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**Results of Palestinian Public Opinion Polls**  
**No 18**  
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**Background:**

All electoral lists and candidates launched their campaigns from sites of significance for these lists and candidates in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Candidates, then, started presenting their programs in all locations of the Palestinian Territories. Israel, however, hindered and, in some cases, prevented some of the campaigns in East Jerusalem.

Israel finally agreed to allow conducting the legislative elections in East Jerusalem according to the same regulations followed in the 1996 legislative elections and the 2005 presidential elections. In the meantime, the Palestinian voters await conducting the elections on the appointed time.

Meanwhile, Israel continues its policy of assassination and incursions in some Palestinian cities.

**The Results:**

Following are the results of the 18<sup>th</sup> Palestinian Public Opinion Poll conducted by the Center for Opinion Polls and Survey Studies at An-Najah National University during the period from January 20 to 21, 2006. **The University sponsors all polls conducted by its Center.**

This poll undertakes several subjects centered on the coming Palestinian legislative elections, in addition to political sympathies.

The sample included 2720 persons whose age group is 18 and above and who have the right to vote. The enclosed questionnaire was distributed on 1720 persons from the West Bank and 1000 persons from the Gaza Strip. The sample was drawn randomly and the margin of error is about  $\pm 2\%$ ; still 1.7% of the members of the sample refused to answer the questionnaire.

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\* The Opinions represented in the results reflect those of the study; they do not represent by any means the opinion of An-Najah National University.



## **Major results:**

- 87.8% from among respondents believe that the second legislative elections will be conducted on its specified date.
- 69% from among respondents assert that the legislative elections will be democratic and fair; 21.5% say the opposite.
- 66% from among respondents see that the internal security conditions permit conducting legislative elections; 26.3% see the contrary.
- 85.6% from among respondents say that they trust the Central Elections Committee.
- 76.4% from among the respondents say that they do not feel that their families, themselves or their properties are secure under the current local security conditions.
- 71% from among the respondents support a renewal of the ceasefire (*hudna*) between the Palestinian factions and Israel; 23.7% reject.
- As for political affiliation respondents give the following results:

People's Party	1.4%
Democratic Front	2.0%
Islamic <i>Jihad</i>	2.9%
<i>Fateh</i>	39.0%
<i>Hamas</i>	23.4%
<i>Fida</i>	0.3%
Popular Front	5.8%
Palestinian National Initiative	2.5%
I am an independent nationalist	5.7%
I am an independent Islamist	2.2%
None of the above	13.5%
Others	1.1%

- 85% say that they will participate in the elections.
- 21.1% from among respondent will not participate in the legislative elections because of religious reasons, 6.8% for political reasons, and 36.4% will not participate because in their view the elections will not change anything.
- When asked which list will they vote for, respondents gave the following responses: *Fateh* led by Marwan Barghuthi received 43.6% as contrasted with 39.3% in Poll 17(January 5-6, 2006), Change and Reform led by Ismael Abu Hannieh received 34.2% as contrasted with 31.3, Independent Palestine and the Independents led by



Mustafa al Barghuthi received 6.5% as contrasted with 10.4%, Martyr Abu Ali Mustafa led by Ahmad Sa'adat received 6.6% as contrasted with 6.8%, The Third Road led Bay Salam Fayyad received 4.8% as contrasted with 5.5% in Poll 17.

- The order of the running tickets according to the opinion of respondents came according to the following order:

<b><i>Fateh</i> Movement led by Marwan Barghuthi</b>	<b>42.8%</b>
<b>Change and Reform led by Ismael Abu Hannieh</b>	<b>34.2%</b>
<b>Martyr Abu Ali Mustafa led by Ahmad Sa'adat.</b>	<b>6.6%</b>
<b>Independent Palestine and the Independents led by Mustafa Al Barghouti</b>	<b>6.5%</b>
<b>The Third Road led by Salam Fayyad</b>	<b>4.8%</b>
<b><i>Al Badeel</i> (The Alternative) led by Qais Abu Laila</b>	<b>3.1%</b>
<b>Freedom and Social Justice led by Ahmad Majdalani</b>	<b>0.7%</b>
<b>The National Coalition for Justice and Democracy (<i>Wa'id</i>) led by Ghazi Jeyab</b>	<b>0.5%</b>
<b>Freedom and Independence led by Saleem Al Bardeeni</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>Palestinian Justice led by Sameer Qadri</b>	<b>0.3%</b>
<b>Martyr Abu Al Abbas led by Omar Shlabi</b>	<b>0.2%</b>



- On the level of electoral circles the following candidates achieved the highest percentages in their circles.

