmen 11.1%
- Professionals - eg. doctors/lawyers/pharmacists/engineers 9.1%
- Unemployed 8.2%
- Retired 0.9%
- Others 0.3%

Results

Now that four months have passed since the signing of the Declaration of Principles between the PLO and Israel (Gaza-Jericho First), many developments have taken place in the peace negotiations and in the internal political situation. There is now a growing debate in the Palestinian community on these developments. Your assistance with the poll will help us understand the opinions of the Palestinian people to enable us to better evaluate the future.

Q.1 Would you say that you are optimistic or pessimistic regarding the future of the Palestinian in the coming new year?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Very optimistic	18.6%	17.0%	21.9%
Somewhat optimistic	38.7%	36.8%	42.6%
Pessimistic	3.7%	40.0%	32.8%
Other	2.2%	2.7%	1.2%
No answer	2.8%	3.4%	1.6%

Q.2 Now that four months have passed since the signing of the Declaration of Principles, What is your opinion?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Support it	45.3%	42.2%	52.1%
Oppose it	39.8%	42.0%	35.0%
Other	8.5%	8.9%	7.6%
No answer	6.4%	6.9%	5.3%

Q.3 Has your position changed on the Declaration of Principles (Gaza - Jericho First)?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
My support increased	9.8%	9.4%	10.7%
My support decreased	24.3%	24.7%	23.4%
My support remained the same	26.1%	23.7%	31.3%
My opposition increased	22.6%	23.6%	20.5%
My opposition decreased	1.4%	1.7%	0.8%
My opposition remained the same	11.0%	11.8%	9.4%
No answer / No opinion	4.7%	5.1%	3.9%

Q. 4 Taking into consideration the latest developments, how has your attitude towards the PLO changed?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
My support to the PLO increased	12.6%	12.8%	12.1%
My support to the PLO declined	30.0%	33.2%	23.0%
My support to the PLO did not change	35.9%	31.4%	45.9%
I have never been a supporter of the PLO	14.1%	13.5%	15.4%
No answer/No opinion	7.4%	9.1%	3.5%

Q.5 Once the PLO assumes power in the Occupied Territory, what is your expectation?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
The PLO will exercise authority in a good way	35.9%	32.4%	43.6%
The PLO will exercise authority in a bad way	33.0%	33.3%	32.2%
I have no expectations	22.4%	25.9%	15.0%
No answer/No opinion	8.7%	8.4%	9.2%

Q.6 What is your opinion on the way chairman Yasser Arafat manages the negotiations with Israel?

Q. 6a.

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Very good	12.3%	9.9%	17.4%
Good	31.3%	30.1%	33.8%
Bad	44.0%	45.5%	40.8%
No answer	12.4%	14.5%	8.0%

Q. 6b.

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Very effective	9.7%	7.2%	15.0%
Effective	26.9%	25.9%	29.1%
Not effective	49.3%	51.1%	45.3%
No answer	14.1%	15.7%	10.6%

Q. 6c.

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Democratic	21.8%	17.7%	30.7%
Undemocratic	21.1%	21.2%	20.9%
Individualistic	47.5%	50.7%	40.4%
No answer	9.6%	10.4%	8.0%

Q. 7 Which of the following factions do you support most?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
DFLP	2.7%	3.2%	1.8%
Jihad	5.4%	4.9%	6.6%
Fateh	40.4%	37.3%	47.1%
People's Party	5.2%	5.6%	4.3%
Hamas	14.2%	12.3%	18.4%
FIDA	2.0%	1.6%	2.7%
PFLP	7.7%	7.4%	8.4%
Other	9.9%	12.3%	4.7%
No answer	12.5%	15.4%	6.0%

Q. 8 What is your opinion on the latest demands for reform in the PLO?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Essential	57.8%	64.2%	43.9%
Essential but it is not the tiem	24.3%	18.6%	36.5%
Not essential	8.4%	7.6%	10.4%
No answer	9.4%	9.6%	9.2%