



**CENTRAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION
PALESTINE**

**REPORT ON
SECOND PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS
JANUARY 9, 2005**

**RAMALLAH - PALESTINE
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Introduction

The Central Elections Commission (CEC) is pleased to issue this report on the presidential elections which took place on January 9, 2005, in which Mr. Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) won with a majority of the votes. The report offers details on the processes of the electoral operation, commencing with the voter registration process, and ending with the announcement of the final results of the presidential elections - crowning all the efforts that have been made since the formation of the CEC.

The current CEC was formed on October 27, 2002 in accordance with the presidential decree issued by the late Palestinian President Yasser Arafat. The decree stressed the independence of the Commission, and confirmed its responsibility for holding, administering and supervising presidential and legislative elections.

The CEC upholds the importance of free and fair elections in order to ensure the citizen's right to political participation and self-determination, which is a fundamental human right. The Commission established a number of procedures derived from Palestinian Elections Law No. 13 of 1995, and worked to apply them in all aspects of the electoral process. Likewise, the CEC cooperated with various bodies, including civil society organizations and political parties and groupings, to ensure free participation in the electoral process.

In spite of the difficult circumstances of occupation, the Commission strove to overcome all the obstacles with which it was faced, in order to hold presidential elections within a short period following the death of the Palestinian President Yasser Arafat. The elections took place at the appointed time amidst an atmosphere of strong rivalry in Palestine, but it was an honorable rivalry, confirming the importance of the possibility of bringing about internal change through elections.

This report sets out the preparations for and results of the electoral process, and includes a chapter on the CEC's preparations for the voter registration operation, along with a report on the progress of the operation which resulted in the registration of more than one million Palestinian voters. Likewise, it includes an explanation of the polling process, detailing all stages from the beginning of the operation to the provision of its results, presented in tables which include a number of statistics. In its other chapters, the report sheds light on the voter education campaign, the media role of the CEC, the role of political parties and domestic and international observers, and the special arrangements for the city of Jerusalem, in view of its particular circumstances. The CEC hopes that this report will assist interested parties, researchers and political powers in their analysis and study of the results of the election.

The report also puts forward special recommendations relating to the electoral process in general, particularly with regard to the city of Jerusalem. The agreements, on the basis of which voting in Jerusalem has taken place since 1995, cannot continue to hold effect. Jerusalem Post Offices can no longer serve as the primary polling centers. This is a humiliation to the people of Jerusalem. The CEC hopes that the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) will update these agreements or go beyond them, so that elections in

Jerusalem may enjoy a higher degree of freedom and transparency, and will take place without belittling individual or national dignity.

The recommendations also refer to the case of the civil register and the importance of discontinuing its use, so that it does not again give rise to the technical difficulties which occurred during the presidential elections.

Finally, the report touches on the electoral infractions which took place, such as the fact that over 500 people voted more than once. Although this number is not large, it indicates the occurrence of contraventions of the electoral law. The CEC has passed on the names of the people responsible to the office of the prosecutor general, so that the necessary measures may be taken in accordance with the law.

In conclusion, the CEC offers its thanks to all those who contributed to making the electoral process a success in all its aspects, from the organization of the PNA, to the political parties and the delegations of domestic and international observers. Likewise, it offers special thanks to the Ministry of Training and Higher Education which secured a number of attendants and staff for all phases of the process, and the members of the police and security services who accorded protection to the registration and polling centers. The CEC also expresses its gratitude to all the donor states and international organizations which contributed to supporting the electoral process financially and technically. Last, but not least, the CEC offers its thanks and esteem to the Executive Officer, along with all the CEC's employees and its administrative and technical staff in all their various locations: were it not for their efforts, the process would not have met with success.

The CEC takes the opportunity furnished by the issuing of this report to express its hope that the second presidential elections have reinforced the path of the Palestinian people towards realizing their hopes and ambitions: democracy and human rights. These two elements together form a sound basis for constructing the modern state to which we all aspire.

Dr. Hanna Nasir

Chairman of the Central Elections Commission

Timeline of the Presidential Elections

27 October 2002	Presidential decree issued regarding formation of the Central Elections Commission.
21 June 2004	Presidential decree issued announcing the beginning of registration and the preparation of the electoral register.
04 September 2004	Voter registration process begins.
13 October 2004	Voter registration process ends.
11 November 2004	Death of the Palestinian President Yasser Arafat, giving rise to the necessity for presidential elections to be held within sixty days in accordance with the rulings of the Basic Law.
14 November 2004	Issue of a presidential decree inviting the Palestinian people in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip and Jerusalem to participate in general, free and fair elections to elect the President of the Palestinian Authority on January 9 2005.
20 November 2004	The application process is opened for candidacy to the post of President of the Palestinian National Authority.
24 November 2004	Publication of initial electoral register for lodging objections or the correction of any errors; beginning with the supplementary one week registration period.
24 November 2004	Issue of a decree requiring a court of appeal to be formed for electoral cases.
01 December 2004	Window for candidacy applications closed at midnight.
03 December 2004	Final day for decisions on applications for candidacy.
04 December 2004	Publication of the initial list of candidates, comprising ten candidates, and opening of the process for lodging objections to the initial candidates' list.
05 December 2004	Issue of a law amending the Elections Law, requiring the vital statistics register to be used alongside the electoral register as a basis for identifying eligible voters.
09 December 2004	Final day for appeals against the rulings of the CEC issued with regard to applications for candidacy and objections.
13 December 2004	Final day for decisions on appeals.
14 December 2004	Publication of the final list of candidates, comprising seven candidates.
15 December 2004	Final day for candidates to withdraw.
25 December 2004	Beginning of election campaigning.

07 January 2005	Final day of election campaigning.
09 January 2005	Polling day.
10 January 2005	Announcement of the initial results of the counting process, with the candidate Mahmoud Abbas attaining the highest number of votes.
12 January 2005	Announcement of the final results of the presidential elections, and the presentation of an attestation to the candidate Mahmoud Abbas, to the effect that he attained the highest number of votes.

Chapter One: The Central Elections Commission (CEC)

Part One: General Background

1. Formation of the Central Elections Commission (CEC)

The CEC is the supreme body administering and supervising elections. It is responsible for preparing and organizing them, and taking all the measures necessary to ensure their fairness and freedom (Article 22/1 of the Elections Law No. 13 of 1995). The CEC is composed of nine Commissioners selected from among the Palestinian judiciary, senior academics, and advocates with special expertise and a distinguished professional career (Article 22/2). On October 27, 2002, the CEC was formed in accordance with presidential decree 15/2002, consisting of the people named below:

1. Dr. Hanna Nasir	Chairman
2. Dr. Ali Al-Jarbawi	Secretary General
3. Ibrahim Al - Saqqa (advocate)	Member
4. Ishaq Muhamna (judge)	Member
5. Dr. Rami Al-Hamdallah	Member
6. Shukri An-Nashashibi (advocate)	Member
7. Ali As-Safarini (advocate)	Member
8. Mrs. Lamis Al-Alami	Member
9. Mazin Sisalem (judge)	Member

The aforementioned presidential decree charged the CEC with the responsibility of preparing for and executing the Palestinian presidential and legislative elections, in accordance with the Elections Law.

On October 15, 2004, following the completion of the voter registration process, Dr. Ali Al-Jarbawi resigned from the CEC. Based on a written directive issued by the President of the State on October 18, 2004, Dr. Rami Al-Hamdallah was appointed Secretary General of the Commission, and Judge Iman Nasser Eddin was appointed as the ninth member. Therefore, as of October 18, 2004, the Commission was composed as follows:

1. Dr. Hanna Nasir	Chairman
2. Dr. Rami Al-Hamdallah	Secretary General
3. Ibrahim Al - Saqqa (advocate)	Member
4. Ishaq Muhamna (judge)	Member
5. Iman Nasser Eddin (judge)	Member
6. Shukri An-Nashashibi (advocate)	Member
7. Ali As-Safarini (advocate)	Member
8. Mrs. Lamis Al-Alami	Member
9. Mazin Sisalem (judge)	Member

2. Tasks of the CEC

In accordance with the Elections Law, the CEC applies and ratifies all the procedures necessary for the electoral process. The Commission also supervises and monitors the course of the electoral process throughout its various phases, verifying that it is conducted in accordance with the law. Likewise, the Commission takes all the measures necessary for holding presidential and legislative elections characterized by freedom, fairness and transparency; as well as ratifying and announcing the election results.

3. The Central Elections Office

The Central Elections Office is the administrative and executive apparatus of the CEC, and is supervised by the Commission. The Chief Electoral Officer heads the Office, prepares policy and procedures, presents them before the Commission for ratification and then oversees their application.

Based on the decision of the CEC, **Dr. Ali Al-Jarbawi** was appointed as Chief Electoral Officer as of January 1, 2003. He held this position until his resignation on 15 October, 2004. The CEC ruled to appoint advocate Ammar Dwaik as Chief Electoral Officer as of October 16, 2004. Dwaik had been Assistant to the Chief Electoral Officer since January 1, 2003.

A. Tasks of the Central Elections Office: To work under the supervision of the CEC, on the following tasks:

- To prepare a general concept document for the phases of the election processes, and to draw up the necessary plans for their execution.
- To appoint and train staff and electoral employees.
- To prepare the primary and final electoral lists.
- To coordinate with all the organizations concerned in the electoral process.
- To register political parties, their candidates, and independent candidates.
- To raise voters' awareness of the importance of elections and how to participate in them.
- To archive all documents and files relating to the elections.
- To work as a communications link between the CEC and other bodies concerned with the elections, such as political parties, media, observers and candidates.

B. The General Headquarters: The general headquarters of the CEC is in the city of Ramallah. It comprises of four principal departments, as follows:

The Operations Department: Undertakes to draw up, execute and administer plans relating to registration and polling; to train employees, and to coordinate between the electoral constituencies and the general headquarters.

The Administration Department: Supervises the administrative aspect of the electoral processes and its needs, as well as attending to staffing matters.

The Electoral Affairs Department: Concerned with the registration of political parties and candidates; the accreditation of local and international observers, party agents and candidates; and providing them with the necessary information on the electoral process.

The Public Relations Department: Works to provide voters with accurate and detailed information on the importance of the elections, and how to participate in its various phases, as well as coordinating the CEC's media relations.

C. The Regional Office: The regional office in the Gaza Strip is considered an extension of the general headquarters, and coordinates with the electoral districts in the Gaza Strip. It supervises their work and submits reports relating to this to the general headquarters.

D. Electoral District Offices: The electoral district offices supervise the execution of the various electoral processes, such as the registration of voters, polling and the counting of votes, within the boundaries of the constituency. They come under the authority of the general headquarters. In accordance with the current Elections Law, there are 16 electoral districts, namely: Jerusalem, Jenin, Tubas, Tulkarm, Qalqilya, Nablus, Salfit, Ramallah, Jericho, Bethlehem, Hebron, Gaza North, Gaza City, Deir Al-Balah, Khan Younis and Rafah. In each of these constituencies, there is a CEC office under the authority of the general headquarters.

E. Registration and Polling Centers: These are the sites to which citizens eligible to vote make their way during the period of voter registration and on polling day. The registration and polling centers are distributed in a manner which takes into account the population of the various residential areas. Their number stands at 961 across all of the districts, comprising 3,237 polling stations, in which the administration is direct responsible for the registration and polling center committees.

Part Two: General Policies and Principles of the CEC

The CEC takes the Palestinian Elections Law and international standards as the basis of the internal system which regulates its work. Independence, neutrality, professionalism and transparency are the fundamental values behind the policies and principles adhered to by the CEC as it carries out its work and administers the electoral process.

The independence of the CEC finds its basis in law, which requires that it is a legal persona enjoying financial and administrative independence. Each employee at the Commission is appointed subject to their undertaking to “work with neutrality, integrity and honesty, without partiality for any candidate or political party at the expense of another; and not to behave in any way which brings disrepute to the integrity of the electoral process, and/or the neutrality and independence of the Elections Commission.”

The CEC’s work is limited to the technical, administrative and executive aspects of the electoral process. As a body, it is not concerned with drawing up or amending electoral law, but rather works in accordance with it. The neutrality of the CEC is not only manifested in its dealings with the various groups relating to Palestinian elections, but also the judiciary, with respect to differing standpoints relating to the electoral system, and any amendments put forward in its regard. The Commission takes no view on the form of the electoral system that is to be constructed, on the number of members in the PLC, or on awarding a quota to women.

The Commission aspires to transparency in all of its practices and at each stage of its work, from financial policy and the regulation of employment and donations, to organizing an open registration process for domestic and international organizations, political parties and media to observe the elections. At the same time, the Commission aims to publish the results of the registration process and inform all groups concerned of any modification in its procedures or any new procedure.

Since it was formed, the Commission has put two principal aims at the center of its work: establishing a permanent electoral administration working on a sound professional and administrative basis, and completing the necessary preparations for holding free and fair presidential and legislative elections at the time required by a political decree.

With regard to achieving the first of these aims, the CEC has constructed its executive apparatus. The general headquarters in Ramallah, the regional office in the Gaza Strip, and the offices in the 16 electoral districts have all been inaugurated and equipped. The necessary structures have been put in place and staff have been appointed and trained. The internal administrative and financial systems have been established. At present, the CEC comprises of a qualified executive administrative body which is capable of working as a permanent body responsible for the organization of elections.

Concerning the second aim, the necessary plans, concepts and procedures have been drawn up for the various electoral processes (the registration of voters, receiving applications for candidature, polling, counting, accrediting observers and political parties). The Commission has prepared a detailed plan regarding the numbers and distribution of polling

and registration centers across all the residential areas of the West Bank and Gaza. It has prepared training manuals and materials for staff appointed to carry out the registration, polling and counting processes. Likewise, publicity materials have been prepared which were used in the Commission's awareness and education campaigns, organized with the aim of raising citizens' awareness of the importance of the elections and how to exercise their rights. Finally, the Commission organized the voter registration process and ran the second presidential elections on January 9, 2005.

