

**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.*

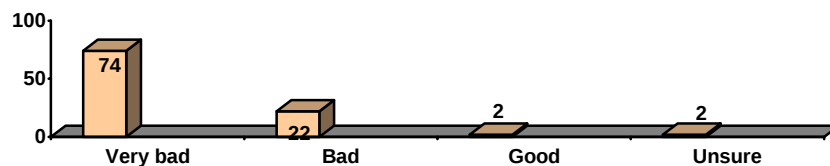
## Perceptions about Spitting on the Floors and its Effects on Health: GILANI POLL / GALLUP PAKISTAN

Islamabad, January 15, 2010

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, behavior may not always conform to norms. However as a norm majority of all Pakistanis (around 78%) consider spitting on the floor to be a bad habit and also detrimental for people's health. It is interesting to note that there are some, although a small percentage, who do not believe spitting to be a bad habit or that it can spread contagious diseases. The study shows, that a slightly higher percentage of people from rural areas seem to not think of spitting as harmful.

A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked “*What do you think about the act of people spitting everywhere on the floor?*” Seventy four percent (74%) said it is a very bad to spit on the floor, 22% claimed it is bad, whereas the remaining 4% believe it is good to spit or were unsure.

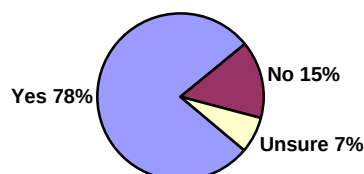
“*What do you think about the act of people spitting everywhere on the floor?*”



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

In a follow up question the respondents were asked “*Do you think spitting everywhere on the floor can spread different diseases or not?*” Seventy eight percent (78%) believe spitting on the floor can spread various diseases whereas 15% believe otherwise and 7% said they were not sure. The data shows that, a proportionately higher percentage of ruralites (18%) as compared to their urban counterparts (10%) believe spitting does not spread any disease.

“*What do you think about the act of people spitting everywhere on the floor?*”



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

When the respondents were asked which diseases they think can be spread through spitting everywhere on the floor, a vast majority 87% said that spitting spreads Tuberculosis (TB), 5% believe flu can be spread like this, and another 7% cited other diseases. Ten percent (10%) of the respondents gave no response. It is seen that a proportionately higher percentage of ruralites seem to believe that spitting everywhere can cause diseases such as tuberculosis to spread.

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 2768 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during December 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](http://www.gallup-international.com)) and referred to by the same title. Also please see necessary Disclaimer on our website ([www.gallup.com.pk](http://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](http://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](mailto:saadia.khalid@gallup.com.pk)