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Results of Palestinian Public Opinion Poll
No. 54
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Background

In order to end the Palestinian division, the Palestinian Authority (PA) suggested that Hamas hand in the administration of the Gaza Strip to the PA. Otherwise, Hamas should shoulder all matters related to the administration of the Gaza Strip including the financial responsibilities. Hamas is preparing a new document and a new program based on the creation of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders with Jerusalem as its capital. The Palestinian Government issued a decision to conduct municipal and local council elections on May 13 in the West Bank only after the refusal of Hamas to conduct elections in the Gaza Strip.

The Results

Following are the results of the Palestinian Public Opinion Poll no. 54 conducted by the Center for Opinion Polls and Survey Studies at An-Najah National University during the period from 28-30 April 2017. **The University sponsors all polls conducted by its Center.**

This poll undertakes the Palestinian division, the political stands of Hamas, the municipal and local council elections, the possibilities of conducting presidential and legislative elections in addition to the political affiliations of Palestinian people.

The sample included 1360 persons whose age group is 18 and above and who have the right to vote. The enclosed questionnaire was distributed on 860 persons from the West Bank and 500 persons from the Gaza Strip. The sample was drawn randomly and the margin of error is about $\pm 3\%$; still 1.6% of the members of the sample refused to answer the questionnaire.

The opinions represented in the results reflect those of the study; they do not, by any means, represent the opinion of An-Najah National University.



The General Results:

- 29.7% of respondents believed that the new Hamas document and its future program agree with the PLO program; 51.3% believed the opposite.
- 27.5% of respondents believed that Hamas will join the PLO after it adopts the new document.
- 42.9% of respondents reckoned that Hamas movement abandoned its principles by adopting its new document.
- 46.4% of respondents said that they were surprised by the new document and program of Hamas.
- 21.7% of respondents believed that the popularity of Hamas will increase among Palestinians after it adopts its new program; 40.6% believed that its popularity will decrease; 31.9% believed it will not change.
- 27.4% of respondents believed that the support of Hamas movement will be boosted among countries and Arab and international institutions after it adopts the new program; 31.8% believed that nothing will change with the adoption of the new program.
- 56.8% of respondents believed that Hamas' new program came to appease the pressure that some Arab and foreign countries exert on Hamas.
- 35.1% of respondents supported the creation of a new administration of the Gaza Strip by Hamas; 51.8% rejected .
- 34.8% of respondents expected that the new administration of the Gaza Strip that Hamas created will succeed in running the Gaza Strip; 50.3% expected its failure.
- 23.8% of respondents expected the success of the Fateh delegation to end the Palestinian division when they visit the Gaza Strip; 66% expected their failure.
- 19.6% of respondents said that Hamas will accept Fateh's offer which calls upon Hamas to either hand in the administration of the Gaza Strip to the PA or to shoulder all administrative affairs of the Gaza Strip including the financial responsibilities; 70.1% said that Hamas will reject the offer.
- 54.4% of respondents supported Fateh's offer which calls upon Hamas to either hand in the administration of the Gaza Strip to the PA or to shoulder all administrative affairs of the Gaza Strip including the financial responsibilities; 35.4% rejected it.
- 54.9% of respondents preferred the suggestion that calls upon Hamas to hand in the administration of the Gaza Strip to the PA while 29.1% preferred asking Hamas to shoulder all administrative affairs of the Gaza Strip including the financial responsibilities.
- 55.2% of respondents supported passing a law in Palestine in favor of organ transplantations; 34.9% rejected
- 66.2% of respondents supported transplanting organs from them or their relatives after death to save the life of a patient; 28.7% rejected.
- 56.8% of respondents expected the USA to exert pressure on some parties to compel them to go back to the negotiating table and make negotiations succeed.