Part Three: The Palestinian Electoral System

Below are some fundamental traits of the Palestinian electoral system, in accordance with the Elections Law No. 13 of 1995:

1. The Basic Law defines the system of government in Palestine as a democratic representative system, based on political and party multiplicity. The National Authority President is directly elected by the people, with the government responsible to the President and the Palestinian Legislative Council (PLC).
2. The PNA President and the members of the PLC are elected at the same time by direct and general election. (However, the elections were held on January 9, 2005 only as a result of the death of the elected President, Yasser Arafat).
3. The West Bank and the Gaza Strip are divided into sixteen electoral districts with multiple seats. The Administrative Division Law for domestic agencies (administrative districts) is the basis for the definition of the borders of the electoral districts. From this eleven districts are produced in the West Bank, including Jerusalem, and five in the Gaza Strip. Each electoral district is considered to be an area standing alone with its representatives and candidates, and it is not permitted for a person to register, stand as candidate or vote in more than one district. The districts are: Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Hebron, Jericho, Ramallah, Salfit, Nablus, Qalqilya, Tulkarm, Jenin, Tubas, Gaza, North Gaza (Jebaliya), Deir Al-Balah, Khan Younis and Rafah.
4. The candidate who receives the highest number of votes wins the elections, regardless of the percentage of votes he receives.
5. The law keeps Christian citizens in some districts (Jerusalem, Ramallah, Gaza, Bethlehem) from a number of the seats, without depriving them of the right to compete for the remaining seats. In the constituencies in which seats are reserved for Christians, these seats are taken by whoever among the Christian candidates receives the most votes. Likewise, the law sets aside a seat for Samaritans in the Nablus constituency.
6. The law permits candidates to stand on the basis of lists (groups and parties), as well as participate in the elections on an individual basis. The voter may select the candidate he wishes without restriction to any particular group.

The Elections Law has bestowed upon the PNA President a collection of powers relating to the electoral process. Among them are: the formation of an elections commission and the selection of its President and General Secretary; appointment of the deadlines for registry and opening the process of candidacy; selecting the date of the general election; and naming the President and members of the Election Appeals Court.

Chapter Two: The Voter Registration Process

Part One: General Background

1. Attributes of the Voter Registration Process

Many electoral systems include a voter registration process prior to the start of the elections, in order to identify the people entitled to vote on polling day who meet the specific criteria laid down by each state in its law. Normally, this process is organized on the basis of geographical division, meaning that polling centers are distributed on the basis of the distribution of registration centers across the various residential localities to enable those entitled to vote to register their names.

The process of voter registration is one of the most important and sensitive stages of the electoral process, as well as the largest process of the election, and it's most taxing. The existence of an accurate, complete and up-to-date record of voters is the basis of a sound electoral process, and any flaw in the electoral list reflects negatively on the electoral process in general.

A – Definition of voting eligibility: Voter registration establishes who is entitled to vote on polling day, and excludes those who are ineligible. In the case of any disagreement over voting eligibility, the electoral list is the single reference to define eligibility to vote. Because of the complexities of the process of determining voting eligibility, and the enormity of the polling process, the two processes are usually separated, so that the process of determining eligibility to vote is completed before polling day. On polling day, the voter attends the polling center to which he/she has been assigned, and has to prove that he/she is registered on the electoral list in order to cast his/her vote.

B – Planning: The existence of the electoral list facilitates the election planning process, especially with regard to distribution of the polling centers and determining their number in accordance with the number of voters voting in each center, in addition to the allocation of a sufficient number of employees and polling materials to each center.

C – Determination of the voter's place of voting: The distribution of voters among the polling centers takes place as the electoral list is drawn up. As a result, the voter comes to know the polling center to which he/she must go on election day when he/she registers.

D – Prevention of duplicate voting: The existence of a single electoral list on the national level works to prevent the repetition of names of some voters in more than one constituency, and to prevent them from voting more than once.

E – Period of exhibition and challenge: The electoral list gives all citizens the opportunity to check the presence of their names on the preliminary list. In the case of the appearance of any error in the statements, the voter may issue a complaint. Likewise, it is possible to contest the decision of the registration body to refuse to include the names of people on the electoral list, thus depriving them of the right to vote. The register also permits citizens to contest the registration of others.

F – The transparency and openness of the register to observers: The registration process allows observers and representatives of political parties to observe the electoral process and verify its integrity and legality, a fact which contributes to its transparency and public confidence in the electoral process.

2. Criteria for the Validity of the Electoral Register

Three criteria define the validity of the electoral list, and they are: completeness, currency, and accuracy. The register is complete when it includes the maximum possible number of eligible voters. It is considered up-to-date when the information or records found in it correspond to the information of voters on polling day (for example, with the address of the voter on the electoral list corresponding to his/her address on polling day). The register is considered accurate according to the truth of the information provided in it about each voter (with the absence of errors in the spelling of names, dates of birth or addresses).

The electoral list must be drawn up in a way so as to include all those eligible to vote and exclude all those ineligible to vote. Likewise, it must guarantee that each person eligible to vote has only one name entered on the electoral list, and all those ineligible to vote (the deceased, for example) have been erased from the register.

3. Stages of Voter Registration and Drafting of the Electoral Register

The voter registration process, with the drafting of the preliminary and final lists of voters and the general register of voters, passes through a number of legal stages which must be observed so that the election and registration process stand as processes of integrity. The law entrusts the task of registration primarily to the polling center committees, which undertake the process under the supervision of the committees of the electoral constituencies. The CEC looks into challenges presented against the decisions of the polling center committees, and undertakes to draft the general list of voters. In accordance with Palestinian Elections Law, the voter registration process passes through the following stages:

A – Appointment of polling center committees: Polling center committees are the basic unit of the electoral districts, and each committee is responsible for the registration of voters in its electoral area (Article 26). The formation of the appropriate number of polling center committees in each electoral district takes place so as to appropriately reflect the number of voters within it. The polling center committee undertakes the following tasks:

- The registration of voters and drafting of preliminary and final electoral lists.
- The settlement of challenges arising over the preliminary electoral lists and correction of the lists according to the decisions made following the investigation of complaints (Article 30).

B – Reception of applications to register: The process of voter registration begins with the reception of applications to register on the electoral list. Article 16 of the electoral law states that “1. The polling center committees undertake the task of registering voters on the electoral lists. 2. Each person having the right to vote must apply to register their name on

the electoral lists by way of an application including the following: complete (four-fold) name, sex, date and place of birth, address of current residence, type of identity card and its number, a statement that the information given is true and accurate, the date of application, and signature. 6. The polling center committee, after confirming the veracity of the information included in the application stipulated in paragraph 2 above, must include the name of the applicant in the electoral lists.”

C – Publication of the preliminary list of voters: Anyone whose name does not appear on the preliminary list of voters, or who finds an error in the records pertaining to him/her, must put forward a challenge to the polling center committee in order to register his/her name or correct the records pertaining to him/her on the lists. In addition, each person must challenge the registration of any other who does not have the right to vote, or the disregard for registering of any person who has the right to vote (Article 17/1). The challenge is to be put forward to the polling center committee concerned in writing, accompanied by supporting documents, within five days of the publication of the lists of voters (Article 17/2).

D – Settlement of challenges: The polling center committee must settle challenges within seven days of their being put forward (Article 17/3). If the challenge relates to the registration of another person or his/her non-registration on the list of voters, the challenge must not be settled before the other party is informed and able to produce its own defense (Article 17/4).

E – Appeal of rulings by polling center committees: The rulings issued by a polling center committee with regard to the challenges presented to it may be appealed at the CEC within three days of the date upon which the complainant is informed of the ruling (Article 18/1). The CEC must settle the appeal and put it forward within three days of its presentation, and its ruling represents the acceptance of the appeal or its absolute refusal, with no appeal to any further body (Article 18/2).

F – Correction of the preliminary electoral register: The preliminary list of voters is corrected in light of the rulings of the polling center committees with regard to the challenges presented to them, and in the case of appeal to the rulings of the polling center committees, correction takes place in accordance with the CEC rulings (Article 17/6).

E – The final register of voters: After the period of challenge of the preliminary register has passed and all the challenges are settled, this register becomes final and polling takes place in accordance with it (Article 19/1).

4. Basic Principles upon which the Registration Process is Based

- Anyone who meets the criteria for voters as laid down in the Elections Law No.13 of 1995 may apply to register his/her name on the electoral list (in the case of the registration process commencing before the date of polling is decided upon, those of 17 years of age and above on the last day of registration are to be registered, provided those who have not yet turned 18 years of age by polling day are deleted from the final electoral list).

- It is not permitted to register any person on the electoral list who does not meet the criteria of registration.
- Whoever desires his/her name to be included in the electoral list must present himself/herself for registration in person, and cannot register by proxy, with the exception of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails.
- The registration of voters takes place in the registration centers which citizens meeting the criteria for registration must attend.
- The voter is free to attend the registration center of his/her choice, on the condition that it should be within the borders of the residential locality in which he/she is resident.
- Registration centers transform into polling centers on election day, and the voter must vote in the center in which he/she registered.
- The voter must not have more than one name entered on the electoral list.
- Registration on the electoral list is a condition of exercising the right to vote, and it is not permitted for anyone who is not registered on the electoral list to vote.
- Registration on the electoral register is a condition of exercising the right to stand as a candidate, and it is not permitted for anyone who is not registered on the electoral list to stand as a candidate.
- The voter registration process takes place in an overt manner so as to allow local and international observers, journalists, media representatives and agents of political parties to observe and report on it, in accordance with the measures established by the CEC.
- Anyone whose name does not appear on the electoral list, or whose name appears erroneously, has the right to challenge this; likewise any person may contest the registration of another person within the period so assigned in accordance with the measures put in place by the CEC.

5. Criteria for Registration

The criteria of voter registration eligibility are defined in accordance with Article 7/1 of Palestinian Elections Law No. 13 of 1995, as follows:

- Being Palestinian, in accordance with the definition provided in the Elections Law.
- Having attained 18 years of age on polling day.
- Not having acquired Israeli nationality.

- Not having been deprived of their right to vote as the result of the decision of a Palestinian court.

Although one of the conditions which must be met by the applicant for registration is that he/she must be at least 18 years of age on the appointed polling day, when the polling day has not yet been decided at the time of the registration process, the Commission has ruled to register voters who are 17 years of age on the condition that the names of those who have not turned 18 on polling day be erased when the polling day is appointed.

Article 7/2 of the electoral law defines a “Palestinian” as being a person who:

- Was born in Palestine, as defined by its borders at the time of British mandatory rule, or has the right to Palestinian nationality in accordance with the laws issued during that period (prior to May 15, 1948).
- Was born in the Gaza Strip or the West Bank, including Jerusalem.
- Is descended from a person meeting the above conditions, regardless of their birthplace.
- Is married to a Palestinian meeting the above conditions.
- Does not hold Israeli nationality.

A person applying to register must prove their nationality, age, identity and place of residence in order to enter their name on the electoral list. These are proven either by way of the personal identity card issued by the Palestinian Ministry of Interior (green) or the identity card issued by the Israeli civil administration (orange or red). In the event of the citizen not possessing an identity card, they may use alternative documents to prove their identity, nationality, age and place of residence. Nationality is proved by way of:

- A foreign passport with a visa or permit to enter the country, accompanied by a birth certificate proving that the person applying for registration was born in Palestine before May 15, 1948.
- A foreign passport with a visa or permit to enter the country, accompanied by a birth certificate proving that the person applying for registration was born in the West Bank or the Gaza Strip.
- A foreign passport with a visa or permit to enter the country, accompanied by a birth certificate proving that one of the forefathers of the person presented for registration was born in Palestine.
- A foreign passport with a visa or permit to enter the country, accompanied by a marriage certificate.

6. Proof of Place of Residence:

If the voter desires to vote in a residential locality other than that which is recorded on his/her identity card, he/she must prove his/her residency in that area. A number of documents may be used to prove the place of residence, being:

- The deed of possession of a house.
- The contract of lease of a house, or a receipt for this.
- Tax receipts or records of having received public services which prove the place of residence as being included in the area to which the registration center belongs.
- A certificate delivered by three eligible voters from the residential locality to which the registration center belongs.

Part Two: The Voter Registration Process

The CEC opened around 1,000 registration centers, in addition to dozens of other centers which were opened on a temporary basis, in order to access all voters at their places of residence. Around 3,000 employees worked in these centers, most of them recent university graduates. Likewise, the CEC facilitated the registration process for special cases exempted from the obligation to attend the registration centers.

At the conclusion of the registration process, the number of registered voters stood at around one million, one hundred thousand voters.

1. Monitoring of the Voter Registration Process

The CEC invited local and international agencies to apply to participate in monitoring the voter registration process, which began on September 4, 2004.

2,658 local and international observers participated in monitoring the registration process. They were distributed as follows:

- 2,600 local observers representing 83 Palestinian organizations.
- 19 international observers representing 3 international organizations.
- 39 observers as international guests.

A number of organizations involved in monitoring issued reports evaluating the registration procedure. Amongst these was the **National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI)**, a foreign non-governmental organization which observed the registration process. Their report praised the high standard of professionalism with which the registration process was carried out, with regard to the preparation of the new electoral list and the training and use of skills for election work.

2. The Supplementary Registration Process and the Phase of Exhibition and Challenge

Following President Yasser Arafat's death November 11, 2004, and the issue of a presidential decree requiring presidential elections to be held within 60 days, the CEC announced the commencement of the period of publication and challenge, and re-opened the registration centers for a period supplementary to the registration process between November 24 - December 1, 2004. The same centers were opened which were used during the registration period in September and October 2004, to grant the opportunity to those who had not been able to register during the first period and desired to participate in the presidential elections to add their names to the register.

It should be noted here that Palestinian Elections Law requires the preliminary list of voters to be published in order to grant the opportunity to registered voters to verify the truthfulness of the records attributed to them, and object to the registration of others if so required. The period of publication and challenge was concluded with a small number of unsupported challenges against names which appeared in the preliminary register of voters,

and around 15,000 requests for correction of the list (errors in the spelling of family names, etc).

Around 33,000 voters registered their names during the supplementary registration period.

3. Facilitation Provided by the Commission during the Registration Process

The CEC provided facilitation to citizens in a number of ways during the registration process, in order to access all voters wherever they might be found. It recognized the circumstances of those who could not attend the registration centers in the electoral constituencies, taking into account in particular the extensive limitations imposed on the movement of citizens by the occupation authorities.

A – Mobile registration centers: The CEC opened a large number of mobile registration centers, particularly in the places where large numbers of voters were to be found, such as public places and universities. These centers contributed to the registration of a large number of voters as they were easily accessible to the public.

