

JMCC Public Opinion Poll No. 6 - Part Two
On Palestinian Attitudes To Democracy
May 1995

In cooperation with MBC and Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

Q21. What about government violations of the rights of NGO's. If you were a member of one of the NGO's what would you do?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Go to court	40.8%	42.6%	37.0%
Complain and submit petitions	28.8%	26.1%	34.9%
I will not elect the party responsible body	10.1%	8.9%	12.6%
Protect my rights	5.3%	6.4%	3.2%
Go to the media	0.8%	0.7%	1.2%
Go to the Parliament	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Go to the PLO	1.1%	1.5%	0.3%
Do Nothing	2.2%	2.4%	2.1%
No opinion	10.6%	11.1%	8.4%

Q22. Do you think that the opposition should comply with the principles of democracy?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	81.5%	81.5%	82.1%
No	10.1%	9.8%	10.9%
Somewhat	0.7%	1.1%	0.0%
No opinion	7.7%	7.6%	7.0%

Q23. What do you think is the role of the opposition?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
For public interest	11.4%	12.3%	9.7%
To express different view points	10.0%	10.2%	9.4%
To prevent the government from falling in mistakes	16.3%	14.8%	19.4%
Constructive role in government	10.7%	9.4%	13.5%
To preserve freedom	2.7%	1.8%	4.7%
To protect individual rights	4.6%	5.7%	2.3%
An alternative to the peace process	1.5%	1.8%	0.9%

I am against the opposition	4.7%	5.3%	3.5%
To put an end to the peace process	5.1%	4.6%	6.5%
Has no role, must accept reality	2.6%	2.9%	2.1%
Islamic shoura	0.7%	0.4%	1.2%
To work within the law	7.5%	7.3%	7.9%
To comply with government decision	1.8%	1.5%	2.3%
Opposing the government is their right	2.7%	2.6%	2.9%
We should all be united	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%
To make the people aware	1.6%	1.7%	1.5%
No opinion	15.6%	17.3%	11.6%

Q24. In your opinion, what are the responsibilities of the government towards the opposition?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Listen and direct opposition	7.1%	7.1%	7.3%
Work according to law	6.0%	6.4%	5.3%
Respect their opinions	43.3%	40.5%	49.3%
Resist them	4.9%	5.5%	3.5%
To attract them	2.1%	2.5%	1.2%
Guarantee their continuation	6.5%	7.6%	4.4%
Fulfill their demands	4.7%	4.6%	4.7%
Preserve freedom of expression	5.9%	4.7%	8.5%
Hold the opposition accountable	3.7%	3.7%	3.8%
To implement the law	0.5%	0.7%	0.0%
Stand against it in case of violence	0.9%	0.8%	1.2%
Calm the situation	0.5%	0.6%	0.3%
Depends on the opposition	0.6%	0.1%	1.5%
No opinion	13.3%	15.2%	9.0%

Q25. Which of the following issues do you feel you need to know more about?

Total

	Need information	Do not need information	No opinion
Limitations on majority rule	66.2%	25.8%	8.0%
Responsibilities of decision makers	70.3%	24.3%	5.4%
Rights and responsibilities of opposition	63.2%	29.0%	7.8%
Role of NGO's	65.1%	27.0%	7.9%
Accountability	71.6%	21.9%	6.5%
Limitations on the powers of decision makers	72.8%	19.1%	8.1%

West Bank

	Need information	Do not need information	No opinion
Limitations on majority rule	65.4%	25.3%	9.3%
Responsibilities of decision makers	69.4%	24.8%	5.8%
Rights and responsibilities of opposition	64.0%	27.4%	8.6%
Role of NGO's	63.8%	27.2%	9.0%
Accountability	70.1%	22.7%	7.2%
Limitations on the powers of decision makers	71.2%	19.2%	9.6%

Gaza Strip

	Need information	Do not need information	No opinion
Limitations on majority rule	68.6%	27.0%	4.4%
Responsibilities of decision makers	72.7%	23.5%	3.8%
Rights and responsibilities of opposition	62.2%	32.6%	5.2%
Role of NGO's	68.3%	27.0%	4.7%
Accountability	75.4%	20.2%	4.4%
Limitations on the powers of decision makers	76.5%	19.1%	4.4%