- From among respondents who supported an intervention by the USA to exert pressure on some parties to lead these negotiations to a successful end, 58.2% expected the pressure to be exerted on the Palestinian side; 8.3% expected it to be exerted on the Israeli side while 31% expected it to be on both sides.
- 17.9% of respondents saw that the USA is serious this time in leading the negotiations between the Palestinians and the Israelis to a successful end.
- 51.8% of respondents supported the decision made by the Palestinian Government to conduct municipal and local council elections on May 13 in the West Bank only; 41.5% rejected it.
- 23% of respondents supported Hamas' rejection of municipal and local council elections in the Gaza Strip; 69% rejected it.
- 47.2% of respondents believed that the current circumstances are suitable for conducting municipal and local council elections.
- 74% of West Bank respondents said they will participate in the coming municipal and local council elections which will be conducted on May 13. From among these respondents 23.5% said they will vote for Fateh candidates; 10.6% said they will vote for Hamas candidates, and 20.8% said they will vote for the candidates of the family or clan.
- When municipal and local council elections will be held in the West Bank on May 13, respondents expected votes to be distributed as follows:
 - 49.9% A Fateh affiliated list or lists supported by Fateh.
 - 10.8% A Hamas affiliated list or lists supported by Hamas.
 - 1.6% A Palestinian Left affiliated list or lists supported by them.
 - 7.9% Family affiliated lists.
 - 9.3% Independent lists.
- 71.2% of respondents supported providing international protection for the Palestinian people who have been under occupation since 1967.
- 83.2% of respondents thought that Britain has to apologize to the Palestinian people for the Balfour Declaration.
- 74% of respondents supported the security campaign that the Palestinian Security apparatuses are conducting to curb the security chaos.
- 57.8% of respondents supported the rise of a peaceful, unarmed intifada in the Palestinian Territories; 37.7% rejected that
- 33.5% of respondents supported the rise of an armed intifada in the Palestinian Territories; 60.4% rejected that.
- 28.9% of respondents saw that if a Palestinian intifada takes place, a peaceful and unarmed intifada will be the best form of resistance that would serve the Palestinian cause, 15.4% said that an armed intifada would serve the Palestinian cause better, 23.2% said that both forms are useful for the Palestinian cause; 26.6% said that both forms are useless.
- 41.5% of respondents supported the creation of a confederation with Jordan on the basis of two independent states with strong institutional relations.



- 37% of respondents believed that there is a possibility for the creation of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders while 55.5% said that there is no such possibility.
- 48.2% of respondents supported the creation of a Palestinian state on the entire area of the 1967 borders as a final solution for the Palestinian cause while 45.7% said that there is no such possibility.
- 24.2% of respondents supported the creation of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders with some land exchange as a final solution for the Palestinian cause while 69.4% rejected.
- 20.5% of respondents supported the creation of a binational state for Arabs and Jews on historic Palestine as a final solution for the Palestinian cause while 73.9% rejected.
- 60.2% of respondents assessed the performance of the National Unity Government as good.
- 61.4% of respondents assessed the performance of the Palestinian Presidency as good.
- 37.1% of respondents expected that if elections are conducted in the present time in the Palestinian Territories, they will be fair.
- 83.7% of respondents said that they will participate in the coming presidential elections. From among those who said they will participate, 41% said that they will give their votes to Fateh's candidate; 13.6% said they will give their votes to Hamas' candidate.
- 82.7% of respondents said that they will participate in the coming legislative elections. From among those who said they will participate, 41.6% said that they will give their votes to Fateh's candidates; 14.3% said they will give their votes to Hamas' candidates.
- If PLC elections are to be conducted, 48.9% of respondents expected the winning of Fateh movement; 14% expected the winning of Hamas.
- 32.4% of respondents said that the current political, security and economic circumstances compel them to desire to emigrate.
- 51.5% of respondents expressed fear for their lives under the present circumstances.
- 58.3% of respondents said that they are pessimistic about the general Palestinian situation at this stage.
- 79.8% of respondents said that they neither feel safe for themselves nor for their families and properties under the current circumstances.



