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Survey--Public Opinion Poll (3)
The Impact of the Israeli-imposed Siege
on Palestinian Living Conditions

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Sample size: 1,200 Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip

Number of field researchers: 62 male and female researchers

Number of sample locations: 75 locations

Percentage of error: (+ or - 3%)

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- *All results represent the opinions of the respondents and do not represent the viewpoint of Birzeit University or the Development Studies Programme or any other related committee.*

Background

- The field research started two days after the Israeli elections took place. These elections resulted in the victory of Mr. Ariel Sharon, leader of the right-wing Likud party.
- The polling took place while the West Bank and Gaza Strip were under a complete siege. Unemployment and poverty rates were at an all-time high.
- Violence is still continuing; the number of Palestinians killed since the beginning of the Intifada has risen to over 400.
- Negotiations between Palestinians and Israelis have been terminated, with no chance in sight for them to resume.
- There continues a debate within Palestinian society regarding issues such as: collaboration with Israel (spying), the death penalty, the boycott of Israeli products, and the performance of PA institutions.
- Two Palestinians, accused of collaboration with Israeli intelligence in the killing of fellow Palestinians, have been executed (in public) by the PA.

Main Results

1. *The Impact of the Israeli-imposed Siege on Palestinian Living Conditions*

- **73% of Palestinian households have seen their income decline over the past four months.**
- **27% of Palestinian households have completely lost their source of income.**
- Two thirds of the households (regardless of family size) have a monthly income that doesn't exceed US\$300.
- In the West Bank & Gaza, 46% of the respondents said that at least one family member had completely lost his/her job. Additionally, in 25% of the households, at least one family member had partly lost his/her job.
- In Gaza, 54% of those surveyed said that at least one family member had completely lost his/her job.
- 53% of those living in refugee camps said that a family member had completely lost his/her job, in comparison with 46% in villages and 43% in cities.

- **75% of those interviewed said that they are suffering from “psychological and emotional difficulties” as a result of the economic and political hardship during the Intifada.**
- **Teenagers and children are those who suffer most from psychological trauma;** 69% of those between 5-14 years of age are facing psychological trauma. In Gaza, the percentage is 72.
- **More women (87%) are suffering from psychological trauma than men (62%).**
- 11% of the respondents said that at least one family member has been deprived completely from attending school (or university). In addition, 60% said that a family member has partly lost his/her access to education.
- 42% of the sample population have experienced additional difficulties in gaining access to health services. 50% of West Bank village residents faced such difficulties.
- **77% of respondents feel insecure about their well-being and the well-being of their families and property.**
- 28% of Palestinian households have received cash or in-kind assistance during the Intifada period. The percentage in Gaza was (41%) double that in the West Bank (20%).
- 84% of Palestinian households had to reduce their expenditures in order to cope with the economic difficulties of the past four months. Over 55% had to spend existing savings and 43% had to take a loan. In 31% of Gaza households, women had to sell their gold and wedding gifts. About 52% of households in Gaza had to take a loan to be able to cope.
- **Only 12.4% of respondents said that the Arab countries lived up to their commitments in assisting the Palestinians people. In contrast, 58% said that they didn’t live up to their commitments.**
- **56% of the respondents felt that assistance is not being distributed to those who need it most.** About 16% said that the distribution is fair and 19% said that it was “fair to some extent.” Dissatisfaction with the way aid is being distributed is higher in the West Bank (60%) than in Gaza (50%).
- Palestinians were divided in their analysis of “internal conditions”, 37% said that “chaos and violence are on the increase” in their communities. In contrast, 40% said that this was not the case; and 19% said that it was the case “to some extent.” The feeling of living in 'chaos and violence' is higher among West Bank respondents (41%) than among Gaza respondents (29%).
- 17% of respondents would leave the country and live abroad, if they were given the chance to do so. Willingness to emigrate is much higher among younger

Palestinians; as 38% of males in the age group (18-22) would emigrate if given the chance. The rate among young women (ages 23-27) is 28%.

