

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 Islam, State, and Democracy: GILANI POLL /GALLUP PAKISTAN

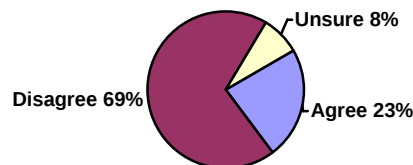
Islamabad, November 19, 2009

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, two thirds of all Pakistanis believe that Islam requires an Islamic state (69%), however in a follow up question just as many (68%) believe that democracy is consistent with an Islamic system of governing a country; 23% believe that Islam does not require an Islamic state, and 8 were unsure. It is also notable that 22% believe that democracy can not co-exist with Islam and 10% were unsure.

A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were read out a list of statements and were asked “*People in Pakistan have different viewpoints. Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statement, ‘Islam does not require an Islamic state?’*” Twenty three percent (23%) believe that Islam does not require an Islamic state, where as the majority (69%) believe it does require an Islamic state and 8% are unsure. A slightly higher percentage of rural respondents agree in support of an Islamic state.

“People in Pakistan have different viewpoints. Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statement, ‘Islam does not require an Islamic state?’

** Note for the reader: The question wording is drawn, verbatim, from a debate topic. As explained at the start this report, the wording therefore may not always conform to the standard question wording required by scientific survey questions.*

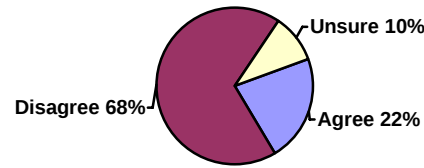


Source: Gilani Poll conducted by Gallup Pakistan,
the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International Association (www.gallup-international.com; www.gallup.com.pk)

However it is seen that when the respondents were asked whether they agree or disagree with ‘*Democracy can not prevail in an Islamic state*’, majority (68%) disagreed whereas 22% claimed that democracy can not exist in an Islamic state. The remaining 10% of the respondents were unsure.

“Do you agree or disagree with ‘Democracy can not prevail in an Islamic state’?”

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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

For any queries please contact:
Ms. Saadia Khalid
Assistant Manager (Research)

Phone: +92-51-2655630
E-mail: saadia.khalid@gallup.com.pk