



Near East Consulting

POB 4, Ramallah, Palestine  
T. +970-2-296-1436  
info@neareastconsulting.com  
<http://www.neareastconsulting.com/>

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Palestinian opposition to attacking Churches September 2006**



#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

**Please contact:**

**NEC**

**HSBC Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor**

**RAMALLAH**

**Tel: 02-2961436**

**Fax: 02-2963114**

**[info@neareastconsulting.com](mailto:info@neareastconsulting.com)**

**<http://www.neareastconsulting.com>**



## Palestinian opposition to attacking Churches September 2006

### Methodology

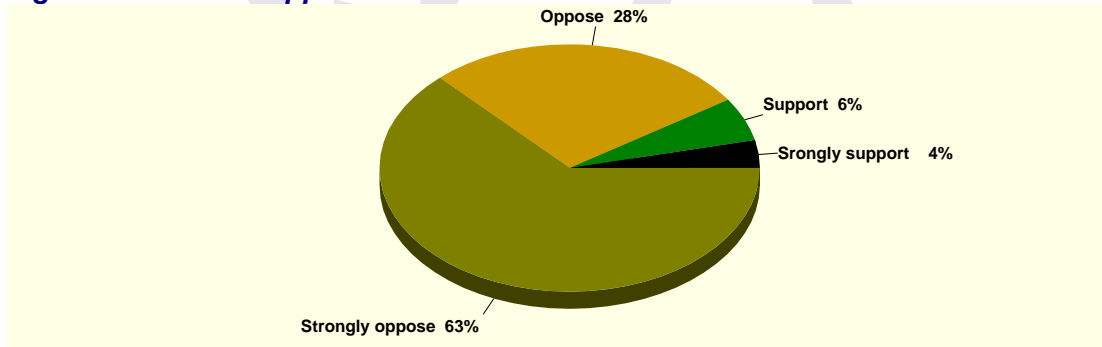
During the period 22-23 September, 2006, Near East Consulting (NEC) conducted a phone survey of over 1100 randomly selected Palestinians in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, and Jerusalem of which 794 were successfully completed in which Palestinians were asked about their level of support for the attacks on Palestinian churches, a direct result of the Pope's statement regarding Islam.

It is worth noting that the margin of error is +/- 3.5% with a 95% confidence level.

### Main Findings

In lieu of the recent attacks on churches and mass demonstrations which are a direct result of the Pope's negative statements regarding Islam, 91% of Palestinians oppose these attacks on Palestinian churches, with 63% of Palestinians strongly opposing these attacks and 28% generally opposing these attacks. There is only minimal support for attacks on Palestinian churches as a mere 4% of Palestinians strongly support attacks on churches and 6% generally support these acts.

**Figure 1: Level of support for the attacks on Palestinian Churches**



It is also worth noting that Palestinians whether according to area of residence, age, gender, or region all oppose the attacks on Palestinian churches to the same extent. Still, there is a slightly stronger opposition to the attacks on churches among Gazans than among Westbankers. In addition, according to Palestinians' factional trust, respectively 90% of Palestinians who trust either Fateh or Hamas oppose the attacks on churches, while this is the case among 100% of respondents who most trust Islamic Jihad.