2. The Intifada and the Peace Process

- About 12% of respondents believe that the newly elected Israeli government (led by Ariel Sharon) will be serious about reaching a comprehensive peace deal with the Palestinians. 13% believe that it will be “somewhat serious”, and 64% believe that it will not be serious.
- 70% support the continuation of negotiations until a final agreement is reached.
- 60% support a lasting peace deal between Palestinians and Israelis based on UN Resolutions. 7% support this “to some extent,” and 27% oppose.
- 27% believe that Israel will recognize the right of Palestinian refugees to return to land lost in 1948.
- 25% said that they would accept an agreement signed by the current leadership. 67% said that they will decide only when they know the details of any such agreement.
- 38% believe that Palestinian negotiators are working in the best interest of the Palestinian people. 19% agreed with this “to some extent,” and 32% disagreed.
- 44% are satisfied with how the Intifada is proceeding, and 20% are satisfied to “some extent.” In contrast, 33% are dissatisfied.
- **17% feel that the new American president George Bush will be more balanced in dealing with the Palestinian-Israeli conflict than his predecessor Bill Clinton. 58% feel that there will be no change. About 25% are undecided.**

3. Military Operations

- 53% of respondents support suicide or other attacks against civilians inside Israeli cities, while 40% oppose such attacks. Opposition to suicide attacks is higher in the West Bank where the population is divided between 47% supporters and 44% opponents. Support for suicide attacks is much higher in Gaza, where it reaches 64%, with 33% opponents.
- 40% of those who support military attacks in general want such attacks directed only against settlers or military targets.

4. Boycott of Israeli Products

- 91% of the respondents have heard of the campaigns waged to boycott Israeli products. About 57% think that such a boycott could be implemented. 74% are buying less Israeli products now than before the Intifada.

5. The Death Penalty

- 66% of the respondents believe that all citizens, even when accused of collaboration with Israel, should have the right to appeal their verdict. In contrast, 25% disagree with that.
- A specific question was asked about whether the death penalty should be imposed on those who collaborate with Israel in killing other fellow Palestinians; 85% said that they support such a penalty, and 11% opposed it.
- 77% believed that the death penalty is effective in deterring others from collaborating with Israel.
- Only one third of the respondents feel that those who were executed were posing the most danger to the Palestinian cause. In contrast, 53% felt that they did not represent the most danger to the Palestinian cause. In Gaza, only 25% feel that those who were executed were the ones who deserved such a punishment the most.
- Palestinians see that the ability of the Israeli intelligence service (MOSSAD) to blackmail and manipulate fellow Palestinians in times of economic hardship is the primary cause leading to collaboration.

6. Evaluation of Institutions

- **47% of respondents evaluate the performance of President Yasser Arafat as "positive". 28% evaluate his performance as "fair"¹, while 15% give his performance a negative evaluation.** 52% of the Gaza respondents gave a positive evaluation of the performance of President Arafat, compared to 44% in the West Bank.
- 28% feel that the PA is doing enough to combat corruption within its ranks. In contrast, 48% feel that the PA is not doing enough. 21% said that they don't know.
- 43% think that there is a need to replace the current Palestinian Ministerial Cabinet and leadership of major governmental institutions. Support for change is

¹"Fair" generally refers to "middle of the road" or half way, or between negative and positive.

higher in Gaza (50%) than in the West Bank (38%). In both regions, 38% think that there is no need for change.