- As for political affiliation, respondents gave the following results:

People's Party	1.4%
Democratic Front	1.1%
Islamic Jihad	2.6%
Fateh	37.5%
Hamas	12.8%
Fida	0.1%
Popular Front	2.7%
Palestinian National Initiative	1.6%
An independent nationalist	6.3%
An independent Islamist	3.0%
None of the above	29.9%
Others	1.0%



The General Results of the Poll

Do you think that the New Hamas document and its imminent program agree with the PLO program?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	29.7	35.1	20.4
No	51.8	46.4	61.0
No opinion/I do not know	18.5	18.5	18.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you think that Hamas will join the PLO after adopting the new document?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	27.5	32.3	19.2
No	56.4	53.0	62.2
No opinion/I do not know	16.1	14.7	18.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you think that Hamas has abandoned its principles by adopting the new document?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	42.9	40.9	46.4
No	45.7	49.1	39.8
No opinion/I do not know	11.4	10.0	13.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Were you surprised by the new Hamas program and its adoption of the new document?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	46.4	48.5	42.8
No	44.2	44.1	44.4
No opinion/I do not know	9.4	7.4	12.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Do you think that Hamas will win or lose its popularity among the Palestinians after adopting its new program?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
It will win	21.7	27.9	11.0
It will lose	40.6	33.6	52.6
There will not be any change	31.9	32.9	30.2
No opinion/I do not know	5.8	5.6	6.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you think that Hamas will win or lose the support of Arab and international countries and institutions after adopting its new program?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
It will win	27.4	33.0	17.8
It will lose	33.2	27.0	44.0
There will not be any change	31.8	32.8	30.2
No opinion/I do not know	7.5	7.2	8.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you think that the new program of Hamas tries to appease the pressure exerted by some Arab and foreign countries on Hamas?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	56.8	60.8	49.8
No	30.6	29.2	33.0
No opinion/I do not know	12.6	10.0	17.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Hamas has created a new administration to run the Gaza Strip. Do you support or reject this?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	35.1	45.3	17.6
I reject	51.8	40.5	71.4
No opinion/I do not know	13.0	14.2	11.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Do you think that the new administration created by Hamas will succeed in running the Gaza Strip?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	34.8	46.2	15.2
No	50.3	37.7	72.0
No opinion/I do not know	14.9	16.2	12.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

A delegation of six Fateh members will visit the Gaza Strip to discuss the Palestinian division. Do you expect the delegation to succeed or fail in its mission?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
It will succeed	23.8	27.4	17.4
It will fail	66.0	66.3	65.4
No opinion/I do not know	10.3	6.3	17.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

It is expected that the Fateh delegation to the Gaza Strip will ask Hamas to either hand in the administration of the Gaza Strip to the PA, or to shoulder all the administrative responsibilities of the Strip including the financial matters. Do you think Hamas will accept or reject the offer?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
It will accept	19.6	21.2	17.0
It will reject	70.1	72.1	66.8
No opinion/I do not know	10.2	6.7	16.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you personally support or reject the offer that the Fatah delegation will present to Hamas to either hand in the administration of the Gaza Strip over to the PA or to take over everything related to the administration including the financial matters?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	54.4	51.2	60.0
I reject	35.4	40.0	27.6
No opinion/I do not know	10.1	8.8	12.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



What do you personally prefer?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Handing in the administration of the Gaza Strip to the PA	54.9	45.3	71.4
Asking Hamas to shoulder all the administrative responsibilities of the Gaza Strip including the financial matters	29.1	39.2	11.8
No opinion/I do not know	16.0	15.5	16.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject passing a law in Palestine regarding organ transplantations?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	55.2	61.6	44.2
I reject	34.9	35.6	33.8
No opinion/I do not know	9.9	2.8	22.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you personally support or reject the transplantation of organs from you or any of your relatives after death to save the life of a patient?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	66.2	70.9	58.0
I reject	28.7	25.8	33.6
No opinion/I do not know	5.1	3.3	8.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you expect the United States to intervene and pressure some parties to return to negotiations and make negotiations succeed?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	56.8	60.8	49.8
No	34.3	35.5	32.4
No opinion/I do not know	8.9	3.7	17.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