B – Registration from distance: As another form of facilitation offered by the Commission, it was permitted for voters temporarily living outside their electoral districts to register in the registration centers nearest to them, provided that they voted in the polling center of their own districts on election day. Registering from distance did not permit the voter to forego the requirement of proving that they met all the criteria for registration, foremost among them the proof of residency; so, for example, a citizen usually resident in the Jenin constituency whose circumstances forced him/her to be present in the Ramallah electoral constituency could register in Ramallah, provided that on voting day he/she voted in Jenin, and on condition that he/she could prove residency in Jenin.

In the Gaza electoral districts, a central registration tent was opened which contained all the Gaza Strip records, serving to facilitate the registration of a large number of citizens from the Strip, especially given the continued suppression of the Strip by the occupation authorities, which greatly hindered the registration process. Likewise a registration tent was opened in the city of Ramallah, because of the sizeable presence of citizens from other electoral districts working there.

The highest percentage of registrations from distance was in the Ramallah district, followed by Nablus electoral constituency. The number of voters to register from distance in all districts was 15,613.

C – Registration for those with special needs: It was decided that people with special needs as well as aged persons whose circumstances prevented them from attending the registration centers, would be registered at their place of residence. This process was coordinated by way of a toll free hotline and a form requesting the details of each case. Registration officials subsequently attended the residences of those concerned to register them. In order to regulate the process, certain criteria were established, such as being 75 years of age or above, or having a disability which made attendance difficult. Observers monitored the process of registration for all those concerned.

D – Registration of prisoners: The CEC took a special interest in the registration of prisoners in Israeli occupation jails. It was decided that as an exception, those incarcerated could register by proxy. Measures were put in place to allow one of the relatives of the prisoner by up to two stages of removal or his/her advocate to register him/her in the registration centers, in order to guarantee prisoners' rights to stand as candidates, vote, and participate in political life like any other Palestinian citizen.

E – Registration of political prisoners in Authority jails: Coordination was undertaken with Palestinian prison bureaus for the registration of political prisoners, in order to permit them to stand as candidates and participate in local and general elections. In addition, those detained in custody and those who had not yet received the verdict of the court were registered, since Palestinian Elections Law permits them to register and participate in the elections.

4. Use of the Civil Register

The PLC ruled in its sitting held on November 1, 2004 to modify the Elections Law in order to legitimize the use of the civil register alongside the register of voters drafted by the CEC. The law allows eligible voters unable to register during the principal and supplementary registration periods to vote if their name appears on the civil register.

The civil register consists of the names of all of those who hold a Palestinian identity card, based upon records received by the PNA from the Israeli civil administration in the mid-nineties.

It should be indicated here that the CEC had decided not to make use of this register because of the problems it would cause the CEC. However, the CEC was bound by the ruling of the new law and worked according to its basis. The civil statistics register listed everyone of 18 years of age or over holding an identity card, who had not previously registered on the electoral list. The number of those names stood at 662,883. It should be noted that the register was not up-to-date, and included the names of a number of deceased persons. In addition, the register was inflated and did not accurately represent population numbers. Likewise, the names had been translated from Hebrew into Arabic, which resulted in many errors. The CEC distributed lists of those whose names appeared on the vital statistics register to special polling centers.

The CEC set aside polling centers especially for voters on the civil register. The voters were allocated to these centers according to the address which appeared on the civil register. As an additional measure to ensure votes were not duplicated following the PLC's decision to adopt the civil register, the CEC decided on the use of election ink.

The CEC issued a statement explaining its stance with regard to the PLC's legitimization of the civil register alongside the electoral list.

5. Obstacles Encountered in the Registration Process

From the very first days of the voter registration period, the CEC encountered many obstacles. These obstacles included the closure of registration centers because of the

imposition of curfews on some villages and cities, and roadblocks and closures also played their part in detaining registration staff and supervisors from attending the centers, a fact which often led to a delay in the opening of the centers. The registration staff were often forced to close the centers due to confrontations with the Israeli troops, the release of gas grenades and noise in the vicinity.

The following demonstrates in more detail the most serious obstacles encountered in the course of the registration process:

A – The City of Jerusalem: Israeli occupation authorities raided registration centers in the city commencing from the first days of the registration process, detained Commission staff for investigation over a number of hours, and photographed registration forms. Following several days of raids and the continued terrorization of workers and registrants, the occupation authorities closed the city's six centers. Israeli actions illustrate a general policy of oppressing Palestinian citizens in Jerusalem, frightening them and spreading rumors amongst them to prevent them from participating in any political activity.

B – Raids on centers: Several instances of the occupation authorities directly raiding centers, which led to their forced closure, were observed. Examples of these are as follows:

- Raiding of the Thawri registration center (in the Jerusalem district). Soldiers photographed all registration forms and summoned employees for interrogation. The Commission appointed an advocate for them and they were later released.
- All remaining Jerusalem centers were raided during the first week, and members of staff were interrogated at the intelligence bureau's interrogation center (Al-Maskubiyyeh).
- Raiding of the Salfit no. 2 center, several times.
- Raiding of the Haris center in Salfit twice.
- Raiding of registration center 0170 in Tulkarm, leading several times to the closure of the center.
- Closure of the Tubas no. 3 registration center at least once as a result of raids.
- Closure of the Ayida camp registration center in Bethlehem.
- Raiding of the Khurbat Salamah center in Hebron, and detention of staff by soldiers over some hours.

C – Incursions: The registration period witnessed a large number of Israeli incursions into Palestinian territories which led to the closure of some registration centers. Examples of the incursions are listed as follows:

- Military forces entered the village of Bal'aa and closed it for two days.

- There was an incursion into Nour Ash-Shams camp and complete closure of the area followed. The Manshiyeh area was under siege for three days.
- There was an incursion by the Israeli army into the city of Nablus and many centers were closed for two days.
- The violation of the city of Qalqilya by Israeli forces and a number of centers were closed for one day.
- Israeli forces entered the village of Zububa and closed the centers for one day.
- There was a sudden incursion into some areas of the Wadi As-Sulqa area in Deir Al-Balah, which led to the closure of centers for several days.
- Israeli forces raided the Tel Sultan area in Rafah and closed the centers for three days.
- There was an incursion by Israeli forces in Rafah and Khan Younis over a period of three days. The registration centers were closed.

D – Curfews: Israeli forces imposed curfews on a number of Palestinian areas, leading to the closure of some centers.

- A curfew was imposed on the Mukhmas district in the Jerusalem constituency for one day.
- The occupation forces imposed a curfew on the village of Haris in Salfit and the centers in it were closed for two days.
- The occupation forces imposed a curfew in the Jurat Ash-Shama' district and Ma'asareh district in Bethlehem from the first day of registration, for two days.
- In the village of Asirat Ash-Shamaliya a curfew was imposed for three days, leading to the closure of two registration centers.
- A curfew was imposed on the Salwad district in Ramallah, as well as Beit 'Our Ittiha, Beit 'Our Il-Fouqa and Safa, whereby the centers were closed for three days.
- A curfew was imposed on the city of Jenin and its camp, as well as on Qatatiya, for a period of three days, leading to the closures of the centers in them.
- Curfews were imposed on several areas in the Gaza Strip such as Wadi Sulqa, Ash-Shuja'iya, Rafah camp, and Jebaliyeh camp for a number of days, leading to the closure of the centers within.

E – Israeli roadblocks and closures: Israeli occupation forces strengthened existing roadblocks and erected new (mobile) roadblocks, and closed roads leading to some

Palestinian areas, naturally hindering the registration process. This is illustrated below in some of the cases which were observed:

- On 27/9/2004, a complete closure was imposed on the city of Jerusalem, impeding the registration process in many of its areas, especially in the north-western districts.
- Enab and Kufrayat checkpoint, which links Tulkarm to the Kufrayat area, was closed, impeding movement for several days.
- The checkpoints on roads leading to villages north of Ramallah were closed for a number of days, hindering the registration process.
- Several roadblocks were erected inside and around the Qalqilya district from the beginning of the registration process, preventing work in many centers.

F – Israeli attacks and opening fire: Israeli forces did not abstain from directly attacking Palestinian areas during the registration period, and we have noted some of these attacks below:

- 19/9/2004: Confrontations and firing around the registration center at the Ariya camp.
- 20/9/2004: Detention of the officer at the Bethlehem registration centers for one day.
- 25/9/2004: The occupation forces detained eight members of the registration staff in the south Hebron region.
- Throughout September 2004, the city of Rafah experienced random and intense outbreaks of firing, leading to the disturbance of work in registration centers.
- In the Khan Younis constituency, Israeli forces made a number of attacks with the city coming under intense fire and repeated bombardment, leading to several registration centers being moved to other, more secure sites.

Chapter Three: Standing as a Candidate and Electoral Campaigning

Part One: Registration Process for Candidates for the Post of President of the PNA

1. General Criteria for Standing as a Candidate

Representatives of registered partisan entities (or registered party coalition) and **independents** may stand as candidates for the presidency. The application for candidates must include the full name of the candidate, his/her age, address and registration number on the electoral list and it must be signed.

In the case of a candidate put forward by a partisan entity, in addition to the requirements mentioned above, the application must be signed by a representative of the partisan entity registered at the CEC, and be accompanied by a copy of the certificate of registration issued by the Commission to that organization. It is not permitted for any partisan entity to nominate more than one candidate for the post of president.

The law requires applications for independent candidates to be accompanied by a list constituting the written support of at least five thousand people registered on the final electoral list.

Each independent candidate or representative of a partisan entity must deposit the sum of three thousand dollars in the “candidates’ deposit” account at the CEC. This sum is returnable only to the candidate who wins the election.

The CEC registers the applications presented to it to stand as candidates for the post of president and issues a certificate to each applicant stating the time and date of presentation of the application and its registration number at the Commission. If the application meets the criteria stipulated by the Elections Law, the CEC will rule to accept it.

Applications must not be accepted unless they meet the conditions for candidacy as laid down by the law. In the event of an application being refused, the CEC must explain the reasons for this in detail, in writing. An application is considered successful if the CEC does not inform the applicant of their decision to refuse it within five days of its being presented to them.

2. Candidates Registration System:

The CEC has inaugurated a system for the registration of candidates to the post of PNA President, based on the Palestinian Elections Law. The law requires that a number of conditions must be fulfilled by candidates for the presidency, who must be:

- Palestinian
- 35 years of age on polling day.
- Have their names registered in the final electoral list
- Have their address in one of the electoral districts mentioned in the electoral law.

Whoever wishes to stand as a candidate for the post of president, if he/she is a PNA Minister or an employee of the government or public administration, or a president or member of a municipal council, or an employee of an international organization working in the West Bank including Jerusalem or the Gaza Strip, he/she must put forward his/her resignation at least ten days before the deadline for the announcement of the final list of candidates. Officers, non-commissioned officers and members of the national security forces are not permitted to stand as candidates for the presidency until it has been proved that their resignation has been accepted.

In addition to the general criteria for candidacy specified above, the candidate must supply the following documents with his/her application:

- A copy of a request of resignation from those whom the law so requires, as noted above, accompanied by a certificate or official document stating that resignation has been accepted.
- A power of attorney from the candidate, once the application has been signed by his/her legal agent.
- A no-conviction certificate issued by the Office of the Prosecutor General, stating that the applicant for candidacy has not been convicted for immorality or want of integrity.
- One paper and one electronic copy of the name or logo which will appear on the voting paper, if required, on the condition that it is in keeping with public order and/or the laws and effective systems.

The CEC has the right to refuse any application for candidacy if it is established that it includes misleading information, or if any of the accompanying documents are shown to be false.

The CEC publishes a list of the names of the candidates for the post of President in the local press, 22 days prior to the appointed polling day at the latest, including the full (four-fold) names, i.e. the first name, father's name, grand father's name and family name. Also included is the name of the candidates and the parties or coalition to which they are affiliated. In the case of independent candidates, their independence shall be indicated.

3. Deadline For Submission Of Candidacy:

Pursuant to the Palestinian Elections Law and the presidential decree calling for elections, the CEC opened the period of applications for candidacy for the post of PNA President on November 20, 2004. It continued up until December 1, 2004, i.e. for a non-extendable period of 12 days.

4. Applications for Candidacy

The CEC received 12 applications for candidacy for the PNA Presidency. The names of the applicants are shown in the table below according to the date and time the applications were presented:

No.	Name	Partisan Entity/Independent Candidate
1	Mustafa Kamil Mustafa Barghouthi	Independent
2	Abdel Sitar Tawfiq Qasim Al-Khaliliyah	Independent
3	Mahmoud Reda Abbas Abbas (Abu Mazen)	Palestinian National Liberation Movement “Fatah”
4	Bassam Ahmad Omar As-Salhi	Palestinian People’s Party
5	“Muhammad Sa’ada” Ahmad Mahmoud ‘Awda (Taysir Khaled)	Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine
6	Abdel Karim Kamil Nayif Shubeir	Independent
7	Hassan Abdel Fattah Abdel Halim Khureisheh	Independent
8	Salim Mustafa Al-Astal	Independent
9	Marwan Haseeb Hussein Barghouthi	Independent
10	Abdel Halim Hassan Abdel Razzaq Al-Ashqar	Independent
11	Sayyed Hussein Hassan Barakeh	Independent
12	Zakaria Ibrahim Ibrahim Ba’losheh	Independent

5. Procedures Related to Applications for Candidacy:

A – Refusal of some applications: The following two applications were refused:

- The application of Mr. Salim Mustafa Ahmad Al-Astal (due to lack of proof of his resignation from his position in the Palestinian security services, violating Article 14/2 of the Palestinian Elections Law No. 13 of 1995).
- The application of Mr. Zakaria Ibrahim Ibrahim Ba’losheh (due to his inability to provide the deposit required of him, violating Article 38/3 of the Palestinian Elections Law No. 13 of 1995).

The remaining ten applications were successful and the CEC issued a preliminary list of the candidates on Friday, December 3. The period for challenge and contest was subsequently opened for a two-day period.

B – Challenges: The CEC faced the following challenges:

- A challenge over the eligibility of the candidate Hassan Khureisheh, on the grounds of his serving as President of the PLC, without having put forward his resignation from this post. The CEC refused the challenge on the grounds that no legal text prevented his standing.
- A challenge on the legal status of three political parties who registered their candidates for the elections, being the Palestinian National Liberation Movement “Fatah,” the Palestinian People’s Party and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The complainant considered that these three parties were not registered with the Interior Ministry as the law required. As the Interior Ministry had confirmed to the CEC that these three parties were registered according to the law, as part of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO), the CEC refused the challenge. The complainant appealed the Commission’s decision in the Court of Appeal for Election Cases, which in its turn refused the appeal and confirmed the Commission’s decision.