- 21% evaluate the performance of the Palestinian Legislative Council during the Intifada as “positive”. 34% feel that its performance was “fair”, and 43% feel it was “negative”.
- 48% feel that PA security services are fulfilling their role in protecting citizens.
- 81.4% believe that those who are accused of corruption must be brought to trial before being punished. Only 15% said that the “Palestinian Street” should punish them.
- 52% of respondents evaluate the role of Islamist factions (like Hamas and the Islamic Jihad) in the Intifada as “satisfactory”. 30% feel it was “fair”, and 10% were dissatisfied. Satisfaction with the performance of Islamist factions reaches as high as 63% in the Gaza Strip, compared to 45% in the West Bank.
- 53% see that Fatah and the PA are “one and the same thing”; in Gaza the percentage was 57%. In contrast, 27% of West Bank and Gaza respondents feel that Fatah is independent from the PA, while 4% said that it was in the opposition.
- 21% believe that the PA ministries and institutions are effectively serving the public. 30% believe that they serve the public “to some extent,” and 36% believe that they are not effectively serving the public.
- 60% are satisfied with the current garbage collection services.
- 47% are satisfied with traffic control in cities and towns.
- If an independent election for the presidency would take place today, 52% would be “undecided” or would not participate. Out of the remaining 48% (who are decided), 28% would vote for Yasser Arafat; 12% will vote for Sheikh Ahmed Yassin; and 9% would vote for Haider Abdel-Shafi. Support for President Arafat is higher in Gaza (34%) than in the West Bank (24%).
- The largest group of Palestinians (48%) does not support any of the existing political factions. The remaining are divided as follows: Fatah (26%); Hamas (18.5%); Islamic Jihad (4.3%), PFLP (2.3%).
- **In Gaza, however, for the first time ever, Fatah and Hamas received the same rate of support (24% each), while in the West Bank support for Fatah is still higher (27%) than for Hamas (15%).**

7. Education as a Decisive Factor in Shaping Attitudes

- Educated respondents are less inclined to support the continuation of the negotiations than the least educated. Whereas 76% of the least educated support the continuation of negotiations, only 61% of the educated do so².
- 50% of the educated support a lasting peace deal with Israel based on UN resolutions, compared to 71% among the least educated.
- 70% of the educated feel that the current American president will be the same as his predecessor, while 50% of the least educated share that feeling.
- The educated are less supportive of the death penalty for collaboration with Israel; 20% of them opposed, in comparison with 11% among the least educated.
- The educated were more supportive of the right of any Palestinian (even if accused of collaboration) to appeal to a higher court, with 80% in support, compared to 62% among the least educated.
- Only 20% of the educated feel that the current negotiations team represents the best interests of the Palestinians, compared to 50% among the least educated.
- 50% of the least educated are satisfied with the current proceedings of the Intifada, compared to only 27% among the educated.
- Dissatisfaction with the performance of Arab countries in providing aid to Palestinians is higher among the educated (70%), compared to 49% among the least educated.
- 34% of the educated are satisfied with how cash and food aid is being distributed, compared to 16% among the least educated.
- The least educated and the poor are those who face the greatest difficulties gaining access to health services as a result of the current sieges. 50% of the least educated are facing problems gaining access to health services, compared to 32% among the educated.
- 65% of the educated think that it is time to change the current Ministerial cabinet and leadership of the major governmental institutions, compared to only 26% among the least educated.
- 63% of the educated feel that Fatah and the PA are “one and the same”, compared to 47% among the least educated.

²“The educated” refers to those holding Bachelors degrees and more; while the “least educated” refers to the “illiterates.”

8. Regional Variations

The above-mentioned results reveal that the current crisis is bringing more homogeneity to the state of public opinion when comparing the West Bank with Gaza. No major differences exist on most issues. However, there are some counter-indicators that show that Gaza respondents are becoming more and more disenfranchised (destitute and hard-line):

- All indicators show that economic hardship is higher in Gaza than it is in the West Bank. In Gaza, more people have lost their jobs and more have lost all sources of income. This, of course, can be explained by the fact that Gaza residents, even more than West Bank residents, rely on work in Israel as a source of income.
- Support for attacks against Israeli civilians is higher in Gaza than it is in the West Bank.
- Support for Hamas is higher in Gaza than it is in the West Bank. For the first time ever, support for Hamas in Gaza is equal to that of Fatah. Satisfaction with the performance of Islamist factions is much higher in Gaza than it is in the West Bank.
- Support for the idea of replacing the current Palestinian Government is also higher in Gaza than it is in the West Bank.
- In contrast, however, support for Yasser Arafat (and evaluation of his performance) are higher in Gaza than they are in the West Bank.