Jerusalem	Hatem AbdAlqader, AbdAlateef Gheeth, Hamde Al-Rajaby, Hatem Abbas Al-Hamzawy
Jennine	Azam AlAhmad, Ahami AlShami, Hekmet Zeid
Tulkarem	Hasan Khreasha, Reyad Redad Sedawy
Tubas	Basam Daraghme
Nablus	Ghasan AlShakeh, Mahmoud AlAlool, Hamed AlBeetawy
Qalqilya	Ahmad Haza'
Salfeet	Belal Ozreal
Rammallah & Al-Beira	Hasan Yousef, Qadora Fares, Fadel Saleh
Jericho	Saeb Oreaqat
Bethlehem	Majed Faraj, Suliman Abu Mfaraj, Fayeze Antone AlSaqa
Hebron	Aziz Dweek, Nabil Amro, Sameer AlAqadi, Naif AlRjoub, Azam Salhab, Mohamad Ismaeel AlTal, Rafeeq AlNatsheh
North Gaza	Kamal AlSharafee, Yazeed Hweehy, Abd alRahman Juma
Gaza City	Saed Syam, Ahmad Mohamed AlBahar, Khaleel Ismaeel Al-Hayeh, Maher Meqdad, Mohamed Faraj Alghool, Jemal Talab Nasar
Deir Al-Balah	Ahmad hasan Abu Holy, Jemeela Saydam
Khan Younis	Mohamed Yousef Dahlan, Suliman Abu Motlaq, Sufian Yousef Al-Agha
Rafah	Mohamed Hejazy, Radwan Al-AlKharas



## The General Results

**President Mahmoud Abbas ascertained that the legislative elections will be conducted on its appointed time in January of the next year (2006). Do you believe that the elections will be conducted on the appointed time?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	87.8	86.9	89.3
No	7.0	7.3	6.5
No opinion/I do not know	5.2	5.8	4.2
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Do you believe that the coming legislative elections will be democratic and fair?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	69.0	67.0	72.4
No	21.5	24.6	16.3
No opinion/I do not know	9.5	8.4	11.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**There are people who see that the local security conditions allow for conducting democratic and fair legislative elections and there are those who see the opposite. What is your opinion?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Local security conditions allow for conducting elections	66.0	66.5	65.3
Local security conditions do not allow for conducting elections	26.3	29.2	21.2
No, opinion/I do not know	7.7	4.3	13.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**How do you assess your trust in the Central Elections Committee?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Good	53.6	51.9	56.6
Fair	32.0	32.3	31.4
Little	10.4	11.6	8.4
No opinion/I do not know	4.0	4.2	3.6
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



**Under the current local security circumstances that Palestinian people go through, do you feel that your family, yourself and your properties are secure?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	23.1	18.4	31.3
partially	32.6	29.5	38.0
No	43.8	51.9	29.8
I do not know/ No opinion	0.5	0.3	0.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Are you in favor of renewing the ceasefire (*Hudna*) between the Palestinian factions and Israel.**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	71.0	69.5	73.5
No	23.7	26.9	18.2
I do not know/ No opinion	5.3	3.6	8.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Which of the following political affiliations do you support?**