C – Withdrawals: Prior to the final deadline for withdrawals, three eligible candidates withdrew: M/S Hassan Khureisheh, Marwan Barghouthi and Abdel Sitar Qasim.

6. The Final List Of Candidates:

As a result of the refusal of two applicants and the withdrawal of three others, the final list of candidates consisted of seven people as shown in the table below, also listed in order of the date and time the applications were presented:

No.	Name	Name appears on ballot paper	Partisan entity/ independent candidate
1	Mustafa Kamil Mustafa Barghouthi	Mustafa Barghouthi	Independent
2	Mahmoud Reda Abbas Abbas	Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen)	Palestinian National Liberation Movement “Fatah”
3	Bassam Ahmad Omar As-Salhi	Bassam As-Salhi	Palestinian People’s Party
4	“Muhammad Sa’ada” Ahmad Mahmoud ‘Awda	Taysir Khaled	Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine
5	Abdel Karim Kamil Nayif Shubeir	Abdel Karim Shubeir	Independent
6	Abdel Halim Hassan Abdel Razzaq Al-Ashqar	Abdel Halim Al-Ashqar	Independent
7	Sayyed Hussein Hassan Barakeh	Sayyed Barakeh	Independent

Part Two: Introduction of Candidates for the Post of President of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA)

The following introductions of the candidates are based upon information provided by the candidates themselves. The CEC asked candidates to supply an introduction about

themselves to be published in domestic newspapers, in order to make them known to Palestinian voters.

1. Mustafa Barghouthi

Born in the city of Jerusalem, Mustafa Barghouthi obtained a PhD in Medicine, a degree in Philosophy and a Masters in Administration and Development of Administrative Systems. With his colleagues, he formed the Medical Relief Committee, and was elected its president in 1979. He was shot by Israeli forces in 1996, and arrested in 2002. Israel issued a decree that prevented him from entering Jerusalem. With Dr. Haydar Abdel Shafi, Ibrahim Ad-Daqqaq and the late Edward Said, he founded the Palestinian National Initiative “Al-Moubadara,” in which he occupies the post of secretary general.

Mr. Barghouthi led the campaign of resistance against the separation wall at the Hague, together with the International Solidarity Movement with the Palestinian People, as well as an international campaign for imposing sanctions on Israel. He resigned from the delegation to the Madrid Negotiations in protest over the course taken by the negotiations, which led to the Oslo agreements and the continuation of settlement building.

He has won worldwide acclaim, including the Award of the World Health Organization in 2002, and the Award for defending Palestinian human rights from the Struggle Against Racial Discrimination organization.

2. Mahmoud Abbas “Abu Mazen”

Born in Safad in 1935, Mahmoud Abbas’ family fled the town and sought refuge in Syria after Safad was occupied by Zionist militias in April 1948. At just 13 years of age, he was forced to work for two years to assist his family. He then completed his preparatory schooling and worked as a teacher, pursuing his studies at home. After achieving his secondary diploma, he was admitted to the University of Damascus and was awarded its Award for Law in 1958.

In 1957, Abbas worked as human resources director at the Ministry of Education of Qatar, and during that period visited the West Bank and Gaza Strip several times in order to select teachers for work in Qatar. In 1970, he dedicated himself entirely to working for the Palestinian cause.

During the 1950s, Abbas established a clandestine national organization with several colleagues, and later participated in the foundation of the Fatah movement.

Abbas obtained a PhD from the Oriental Institute in Moscow in 1982. He has been a member of Fatah's Central Committee since 1964, and the PLO's Executive Committee since 1980. He became the first Palestinian Prime Minister in 2003 and was elected Chairman of the PLO's Executive Committee after the death of President Yasser Arafat. He has authored several books and studies.

3. Bassam As-Salhi

Born in the Amari refugee camp in 1960, Bassam As-Salhi obtained a Masters in International Studies and authored a number of books and political studies. He was head of the student council at Birzeit University between 1979 and 1981, and is a member of the National Guidance Committee. He led the student movement against the Camp David Agreements for which he was arrested several times and placed under house arrest.

As-Salhi was a member of the National Unified Command during the first Intifada, and was arrested in 1990 and sentenced to three years in prison with an additional three years on probation.

With the outbreak of the Tunnel Intifada of 1996 and the Al-Aqsa Intifada of 2000, he participated in the leadership bodies, alongside other national forces and organizations.

As-Salhi is a member of the Palestinian National Council and the PLO's Central Council, and was a member of the committee pursuing the file of the separation wall in the Hague, as well as a member of the Palestinian delegation to attend the court sessions. He was a member of the follow-up team which devoted much of its work to mobilizing international support for the Palestinian people.

4. Taysir Khaled (Muhammad Sa'ada)

Born in Qaryout village in Nablus in 1941, Taysir Khaled joined the ranks of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) when it was established in 1969. He holds a Masters in Economics and Political Science from Heidelberg University in Germany.

Khaled was elected as a member of the DFLP's political bureau in 1971 and was in command of the organization in Lebanon from 1972 to 1982. He headed the international relations office for the DFLP after 1982 and participated in leading the DFLP in the occupied territories during his stay in Amman, between 1982 and 1991.

In 1991, Khaled was elected as a member of the PLO Executive Committee and headed the National Office to Defend the Land and Resist the Settlements.

He was wounded while leading a public demonstration against the construction of Israeli settlements in Aseerah al-Qibliyye in 1998. He was arrested by Israeli occupation troops at the beginning of 2003 and was released in June of the same year. He has issued several publications on economics and politics.

5. Abdel Karim Shubeir

Born in Gaza in 1959, Abdel Karim Shubeir holds a PhD in International Law. He has worked to defend Palestinian political, security and administrative detainees in Israeli prisons, as well as Palestinian deportees.

Shubeir compiled a 23-volume encyclopedia containing all Israeli military orders and communiqués issued in the Gaza district between 1967 and 1994. His academic dissertation was on the indivisible rights of Palestinians, in particular the right of return

and the rights of refugees. The title of his study was, “The Rules Governing Deportation in International Law: A Case Study on Israeli Practices in the Palestinian Territories.” He also conducted a scientific study on the solitary confinement of political and security prisoners in Israeli prisons.

Shubeir has been a practicing advocate for 22 years, and has two law offices in Gaza and Khan Younis. He lectures for the Gaza Mental Health Program and is a member of several trade unions, as well as local and Arab institutions.

Shubeir has participated in a number of conferences, seminars, and workshops in the fields of law and human rights. He has trained advocates and jurists in the application of recent legislation in Palestine. He stands as a candidate who has been personally involved in most of the social and political problems of the nation.

6. Abdel Halim Al-Ashqar

Born in the village of Sayda in Tulkarm in 1958, Abdel Halim Al-Ashwar completed his secondary studies at Ateel School, graduated from Birzeit University in 1982, and obtained his Masters from Lavern University in Greece in 1989. He obtained his PhD in Business Administration from the University of Mississippi, and worked as a professor in several American universities, the last of which was Howard University in Washington.

Mr. Al-Ashqar was arrested three times by the United States authorities because he refused to testify against Palestinian and Muslim activists. He is currently under house arrest awaiting trial for refusing to testify on charges of Hamas membership and assisting with the funding of the Hamas movement.

7. Sayyed Barakeh

Born in Bani Suheila village in Khan Younis in 1956, Sayyed Barakeh graduated from the Arts College of Alexandria University in 1979. He later worked as a teacher in both Algeria and Palestine. He was arrested three times before and after the first Intifada in 1987 and was deported to Lebanon in 1989 on charges of political leadership of Islamic Jihad. He remained in exile in Lebanon for ten years.

In Lebanon, Barakeh founded the Palestine Martyr Institute which established the Al-Quds Hospital in Ein al-Hilwe in Sidon, and a maternity hospital in Burj al-Barajneh in Beirut. The institute also provided job opportunities, both through the institute itself and its projects. In addition, Barakeh founded the Palestine Scholars’ Commission in Lebanon, as a framework for scholars in Lebanon. Through this, he issued a magazine called “The Guiding Torch.”

Barakeh returned to Palestine in 1998, on the occasion of the holding of the Palestinian National Council. He participated in all the sessions of the Palestinian Central Council held in Gaza. He still takes part in political, cultural and educational activities, as well as speeches and seminars. He has authored two books: “Building the Aspired Self” and in “The Right to Disagree in Righteousness,” which was published in 1996. He authored

several publications and editorials in “Mujahid,” a publication issued in Lebanon, prior to his resignation from Islamic Jihad.

After his return, Barakeh worked as a Director-General at the Ministry of Youth and Sports before submitting his resignation in order to run in the presidential elections.

Part Three: Election Campaigning Rules and Regulations

The Palestinian Elections Law regulates a number of aspects of election campaigning, and limitations on the location, time, content and funding of election campaigns. Shortly before the period of election campaigning, the CEC published the rules and regulations stipulated by the law concerning election campaigning, and continuously tracked the candidates' campaigns in order to verify their observance of the rules and regulations.

1. Election Campaigning is a Legal Right:

All candidates for the post of PNA President are guaranteed the right to campaign in accordance with the rulings of law (Articles 54-59), and the statutes and instructions issued by the CEC.

2. Definition of Election Campaigning:

An election campaign consists of legal electoral activities and actions undertaken by registered partisan entities and candidates to explain their platforms to the voting public. Included in the definition of the campaign are any appeals made by candidates and partisan entities for the public to vote in the interests of any of the candidates. Candidates are forbidden to perform any illegal electoral activities.

3. The Legal Timeframe of the Election Campaign:

The election campaign commences 14 days before polling day, and all of its activities are concluded twenty-four hours before polling day. According to the schedule of the 2005 presidential elections, the election campaign began on December 26, 2004 and continued until January 7, 2005.

Partisan entities, candidates, official and private media are obliged to observe this timing and it is forbidden to undertake any form of election campaigning in accordance with the above definition before the appointed time. This includes a ban on advertisements, press reports, rallies, conferences or speeches explaining their election policy, as well as direct or indirect appeals for votes for the candidate before the appointed time.

4. Places Where Election Campaigning is Forbidden:

Rallies or public election meetings are absolutely prohibited in mosques, churches and in buildings or places used by the public services or governmental organizations.

5. Regulations Affecting the Content of the Election Campaign:

It is absolutely forbidden for speeches, publications, advertisements or posters to contain any inflammatory propaganda or accusations against other candidates, or material which provokes tribal, family or factional pride amongst groups of citizens.

6. The Election Campaign and the Media:

A – Official media: The CEC set forth a special program in cooperation with the official Palestinian media, allocating the times to be set aside for free and *gratis* advertising for the candidates for the post of PNA President, on the condition that opportunities were to be equally bestowed.

- Free advertising: Free advertising allows the candidate to explain their policy without censorship, except on that which violates public order or morals, or any inflammatory propaganda or accusations against any other candidates.
- Gratis advertising: It is not permitted for the official media to accept any form of remuneration for the airtime allowed for each candidate.
- Equal opportunities: The conditions for the campaign of each candidate must be made equal, through the provision of corresponding airtime broadcast at equivalent times (for example, broadcasting all the advertisements at peak time, rotating the order in which candidates appear, and providing equivalent conditions for any advertising time apart from live campaigning).

It is not permitted for the official media to broadcast additional advertisements, either gratis or paid for, on behalf of any candidate.

B – Private media (newspapers, radio and domestic stations): All private media, including radio and television stations, must observe the election campaign regulations set down in the law, the foremost of which are: the time of commencement of election campaigning, the ban on inflammatory propaganda and accusations against candidates. It is not permitted, for example, for a daily newspaper to publish paid-for advertisements which constitute election campaign material, or advertisements in the interest of the electoral campaign of one of the candidates, or advertisements in which the candidate explains his political program, prior to the commencement of the election campaign.

The CEC prosecuted any infraction of these regulations with the Ministry of Communications, which possesses the power with regards to the law and the effective systems to prosecute infractions by either visual, audio or printed media.

7. Funding Of The Electoral Campaign

The candidate is forbidden to receive funding for his electoral campaigning from the PNA, in accordance with Article 93/3 of the law.

The partisan entities and candidates are forbidden to receive funds for their electoral campaigning from any external or foreign source, in accordance with Article 94/1 of the law.

Within 20 days, at the latest, of the announcement of the final election results, each party that participated in the elections and winning candidates must present a detailed statement

to the CEC, comprising all the sources from which they received funding and the amounts spent during the course of the election campaign.

Part Four: Evaluation of the Election Campaign

The election campaigns of candidates were generally undertaken in a civilized manner, though the CEC had some comments to make and citizens and/candidates' agents also made complaints. Among the most important of the comments made on the election campaign process was that a number of PNA officials interfered in the campaigning of one of the candidates and did not take a completely neutral position with regard to the electoral process in violation of the law. Likewise, it was observed that some PNA offices and materials were used for the election campaigns of some of the candidates.

Most of the complaints which arrived with regard to the election campaign process were in relation to the random placing of candidates' posters and pictures, which on occasion were placed over the posters or pictures of other candidates or in privately-owned places without the permission of the owner.

Among the offenses recorded was a failure to observe the timeframe for election campaigning. Some candidates began their campaigns before the official time and some continued to campaign after the official time, on the day before polling day and on polling day itself.

The CEC worked together with Palestinian radio and television organizations to organize cost-free periods of advertising for the candidates, which were distributed so as to be equivalent in terms of length and time of broadcast. The Palestinian satellite channel, in cooperation with the CEC, organized interviews and debate with each of the candidates during which they could explain their policy and respond to the queries of interlocutors.

Chapter Four: The Polling Process

Part One: Polling Centers and Materials

The CEC opened a number of polling centers and stations, thereby covering all residential localities and geographic regions. It supplied all the polling stations with the necessary election materials, sufficient to cover the expected number of voters. Likewise, it undertook the necessary training of staff to supervise these stations.

1. Polling Centers

- Were restricted to the same former registration centers.
- Each center included up to five polling stations.
- Polling staff began their work at the polling stations and centers between 6 - 6.30 a.m., to put the stations and centers in order.
- Five members of staff were present at each center:
 - Station Supervisor – responsible for organizing the station's work, and ensuring the good order and progress of its work.
 - Registry Officer – accurately recorded the voters, entering their names on the list of voters, and applying the ink.
 - Ballot forms officer – whose responsibility was limited to stamping the voting papers and handing them to voters, then directing them to the polling booth.
 - Box Officer – whose responsibility was limited to verifying that the voters put their ballot papers only in the ballot boxes.
 - E. Queue officer – regulated the entry of voters from a queue in front of the polling station.

