



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.

Majority (74 %) Finds Common Ground; Only 23 % Believe Islam and Democracy are at Odds: GILANI POLL / GALLUP PAKISTAN

Islamabad, June 3, 2009

In contemporary times the focus has been on Islam and its teachings; social and political. Since the relationship between Islam and democracy is strongly debated among people with different views, to understand the opinion of people in Pakistan, a Gilani Research Foundation survey was carried out by Gallup Pakistan. According to this study more than two thirds (74%) of all Pakistanis believe that democracy is an important tenet of Islam or at least the two are compatible in some situations. Twenty three percent (23%), however, argue that Islam and democracy have nothing in common with each other.

When the respondents were asked “Some people believe that democracy is against Islam. Some believe Islam is actually democracy, meaning without democracy there can be no Islam, where as others believe that it depends on the situation; at times they can coexist while at other times Islam and democracy will remain at odds with each other?” Majority (40%) said that without democracy there can be no Islam. Thirty four percent (34%) believe that it depends on the situation whether Islam and Democracy can coexist, whereas according to 23% of the respondents Islam and democracy are not at all compatible. Three percent (3%) gave no response.

The data reveals majority of all respondents, across all demographics, are of the view that democracy and Islam are very closely linked. However, a proportionately higher percentage of ruralites (25%) compared to urbanites (18%) think that democracy is against Islam.

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Without democracy there can be no Islam	40%
Democracy is against Islam	23%
It depends on the situation	34%
No response	3%

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 2690 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during May 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 religion related and other issues see website www.gallup.com.pk

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