



**In a recent poll conducted by Near East Consulting (NEC)**

**Majority believes that the Palestinian Authority will be able to call for declaration of a Palestinian state in the Security Council next September**

**77% of the Palestinians think that what happened in Tunisia and Egypt should not happen in Palestine**

**70% will vote in the upcoming elections**

**Ramallah-The West Bank:** Near East Consulting (NEC) most recent survey reveals that the majority (70%) think that the PA will be able to apply for declaration of a Palestinian state in the Security Council in September 2011. In addition 89% think that it is necessary to end the internal dispute before the declaration. Moreover, 72% believe that the Palestinians do not have a partner for peace in Israel.

The survey, conducted during the last week of April on a random sample of 844 Palestinians over the age of 18 in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, including East Jerusalem. The margin of error is +/-3.4% and the confidence level is 95%.

In a question about the upcoming local elections, 70% of the Palestinians said that they are aware of the local elections that will be held in July, and the same percentage said that they will participate.

Regarding the truce with Israel, half of the Palestinians think that Hamas will not be able to enforce the truce and prevent other factions from firing rockets against Israel, noting that only 27% support the firing of rockets from Gaza against Israel. Also 71% of the Palestinians believe that Hamas should change its position on the elimination of the state of Israel.

As for factional trust, the popularity of Fateh has reached 40% compared to 6% that trusts Hamas, 6% said that they trust other factions, while about half (48%) do not trust any faction.

About half (48%) of the respondents expressed their trust towards Abbas, and 10% for Hanieh, while 42% said neither. The greater part (57%) gives the legitimacy to the Fayyad government, and 12% to the Hanieh government, noting that 30% believes that neither is legitimate.

In response to the question as to which strategy respondents think is better for maximizing Palestinian national interest, 49% preferred the Fateh strategy while 9% favored Hamas, about 42% gave no preference to either strategy.



About how the respondents identify themselves, the majority, 57% ,identified themselves as Muslims, 21% identified themselves as Palestinians first, 19% as human beings first and 5% as Arabs first.

The increase in adherence to religious identity is also reflected in the system preferred by the Palestinian people. About 40% of the respondents said that they believe that the Islamic caliphate is the best system to Palestinians, 24% chose a system like one of the Arab countries, and 12 % prefer a system like one of the European countries.

As for the economic situation the results show that 50% of the Palestinians live below the poverty level, (58% in the Gaza Strip and 43% in the West Bank).

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