PARTY	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
People's Party	1.4	1.5	1.3
Democratic Front	2.0	1.9	2.2
Islamic <i>Jihad</i>	2.9	2.3	4.1
<i>Fateh</i>	39.0	39.1	38.8
<i>Hamas</i>	23.4	23.5	23.1
<i>Fida</i>	0.3	0.2	0.6
Popular Front	5.8	4.1	8.8
Palestinian National Initiative	2.5	3.1	1.3
I am an independent nationalist	5.7	4.1	8.5
I am an independent Islamist	2.2	2.2	2.3
None of the above	13.5	16.9	7.7
Others	1.1	1.0	1.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



**Will you participate in the coming legislative elections?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
Yes	85.0	85.2	84.7
No	15.0	14.8	15.3
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Why don't you want to participate in the elections?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
For religious reasons(a religious taboo)	21.1	19.2	24.2
For religious reasons(they come under the umbrella of Oslo)	6.8	5.5	8.9
Elections will not change any thing	36.4	38.8	32.5
I am not convinced with the running blocks	14.8	17.6	10.2
The political stream that I support will not participate	6.1	2.4	12.1
Others	9.5	11.4	6.4
No opinion/I do not know	5.3	5.1	5.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

**Eleven tickets compete to occupy the seats of the Legislative Council. To which of the following tickets will you give your vote?**

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
<i>Al Badeel</i> (The Alternative)led by Qais Abu Laila	3.1	3.7	2.1
Independent Palestine and The Independents led by Mustafa Al Barghuthi	6.5	7.3	5.0
Martyr Abu Ali Mustafa led by Ahmad Sa'adat.	6.6	5.0	9.3
Martyr Abu Al Abbas led by Omar Shlabi	0.2	0.1	0.4
Freedom and Social Justice led by Ahmad Majdalani	0.7	0.4	1.2
Change and Reform led by Ismael Abu Hannieh	34.2	35.4	32.3
The National Coalition for Justice and Democracy ( <i>Wa'id</i> ) led by Ghazi Jeyab	0.5	0.1	1.2
The Third Road led by Salam Fayyad	4.8	5.2	4.3
Freedom and Independence led by Saleem Al Bardeeni	0.3	0.1	0.7
Palestinian Justice led by Sameer Qadri	0.3	0.3	0.2
( <i>Fateh</i> ) Movement led by Marwan Barghuthi.	42.8	42.4	43.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0



**On the level of your electoral circle, which of the following candidates do you vote for? (Choose the proper number of your electoral circle).**

<b>Jerusalem</b>	Hatem AbdAlqader, AbdAlateef Gheeth, Hamde Al-Rajaby, Hatem Abbas Al-Hamzawy
<b>Jennine</b>	Azam AlAhmad, Ahami AlShami, Hekmet Zeid
<b>Tulkarem</b>	Hasan Khreasha, Reyad Redad Sedawy
<b>Tubas</b>	Basam Daraghmeh
<b>Nablus</b>	Ghasan AlShakeh, Mahmoud AlAlool, Hamed AlBeetawy
<b>Qalqilya</b>	Ahmad Haza'
<b>Salfeet</b>	Belal Ozreal
<b>Rammallah &amp; Al-Beira</b>	Hasan Yousef, Qadora Fares, Fadel Saleh
<b>Jericho</b>	Saeb Oreaqat
<b>Bethlehem</b>	Majed Faraj, Suliman Abu Mfaraj, Fayez Antone AlSaqa
<b>Hebron</b>	Aziz Dweek, Nabil Amro, Sameer AlAqadi, Naif AlRjoub, Azam Salhab, Mohamad Ismaeel AlTal, Rafeeq AlNatsheh
<b>North Gaza</b>	Kamal AlSharafee, Yazeed Hweehy, Abd alRahman Juma
<b>Gaza City</b>	Saed Syam, Ahmad Mohamed AlBahar, Khaleel Ismaeel Al-Hayeh, Maher Meqdad, Mohamed Faraj Alghool, Jemal Talab Nasar
<b>Deir Al-Balah</b>	Ahmad hasan Abu Holy, Jemeela Saydam
<b>Khan Younis</b>	Mohamed Yousef Dahlan, Suliman Abu Motlaq, Sufian Yousef Al-Agha
<b>Rafah</b>	Mohamed Hejazy, Radwan Al-Alkharas