

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.

84% Wish to Continue the Tradition of Dowry: GILANI POLL/GALLUP PAKISTAN

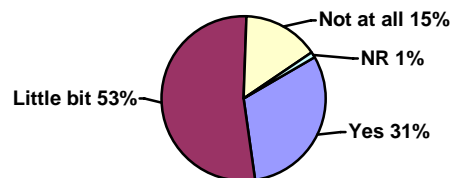
Islamabad, February 8, 2010

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, despite being a burden on most people, dowry remains to be a custom that a majority prefers to continue; 84% of all Pakistanis claim to prefer giving and taking of dowry on their children's marriages while only 15% oppose this tradition and 1% gave no response.

A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked "If God gives you a chance of marrying your children, would you like to give or take dowry?" Thirty one percent (31%) claimed they would like to continue this tradition, 53% said they would want to give or take some dowry at least whereas 15% claimed that if given a chance of marrying their children they would not at all want to make dowry a part of it. The remaining 1% of the respondents gave no response.

The findings of the survey reveal that a proportionately higher percentage of ruralites (34%) as compared to the urbanites (25%) support the custom of dowry and would like to continue this tradition on their children's weddings. It is also seen that the preference for dowry is higher than the national average amongst Punjabi speaking and Saraekke speaking masses.

"If God gives you a chance of marrying your children, would you like to give or take dowry?"



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

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 2755 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during January 2010. 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) and referred to by the same title. Also please see necessary Disclaimer on our website (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

For any queries please contact:
Ms. Saadia Khalid
Assistant Manager (Research)

Phone: +92-51-2655630
E-mail: saadia.khalid@gallup.com.pk