

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 on Media and Political Instability: GILANI POLL/GALLUP PAKISTAN (Please note this is the corrected version)

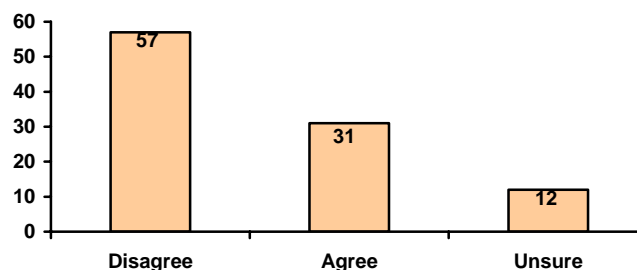
Islamabad, November 13, 2009

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, despite being enthusiastic audience of media, nearly one third of all Pakistanis (31%) blame media for political instability in the country; however 57% disagree while 12% of the respondents were unsure.

A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were read out a list of statements and were asked “*People in Pakistan have different viewpoints. Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statement ‘Media is responsible for political instability in the country?’*” Thirty one percent (31%) are of the view that media is responsible for political instability in the country. Fifty seven percent (57%) disagree whereas 12% were unsure.

“Do you agree or disagree with the statement: ‘Media is responsible for political instability in the country?’”

** Note for the reader: The question wording is drawn, verbatim, from a debate topic. As explained at the start this report, the wording therefore may not always conform to the standard question wording required by scientific survey questions.*



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

Dr. Ijaz Shafi Gilani, Chairman Gallup Pakistan and Gilani Foundation had the following comment: “These findings surely cause a concern among those who value media freedom because the freedom of media rests on and emanates from popular support rather than the barrel of gun. The findings highlight some introspection as well as the issue of image making, After all ‘image makers should also address the issue of their own image’.

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 2765 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during October 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) 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

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