Those permitted to enter the polling stations were:

- Relevant employees of the CEC.
- Voters coming to cast their vote.
- Candidates, party representatives and their deputies.
- Domestic and international observers.
- Media representatives.
- Security officials, at the request of the station official only.

2. Polling Centers for Voters Whose Names Appeared on the Vital Statistics Register

As a result of the PLC's legitimization of the vital statistics register as a supplementary source for the preparation of the electoral list, the CEC allocated special centers for voters registered on the civil register. It printed the register and distributed it to the centers in such a way that the name of the voter would appear at only one station.

The number of centers in which voters whose names appeared on the civil register could vote differed in each constituency. Their number was determined on the basis of population. To prepare a list of voters from the civil register, the CEC deleted the names of voters registered on the electoral list from the civil register, and divided the list according to residential localities. In each electoral constituency, the lists of vital statistics were divided according to first names in alphabetical order, so that a part of that constituency's civil register list was found in each civil register center.

3. Ballot Boxes

Semi-transparent ballot boxes were used, permitting the polling station staff to see the ballot papers inside, without permitting their contents to be read.

4. Ballot Papers

The CEC took the necessary precautions to prevent the production of forged ballot papers. As part of these measures, voting papers with a unique watermark were used, the papers were not uniformly sized, and the designated design for the paper was not revealed.

5. Voting Ink

Following the legitimization of the civil register, the CEC decided to make use of electoral ink to prevent the duplication of votes. The electoral ink could not be wiped from the thumbs of voters for at least 24 hours.

6. Training of Polling and Counting Workers

The necessary personnel were engaged and deployed, with the total number of workers calculated for all the centers and stations across all the electoral districts, in addition to a reserve number distributed appropriately across the centers. The total number of workers was approximately 17,000, including polling center supervisors, center officials, polling station officials and staff.

To deploy the employees within a short time period, it was necessary to seek assistance from the Ministry of Education and Training, for the provision of school teachers according to the needs of the CEC across the necessary geographic localities.

As for the training process, 300 supervisors received intensive skills training from the Commission's training division, across all of the electoral districts. The supervisors trained the staff according to a training program.

Training concentrated on polling and counting procedures and filling in the relevant forms accurately and clearly, along with how to deal with voters and polling materials during and after the polling and counting procedures. It also covered guidelines for dealing with candidates' agents and representatives, domestic and international observers and media representatives.

Part Two: The Polling Process

The polling process began at 7 am on January 9, 2005 at 2839 polling stations as planned, with the exception of four Tulkarm centers where opening was delayed by one hour due to the closure of the “Enab” checkpoint. The polling process continued in spite of the presence of Israeli roadblocks despite an undertaking from the Israeli side to facilitate the movement of citizens on election day. Israeli forces persisted in hindering press staff from entering the city of Jerusalem, preventing a number of them from covering the process. For example, in the Salahaddin Street post office which was allocated to handle 3,500 voters, only one member of staff was available, leading to severe overcrowding at the door of the center, and preventing the polling itself from taking place.

In the course of polling day, the polling center at Tariq bin Zayid School in Khan Younis came under fire from Israeli troops, without any noteworthy damage or injury taking place; the polling process continued as planned following this incident. In the Beita Qariba district in Nablus, voters complained of earth barriers preventing their progress to the polling stations. Likewise, CEC staff members faced difficulties in delivering ballot boxes to eight villages south of Nablus because of an Israeli siege.

Citizens who had not recorded their names on the electoral list attended the civil register centers which had been opened especially for them. Despite this, a number of them could not determine the center at which they were to vote. In addition, a number of them did not locate their names at those centers because of the numerous errors found on the civil register, which caused some confusion at those centers.

As a result of the lack of Israeli facilitation, with voters being prevented from reaching the polling centers, and the polling process being continually hampered by the Israeli side through the enduring closure of checkpoints and in particular Jerusalem, Gaza and some West Bank areas, the CEC decided to extend the voting period by two additional hours. Ballot boxes were, therefore, closed at 9 pm, instead of 7 pm. Likewise, CEC allowed those who carried identity cards but were unable to determine the polling station allocated to them to vote at the nearest civil register center, even if their names did not appear on that register.

The role played by domestic and international observers should be highlighted. The number of international and local observers accredited by the CEC reached over 22,000, including local and international observers and representatives of partisan entities and candidates. The presence of such a number of observers is considered to be an added guarantee of the integrity and transparency of the election.

Following the conclusion of the election, observers’ reports began to arrive at the CEC. The report of the European Union (EU) observation delegation praised the integrity of the election process and the efforts made by the CEC to render it successful within a short timeframe. The report indicated that the procedures in Jerusalem had been unclear, and urged the Palestinian and Israeli sides to come to an agreement in order to prevent this problem from reoccurring. It also stated that the election campaigns were concluded without any significant incidents, with the exception of the limitations imposed on the

movement of some candidates which caused them considerable frustration, particularly in Jerusalem and Gaza. The report confirmed that the voter registration process had enjoyed immense credibility.

Part Three: The Counting Process and Announcement of Results and Infractions

In accordance with the Elections Law and the instructions and measures that were put in place by the CEC, each polling station committee is required to count their own boxes, thereby transforming into a counting committee. The counting operation takes place in the presence of accredited agents and representatives of party organizations and candidates, international and local observers, along with media representatives.

1. Counting System

The counting process begins at the closure of voting, and proceeds to its conclusion. At the end of the counting process, the counting committee prepares the official report in four copies, including the following:

- The name of the electoral constituency, the name and number of the center, the number of the station, and the date and time at which the counting began.
- The total number of registered voters on the electoral list specific to the station.
- The number of ballot papers received by the polling committee.
- The number of unused ballot papers.
- The number of spoilt ballot papers.
- The number of voters who exercised the right to vote, and the number of those who did not.
- The number of votes received by each of the candidates.

After the station committee's official report has been signed, a copy is posted in a prominent place at the polling station, and the other copies are sent to the office of the electoral district, along with complaints or objections.

In the presence of observers, candidates' representatives and the media, the office of the electoral districts compiles the reports as they arrive from all the polling stations in the constituency into one single report containing the results of the elections in that district. It then sends the result of the elections in the district to the CEC which compiles the reports from the 16 electoral districts.

2. Preliminary Declaration Of Results

The CEC announced the preliminary results of the election on the day after polling day, which was a compilation of the counting reports of all 2839 polling stations.

3. Discussion Of Complaints

The CEC discussed all the complaints and comments which came to it from the 16 electoral district committees and verified the reports presented by the committees. Most of

the complaints were related to election campaigning on polling day, which is considered illegal, or to the behavior of candidates' representatives or staff members of the CEC. No complaint or objection was raised with regard to the counting of votes.

4. Final Results

The CEC met on January 12, 2005 in the presence of party representatives and candidates, and announced the following final results:

No.	Name of Candidate or (Group)	Political Affiliation	Number of Votes	Percentage of Voters
1	Mahmoud Abbas – Abu Mazen	Fatah movement	501,448	62.52%
2	Mustafa Barghouthi	Independent	156,227	19.48%
3	Taysir Khaled	Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine	26,848	3.35%
4	Abdel Halim Al-Ashqar	Independent	22,171	2.76%
5	Bassam As-Salhi	People's Party	21,429	2.67%
6	Sayyed Barakeh	Independent	10,406	1.30%
7	Abdel Karim Shubeir	Independent	5,717	0.71%
8	(Blank papers)	-	30,672	3.82%
9	(Blank papers)	-	27,159	3.39%
Total number of voters			802,077	100.00%

5. Infractions

Following the end of the election, the Commission compiled reports to determine the numbers and groups of people participating in the election, and to discover instances of multiple voting or voting below the legal age. The process revealed the names of 504 people who had voted more than once, in addition to the names of 84 people who were under 18 years of age and had voted.

On February 23, 2005 the Commission passed on the names of the people who had voted more than once or voted when they were under the legal voting age to the Prosecutor General, for legal measures to be taken in their regard.

It should be noted that, in accordance with Article 97 of the Elections Law, any person who has voted more than once or without the legal right to vote has committed a crime deserving of punishment either imprisonment for no longer than one year, or a fine of no more than a thousand dinars, or both measures.

Part Four: Complaints Put to the Election Appeals Court

1. The Election Appeals Court

Pursuant to the ruling of Chapter 4, Article 13 of Palestinian Elections Law No. 13 of 1995, the Election Appeals Court is composed of a president and four members, in accordance with the presidential decree issued on 7/12/2004. The court was formed as follows:

1. Judge Fawzi Hassan Abu Watfeh	President
2. Judge Farid Muslih	Member
3. Judge Hisham Al-Hatu	Member
4. Judge Ali Al-Fara	Member
5. Judge Hassan Al-Jadba	Member

The laws require the judges of this court to have served in the judiciary for no less than ten years. In accordance with the law, the court looked into appeals and complaints put forward with the object of canceling or modifying the rulings of the CEC, or where the law determined the permissibility of the appeal at the court, such as an objection put forward by one of the candidates against the CEC's decision to refuse their application for candidacy.

The period assigned for the treatment of appeals of applications is two days, commencing on the day after the date of receiving the decision against which the complaint is made. The court must render judgment on the appeal presented to it in the five days following the date of its presentation.

The law requires the court to take its official headquarters in one of the principal cities of the West Bank or Gaza Strip, and it is permitted for the court to be held outside its official headquarters.

2. Appeals Which Came Forward Regarding Decisions of the Commission

Pursuant to the rulings of Chapter 4 of Palestinian Elections Law No. 13 of 1995, the Election Appeals Court received four cases relating to the results of the second Palestinian presidential elections. These were limited to two subjects:

A. The Decision of the CEC to Permit Citizens to Vote on the Strength of Identity Cards at Civil Register Polling Stations: Two observing local organizations submitted appeals to the Election Appeals Court requesting a decision from the CEC to allow citizens to vote based on their identity cards at civil register polling stations to be annulled, along with all procedures succeeding this decision. The details of the two appeals are as follows:

Appeal No. 1/2005

The Palestinian Center for Human Rights submitted this appeal on January 9, 2005, and the sitting was held on the January 10, 2005. The appeals advocate based his complaint on

Article 15 of the Palestinian Elections Law No.13 of 1995 which considers the electoral list and the civil register to constitute the basis of the right to vote.

The court rejected the appeal on form without examination of its subject, because of its lack of any written ruling by the CEC which could be contested, in addition to the fact that the appellant had not exhausted the legal means of complaint against the CEC so as to allow recourse to the court.

Appeal No. 4/2005

The Mizan Center for Human Rights submitted the appeal on January 11, 2005, and the court issued its ruling on January 16, 2005. The appeal was founded on the same basis as Appeal No. 1/2005, with the addition that the appellant had entered a complaint with the CEC prior to having recourse to the court.

The court accepted the appeal on form since it met the formal requirements, and declined its matter on the grounds that the Commission had issued the decision against which the appeal was made in accordance with the powers bestowed on it in Article 24 of the Elections Law No. 13 of 1995, and to fulfill No. 4 of 2004. In addition, the charge of the appellant's representative that infractions had occurred through the use of identity cards did not conform with what he had confirmed in his argument, namely that the problems which occurred during the voting process had been solved.

B. The Decision of the CEC Declaring the Candidate Mahmoud Abbas as Winner of the Post of PNA President

The advocate Wassem 'Atta Abu Ra's, in his capacity as a representative of the "National Democratic Party," submitted two appeals to Election Appeals Court, the subject of which was the annulment of the decision by the CEC to declare the candidate Mahmoud Abbas the winner of the post of PNA President. The two appeals were submitted on the January 11th, 2005 and the court issued its rulings on the January 13th, 2005. The details of the appeal were as follows:

Appeal 2/2005

The appeal was based on Mahmoud Abbas receiving 29.26% of the votes of Palestinians eligible for voting, a figure which the appellant gleaned from the statistics issued by the CEC regarding the number of those eligible to vote. The appellant stated that this figure was not sufficient for exercising the powers associated with the position, and did not constitute an authorization by a sufficient number of voters. The court refused the appeal on form because of the lack of standing of the appellant.

Appeal No. 3/2005

The appeal called for the annulment of the decision with which the appeal was concerned or its making conditional upon the resignation of the candidate Mahmoud Abbas from the Presidency of the Executive Council of the PLO, considering that any candidate holding a position alongside that of his position in the Executive Council was in breach of the law,

and obliged to give up his or her post on the Executive Council. The court refused the appeal on form due to the appellant's lack of standing and the fact that the party which he claimed to represent was unlicensed.

Part Five: Election Arrangements in East Jerusalem

1. General Background

The Jerusalem electoral district is one of the 16 districts mentioned in the Palestinian Elections Law No.13 of 1995. However, it has special characteristics setting it apart from the other districts. It is divided into two zones: the zone annexed by the Israeli occupation forces in 1967, which is the area behind the checkpoints submitted to administration from what is called the Jerusalem municipality of the Israeli authorities; and the area outside the annexed region known as the suburbs, in which 30 Palestinian residential localities are found. The Palestinian Elections Law No.13 of 1995 includes special procedures for voting in the area of annexed Jerusalem, on the basis of the rulings of the transition phase treaty. In Article 102/3 of the above law, "voting in Jerusalem takes place in accordance with the rulings of the transition phase treaty between the PLO and Israel, signed in Washington on September 28, 1995 (hereafter referred to as the transition phase treaty).

In light of the obstacles that were placed in the path of the voter registration process by Israel in September 2004, during which the Commission was aware of the possibility of Israeli hindrance of elections in Jerusalem, the Commission announced in a statement that it would not supervise any election which did not include the city of Jerusalem, and asserted that its position harmonized with that of the people and the nation and also that of the National Authority. The Commission indicated in the same statement that it did not consider the procedures which had been applied during the 1996 elections in Jerusalem to have met acceptable international standards of fairness. However, at the same time, with respect to the holding of elections in Jerusalem, the Commission considered that the 1996 procedures conformed to a great extent, to international standards.

Long-running negotiations were held between the Palestinian and Israeli sides regarding the re-application of the 1996 procedures and the improvement of their conditions. Israel persisted in opposing elections in Jerusalem until December 26, 2004 when Israel officially announced that it would agree to elections pursuant to the clauses in the Oslo Accords and accepted the procedures in Jerusalem based on those of 1996.. It announced a single "improvement" in the conditions of the agreement, which was the addition of one post office to the five mentioned in the transition phase treaty.