9. A Generation Gap

The data show a wide generation gap. A youth political culture is in place and varies drastically in form to that of older Palestinians. The age groups 16-17 and 18-22 are the most “radical” in their views regarding most issues, a sign of disappointment and desire for change.

- Opposition to the continuation of negotiations until a final agreement is reached is 31% among the age group 16-17, in contrast to 16% among those who are over 52 years old.
- Support for a lasting peace deal reaches about 70% among older Palestinians, compared to 50% among the youngest.
- 47% of older Palestinians oppose suicide attacks, while 44% support them. In contrast, 33% of the young oppose, while 64% support such attacks. (A difference of 20%).
- The older are more supportive of the right of every citizen to “due process”. Whereas about 80% of the age group 43-47 support that all Palestinians (including

collaborators with Israel) should have the right to appeal to a higher court; only 51% of the youngest group (17-18) support this.

- Older Palestinians are facing more difficulties gaining access to health services.
- The young are more opinionated about changing the current government. 43% of the age group (16-22) believe that there is a need for change, while 40% of them do not believe so. In contrast, 35% of the elderly feel the need for change, in comparison to 37% who don't feel that way, and 28% who had no opinion on the issue.



Development Studies Programme

Results of Survey # 3

The Impact of the Siege on Palestinian Living Conditions

Field Research: 8-10 February 2001

Date of Release: 19 February, 2001

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Section 1: The Israeli – Imposed Siege and Palestinian Living Conditions

	Total %	West Bank %	Gaza %
1. At the present time, do you feel secure (about yourself, your family, and your property)?			
1) Yes	14.2	13.6	15.0
2) No	76.6	77.1	75.8
3) To some extent	8.2	8.3	8.0
4) Don't know/No opinion	1.0	0.9	1.2
2. Did any member of your family lose (fully or partially) her/his job as a result of the siege?			
1) Yes, full loss	45.8	41.2	53.8
2) Yes, partial loss	24.7	30.1	15.4
3) No	19.9	20.7	18.6
4) Not sure	0.4	0.3	0.4
5) Doesn't apply	9.2	7.8	11.7
3. Is your family receiving any cash or in-kind assistance during the Intifada (other than any regular assistance received from MOSA, UNRWA, and Zakat Committees)?			
1) Yes	27.9	20.3	40.7
2) No	72.1	79.7	59.3
4. If Yes, what was the direct source of assistance?			
1) UNRWA	43.1	27.2	56.6
2) Other sources within PNA	14.0	23.2	6.1
3) Zakat Committees	10.4	12.4	8.7
4) Political groups	6.5	8.2	5.0
5) Ministry of Social Affairs	5.7	8.8	3.0
6) From family or neighbors	1.2	1.3	1.0
7) From more than one source	9.5	5.6	12.7
8) Others	9.8	13.2	6.9
5. How is your family coping with the current economic situation, have you had to do any of the following to adapt to the economic difficulties? (% of those who said yes)			
Reduced expenditures	84.2	83.3	85.6
Spent existing savings	55.2	54.1	57.0
Took a loan	42.9	37.1	52.9
Sold wife's dowry and wedding gifts	22.3	17.0	31.3
Asked for assistance	27.9	25.6	31.9
Resorted back to agriculture and raising cattle	16.8	21.5	8.9
Sold property	4.1	4.7	3.1
6. Have the Arab countries lived up to their commitments in assisting the Palestinians?			
1) Yes	12.4	10.2	16.1
2) To some extent	19.2	19.6	18.6
3) No	58.1	58.5	57.5
4) Don't know/No opinion	10.3	11.7	7.8