Q26. How many times do you listen to the news daily?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
None	6.2%	6.2%	5.9%
Once	21.4%	20.6%	23.2%
Twice	27.4%	26.8%	28.4%
Three times	17.9%	15.9%	22.3%
Four times	12.9%	14.0%	10.9%
Four+	13.1%	15.9%	7.3%
No opinion	1.1%	0.6%	2.0%

Q27. How many times do you read the newspaper a week?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
None	28.0%	26.8%	29.9%
Once	17.9%	16.7%	20.2%
Twice	10.0%	9.7%	10.9%
Three times	10.5%	10.7%	10.3%

Four times	6.4%	6.1%	7.0%
Five times	4.3%	4.4%	4.1%
Six times	2.2%	2.2%	2.1%
Seven times	19.8%	23.0%	13.5%
No opinion	0.9%	0.4%	2.0%

Q28. I will list some sources that can provide information on democracy and autonomy in general. Who do you trust as a source of information?

Total

	I trust	Depends	Don't trust	No opinion
Local leaders	23.3%	28.3%	38.8%	9.6%
Religious Leaders	45.4%	29.5%	18.6%	6.5%
Political movements	21.4%	32.8%	36.4%	9.4%
Family & Friends	57.9%	27.6%	10.2%	4.3%
NGO's	23.8%	30.2%	36.4%	9.6%
Women's organizations	29.9%	27.0%	32.4%	10.7%
Research centers	58.0%	23.8%	9.8%	8.4%
Schools & colleges	72.0%	17.5%	6.6%	3.9%
Foreign experts	22.6%	25.4%	44.5%	7.5%
Palestinian National Authority	51.1%	23.5%	18.1%	7.3%
Prisoners	53.6%	29.8%	9.2%	7.4%
UNRWA	41.4%	27.2%	21.1%	10.3%
Returnees	41.8%	32.4%	18.2%	7.6%

West Bank

	I trust	Depends	Don't trust	No opinion
Local leaders	19.8%	29.9%	40.5%	9.8%
Religious Leaders	42.2%	30.4%	20.7%	6.7%
Political movements	19.9%	35.4%	35.1%	9.6%
Family & Friends	57.5%	28.1%	10.1%	4.3%
NGO's	23.5%	31.3%	35.4%	9.8%
Women's organizations	32.4%	28.9%	28.4%	10.3%
Research centres	56.3%	24.6%	10.2%	8.9%
Schools & colleges	70.5%	18.1%	7.6%	3.8%
Foreign experts	17.8%	24.2%	50.1%	7.9%
Palestinian National Authority	50.2%	24.3%	18.4%	7.1%
Prisoners	51.2%	33.6%	8.7%	6.5%

UNRWA	40.2%	26.0%	21.6%	12.2%
Returnees	43.3%	35.4%	13.7%	7.6%

Gaza Strip

	I trust	Depends	Don't trust	No opinion
Local leaders	31.1%	25.5%	34.9%	8.5%
Religious Leaders	52.2%	27.6%	14.4%	5.8%
Political movements	24.6%	27.7%	39.6%	8.1%
Family & Friends	58.9%	26.7%	10.6%	3.8%
NGO's	24.6%	28.2%	38.7%	8.5%
Women's organizations	24.6%	23.5%	41.1%	10.8%
Research centers	62.2%	22.0%	9.1%	6.7%
Schools & colleges	75.4%	16.4%	4.7%	3.5%
Foreign experts	32.6%	28.2%	33.1%	6.1%
Palestinian National Authority	53.4%	22.0%	17.0%	7.6%
Prisoners	58.7%	22.3%	10.3%	8.7%
UNRWA	44.3%	30.2%	20.2%	5.3%
Returnees	39.0%	26.1%	27.9%	7.0%

Q29. Which in your opinion is/are the best source/s of information about policies?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Newspapers & magazines	10.3%	10.9%	9.1%
Radio & TV	41.4%	40.0%	44.6%
Political leaflets	6.8%	6.6%	7.4%
Religious sermons & publications	6.4%	5.8%	7.6%
Meetings & conferences	8.4%	8.7%	7.9%
Other	20.1%	20.6%	18.8%
Foreign & Hebrew press	0.5%	0.7%	0.0%
No opinion	6.1%	6.7%	4.6%