Although the clauses of the transitional phase treaty are openly known and published, they do not illustrate in exact detail the arrangements upon the basis of which elections are held. These details were drafted in the course of numerous meetings between the Palestinian and Israeli sides to prepare for the 1996 elections. The CEC had not been provided with the details and proceedings of these sittings in order to be able to carry out its work within the arrangements. At a meeting with the President of the Commission, one of its members, an executive official, the Prime Minister and the Minister for Negotiation Affairs at the Prime Minister's office on December 23 2004, the Negotiations Minister handed the President of the Commission a memorandum containing a summary of the arrangements undertaken in 1996. Despite the briefness of this (unsigned) memorandum, it furnished some fundamental information which assisted the CEC in clarifying the details of the arrangements on the basis of which the 1996 elections took place.

The first clause of the sixth article of the transitional phase treaty indicates that “a sub-committee of the Palestinian Central Elections Commission shall be formed for coordination with Israel on issues relating to the election,” but the Commission decided not to undertake any direct communication with Israel, and to communicate only through the Ministry for Civil Affairs, which was ready to undertake this task – in particular since the Ministry for Civil Affairs is the official party within the Palestinian National Authority endowed with this responsibility..

In theory, the 2005 elections in Jerusalem took place within the framework of the transitional phase treaty and the measures agreed upon by the Palestinian and Israeli sides in 1996. However, in practice, the Israeli occupation authorities extensively hindered the participation of Jerusalemite citizens in the election, especially at the post offices. The appropriate number of workers was not supplied to facilitate the balloting process for voters. Likewise, the workers present prevented the checking of the names of voters, since when voters arrived at the centers the postal worker would claim that their names were not on the lists. The CEC looked into this matter and discovered that these claims were untrue, and what the Israeli parties had done was no less than an attempt to prevent the election procedure from taking place. Only one worker was allocated to the post office on Salahaddin Street which was allocated to receive 3,500 voters, causing severe overcrowding at this center.

The former American President Jimmy Carter and former French Prime Minister Michel Rocard, as well as a number of international observers, intervened to facilitate the participation of Jerusalem residents. Mr. Carter suggested that Israel should permit any Jerusalem resident to vote on the strength of their civil registration. Following some procrastination, all Jerusalemite voters carrying receipts of their registration were permitted to vote in the six post offices.

2. The CEC’s Preparations for Elections in the City of Jerusalem

Despite the obscurity surrounding the electoral arrangements in Jerusalem, the CEC undertook wide-ranging preparations in the city, similar to those which took place in the other electoral regions. Every effort was made to smooth complications, in cooperation with international observers and the relevant Palestinian authorities.

A – Registration Process: On September 4, 2004 the CEC opened six registration centers in Jerusalem. Several days later, the Israeli authorities closed down the registration centers in the city, and detained a number of CEC workers. Likewise, sensitive election materials and registration forms which had been filled in the centers were confiscated, preventing the continuation of the registration process in the city of Jerusalem.

B – Voter Education Campaign: For 37 years, the Israeli authorities have imposed laws and measures which suppress Jerusalem citizens. As a result, Jerusalemites were hesitant to participate in the registration process for fear that it would have a negative impact on their rights as Jerusalem residents. For this reason, voter education campaigns were undertaken by the CEC focusing on informing Jerusalem citizens that they had the right to participate in the elections, and that their participation would not adversely affect the rights.

C – Door-to-Door Registration Operations: After the CEC received the details of the election arrangements for Jerusalem from the PNA; Commission staff undertook a wide-range door-to-door mobile registration operation, to register eligible voters in the city. The CEC urged all citizens and Palestinian organizations in Jerusalem to cooperate with CEC workers to carry out this task. The registration operation continued until Election Day, when citizens who had been unable to register were able to vote based on their Jerusalem identity cards on the condition that their names were registered at the time of voting.

D – Election Campaigns in Jerusalem: In accordance with Palestinian-Israeli agreements, candidates have the right to undertake election campaigning in the Holy City of Jerusalem pursuant to the following regulations:

- Placing of posters and leaflets in privately-owned places is conditional upon the agreement of the owners of those places.
- Leaflets may be distributed at markets and crossroads.
- Posters and leaflets may be posted in public places, after coordination with the CEC, which will raise requests for the placing of posters to the Ministry for Civil Affairs, to undertake the necessary coordination with the Israeli side.
- Electoral meetings and rallies may be held in Jerusalem in closed places and halls, provided that the CEC is informed of the time and place of the meeting at least 24 hours beforehand. The CEC will track candidate applications via the Ministry for Civil Affairs.
- Offices may be opened for the candidates to coordinate and continue their campaign activities in the city.

Candidates are obliged to obtain the necessary permission to enter the city of Jerusalem by making an application via the Ministry for Civil Affairs, through the CEC.

E – International Observers: All voting procedures in Jerusalem occurred under the observation of international observers, who were present inside the post offices and during the transit of the ballot boxes from the post offices to the CEC office in Dahiyat Al-Barid.

F – Polling and Counting Centers in the City of Jerusalem: Voting took place in six post office centers, comprising 12 polling stations distributed as follows:

1. Hebron Gate post office (old municipality)	1 station
2. Salahaddin Street post office	7 stations
3. Al-Tor post office	1 station
4. Shu'fat post office	1 station
5. Beit Hanina post office	1 station
6. Sour Bahir post office	1 station

The polling was supervised by (Arab) employees of the Israeli postal authority who were not trained by the CEC.

As opposed to the counting procedures followed in the other Palestinian regions, the ballot boxes were not counted at the polling centers themselves, but rather transported to the Jerusalem electoral constituency office in Dahiyat Al-Barid, where the counting process was carried out.

3. The Elections in Jerusalem Suburbs

According to Article 6 of the transitional phase treaty, Israel agreed for polling to take place at only five postal centers, and limited the capacity of the polling centers to no more than 5,367 voters. (One further post office was added subsequent to Palestinian-Israeli negotiations). As the designated post offices were not sufficient to absorb all the eligible voters in Jerusalem, the CEC opened 12 polling centers outside the city limits, but inside the borders of the Jerusalem electoral district, for those carrying Jerusalem identities. Therefore, most Jerusalemites were unable to vote at centres close to their places of residence. They were forced to go into the suburbs of Jerusalem to vote in one of the centers opened for those with Jerusalem identity cards.

Because a large number of Jerusalem residents had not been recorded on the electoral list due to Israeli measures, all those carrying Jerusalem identities were permitted to vote in any of the twelve polling centers opened in the Jerusalem suburbs, as long as they were registered on the electoral list at the time of voting, with electoral ink used as a guarantee against multiple voting.

Chapter Five: Observation of the Electoral Process and Participation of the Parties

Part One: Local and International Observation

The local and international observation of the Palestinian elections is one of the principles set down in Elections Law No. 13 of 1995. The CEC is the body responsible for accrediting and facilitating the work of the local and international observers in accordance with Article 24 of the Elections Law. In accordance with the powers entrusted to it, the CEC has established a collection of regulations and procedures systematizing the work of local and international observers.

1. Introduction to the Observation Process

The CEC defines the process of observing the elections to be that of gathering information relating to the electoral process, without interfering in the process itself, and issuing reports and observations on the course of the electoral process in accordance with the information gathered by persons accredited for this task by the CEC.

2. Aims of the Observation Process:

- Discovering any infractions in the electoral process, and preventing them from occurring.
- Supplying the electoral authorities with observations on the course of the electoral process, and the decisions taken.
- Rendering the electoral process legal and trustworthy.

3. Regulations and Procedures of the Observation Process

To ensure the observers perform professionally and competently, the CEC has issued a collection of regulations concerning local and international observers, in addition to a code of conduct to which all observers must adhere. The regulations established by the CEC act to clarify the types of organizations considered qualified to act as observers of the electoral process, and the rights and duties of the CEC and the observing bodies in relation to the accreditation process. The CEC has drawn up a code of conduct to which the local and international observing organizations must adhere, the most important points of which are summarized below:

A. Institutionalism: Accreditation to observe the elections process shall be granted to organizations only, and not to individuals. Observing organizations shall be responsible for the training and appointment of the observers representing them, and they shall be the sole party charged with issuing reports or statements on the electoral process.

B. Neutrality: Electoral observers must work without any bias in favor or against any group participating in the elections.

C. Accuracy: Organizations observing the elections must make every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information they circulate.

D. Comprehensiveness: Organizations observing the elections must make every effort to observe the electoral process at its various stages, taking into consideration all the factors relating to the electoral process.

E. Transparency: Organizations observing the elections must reveal the methods they will use during the observation process.

F. Acceptance of Authority: Organizations observing the elections must respect the sovereignty of the PNA, and respect Palestinian law. They must adhere to the laws and instructions of the CEC, and comply with the requests of its staff.

Likewise, the code of conduct for observers outlines the rights of the organizations and the observers representing them, which include the right to observe, to gather information, and to make spoken and written observations regarding electoral activities, in addition to writing reports.

To facilitate the work of the observers, the CEC has issued accreditation cards, comprising a photograph of the observer along with their name and the organization to which they belong, which enable them to enter registration and polling centers, as well as the data entry center and various other CEC sites.

4. Training and Support for Observers

It is not the CEC's responsibility to train observers or supervise arrangements for their movement. However, the Commission held a number of meetings and discussion groups with representatives of domestic organizations, to explain the general framework of the observation process, and inform them of recent developments in the electoral arrangements. It also responded to their enquiries.

In the period prior to the presidential elections held on January 9, 2005, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP/PAPP), in coordination with the UN's division for electoral assistance, the CEC, the Japanese government and various other bodies concerned with monitoring the election process, established the United Nations Liaison Unit (LSU) for international observers. The LSU's aim was to act as a communications link between the CEC and international observing groups, and between Israeli authorities and international observing groups, facilitating communication between local and international observers in addition to offering support with regard to the movement of international observers. This unit was open to carry out its work between December 23, 2004 and January 18, 2005.

5. Observation of the Presidential Elections

A large number of local and international observers participated in the observation of the elections. The majority of these had previously participated in observing the registration process, though there were also observers and observing organizations which joined the process at a later stage, after the CEC reiterated its invitation to local and international bodies to submit applications for accreditation to observe the presidential elections. The number of observers stood at 8,126, distributed as follows:

- 7,177 local observers, representing 200 Palestinian non-governmental organizations.
- 832 international observers representing 69 international organizations.
- 177 observers as international guests.

It should be noted that both the EU delegation and the NDI delegation, which were among the largest international delegations, issued initial reports relating to the elections.

A number of local observing organizations issued detailed reports comprising their observations on the presidential elections and their recommendations for the development of the electoral process. Among the organizations producing detailed reports were: the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights (PICCR), the Palestinian Center for Human Rights, the Domestic Commission for Election Monitoring, the Palestinian Alliance for Integrity and Equality "Aman," and the Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy "Miftah." These reports may be obtained through contacting the organizations directly concerned.

Part Two: Political Parties and Candidates' Agents

As the administrative body supervising elections, the CEC is responsible for the registration of political parties desiring to participate in general elections. Political parties are considered one of the most important participants in the electoral process. In view of the importance of the role of political parties in the electoral process, the Elections Law enshrines the right of political parties to appoint agents to observe the elections. The law includes a number of texts which systematize the method of appointing agents by the CEC, as well as the nature of the tasks which they must carry out during the electoral process.

The law grants similar rights to independent candidates. Each independent candidate may name his agents to observe the electoral process. They may likewise make use of a slogan or logo to appear on the ballot paper.

1. The Registration of Political Parties:

Part Five, Chapter Three of the Elections Law concerns the registration of political parties. Based on this chapter, the CEC has issued a system of registration for party organizations, defining the basis and conditions for the registration of these organizations. Referring to the Elections Law, we note that Article 48 confers the authority to register political parties, and issue certificates of registration for them, on the Ministry of the Interior. At the same time, this article indicates that the CEC should hold a special record of authentication containing the names of the registered party organizations. In addition, Article 49 of the Elections Law enables political parties to apply to the CEC for registration as of the day of the law coming into force. It should be noted here that Article 53 permits political parties which the CEC has refused to register to appeal its decision at the court of appeal for elections cases.

There are 13 parties currently registered with the CEC. These appear in the chart at the end of this section.

2. The Aims of the Participation of Party and Candidates' Agents:

The purpose of having agents of parties and independent candidates participate is to provide these persons and organizations with information on the course of the electoral process from registration to counting and the announcement of results. Likewise, a number of important aims are achieved through permitting agents to observe the electoral process, and their presence positively influences the electoral process as a whole. Among the foremost of these aims are:

A. Supporting the Party or Candidate with Regard to Voters: The presence of political party agents at registration or polling centers on election day leads to the reinforcement of the organizational and mobilizing role of the party.

B. Encouraging Voters to Participate: The participation of political parties in the elections, and the presence of their agents and candidates' agents at the registration and polling centers, leads to a rise in public confidence in the electoral process; besides this, it encourages them to participate. Likewise, it raises the voter participation rate in the

elections, increasing the parties' chances of victory on one hand and increasing citizens' electoral awareness and education on the other.

C. Expressing Observations and Putting Forward Complaints Regarding the Course of the Electoral Process: The presence of party and candidates' agents at the centers ensures the integrity of the electoral process, and provides these organizations or persons with an opportunity to observe any infringements which might take place over the course of the elections. Expressing these observations and complaints allows the electoral administration to rectify errors and to put an end to any infringements which have been observed. Likewise, the presence of agents at counting centers prevents infringements and provides a trusted source of information for the parties they represent, reinforcing their confidence in the results.

D. Ensuring the Integrity and Neutrality of the Electoral Process: The participation of party and candidates' agents in observing aspects of the electoral process goes a great way towards ensuring the integrity of the elections, together with the neutrality of the electoral administration supervising their organization. Party agents present at registration and polling and counting centers and may verify the integrity of the various aspects of the electoral process. Likewise, their presence prevents political or administrative electoral authorities from interfering with the results of the elections.

E. Gathering Information and Issuing Reports on the Electoral Process: The observation carried out by agents of the electoral process contributes to the gathering of information and evaluation. Such information aids the electoral administration and international observing bodies to evaluate the integrity of the electoral processes and the results of the elections. If agents publish untrustworthy information or issue judgments haphazardly, the credibility of the electoral process is harmed. As a result, political parties are obliged to submit reports concerning observations and recommendations to improve the electoral process at an appropriate time.

