

JMCC Public Opinion Poll No. 31 - Part Two On Palestinian Attitudes Towards Politics - March 1999

Q13. Now I will ask you about some Palestinian political and religious figures, please tell me if you trust, distrust, or have inadequate information?

Total

	Trust	In Between	I distrust	I have no information	No answer
Fateh	53.0	19.3	22.4	3.4	1.9
Hamas	41.0	30.3	22.8	3.9	2.0
Palestinian People's Party	9.0	20.8	44.9	22.9	2.4
Democratic Front	7.3	19.9	49.4	21.0	2.4
Popular Front	11.3	20.3	46.5	19.4	2.5
Islamic Jihad	27.3	32.4	25.4	12.5	2.4

West Bank

	Trust	In Between	I distrust	I have no information	No answer
Fateh	52.2	18.1	23.3	3.9	2.5
Hamas	37.6	30.4	25.0	4.9	2.1
Palestinian People's Party	12.1	20.5	42.3	21.9	3.2
Democratic Front	9.2	20.2	47.2	20.2	3.2
Popular Front	14.5	19.4	44.9	17.9	3.3
Islamic Jihad	31.7	30.4	23.1	12.2	2.6

Gaza Strip

	Trust	In Between	I distrust	I have no information	No answer
Fateh	54.6	21.2	20.8	2.5	0.9
Hamas	47.0	30.2	18.9	2.3	1.6
Palestinian People's Party	3.7	21.2	49.3	24.7	1.1
Democratic Front	3.9	19.4	53.2	22.4	1.1
Popular Front	5.9	21.7	49.2	22.1	1.1
Islamic Jihad	19.6	36.1	29.5	13.0	1.8

Q14. To what extent do you support or oppose having a national coalition government consisting of all the political and religious parties, including the opposition?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Strongly support	36.5	37.5	34.9
Somewhat support	34.2	35.2	32.6
In between	17.8	15.0	22.4
Somewhat oppose	5.3	5.7	4.6
Strongly oppose	3.2	2.9	3.7
No answer	3.0	3.7	1.8

Q15. If the Palestinian Authority implements the Islamic law, how will this affect your position from the authority; will it increase your support, decrease your support, increase your opposition, or will it not affect your position at all?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Increase my support	63.9	61.1	68.7
Decrease my support	2.4	2.5	2.2
Will not affect	27.0	28.8	24.0
Increase my opposition	1.9	2.6	0.7
Decrease my opposition	2.9	2.5	3.7
No answer	1.9	2.5	0.7

Q16. Do you think President Arafat is doing his job as president for the National Authority in a good, fair, bad or very bad way?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Good	49.4	48.4	51.1
Fair	32.1	32.2	32.2
Bad	10.5	9.1	13.0
Very bad	5.3	6.8	2.5
No answer	2.7	3.5	1.2

Q17. To what extent do you support or oppose the idea of forming a national salvation authority through which Hamas can join in the ruling?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Support	43.3	44.3	41.5
In between	37.7	34.0	44.1
Oppose	12.5	12.9	11.9

No answer	6.5	8.8	2.5
-----------	-----	-----	-----

Q18. Which position serves Hamas best, Taking power, participating in the authority with other or not participating at all in the authority?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Taking power	10.2	9.2	11.9
Participating the authority with others	59.4	62.3	54.3
Not participating at all	21.5	16.4	30.4
No answer	8.9	12.1	3.4

Q19. Do you support the continuation of military operations against Israeli targets as an appropriate response under current political conditions or do you oppose them and believe they harm Palestinian national interests?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Support	35.7	36.4	34.5
Oppose	56.0	52.2	62.5
No answer	8.3	11.4	3.0

Q20. What about suicide bombing operations, do you see them as an appropriate response in the currently political conditions or do you oppose them as they harm the national interest?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Support	26.1	25.0	28.1
Oppose	66.5	64.9	69.2
No answer	7.4	10.1	2.7