	Total %	West Bank %	Gaza strip %
7. In your opinion, is assistance (food and cash) being distributed to those who deserve it?			
1) Yes	15.8	14.8	17.6
2) To some extent	19.3	14.9	26.8
3) No	56.3	60.2	49.8
4) Don't know/No opinion	8.5	10.1	5.9
8. Since the advent of the Intifada, have you faced psychological difficulties such as stress, depression, or sleep deprivation?			
2) Yes	75.1	74.9	75.4
3) No	23.7	23.9	23.3
4) Don't know/No opinion	1.2	1.2	1.3
9. Who in the family is facing the most serious psychological problems on account of the Intifada? (percentage of those facing difficulties in each age group)			
Children under 5 Years	63.6	60.4	67.9
5-14 years	68.5	66.4	71.8
15-23 years	56.0	52.6	62.3
24-35 years	56.7	57.3	55.4
Over 35	63.1	63.1	63.2
10. Has the siege prevented any of the members of your family from going back to school (or university)?			
1) Yes, completely	10.9	6.9	16.7
2) Yes, partially	59.8	63.8	53.9
3) No	29.3	29.2	29.5
11. Has your family had problems accessing health services as a result of the siege?			
1) Yes	41.9	45.8	35.3
2) No	58.1	54.2	64.7
12. Does the following statement apply to the situation where you reside? "Chaos and violence are on the increase."			
1) Applies	36.9	41.6	29.0
2) Applies to some extent	18.7	20.8	15.3
3) Doesn't apply	39.7	31.5	53.7
4) Don't know	4.6	6.1	2.0
13. If you were given a chance to emigrate and reside outside of the country, would you do that?			
1) Yes	17.4	17.4	17.5
2) No	81.7	81.5	82.0
3) Not sure	0.8	1.1	0.5

Section 2: The Intifada and the Peace Process

	Total %	West Bank %	Gaza strip %
14. Do you believe that the newly elected Israeli government (led by A. Sharon) is serious about reaching a comprehensive and conclusive agreement with the Palestinians?			
1) Yes	11.5	11.3	11.8
2) To some extent	12.9	10.7	16.4
3) No	63.6	64.8	61.6
4) Don't know/ No opinion	12.1	13.2	10.2
15. Are You satisfied with how the Intifada is proceeding?			
1) Yes	44.3	41.3	49.5
2) To some extent	19.8	20.8	18.2
3) No	32.5	34.0	30.0
4) Don't know/ No opinion	3.4	4.0	2.3
16. Do you believe that Israel will recognize the right of Palestinian refugees to return to land lost in 1948?			
1) Yes	27.4	23.2	34.6
2) No	58.5	60.2	55.7
3) Not sure	14.1	16.6	9.7
17. Do you support the continuation of negotiations until a final agreement is reached?			
1) Yes	69.5	69.2	69.9
2) No	25.2	25.0	25.7
3) Don't know/No opinion	5.3	5.8	4.4
18. Do you believe that Palestinian negotiators are representing the best interests of the Palestinian people?			
1) Yes	37.7	39.1	35.2
2) To some extent	18.6	18.4	18.9
3) No	32.3	30.3	35.7
4) Don't know/No opinion	11.4	12.2	10.1
19. Do you support lasting peace between Palestinians and Israelis based on UN resolutions?			
1) Yes	59.9	57.7	63.6
2) To some extent	6.5	6.1	7.3
3) No	27.1	28.0	25.6
4) Don't know/No opinion	6.4	8.1	3.5
20. If a peace treaty were signed between the Palestinian leadership and Israel - one that the leadership believes is in the best interests of the Palestinian people - will you accept such an agreement?			
1) Yes	25.4	25.6	25.1
2) No	11.9	14.2	7.9
3) I will decide only when I know the details of the agreement	57.2	53.8	63.0
4) Don't know	5.5	6.4	4.0

	Total %	West Bank %	Gaza strip %
21. Do you feel that the new American President (George Bush) will be more balanced in dealing with the Palestinian – Israeli conflict than his predecessor (Bill Clinton)?			
1) Yes	17.2	16.5	18.6
2) No	58.4	59.4	56.7
3) Don't know/No opinion	24.4	24.2	24.7

