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GALLUP PAKISTAN POLL FINDINGS ON

POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE SHARIAT BILL

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POPULAR SUPPORT FOR THE SHARIAT BILL

According to a recent Gallup poll the Shariat Bill enjoys very high level of support among the public. In a nation-wide survey 60% supported and 4% opposed it while 36% did not give an opinion. The level of support is particularly high in the major urban centers. Among the residents of the top ten cities, 83% support the bill and 5% oppose it leaving behind only 12% who do not hold an opinion.

The survey was conducted by Gallup Pakistan in 150 cities towns and villages all over the country. These locations were selected through a scientific procedure and the sample consisted of a cross-section of various regional linguistic income and education groups. The findings of the survey were computer processed.

The findings of the Gallup survey show that the awareness about Shariat Bill is markedly lower in the rural compared to the urban areas. However in the urban areas resistance to the Shariat Bill is noticeable among the more educated. 9% of those with post-graduate education opposed the Shariat Bill compared with only 1% opposition among the illiterates and 6% among those with education up to metric. The support for shariat bill was 77% among post-graduates and 90% among those with primary education. Similarly even though a majority of the respondents belonging to the Shia school of thought support the Shariat Bill, the ratio of resistance is higher among them compared to the national average with 13% opposing and 75% supporting the Shariat Bill.

The support for Shariat Bill is particularly pronounced among the pushto speaking population 91% among them support it and only 1% oppose it.

The following question was asked:

Presently the national assembly and the senate is considering
A bill called the Shariat Bill. In your view should this bill be
Approved or disapproved.

	All Pakistan	Major towns
Approved	60	83
Disapproved	4	5
No opinion	36	12