

**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.*

## **Views about Solar Eclipse; One Fifth Believe it is a Bad Omen: GILANI POLL/GALLUP PAKISTAN**

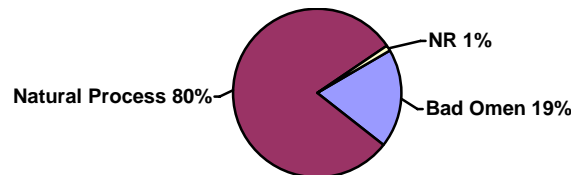
Islamabad, February 26, 2010

According to a Gilani Research Foundation survey carried out by Gallup Pakistan, while a vast majority of all Pakistanis (80%) claim solar eclipse is a natural process, one fifth (19%) believe it to be a bad omen. This notion is supported by mostly older people. The remaining 1% of the respondents gave no response.

A nationally representative sample of men and women from across the country were asked “*Some people believe that solar eclipse is a bad omen, while others oppose this idea saying that it is just a natural phenomenon. What is your opinion about solar eclipse?*” Nineteen percent (19%) claimed it is some kind of a bad omen whereas 80% think it is a natural process. The remaining 1% of the respondents gave no response.

The findings of the survey reveal that, a proportionately higher percentage of people above 50 years of age (30%) consider solar eclipse to be a bad omen.

*“Some people believe that solar eclipse is a bad omen, while others oppose this idea saying that it is just a natural phenomenon. What is your opinion about solar eclipse?”*



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

The study was released by Gilani foundation and carried out by Gallup Pakistan, the Pakistani affiliate of Gallup International. The recent survey was carried out among a sample of 2581 men and women in rural and urban areas of all four provinces of the country, during February 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](http://www.gallup-international.com)) and referred to by the same title. Also please see necessary Disclaimer on our website ([www.gallup.com.pk](http://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](http://www.gallup.com.pk)

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