



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.

More Than Half of All Pakistanis Believe Eid Should Be Celebrated According to the Sighting of Moon: GILANI POLL / GALLUP PAKISTAN

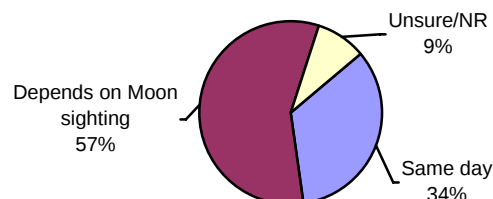
Islamabad, September 29, 2009

With each passing year, Eid celebrations seem to be over shadowed by controversies regarding the day on which to celebrate Eid. This year too, the controversy of celebrating Eid on two different days in the country was the headline of all news channels and print media. To understand what the public feels about this regular moon-sighting controversy, a Gilani Research Foundation survey was carried out by Gallup Pakistan during the first week of September shortly before the Eid of 2009. According to the study, majority of all Pakistanis (57%) agree that Eid should be celebrated after sighting the moon in an area, where as another significant percentage (34%) believe that Muslims all over the world need to celebrate Eid on the same day. The remaining 9% were unsure or gave no response.

A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked “Some people believe that Muslims all over the world should celebrate ‘Eid’ on the same day while others believe it should depend on the sighting of the moon for each area, what is your point of view?” Thirty four percent (34%) believe that all Muslims should celebrate ‘Eid’ on the same day, where as the majority (57%) holds the view that it depends on the sighting of the new month’s moon for each location. Nine percent (9%) of the respondents were either unsure or gave no response.

The data reveals that a significantly higher percentage of respondents from NWFP believe that all Muslims should celebrate Eid on the same day, irrespective of the moon sighting. It is also seen that comparatively more youngsters under the age of 50 claimed that Eid can only be celebrated after sighting the moon, even if it is on separate days for different locations.

“Some people believe that Muslims all over the world should celebrate ‘Eid’ on the same day while others believe it should depend on the sighting of the moon for each area, what is your point of view?”



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 2754 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during September 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 and other issues see website www.gallup.com.pk

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