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JMCC Public Opinion Poll No. 1 On Palestinian Attitudes to the Peace Process and the Palestinian Expellees February 1993

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Methodology

A random sample of 1,190 Palestinians, over the age of 17 years, were interviewed throughout the West Bank and Gaza Strip on 18/19/20 February 1993. The interviews were conducted on a face-to-face basis with people who visited general service offices to fill out application forms for their identity cards, travel documents, birth registrations, etc, in the main towns. The interviewers reported that some people filled out their questionnaire by themselves in the presence of the interviewer.

In the West Bank, approximately 690 questionnaires were allocated to each of the following major towns: Jenin, Tulkarem, Qalqilia, Nablus, Ramallah, Hebron, East Jerusalem, Bethlehem, and Jericho. In the Gaza Strip, 500 questionnaires were divided between: Gaza, Khan Younis and Rafah areas.

Of the 1,400 questionnaires, we received back 1,190 completed questionnaires. A few were discounted, either because the respondent was under 17 years of age or because the answers were not clear.

Sample Distribution

- 63.5% of the respondents were from the West Bank
- 36.5% from the Gaza Strip
- 21.7% said they live in villages
- 26.9% in refugee camps
- 51.4% in towns/cities
 - (these percentages may not reflect the actual population distribution eg. in the Gaza Strip the percentage of refugees is much higher than in the West Bank)
- 85.4% were male
- 14.5% were female
 - (the interviewers reported that a large number of women declined to be interviewed, particularly in the Gaza Strip)
- The average of age of the respondents was 32 years, 95% of the sample ranged from 17 to 49 years.

Occupation respondents

- Students 15.4%
- Waged labourers 15.3%
- Housewives 4.7%
- Office employees/teachers/accountants 24.1%
- Merchants 14.5%
- Farmers 2.1%
- Craftsmen 5.7%
- Doctors/lawyers/pharmacists/engineers 6.9%
- Unemployed 8.3%
- Others 3.0%

Results

Q.1 Do you think that the Palestinian delegation should not return to the negotiations until the issue of the expellees is solved?

	Total
Yes	83.7%
No	14.0%
No opinion /other	2.2%

Q.2 Do you think that the Palstinian delegation should return to the negotiations after the expellee problem has been adequately solved?

	Total
Yes	60.6%
No	34.4%
No opinion/other	4.0%

Q.3 Do you think that the Palestinian delegation should not return to the negotiations even after a solution to the expellees problem?

	Total
Yes	32.2%
No	63.7%
No opinion/ other	4.0%

Q. 4 Do you think that the United States can play the role of mediator in the negotiations given its stand on the expellees problem?

	Total
Yes	40.8%
No	53.3%
No opinion/ other	5.9%

Q.5 If an acceptable solution to the expellees problem is found, do you think that negotiations are an appropriate method to solve Palestinian problem?

	Total
Negotiations will never yield any good results for the Palestinians	31.9%
The negotiations are an appropriated method for solving the Palestinian problem	13.7%
The negotiations will yield results but not sufficient ones	50.7%
Other, please specify	3.7%

Q.6 Who do you think represents the Palestinian People?

	Total
The PLO	58.1%
The Islamic movements	12.4%
True representation can only be achieved through direct elections	26.1%
Other, please specify	3.4%

Q. 7 The attitude of Palestinians in the West Bank & Gaza Strip to the question of who they think represents the Palestinian people?

	Total	West Bank	Gaza Strip
PLO	676	(394) 56.0%	(282) 66.0%
Islamic movement	144	(74) 10.5%	(70) 16.6%
Direct elections	303	(234) 33.0%	(69) 16.0%

Total	1123	737	426
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