Q21. Fateh movement is considered the main party in the Authority while Hamas is considered the main opposition pole; to what extent do you believe in the possibility of any cooperation between them?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Great opportunity	12.9	10.3	17.6
Small opportunity	54.7	56.4	51.8
No opportunity at all	27.4	26.5	28.8
No answer	5.0	6.8	1.8

Q22. The recent period witnessed issuing and executing death penalty sentences in the national authority areas; what is your position regarding the death penalty in the PA areas?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Support	17.0	18.9	13.7
In between	25.9	22.2	32.2
Oppose	54.8	55.6	53.4
No answer	2.3	3.3	0.7

Q23. If Likud Party loses the elections and the Labor Party assumes power in the next elections, do you think the Palestinian political condition, in general, will become better or it will stay the same or worse?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Better	24.5	27.7	18.9
Will stay the same	50.2	50.3	49.8
Worse	18.8	14.8	25.8
No answer	6.5	7.2	5.5

Q24. If the possibility of having an independent Palestinian state with sovereignty in the West Bank (including East Jerusalem) reaches a dead end, do you strongly support, support, oppose or strongly oppose the idea of establishing a joint state for Israelis and Palestinians in all Palestine (Israel, the West Bank and Gaza Strip)?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Strongly support	2.8	3.5	1.3
Support	15.5	17.6	11.9
Neither support nor oppose	18.3	18.2	18.7
Oppose	34.7	33.4	37.0
Strongly oppose	24.1	21.4	28.8
No answer	4.6	5.9	2.3

Q25. If the possibility of having an independent Palestinian State with sovereignty in the West Bank (including East Jerusalem) reaches a dead end, do you strongly support, support, oppose, or strongly oppose the idea of establishing an Islamic state in all Palestine (Israel, the West Bank and Gaza Strip)?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Strongly support	24.7	26.3	21.7
Support	38.8	36.7	42.5
Neither support nor oppose	18.2	16.7	21.0
Oppose	11.6	11.3	12.0

Strongly oppose	2.6	3.3	1.4
No answer	4.1	5.7	1.4

Q26. if the possibility of having an independent Palestinian state with sovereignty in the West Bank (including East Jerusalem) reaches a dead end, to what extent do you support or oppose the authority in taking the following positions:

Total

	Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose	No answer
Keep negotiating with Israel to salvage what can be	15.8	40.9	12.6	20.7	8.0	2.0
Wait till a change in the balances of Jerusalem	7.0	27.2	20.4	31.0	7.9	6.5
Demand linking with Jordan	5.9	28.8	23.0	26.9	9.1	6.3
Demand the establishment of a joint state for Palestinians and Israelis in all Palestine	3.2	16.6	15.3	38.7	21.4	4.8
Go back to armed struggle	17.0	28.8	18.4	26.9	4.5	4.4
Go back to popular struggle	20.6	32.7	14.4	23.9	4.1	4.3

West Bank

	Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose	No answer
Keep negotiating with Israel to salvage what can be	16.8	41.2	11.7	19.8	8.0	2.5
Wait till a change in the balances of Jerusalem	7.2	30.6	18.1	30.6	5.7	7.8
Demand linking with Jordan	6.3	28.3	20.4	31.7	7.6	5.7
Demand the establishment of a joint state for Palestinians and Israelis in all Palestine	3.8	20.6	15.1	39.7	17.3	3.5
Go back to armed struggle	18.7	27.3	15.2	28.0	5.8	5.0
Go back to popular struggle	19.8	30.9	12.4	26.7	5.1	5.1

Gaza Strip

	Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose	No answer
Keep negotiating with Israel to salvage what can be	14.2	40.4	14.2	22.1	8.0	1.1
Wait till a change in the balances of Jerusalem	6.7	21.0	24.4	31.7	11.9	4.3

Demand linking with Jordan	5.0	29.8	27.6	18.7	11.6	7.3
Demand the establishment of a joint state for Palestinians and Israelis in all Palestine	2.0	9.6	15.8	37.0	28.5	7.1
Go back to armed struggle	14.1	31.3	24.0	24.9	2.3	3.4
Go back to popular struggle	21.9	35.8	18.0	18.9	2.3	3.1