3. Accrediting Agents of Political Parties:

According to the law, the CEC, as the supreme administering body for elections, is entrusted with the accreditation of the agents of political parties. On this basis, the CEC created a system for accrediting the agents of political parties, defining the conditions for agents to receive accreditation, the manner of submitting applications for their accreditation, and the procedure for handling applications and accreditation. It issued special accreditation cards for agents. Likewise, the CEC has established a code of conduct for agents to systematize their work, and define their role and responsibilities during the observation process. This code clarifies the nature of the agents' relationship with the bodies taking part in the process, as well as the staff working in the registration and polling centers. It limits the role of the agents to that of observing and gathering information on the electoral processes. They may express their observations and complaints regarding any infringements or procedural and administrative violations which occur during the processes of registration, polling or counting.

4. Observation:

The Palestinian Elections Law grants parties registered at the CEC the right to observe the electoral process, designate party candidates, and use their logo or slogan. Likewise, the Elections Law grants independent candidates the right of observation via agents.

Despite the absence of sufficient training for agents, which was evident during the aforementioned elections, and which is ascribed to their lack of electoral experience, the role played by party and candidates' agents was generally a positive one. They submitted a number of important observations on the distribution of registration and polling centers and other subjects, which were taken into consideration and dealt with. It should be noted that the code of conduct for agents and other training materials were distributed to the agents of political party organizations and independent candidates at the general headquarters and constituency offices, and these groups were informed of the necessity for supplying agents with the necessary training.

5. Comparison Between Observers and Party or Candidates' Agents:

The fundamental difference between an observer and a party or candidate's agent is that the observer represents the general interest, and his/her fundamental goal is to confirm the integrity of the electoral process in the public eye. Given the nature of the work, the observer is a neutral personality, observing the process without interfering in its course. However, the organization to which he belongs may submit observations to the CEC.

As for the party or candidate's agent, he/she represents a party or a candidate. Therefore, a party or independent candidate's agent is not necessarily neutral, however, he/she has the right to suggest procedural amendments to the CEC. As he/she represents a party or a candidate, the law grants him/her the right to sign the counting report on polling day.

6. List of Parties' Names and Number of Agents

Table A below indicates the names of the 13 parties registered with the CEC. The same table indicates the number of accredited agents for each party organization. The total number of party agents stood at 12,800. As indicated in Chapter Three, the only parties to submit candidates were the Fatah movement (Mahmoud Abbas – Abu Mazen), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (Taysir Khaled) and the Palestinian People's Party (Bassam Al-Salhi).

Table B indicates the number of agents of the independent candidates Abdel Karim Shubeir and Mustafa Barghouthi. The other independent candidates, Sayyed Barakeh and Abdel Halim Al-Ashqar, did not apply for any agents to be accredited. The number of independent candidates' agents stood at 2,242. Table C offers an overview of the number of agents, whose total number stood at 15,042.

Table A – Agents of Party Organizations

No.	Name of Party Organization	No. of Accredited Agents
1	The Palestinian Democratic Union - Fida	330
2	The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine	1,913
3	The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine	722
4	The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine – General Command	152
5	The Palestinian Arab Front	598
6	The Palestinian National Initiative	2,510
7	The Palestine Liberation Front	203
8	The Palestinian Popular Struggle Front	794
9	The Palestinian National Liberation Movement - Fatah	4,707
10	The Islamic Resistance Movement - Hamas	57
11	The Islamic National Salvation Party	188
12	The Palestinian People's Party	643
13	The Palestinian Green Movement Party	2
Total number of party organization agents		12,800

Table B – Agents of Independent Candidates

No.	Name of Independent Candidate	Number of Accredited Agents
1	Abdel Karim Kamil Nayif Shubeir	52
2	Mustafa Kamil Mustafa Barghouthi	2,190
3	Sayyed Barakeh	-
4	Abdel Halim Al-Ashqar	-
Total number of independent candidates' agents		2,242

Table C – Total Number of Agents

No.	Party Organization or Independent Candidate	No. Accredited Agents
1	Party organization	12,800
2	Independent candidate	2,242
3	Total	15,042

Chapter Six: The Central Elections Commission's (CEC's) Activities

Part One: The Awareness and Voter Education Campaign

The Palestinian Elections Law of 1995 charges the CEC with the task of raising voter awareness and education, and providing voters with the necessary information for registration and polling.

The CEC has established a plan for increasing the awareness and education of voters, which consists of two phases: a voter education campaign prior to registration, and a voter education campaign prior to polling.

1. The Voter Education Campaign Prior to Registration:

Through making use of various media, the campaign aimed to:

- Raise general awareness of the registration process and its timeframe.
- Explain who is eligible to vote.
- Explain the registration process clearly and succinctly.
- Draw up a guide for registration with the locations of registration centers.
- Stress the importance of registration as a condition for participation in the elections.

In addition, the CEC set out to produce special messages to encourage women and youth to participate.

In an effort to achieve the greatest possible influence, voter education activities were carried out in partnership with local councils, universities and other organizations. 2,500 volunteers worked in the 16 electoral districts of the West Bank and Gaza Strip over a week-long period.

2. The Voter Education Campaign Prior to Polling:

The pre-polling education campaign was planned in a more limited fashion than the pre-registration campaign.

The campaign aimed to:

- Motivate the largest possible number of eligible voters to participate in the polling process. The emphasis was to reach out to Jerusalem residents, in view of their particular circumstances and the pressures they face.
- Inform eligible voters of the location of their polling centers. There was a special focus on informing voters of the whereabouts of the supplementary polling centers put in place to absorb the voters – known as the “vital statistic” voters – who desired to vote but had not been able to register.

- Provide eligible voters with an explanation of the various steps in the polling procedure, as well as the use of electoral ink, and the types of documents they would be required to present when going to vote.
- Explain how to fill in the ballot papers.
- Strengthen public confidence in the integrity of the electoral process, and inform them of the steps and measures taken by the CEC to ensure transparency and fairness in the running of the elections.

3. Methods and Media Used in Raising Voter Awareness and Education

In the course of the two campaigns, the CEC made use of a number of methods and the media. These included printed media and publicity materials, such as newspaper statements, guides, posters, signboards, advertising notice boards and billboards. Likewise, it made use of television and radio coverage, alongside public conferences and meetings.

Media	Voter Education Campaign Regarding the Registration Process	Voter Education and Awareness Campaign Regarding the Polling Process
Television	Six different television spots on 21 local television stations and on the national channel. Each scene shown 5 times per day.	Three different television spots on 21 local television stations and on the national channel. Each spot shown 10 times per day and, in particular, targeted the voters of Jerusalem – shown on Al-Jazeera and Al-Arabiya.
Radio	12 different radio spots 10 times a day on 30 radio stations.	Similar for the registration process.
Printed materials	More than one million brochures (containing various messages, including lists of registration centers, questions and answers, and a general explanation of the registration process).	
Advertising notice boards and signboards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 200 m² of advertising notice boards • 400 signboards in areas in which there are no advertising notice boards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1750 m² of advertising notice boards • No signboards due to weather conditions
Posters	5 different posters – total number used 300,000.	To a limited extent over the polling period.
Interactive Voice Response (IVR)	The system contacted every house in Palestine and transmitted its voice message.	
Giveaway goods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 500,000 plastic bags distributed to commercial stores • 65,000 boxes of paper tissues distributed to houses, public transport vehicles and restaurants • 250,000 posters 	

4. Free Hotline Call Center

The free hotline call center made a large and active contribution in responding to citizens' questions relating to the elections. Likewise, it formed an important and fundamental line of support for the operations room on polling day, preventing many problems in many electoral districts. Work began at the call center on 12/25/2004, i.e. from the start of the candidates' election campaigning, and continued until the evening of 1/9/2005.

Basic Statistics of the Free Hotline Call Center

- The free call center received more than 25,000 calls.
- The number of calls enquiring about the location of polling centers (for registered and unregistered voters) accounted for more than 60% of the total. Of these, 70% concerned the location of "vital statistics" polling centers.
- The number of callers enquiring about the possibility of changing their polling centers accounted for 15% of the total.
- The number of callers enquiring about how to vote accounted for 10% of the total.
- The number of callers enquiring about the time of the elections accounted for 5% of the total.
- The number of miscellaneous calls, consisting of questions about candidates and their telephone numbers, the results of the polling, and the possibility of a proxy vote accounted for 10% of the incoming calls to the center.
- There were seven permanent free hotline call center employees, in addition to staff from the education and awareness section and some employees from the general headquarters on polling day.
- The call center's working hours were 7 am – 11 pm.

Part Two: The CEC's Media Role

During the registration and polling periods, the CEC worked to supply voters with updates on an ongoing basis. This took place by way of press statements and reports published in the local papers and via news agencies. Monthly reports and publications were published during the registration period, and a press report was issued in conjunction with the Palestinian *Al-Ayam* newspaper on the various aspects of the registration process. In addition, publications were distributed via email and to the ministries and organizations concerned with the elections during the registration phase.

The CEC's website supplied news and reports and all the information relating to the registration and polling processes. In addition, the CEC's media division assisted journalists and various media by responding to their enquiries and supplying them with the information necessary for writing their press articles.

The Media Center

Throughout the course of the presidential elections, the CEC supported the various media organizations by providing information and equal opportunities to obtain suitable coverage of the events taking place. Given the necessity to provide the media with information on the course of the electoral process with facility and speed, the CEC ruled to establish a media center, which provided facilitation and services to the local and international press. This center was established in the Ramallah Cultural Palace and it was linked with another center in Gaza City.

The media center supplied information to the media through press conferences and short interviews, which informed the press of the progress of the elections and highlighted problems it faced, in addition to announcing the initial polling results. From January 8 – 11, 2005, seven interviews were held at the media center with the CEC's spokesman.

The media center catered for the technical requirements of journalists, and offered a free satellite broadcasting service to cover its activities, which included announcing the initial results. The center also provided scope for carrying out written and electronic journalism, through supplying more than 20 computers connected to a free internet service.

Besides the cards accredited by the Media Ministry for covering the presidential elections, the media center also worked to supply special cards for the journalists who wished to make use of the services provided by the center, allowing entry to the media area and use of the computers.

Part Three: Publications of the Commission

The Commission produced a number of publications in Arabic and English, including:

- A. Guidebook to the Palestinian Presidential Elections 2005:** This guide explains the legal framework and the electoral system on the basis of which Palestinian elections are conducted. It explains the preparations and electoral processes and introduces the candidates to the Palestinian presidency. It also refers to the international observing staff and the rules governing their work.
- B. Guidebook to Polling and Counting Procedures:** This guide explains the general principles of polling and counting and the regulations governing the polling process, as well as the whole course of the process. It explains the counting process and the methodology of this process, referring to the deadline for the announcement of initial results, the closing of polling stations, and the regulations of this process.
- C. Information on the Elections in East Jerusalem:** In view of the particular situation of the city of Jerusalem, this media package consisted of printed materials regarding the arrangements for the Palestinian elections in East Jerusalem and the preparations made by the CEC in order to conduct free and fair elections in the city of Jerusalem. These included the registration process, the voter education campaign, election campaigning in Jerusalem, and polling center arrangements.

These come in addition to the thousands of pamphlets, brochures and posters which explain various aspects of the electoral process.

Part Four: The Data Entry Process

The CEC decided at an early stage to set up its own center for data entry. It established a center advanced in its size, administration and equipment, which allows around 120 employees to work on the site at the same time.

For a limited period, the center's employees worked at full complement to cover three shifts totaling 24 hours per day, in order to complete the tasks allotted to them in a short time period.

The center gathers and enters data into a central database, in order to facilitate fast and accurate processing. This is in addition to the use of technology for monitoring and scrutiny. The programming and development of all the programs concerned with data entry related to the electoral process and its administration were completed.

The phases of work at the center may be divided into five basic stages, beginning with receiving forms from the various electoral districts, and entering them onto a tracking system which logs the status of each form and tracks it individually from the beginning of the reception process until it is archived, for the sake of the scrutiny and internal monitoring of the center.

The data entry process is the second stage, comprising two methods: single entry with manual scrutiny, with data being entered by a data capturer, and then compared by hand to its source by a scrutiny employee; and double entry, whereby the data is entered twice by different employees and this is followed by a computerized comparison process.

During the third stage, the data is scrutinized to check the data entered corresponds with that on the original forms.

During the fourth stage, employees correct any data discrepancies found during the phase of data scrutiny.

During the final stage, all the forms entered onto the database are systematically archived to facilitate access to them at any time. They are stored in a secure place.

The employees of the Information Technology and General Administration division subsequently issue a number of reports and statistics. These are submitted to the CEC for ratification and official accreditation.

Chapter Seven: The Central Elections Commission's (CEC's) Total Expenditure

Introduction:

This chapter, in addition to the tables, summarizes the totality of the CEC's expenditure since its foundation on October 27, 2002 until the period following the presidential elections which took place on January 9, 2005. Chapter three covers the key activities undertaken by the CEC during the period covered by the report – the establishment of the electoral administration, the voter registration process, and the polling and counting process for the presidential elections.

The expenditure detailed in this chapter covers all the costs of the offices and facilities of the CEC in the districts of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, i.e. the general headquarters in Ramallah, the regional office in Gaza City, the offices and repositories of the 16 electoral districts, the main repository, the data entry center in the town of Al-Bireh, the temporary media center and the period of the announcement of results.

It should be noted that a number of donor states and organizations offered financial support to cover the expenses of the electoral process. In each case, this support was given through the Finance Ministry. As part of the financial scrutiny arrangements, the CEC submitted its financial reports to the Finance Ministry, which scrutinized them through a legal auditor in accordance with the guidelines in force.

The financial report is divided into four parts, distributed over four tables, as follows:

Part One: Expenditure on Establishing the Electoral Administration:

This consists of three sub-sections, as follows:

- a. Capital expenditures: This includes the expenses of establishing and equipping the offices and facilities of the CEC as described in the introduction above, and comprises the purchase of furnishings, equipment, programs and computer networks, and the necessary vehicles for the CEC's work in all areas and during all the phases of the electoral process.
- b. Recurring annual expenses: These include the rent of the CEC's offices and facilities in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, expenses of auditing the CEC's accounts, and various kinds of insurance (facilities insurance, vehicle insurance, health and safety insurance etc.) related to CEC employees, its offices and stocks.
- c. General running costs: These are related to the day-to-day work of the administrative staff in all of the offices and facilities of the CEC, which is basic to electoral administration. The most significant articles are salaries, communications, transport, office goods and stationery.