Q30. Are you willing to put more effort into finding more information on the political situation?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	73.9%	73.0%	76.5%
No	22.2%	23.2%	19.6%
Other	1.0%	0.8%	1.5%
No opinion	2.9%	3.0%	2.4%

Q31. How much do you know about the following?**Total**

	Enough	Not enough	Not at all	No opinion
Paris Economic Agreement	4.8%	26.0%	65.2%	4.0%
DOP (Oslo)	22.5%	44.7%	29.2%	3.6%
Cairo Agreement	19.3%	42.3%	34.2%	4.2%
Transfer of Authority	17.7%	40.2%	37.9%	4.2%
Early Empowerment	14.7%	34.9%	44.8%	5.6%

West Bank

	Enough	Not enough	Not at all	No opinion
Paris Economic Agreement	4.1%	25.6%	65.8%	4.5%
DOP (Oslo)	20.1%	45.8%	30.3%	3.8%
Cairo Agreement	18.0%	41.2%	36.1%	4.7%
Transfer of Authority	18.1%	40.4%	36.9%	4.6%
Early Empowerment	14.7%	35.4%	43.7%	6.2%

Gaza Strip

	Enough	Not enough	Not at all	No opinion
Paris Economic Agreement	6.2%	27.3%	64.2%	2.3%
DOP (Oslo)	28.2%	43.1%	26.7%	2.0%
Cairo Agreement	22.3%	45.2%	30.2%	2.3%
Transfer of Authority	17.0%	40.5%	39.9%	2.6%
Early Empowerment	15.0%	34.3%	47.2%	3.5%

Q31-1 If you are aware of. From where did you get your information?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Radio & TV	43.2%	41.7%	44.0%
Newspapers	7.9%	7.0%	9.5%
From people	2.4%	2.1%	2.5%
Political sources	11.4%	10.2%	13.5%
More than one	19.9%	19.5%	19.8%
Israeli press	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%
No opinion	14.8%	19.4%	10.7%

Q32. Whom do you think has control over water resources in the autonomous areas? Is it:

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Palestinian National Authority	41.1%	41.6%	40.2%
Israeli Military Government	49.1%	47.7%	52.2%
Other organizations	1.6%	1.9%	0.9%
No opinion	8.2%	8.8%	6.7%

Q33. Do you think that the Cairo Agreement provides the Palestinians with authorities that go beyond the autonomous areas in Gaza and Jericho?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	33.6%	36.1%	28.7%
No	46.2%	41.5%	56.6%
Other	1.1%	0.7%	2.7%
No opinion	19.1%	21.7%	12.0%

Q34. Are Israeli military orders still in force in the autonomous areas?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Military orders are still in force	47.7%	46.3%	50.7%
Military orders are not in force	15.4%	18.1%	9.7%
Some are in force and others are not	31.8%	29.6%	37.0%
No opinion	5.1%	6.0%	2.6%

Q35. In your opinion, would you say that autonomy is a step forward towards the implementation of full Palestinian political rights?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	39.6%	38.2%	43.1%
No	39.9%	40.0%	40.2%
Nothing new	16.2%	16.7%	14.7%
Other	1.3%	1.7%	0.6%
No opinion	3.0%	3.4%	1.4%

Q36. What is the role of Israeli policies and practices on the democratic situation in the autonomous area?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Has no role	20.7%	19.4%	23.5%
Limits democracy	66.6%	65.6%	69.5%
Interferes somewhat	1.5%	1.1%	2.4%
No opinion	11.2%	13.9%	4.6%

Q37. What in your opinion are the five most difficult problems facing the Palestinian Authority?

