

Gilani Research Foundation is a not for profit public service project to provide social science research to students, academia, policy makers and concerned citizens in Pakistan and across the globe.

Gilani Research Foundation is headed by Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani who pioneered the field of opinion polling in Pakistan and established Gallup Pakistan in 1980. Currently Dr. Gilani, who holds a PhD from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and has taught at leading universities in Pakistan and abroad, is Chairman of Gallup Pakistan.

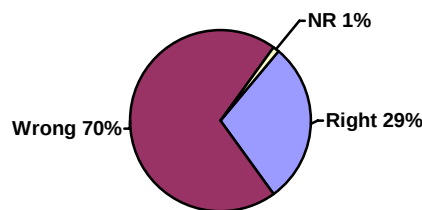
Perceptions on Importance of Education for Elected Officials: GILANI POLL /GALLUP PAKISTAN

Islamabad, November 5, 2009

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, majority of all Pakistanis believe education is extremely important for elected officials and that people without proper education should not hold public office; 70% of all respondents claimed that the government is doing wrong by eliminating the requirement for a Bachelor's degree for people running in the election, 29% favor the decision and 1% gave no response. In response to another question, 48% said both good education and relevant experience is necessary to be in the government, 34% said only good education matters, 17% believe only relevant experience counts and 1% gave no response.

A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked “*Recently, government has decided to withdraw the requirement to have a bachelor's degree for participating in the elections. In your view is this decision right or wrong?*” Twenty nine percent (29%) think it is the right decision, where as 70% believe otherwise. One percent (1%) of the respondents gave no response. It is notable that a slightly higher percentage of urbanites (31%) as compared to their rural counterparts (28%) are in the favour of this decision.

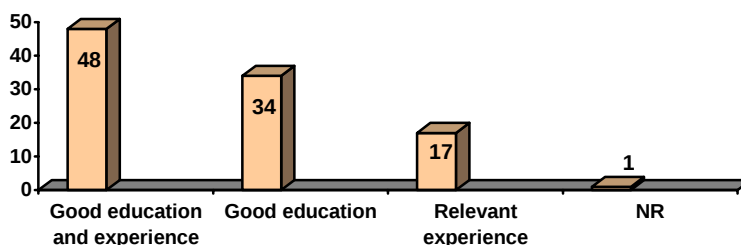
“Recently, government has decided to withdraw the requirement to have a bachelor's degree for participating in the elections. In your view is this decision right or wrong?”



Source: Gilani Poll conducted by Gallup Pakistan,
the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com; www.gallup.com.pk)

In a follow up question the respondents were asked “*In your view, in order to run good government is it more important to have good education, relevant experience, or both education and experience?*” Thirty four percent (34%) prefer highly educated people to be elected in the government, 17% said relevant experience matters the most, whereas 48% believe both good education and experience count. One percent (1%) of the respondents gave no response. The findings reveal that a proportionately higher percentage of ruralites believe being highly educated (36%) and having relevant experience (8%) is more important to run the government where as a higher percentage of urbanites believe it's a combination of both good education and relevant experience which counts. A significantly higher percentage of ANP voters (81%) think both education and experience are important.

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Source: Gilani Poll conducted by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com; www.gallup.com.pk)

The study was released by Gilani foundation and carried out by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. The latest survey was carried out among a sample of 2765 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during October 2009. Error margin is estimated to be approximately ± 2 -3 per cent at 95% confidence level.

Gallup Pakistan proposes that its poll results be attributed as Gilani Poll conducted by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. This is to distinguish our polls from polls on Pakistan sometimes released by other organizations not part of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com) and referred to by the same title. Also please see necessary Disclaimer on our website (www.gallup.com.pk). Gallup Pakistan takes responsibility for only its own polls on Pakistan.

For more survey data on social and other issues see website www.gallup.com.pk

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