Section 3: Military Operations

	Total %	West Bank %	Gaza %
22. Do you support or oppose military attacks against Israeli targets at the present time?			
1) Support	77.2	74.3	82.0
2) Oppose	16.4	17.5	14.6
3) Not sure	6.4	8.1	3.4
23. If you support military attacks, what should be the target of these attacks?			
1) Military targets only	9.6	11.5	6.7
2) Settlers only	2.8	3.3	2.1
3) Both military & settler targets	26.7	30.2	21.4
4) Civilian targets in Israel proper	0.4	0.2	0.9
5) Any Israeli target	60.4	54.8	69.0
24. More specifically, do you support or oppose suicide attacks against civilians inside Israeli cities (inside the Green Line)?			
1) Support	53.4	47.4	63.5
2) Oppose	39.7	44.0	32.5
3) Not sure	6.9	8.6	4.0

Section 4: Boycott of Israeli Products

	Total %	West Bank %	Gaza strip %
25. Have you heard of the campaign to boycott Israeli products?			
1) Yes	90.7	90.1	91.7
2) No	8.4	8.8	7.8
3) Not sure	0.9	1.1	0.5
26. Do you think that such a boycott can be implemented?			
1) Yes	57.4	56.9	58.3
2) No	28.8	27.5	30.9
3) Not sure	13.8	15.5	10.8
27. Have you bought less Israeli products in the last few months than before?			
1) Yes	74.2	73.3	75.7
2) No	20.3	20.6	19.9
3) Not sure	5.5	6.1	4.4

Section 5: The Death Penalty

	Total %	West Bank %	Gaza strip %
28. Do you support or oppose the death penalty recently applied to Palestinians charged with collaboration with Israel?			
1) Support	84.9	83.8	86.6
2) Oppose	10.9	10.9	11.0
3) Don't know/No opinion	4.2	5.3	2.4
29. Do you think that such a penalty is effective in deterring others from collaborating with Israel?			
1) Yes	77.1	77.6	76.3
2) No	15.3	13.8	17.9
3) Don't know/No opinion	7.6	8.6	5.8
30. Do you feel that those who received the death penalty posed the greatest danger to the Palestinian cause?			
1) Yes	33.1	37.8	25.2
2) No	52.6	48.5	59.5
3) Don't know/No opinion	14.3	13.7	15.3
31. Do you believe that all citizens (even if they are accused of collaboration) should have the right to appeal their verdict?			
1) Yes	66.3	64.2	69.9
2) No	25.0	26.7	22.2
3) Don't know/No opinion	8.7	9.1	7.9
32. In your opinion, why do some people become collaborators? Which of the following do you believe is the most important factor leading to collaboration?			
2. 1) Economic difficulties	30.0	31.2	28.0
4. 2) Duped, blackmailed or manipulated by Israeli "intelligence"	28.7	27.2	31.1
1. 3) Absence of morality	20.9	20.8	21.2
3. 4) Encouraged by the political agreements that the PNA signed with Israel	1.6	1.6	1.4
5. 5) Others (specify)	18.9	19.2	18.3