	Total	Total
	First Problem	Second Problem
Donor Countries	9.0%	6.3%
Settlements	4.0%	3.2%
Unemployment	7.2%	7.2%
The economy	22.3%	14.0%
Occupation	5.1%	4.0%
Chaos in the PA	0.8%	2.4%
Education	0.2%	1.0%
Prices	0.7%	1.4%
Housing	1.4%	2.2%
Chaos in cities	0.2%	0.7%
The closure	2.6%	3.6%
Check points	0.3%	1.8%
Expertise	0.2%	0.3%
Opposition	12.8%	7.4%
Intifada-related problems	0.5%	0.7%
Security	2.9%	3.0%
Leadership	0.1%	0.1%
Land Confiscation	---	0.3%
Human rights violation	0.3%	1.4%
Detainees	0.3%	3.5%
Al-Aqsa Mosque	2.5%	2.3%
Control over natural resources	0.1%	1.0%
Non utilization of qualified people	1.5%	1.1%
Lack of public confidence towards the PA	0.2%	2.2%
Jerusalem	1.6%	3.1%
Inability to control the situation	2.5%	0.3%
Collaborators	0.6%	0.3%

National Unity	1.2%	1.6%
Infrastructure	0.8%	2.2%
Borders	0.7%	0.7%
Rabin	0.1%	0.5%
To go to Israel for their decisions	0.6%	1.3%
No separation of power	0.1%	0.1%
Insufficient Jurisdiction	1.7%	0.3%
Hatred of Islamic nation of the authority	0.1%	0.5%
Arafat	0.2%	0.5%
Transfer of authority	1.1%	2.2%
Suppression	0.3%	0.9%
Lack of weapons	0.1%	0.8%
Israel's non compliance with Oslo	3.3%	0.3%
Political problems	0.7%	0.3%
Suicidal attacks	0.3%	---
Normalization	0.1%	---
Social problems	0.1%	---
Other	1.5	---
No answer	7.1%	13.0%

Q38. What are the most important issues you would like to know about the agreement with Israel?

	Total
Final status	12.8%
Boundaries of Palestine	4.9%
Limitations on the PA	1.8%
Israeli commitments	5.4%
Progress in the PA's jurisdiction	3.6%
Jerusalem	15.6%
Refugees and detainees	6.2%
Why the PA approved the agreement	1.7%
The articles of the agreement	17.0%
Where are my rights?	5.0%
Collaborators	0.3%
Is it a real peace?	1.1%
Settlements	2.8%
The Palestinian Issue	0.7%
Redeployment	0.7%
The economic situation	1.5%
Water, Zoning	0.4%

No answer	18.5%
-----------	-------

Q39. I will read to you some statements. Please tell me whether they are very important, somewhat important, or not at all important to you?

Total

	Very Important	Somewhat important	Not Important	No opinion
Law and order	95.7%	2.2%	0.6%	1.5%
Elections	88.6%	7.6%	2.0%	1.8%
Settlements	68.7%	2.7%	25.2%	3.4%
Jerusalem	97.9%	0.4%	0.4%	1.3%
Democracy	82.7%	9.5%	3.6%	4.2%
Radicalism	38.3%	13.9%	37.5%	10.3%
Economic situation	95.4%	2.1%	0.8%	1.7%
Crime	64.8%	10.1%	20.2%	4.9%
Education	97.4%	1.1%	0.3%	1.2%
Housing	93.6%	4.5%	0.5%	1.4%

West Bank

	Very Important	Somewhat important	Not Important	No opinion
Law and order	96.1%	2.2%	0.6%	1.1%
Elections	88.5%	7.9%	1.8%	1.8%
Settlements	71.1%	3.0%	22.4%	3.5%
Jerusalem	98.2%	0.4%	0.3%	1.1%
Democracy	80.4%	10.8%	3.3%	5.5%
Radicalism	38.0%	15.9%	35.8%	10.3%
Economic situation	95.0%	2.5%	1.0%	1.5%
Crime	66.4%	10.1%	18.4%	5.1%
Education	97.4%	1.2%	0.3%	1.1%
Housing	92.4%	5.7%	0.6%	1.3%

Gaza Strip

	Very Important	Somewhat important	Not Important	No opinion
Law and order	95.3%	2.3%	0.9%	1.5%
Elections	89.1%	7.0%	2.6%	1.3%
Settlements	63.9%	2.1%	31.1%	2.9%

Jerusalem	97.9%	0.3%	0.6%	1.2%
Democracy	88.6%	7.0%	3.8%	0.6%
Radicalism	39.0%	10.0%	41.3%	9.7%
Economic situation	97.1%	0.9%	0.6%	1.4%
Crime	61.9%	10.0%	24.3%	3.8%
Education	97.9%	0.9%	0.3%	0.9%
Housing	96.8%	2.1%	0.3%	0.8%

Q40. Which are the four political or religious organizations you trust most?