If the answer to the above question is “yes” on which side do you expect the USA to exert pressure?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
The Palestinian side	58.2	60.5	53.4
The Israeli side	8.3	8.2	8.4
Both sides	31.0	28.0	37.3
No opinion/I do not know	2.5	3.3	0.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you think that the USA is serious this time in its endeavors to bring the peace negotiations between the Palestinians and the Israelis to a successful end?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	17.9	18.3	17.2
No	73.5	77.7	66.4
No opinion/I do not know	8.6	4.1	16.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject the decision made by the Palestinian Government to conduct municipal and local council elections on May 13 in the West Bank only after the refusal of Hamas to conduct them in the Gaza Strip?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	51.8	64.1	30.8
I reject	41.5	33.3	55.8
No opinion/I do not know	6.6	2.7	13.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject Hamas' decision not to hold municipal and local council elections in the Gaza Strip?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	23.0	28.5	13.6
I reject	69.0	63.7	78.0
No opinion/I do not know	8.0	7.8	8.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Do you believe that the current circumstances are suitable for conducting municipal and local council elections?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	47.2	54.1	35.4
No	46.5	43.0	52.4
No opinion/I do not know	6.3	2.9	12.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Who will you vote for in the coming municipal and local council elections?

(This question is for West Bank residents only)

	West Bank
A block that represents the family or clan	15.4
An independent ticket	4.4
A ticket from the left	1.3
A ticket from Hamas	7.9
A ticket from Fateh	17.4
A national independent ticket	5.6
An Islamic independent ticket	2.6
I will not participate in the elections	26.0
I have not decided yet	19.5
Total	100.0

Who do you expect to win in the West Bank municipal and local council elections when they will be held on May 13?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
A Fateh affiliated list or lists supported by Fateh	49.9	54.0	43.0
A Hamas affiliated list or lists supported by Hamas	10.8	9.7	12.8
A Palestinian Left affiliated list or lists supported by them	1.6	0.6	3.4
Family affiliated lists	7.9	11.3	2.2
Independent lists	9.3	8.8	10.0
No opinion/I do not know	20.4	15.7	28.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Do you support or reject providing international protection for the Palestinian people who have been under occupation since 1967

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	71.2	71.9	70.0
I reject	24.5	26.3	21.4
No opinion/I do not know	4.3	1.9	8.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

From your point of view, do you think that Britain should apologize to the Palestinian people for the Balfour Declaration?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	83.2	85.3	79.4
No	11.3	11.6	10.8
No opinion/I do not know	5.5	3.0	9.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject the security campaign that the Palestinian security apparatuses are conducting to curb the security chaos?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	74.0	77.8	67.4
I reject	21.6	19.3	25.6
No opinion/I do not know	4.4	2.9	7.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject the rise of an unarmed peaceful intifada in the Palestinian Territories?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	57.8	57.3	58.6
I reject	37.7	40.7	32.6
No opinion/I do not know	4.5	2.0	8.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Do you support or reject the rise of an armed intifada in the Palestinian territories?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	33.5	31.3	37.4
I reject	60.4	66.4	50.0
No opinion/I do not know	6.1	2.3	12.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

From your point of view at the present time, which of the following forms of resistance will serve the Palestinian cause best?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
An unarmed peaceful intifada	28.9	29.3	28.2
An armed intifada	15.4	14.8	16.6
Both forms are useful	23.2	20.1	28.6
Both forms are useless	26.6	33.3	15.2
No opinion/I do not know	5.8	2.6	11.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject the creation of a confederation with Jordan on the basis of two independent states with strong institutional relations?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
I support	41.5	49.1	28.6
I reject	43.5	45.8	39.6
No opinion/I do not know	14.9	5.1	31.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Under the current circumstances, do you think that there is an opportunity for the creation of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	37.0	44.0	25.0
No	55.5	54.4	57.4
No opinion/I do not know	7.5	1.6	17.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Do you support or reject the creation of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders as a final solution for the Palestinian cause?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	48.2	49.4	46.2
No	45.7	49.2	39.6
No opinion/I do not know	6.1	1.4	14.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject the creation of a Palestinian state on the 1967 borders with some land exchange as a final solution for the Palestinian cause?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	24.2	24.9	23.0
No	69.4	72.9	63.4
No opinion/I do not know	6.4	2.2	13.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do you support or reject the creation of a binational state for both Arabs and Jews as a final solution for the Palestinian cause?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	20.5	23.5	15.4
No	73.9	74.0	73.8
No opinion/I do not know	5.6	2.6	10.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