Section 6: Evaluation of Palestinian Institutions and Services

	Total %	West Bank %	Gaza strip %
33. Do you believe that the PA is doing enough to combat corruption within its ranks?			
1) Yes	28.1	27.1	29.9
2) No	47.8	46.0	50.9
3) Don't know/No opinion	21.0	23.2	17.4
4) There is No corruption within the PA	3.0	3.8	1.8
34. Do you think that there is a need to replace the current Palestinian Government (Cabinet ministries and major government institutions) with a new government?			
1) Yes	42.5	38.2	49.9
2) No	37.6	38.7	35.9
3) Don't Know/No opinion	19.8	23.1	14.2
35. How do you evaluate the role of the PLC during the Intifada?			
1) Positive	20.8	21.0	20.5
2) Mediocre	34.5	34.7	34.1
3) Negative	42.6	41.7	44.0
4) Don't know/No opinion	2.2	2.6	1.4
36. Do you feel that PA security services are fulfilling their role to protect citizens?			
1) Yes	47.8	47.1	48.9
2) To some extent	28.0	28.0	28.0
3) No	18.7	18.3	19.3
4) Don't know/No opinion	5.5	6.6	3.7
37. As to those accused of corruption in the PA, do you think that they should be tried (and punished only if proven guilty), or should they be punished by the "Palestinian street"?			
1) 1) They should be tried	81.4	81.7	80.8
2) They be punished by the "Palestinian street"	15.1	13.6	17.6
3) Others (specify)	3.6	4.7	1.6
38. How do you evaluate the role of Islamist movements-factions (such as Hamas and Islamic Jihad) in the Intifada?			
1) Satisfactory	51.7	45.2	62.6
2) Mediocre	29.5	31.8	25.7
3) Not satisfactory	9.9	12.5	5.7
4) Don't know/ No opinion	8.9	10.5	6.0
39. How do you see the relationship between Fatah and the PA?			
1) One and the same thing	53.4	51.1	57.3
2) Fatah is independent (sometimes supporting but other times opposing the PA)	27.0	28.8	24.1
3) Fatah is in the opposition	4.0	3.5	5.0
4) Don't know/No opinion	15.6	16.7	13.7
40. How do you evaluate the performance of President Yassir Arafat?			
1) Positive	47.2	44.3	52.2
2) Mediocre	28.0	29.2	26.1
3) Negative	15.2	14.6	16.1
4) Don't know/No opinion	9.6	11.9	5.6

	Total %	West Bank %	Gaza strip %
41. If an independent election for president of the Palestinian people took place, who would you elect?			
1) Yassir Arafat	27.8	24.1	34.1
2) Ahmad Yassin	11.5	9.2	15.4
3) Hiadar Abdelshafi	8.7	5.8	13.5
4) None of the above- I will decide then	31.1	34.6	25.1
5) <i>I will not participate in such election</i>	14.7	18.7	7.8
6) Don't know/No opinion	5.2	6.2	3.4
7) Other (specify -----)	1.1	1.4	0.7
42. Which of the following political groups do support?			
1) Fateh	26.1	27.2	24.1
2) Hamas	18.5	14.9	24.5
3) Islamic Jihad	4.3	4.7	3.7
4) PFLP	2.3	1.6	3.6
5) DFLP	0.3	0.3	0.4
6) Feda	0.3	0.4	0.2
7) PPP	0.3	0.5	0.0
8) Nationalist Independents	5.2	5.4	4.9
9) Islamist Independents	3.5	3.3	3.8
10) Others	5.8	5.1	6.9
11) None	33.3	36.5	27.8
43. Do you believe that the PA ministries and institutions are effectively serving the public?			
1) Yes	20.5	18.7	23.5
2) To some extent	30.4	31.5	28.5
3) No	36.0	34.5	38.6
4) Don't know/No opinion	13.2	15.4	9.5
44. How do you evaluate garbage collection services?			
1) Satisfactory	59.7	59.5	60.2
2) Mediocre	21.2	21.8	20.2
3) Not Satisfactory	16.7	15.8	18.1
4) Not Available	2.3	2.9	1.4
45. How do you evaluate traffic control in cities and towns?			
1) Satisfactory	47.4	44.1	53.0
2) Mediocre	26.0	27.0	24.2
3) Not Satisfactory	23.0	24.9	19.7
4) Don't know/No opinion	3.6	3.9	3.1

Note:

PFLP: Popular Front for the liberation of Palestine.

DFLP: Democratic Front for Liberation of Palestine.