	Total	Total
	First Problem	Second Problem
Fateh	37.7%	6.8%
Hamas	15.3%	11.7%
PFLP	3.2%	5.6%
DFLP	1.6%	5.1%
Islamic Jihad	3.8%	9.9%
PPP	1.2%	3.1%
FIDA	0.6%	1.1%
Islamic movements	3.4%	0.7%
Do not trust anyone	9.2%	9.4%
Opposition	0.3%	---
Islamic religion	1.6%	0.5%
Palestinian National Authority	2.3%	0.6%
PLO	1.1%	0.6%
Others	1.8%	2.9%
No answer	16.9%	42.0%

Q41. If elections were held soon, would you vote?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	71.9%	71.9%	72.4%
No	14.5%	13.7%	16.1%
Depends on the political situation	11.5%	12.4%	9.7%
No opinion	2.1%	2.0%	1.8%

Q42. How would you describe your financial situation?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Excellent	2.4%	2.6%	2.1%
Very good	5.1%	5.8%	3.5%
Good	20.9%	23.1%	16.4%
Fair	37.3%	39.1%	33.7%
Difficult	12.3%	10.4%	16.4%
Very difficult	7.8%	7.2%	9.1%
Miserable	13.3%	10.9%	18.2%
No opinion	0.9%	0.9%	0.6%

Q43. Education:

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
No schooling	3.6%	4.1%	2.1%
One year of schooling	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%
Two Years of schooling	1.0%	1.4%	0.3%
Three years of schooling	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%
Four years of schooling	2.5%	3.2%	1.2%
Five years of schooling	3.0%	3.3%	2.3%
Six years of schooling	6.0%	6.5%	5.0%
Seven years of schooling	3.5%	4.0%	2.3%
Eight years of schooling	5.1%	5.3%	5.0%
Nine Years of schooling	7.4%	7.9%	6.2%
Ten years of schooling	5.2%	5.4%	5.0%
Eleven years of schooling	4.8%	4.3%	5.6%
Twelve years of schooling	56.5%	53.4%	63.8%
No answer	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%

Q44. University/College:

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
No college education	60.7%	65.0%	51.9%
One year	3.9%	3.5%	5.0%
Two years	15.2%	13.0%	19.9%
Three years	3.2%	2.9%	3.8%
Four years	9.8%	8.6%	12.6%
Five years	1.6%	1.2%	2.3%

Six years	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%
Seven years	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%
Eight years	0.3%	0.4%	0.0%
No answer	4.2%	4.4%	3.3%

Q45. Age (Average):

Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
31.5%	31.7%	31.0%

Q46. Social status

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Single	32.8%	35.3%	28.2%
Married	62.7%	60.7%	66.9%
Divorced	0.7%	0.7%	0.9%
Widow	2.6%	2.6%	2.6%
No opinion	1.2%	0.7%	1.4%

Q47. Profession

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Workers	10.6%	13.0%	5.6%
Clerks	6.5%	5.7%	8.2%
Housewives	40.0%	40.1%	39.9%
Unemployed	10.2%	9.4%	12.0%
Professional	7.8%	7.3%	8.8%
Skilled workers	4.2%	4.3%	4.1%
Students	8.4%	8.2%	9.1%
Businessmen	3.5%	2.6%	5.3%
Retired	2.0%	1.8%	1.8%
Farmers	1.8%	2.6%	0.0%
Clergy	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Policemen/soldiers	0.6%	0.1%	1.5%
Government employee	0.6%	0.1%	1.5%
Para professionals	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%
No answer	3.3%	4.4%	1.6%

Q48. Religion

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Muslims	96.4%	95.6%	98.5%
Christians	2.4%	3.2%	0.9%
No opinion	1.2%	1.2%	0.6%

Q49. Gender

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Female	60.0%	60.0%	60.4%
Male	39.3%	39.5%	39.3%
No opinion	0.7%	0.5%	0.3%