How do you assess the performance of the National Unity Government?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Excellent	6.7	7.1	6.0
Good	53.5	57.6	46.4
Poor	29.8	24.4	39.0
No opinion/I do not know	10.1	10.9	8.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



How do you assess the performance of the Palestinian Presidency?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Excellent	10.7	10.2	11.4
Good	50.7	55.0	43.4
Poor	32.7	29.4	38.4
No opinion/I do not know	5.9	5.3	6.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

If elections are to be conducted in the Palestinian Territories at the present time, do you think they will be fair?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	37.1	37.4	36.4
No	52.1	54.3	48.2
No opinion/I do not know	10.9	8.3	15.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

If presidential elections are held at the present time, to whom from among the following do you give your vote?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
An independent candidate	7.0	5.5	9.6
A candidate from the left	2.7	1.3	5.2
A candidate from Hamas	11.4	14.4	6.2
A candidate from Fateh	34.3	30.2	41.2
A national independent candidate	6.8	7.9	5.0
An Islamic independent candidate	3.5	2.9	4.4
I will not participate in the elections	16.3	19.8	10.4
I have not decided yet	18.0	18.0	18.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



If new PLC elections are conducted, who do you vote for?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
An independent ticket	6.2	5.7	7.0
A ticket from the left	3.2	2.0	5.4
A ticket from Hamas	11.8	14.3	7.6
A ticket from Fateh	34.4	30.1	41.8
A national independent ticket	6.7	7.3	5.6
An Islamic independent ticket	3.2	2.9	3.6
I will not participate in the elections	17.3	20.1	12.4
I have not decided yet	17.2	17.6	16.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

If new legislative elections are to be held today, which of the following will win?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
An independent Islamists bloc	3.4	2.4	5.0
An independent Nationalist bloc	9.1	8.0	11.0
A Fateh bloc	48.9	49.7	47.6
A Hamas bloc	14.0	17.9	7.4
A bloc from leftist organizations	1.9	1.5	2.6
No opinion/I do not know	22.6	20.5	26.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Do the current political, security and economic circumstances compel you to desire to emigrate abroad?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	32.4	19.3	55.0
No	66.0	80.2	41.4
No opinion/I do not know	1.6	0.5	3.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Are you worried about your life under the present circumstances?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	51.5	38.4	74.0
No	47.4	61.5	23.0
No opinion/I do not know	1.2	0.1	3.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Are you pessimistic or optimistic towards the general Palestinian situation at this stage?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Optimistic	38.8	50.0	19.4
Pessimistic	58.3	48.6	75.0
No opinion/I do not know	2.9	1.4	5.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Under the present circumstances, do you feel that you, your family and your properties are safe?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	19.9	25.5	10.2
Maybe	36.4	40.8	28.8
No	43.4	33.6	60.2
No opinion/I do not know	0.4	0.1	0.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



Which of the following political affiliations do you support?

PARTY	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
People's Party	1.4	0.8	2.4
Democratic Front	1.1	0.9	1.4
Islamic Jihad	2.6	1.5	4.4
Fateh	37.5	33.7	44.0
Hamas	12.8	16.0	7.2
Fida	0.1	0.2	0.0
Popular Front	2.7	1.6	4.6
Palestinian National Initiative	1.6	0.9	2.8
An independent nationalist	6.3	6.5	5.8
An independent Islamist	3.0	2.8	3.4
None of the above	29.9	34.5	21.8
Others	1.0	0.3	2.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0