PPP: Palestine People's party

Feda: Palestinian Democratic Union

Annex 2: Methodology

- 1) **The sample:** In this opinion poll, 1,200 Palestinians were interviewed. They were selected in a scientific manner (random and representative - multi-stage sample), taking into account geographic and governorate distribution. Samples considered living location - villages, cities and camps, gender and all age groups, starting with the age of 16³ (as can be seen in the Sample Distribution table). The exceptional circumstances under which the present poll was conducted led to the exclusion of two villages that were replaced by two other villages in the same governorates. Both villages had comparable social and economic conditions. This replacement was necessary after the first two villages were sealed off and attacked by Israeli soldiers and settlers, leading to a high degree of risk to our field researchers. The field research had to be postponed twice for the Qalqilya city which was totally sealed off. The field work in that City took place on 10th of February.
- 2) **The field research:** The field research was conducted according to the scientific rules followed by DSP researchers under normal circumstances. The prevailing circumstances in this case led to greater attention to the safety of the field researchers, avoiding entry into areas that could place their lives at risk. Despite the difficult conditions, the enthusiasm and courage of the field researchers led them to adhere to the rules of field research: neutrality while remaining highly sensitive to the hard psychological and living conditions suffered by the Palestinians. Each research team was made up of a female and a male researcher. They were chosen from a group of trained researchers who have been working for many years and have long-standing experience. The best researchers were selected from among those who have worked previously with other centres, in addition to the well-experienced researchers of the DSP. During the various training sessions, the importance of integrity and scientific neutrality were underlined. Their capacities were developed with a focus on interview methods and mapping skills. Field-work coordinators carried out field visits to verify that researchers had reached their work locations, and had selected the sample according to the set scientific rules. An exhaustive list of instructions was distributed to field researchers, as it was discussed with them.
- 3) **The questionnaire:** The questionnaire was prepared by a group of well-known Palestinian researchers, who proposed the issues and questions that should be covered by the poll. The DSP has set up a steering committee for opinion polls, made up of accredited researchers, experts and statisticians, to supervise the work involved in the preparation of the methodology, the questionnaire and data analysis. A pre-test was conducted.
- 4) **Data-entry and data-analysis:** Data were entered and analyzed according to the statistical program (SPSS). Data analysis was conducted under the supervision of a senior Palestinian expert.

Sample distribution

³In its sample, DSP includes Palestinians with 16 & 17 years of age in respect of their opinions and in recognition of their contribution to society.

Region	Percent	Type of locality	Percent	Refugee Status	Percent
West Bank	63.0	City	38.3	Refugee	43.3
Gaza Strip	37.0	Village- town	42.2	Non-refugee	56.7
Governorate	Percent	Camp	19.6	Sector	Percent
Jenin	8.1	Gender	Percent	Private sector	74.7
Tubas	1.4	Male	48.4	N.G.O.'s	3.0
Tulkarm	5.4	Female	51.6	Public Sector	22.3
Nablus	9.8	Marital status	Percent	Education	Percent
Qalqilya	3.0	Single	19.7	Illiterate	22.4
Salfit	1.4	Married	76.4	Preparatory	20.4
Jericho	1.3	Others	3.9	elementary	26.9
Ramallah	8.4	Age	Percent	Secondary	15.9
Jerusalem	4.1	16-17	4.5	Diploma	5.1
Bethlehem	5.3	18-22	12.3	B.A. or above	9.4
Hebron	14.8	23-27	12.7	Place of residence prior to 1994	Percent
North Gaza	9.3	28-32	13.4	West Bank & Gaza Strip	91.5
Gaza City	12.0	33-37	13.2	Abroad	8.5
Deir al-Balah	4.9	38-42	11.2		
Khan Younis	7.3	43-47	6.8		
Rafah	3.5	48-52	7.9		
		> 52	18.1		
Occupation	Percent	Occupation	Percent	Occupation	Percent
Laborers	12.7	Merchants	5.1	Professional	1.6
Craftsman	4.4	Students	7.9	Employees	11.0
Housewives- other	44.6	Farmers	1.5	Retired	2.0
Unemployed – Doesn't apply	9.3				