



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 of Technology (MIT) and has taught at leading universities in Pakistan and abroad, is Chairman of Gallup Pakistan.

Perspective on Wealth Disparity; Majority Links Wealth and Poverty to Inheritance: GILANI POLL / GALLUP PAKISTAN

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According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, majority of the Pakistanis do not attribute wealth disparity to hard work, illegal means or education. More than 40% people believe a person is rich or poor because he/she was born into a wealthy or poor family. While 28% attribute poverty to bad luck, less than 20% think the rich are well off because they chose to use illegal means. Less than 5% think education is a reason why people are rich or poor.

The respondents were asked, “Just like everywhere else, some people in our country are rich and some are poor, in your view what are the reasons why some people to be **rich**?” For majority of the respondents (46%) being rich is directly connected to being born in a rich family. While 18% think it is due to working hard, 15% think that rich people got wealth out of sheer luck/chance; 16% said these people earned their wealth illegally, whereas 5% of the respondents attribute wealth to the opportunity of working abroad. Only 4% link wealth to education.

To understand the other side of the picture respondents were asked, “In your view what are the reasons why some people to be **poor**?” Once again majority (43%) consider being born in a poor family the primary reason for poverty. Interestingly, 28% attribute poverty to bad luck. Only 12% believe that the poor are wretched because they are lazy (12%) or because they are honest paupers who have abstained from illegal means of earning money (12%). Lack of good education and inability to work abroad are cited by 5% and 4%, respectively.

Just like everywhere else, some people in our country are rich and some are poor. In your view, what are the reasons for some people to be rich and some to be poor?”

Reason for Being Rich	
Born in a Rich Family	46%
Chance/Luck	15%
Hard Work	18%
Earned it illegally	16%
Earned it Abroad	5%
They are Educated	4%
No Response	1%

Reason for being Poor	
Born in a Poor family	43%
Bad Luck	28%
Lack of Hard Working	12%
Don't use illegal ways to earn	12%
Didn't go Abroad to earn	4%
They are un-educated	5%
No Response	1%

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 2764 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during April 2009. Error margin is estimated to be approximately $\pm$ 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 related and other issues see website www.gallup.com.pk

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