Electoral Administration Establishment

For the Period Oct 27, 2002 - Feb 28, 2005

Capital Expenses	Head Quarters	Gaza Regional Office	District Offices	Data Entry Center	Total
Office Equipment and Furniture	\$365,555	\$7,814	\$299,825	\$142,311	\$815,505
Office Technology (Network and Software)	\$72,578	\$5,634	\$25,818	\$55,079	\$159,109
Vehicles	\$52,255	\$12,324	\$365,663	\$0	\$430,242
Capital Expenses - Total	\$490,388	\$25,773	\$691,306	\$197,389	\$1,404,856

One Time Payments - Total

Premises Rent	\$270,000	\$30,000	\$128,602	\$20,625	\$449,227
Auditing Fees	\$16,100	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$16,100
Insurance	\$14,236	\$1,127	\$48,853	\$4,547	\$68,763
One Time Payments - Total	\$300,336	\$31,127	\$177,455	\$25,172	\$534,090

Overhead Expenses

Staff Salaries and Benefits	\$1,312,908	\$153,845	\$796,852	\$0	\$2,263,605
Communication and Transportation	\$178,087	\$16,027	\$76,861	\$526	\$271,501
Services	\$24,120	\$2,676	\$6,216	\$4,012	\$37,024
Office Supplies	\$59,646	\$14,988	\$55,401	\$2,741	\$132,776
Subscriptions	\$14,979	\$1,789	\$12,852	\$519	\$30,139
Consultancy Fees	\$11,310	\$0	\$0	\$2,050	\$13,360
Official Missions and Training	\$35,677	\$2,549	\$8,424	\$0	\$46,650
Overhead Expenses - Total	\$1,636,727	\$191,874	\$956,606	\$9,848	\$2,795,055
Grand Total	\$2,427,451	\$248,774	\$1,825,367	\$232,409	\$4,734,001

Part Two: Operating Costs of the Voter Registration Process:

The voter registration process was designed to take place in two basic phases:

- The phase of preparation for the voter registration process, which includes the procurement of all the materials necessary for the process, the printing of information booklets and forms, and the gathering and preparation of registration pouches, as well as the mobilization and training of human resources. This also includes logistical costs arising from the transport of materials and registration staff, and other operational expenses.
- The phase of voter registration, which includes the collection of field data and its processing, the preparation and printing of the initial electoral list, the period of publication and challenge, and finally the preparation and printing of the final electoral register. These expenditures, likewise, include the wages and transport of the registration staff, both employees and supervisors, and the costs of preparing and collecting the pouches of the publication and challenge phase, together with those of preparing, printing and distributing the electoral register. Besides these, there is the cost of printing the final electoral list, and any additional costs arising from operational activities.

The costs of the voter registration process are distributed among the divisions of the Commission (Operations, Public Relations, and Electoral Affairs) which planned the voter registration operation and executed it in the field, as follows:

A. Expenditure of the Operations division, including:

- Wages for voter registration staff. The total number of staff stood at around 3,500 supervisors and registration employees, who worked for more than two months on a daily basis, spread across nearly 1,100 registration centers in all areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
- Communications and transport relating to the movement of staff and supervisors of voter registration centers during the period indicated in the previous paragraph.

B. Expenditure of the Electoral Affairs division: This division is occupied with the affairs of parties and candidates, and everything concerning the observers, both domestic and foreign, of the voter registration process. This division did not undertake any large-scale activities during the voter registration phase, so its total expenditure is small (332 dollars) in comparison with the other divisions of the CEC.

C. Expenditure of the Public Relations division: The activities and efforts of this division focused on the various means and methods of educating voters and encouraging them to register during the appropriate time period. Its most important components include:

- Printed materials (posters, signboards, brochures) explaining the importance of the electoral process and the procedures of the voter registration process, along with the locations of the registration centers established by the CEC.

- Advertising via various local and specialist media, such as daily newspapers and television and radio stations.

Voter Registration - Operational Expenses

Operations Department	Head Quarters	Gaza Regional Office	District Offices	Data Entry Center	Total
Registration Staff Salaries and Benefits	\$4,798	\$0	\$1,887,530	\$90,770	\$1,983,098
Communication and Transportation	\$18,248	\$115	\$1,049,112	\$640	\$1,068,115
Registration Staff Training	\$16,963	\$822	\$26,715	\$0	\$44,500
Manuals and Kits	\$383,089	\$0	\$1,039	\$0	\$384,128
Operations Dept. - Total	\$423,098	\$937	\$2,964,396	\$91,410	\$3,479,841

Electoral Affairs Department

Printed Materials	\$332	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$332
Electoral Affairs Dept. - Total	\$332	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$332

Public Relations Department

Printed Materials	\$311,791	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$311,791
Advertisements	\$144,057	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$144,057
Public Relations Dept. - Total	\$455,848	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$455,848
Grand Total	\$879,278	\$937	\$2,964,396	\$91,410	\$3,936,021

Part Three: Operating Costs of the Polling and Counting Process (Presidential Elections)

The costs of the polling and counting process relating to the presidential elections are divided among the operations division, the public relations division, and the electoral affairs division as follows:

A. Costs of the operations division, including:

- Wages of polling station staff and employees, whose number stood at over 17,000, who were trained and worked for a period of four days. They were spread over around 1,100 polling centers comprising around 2,800 polling stations in all areas of the West Bank and Gaza Strip.
- Communications and transport relating to the movement of polling and counting center employees and supervisors during the period indicated in the above paragraph.
- Polling pouches and training guides for polling center staff.

B. Costs of the Public Relations department: The majority of this division's expenditure related to the preparation and printing of guides for domestic and foreign election observers.

C. Costs of the Electoral Affairs department: The efforts of this division focused on motivating voters to participate in the polling process. The most significant of the division's expenditures are as follows:

- Educating and motivating voters through printed materials (posters, signboards, brochures) and advertising in daily newspapers and on radio and television stations, explaining the importance of participating in the polling process and its procedures, and giving the locations of polling centers.
- Establishing a temporary specialist media center to announce the results of the presidential elections, renting the building and facilities of the Ramallah Cultural Palace for this purpose.
- Establishing a free call center to guide voters to their polling centers, should they not know their whereabouts for any reason.

Polling and Counting - Operational Expenses

Operations Department	Head Quarters	Gaza Regional Office	District Offices	Data Entry Center	Total
Polling Staff Salaries and Benefits	\$26,999	\$0	\$2,409,935	\$0	\$2,436,934
Communication and Transportation	\$109,744	\$0	\$70,657	\$0	\$180,401
Registration Staff Training	\$18,528	\$7,065	\$10,326	\$0	\$35,919
Manuals and Kits	\$730,485	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$730,485
Operations Dept. - Total	\$885,756	\$7,065	\$2,490,918	\$0	\$3,383,739
 Electoral Affairs Department					
Printed Materials	\$9,328	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,328
Electoral Affairs Dept. - Total	\$9,328	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$9,328
 Public Relations Department					
Voter Education	\$123,424	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$123,424
Media Center	\$143,219	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$143,219
Call Center	\$2,521	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,521
Public Relations Dept. - Total	\$269,164	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$269,164
Grand Total	\$1,164,248	\$7,065	\$2,490,918	\$0	\$3,662,231

Part Four: Summary of Total Expenditure:

This table summarizes the total expenditure relating to establishing the electoral administration, the operating costs of the voter registration process, and those of the polling and counting processes relating to the presidential elections.

Summary - Total Expense of Central Elections Commission

For the Period Oct 27, 2002 - Feb 28, 2005

Department	Head Quarters	Gaza Regional Office	District Offices	Data Entry Center	Total
Electoral					
Administration	\$2,427,451	\$248,774	\$1,825,367	\$232,409	\$4,734,001
Establishment					
Voter Registration -					
Operational	\$879,278	\$937	\$2,964,396	\$91,410	\$3,936,021
Expenses					
Polling and Counting					
- Operational	\$1,164,248	\$7,065	\$2,490,918	\$0	\$3,662,231
Expenses					
Grand Total	\$4,470,978	\$256,776	\$7,280,681	\$323,819	\$12,332,253

Chapter Eight: Analysis and Summary of Recommendations

Part One: An Analytical Report:

What happened during the last two hours of the presidential elections?

By Dr. Hanna Nasir

Chairman of the Central Elections Commission (CEC)

Introduction:

The recent Palestinian presidential elections that took place on January 9, 2005 were extensively covered by both the local and international media. While the majority of the coverage praised the elections for being free, fair and transparent, there was some criticism for the decisions taken by the CEC during the last few hours of the voting period. The decisions in question were two-fold and related to the extension of voting time by two hours as well as allowing citizens, during the period of extension, to vote using their identification cards only as a means of determining their age eligibility, but without the need to have their names checked against a previously prepared list. The objections raised against those decisions expressed the opinion that there were no real reasons to extend the voting period (although this falls within the jurisdiction of the CEC), and for allowing voting using ID cards only - a practice that does not comply with the Palestinian ElectionS Law, which stipulates that voting should be based on well documented and processed records.

While the CEC recognizes the role of media and civil society in observing and monitoring the election process, one has to view the decisions taken by the CEC within the context of the procedural framework of the elections and the events that took place on election day.

On election day, the CEC became aware of two problems that were not related to any CEC operational responsibility. The first was the confusion experienced by civil registry voters who found it difficult to locate their names in the registry. The second problem concerned the voting procedures that could not legally accommodate the police and security members who were guarding voting centers outside their voting registration districts. The CEC decisions, which became controversial, were intended to directly address and rectify those problems.

The Civil Registry Issue:

The use of the civil registry for voting, in addition to the existing registered voters list, was implemented by the CEC in accordance to an amendment in the Elections Law decreed by the PLC in December 2004. While the CEC had advised against this amendment due to inherent problems with the registry, it abided by the PLC's decree to the best of its capabilities.

The civil registry originates from a population registry that has been provided to the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) by Israel in the early nineties. Unfortunately, the registry had not been updated by the PNA and it contained many names of deceased individuals or those who had left the country or emigrated. It was thus inflated. More over,

the translation of names in the list from Hebrew, the original language of the document, into Arabic was inconsistent and contained many mistakes. Naturally, the population list included the names of people of all ages, but the total number of those in the population list who were eligible to vote (18 years and above on election day) was about 1.8 million.

At an earlier stage, the CEC conducted a voter registration campaign that concluded with about 1.1 million names of eligible voters. The list of voters was called the voter registry list. Each individual on this list obtained, at the time of registration, a card with his/her name inscribed on the card as well as the name and address of the polling center that he/she is to vote during elections.

Once the voter registry list was extracted from the population list of 1.8 million eligible voters, a new list resulted with about 700,000 names. This is the list that is called the civil registry list. The problems of inflation and errors that occurred in the original population list continued to be reflected in this civil registry list.

In order to reduce any possible confusion during election day, voting centers in the various districts were established for those individuals whose names appeared in the voter registry list, and separate centers were established for those whose names appeared on the civil registry list. Since those on the civil registry list did not have any cards that identified their polling centers, individuals on that list were assigned to various centers in a specific district in accordance with their names (sorted alphabetically according to the first name – a common practice in Arabic). Several announcements and leaflets were distributed weeks before the election day to clarify these details.

On election day, individuals who were listed on the voter registry list were well prepared to vote. They had their names and the name and address of the polling center identified on their voter registration card. Hence, individuals whose names appeared on the voter registry list were able to identify the proper polling center and vote within a very short period. Moreover, these centers faced no problems, and the voting process was conducted as planned.

In contrast, individuals whose names appeared in the civil registry list had to search for their names from an inflated list. They also had the disadvantage of searching into a list which had mistakes in the translation of their names. Finally, many individuals on the civil registry list did not seem to heed to the announcements made by the CEC identifying the polling center in accordance to their first names. Some looked alphabetically under the family name and further delays occurred. With such problems, the CEC switchboard received thousands of phone calls inquiring about the exact location of a polling station for individuals. An hour or so before the predetermined closing time, the CEC noted that only 35,000 individuals had voted at the civil registry centers.

The Decisions of the CEC:

It was against the backdrop of previously-mentioned procedural problems facing voters at the civil registry centers that the CEC began to consider remedies for the situation. Meanwhile, CEC employees at several polling centers were subjected to pressures and intimidation to facilitate voting for civil registry voters and, more disturbingly, shots were

fired in the vicinity of the CEC headquarters in Ramallah which led to concerns of an escalating crisis.

It was during this time that the Commission made the decision to extend the voting period for an extra two hours to allow time for more civil registry voters to exercise their rights to vote. It also decided to allow voting through the use of ID cards only in the civil registry centers and without checking their names against the registry in order to further facilitate the voting process during the two-hour extension.

The CEC was fully aware that the most serious problem related to the use of ID's alone without checking against a register was the possibility of double voting. However, the CEC was confident that the electoral ink which had been used through the voting process to mark each individual who voted, would provide definite security against this infringement of the law – in spite of the fact that there were scattered cases of ink being easily removed by a voter. Moreover, the CEC instructed election supervisors in all districts and polling stations to record the name, date of birth and ID card number of each voter who presented an ID, in order to be able to check those names against names in other lists in all voting centers to ensure that no double voting took place. The CEC decided to pursue legal action against any citizen who was found to have voted more than once during the election day.

The CEC realized the potential repercussions of allowing voting on the basis of ID cards only but, at the same time, it realized that had it not taken such actions, the CEC would have been accused of obstructing civil registry voting. Eventually, the CEC chose what it considered to be the most appropriate out of two imperfect courses of action.

The timing of those decisions and how they were taken will, undoubtedly, remain a contentious issue with questions on whether the decisions were influenced by external pressures or not. However, it is important for the general public to be aware that those decisions were taken in an attempt to remedy a technical problem that was becoming very difficult to deal with otherwise.

Issues Regarding Police and Security Force Members Voting:

Most police and security force members had registered during the CEC's registration drives and were therefore listed on the voter registry list.

Several weeks before the election day the CEC requested the relevant security apparatus to supply the names of police and security members who would be on duty outside the districts in which they had registered at in order for the CEC to transfer their names to the districts in which they were going to be present on the election date, thus allowing them to vote at the locality they were guarding. Unfortunately, the CEC received the list only two to three days before election day which made it impossible for the staff to transfer the names from one district list to another. Thus, several police and security force members found themselves guarding polling centers, but unable to vote in these centers and also unable to travel to the district in which they were registered at previously, unless they abandoned their official duties.

There was a similar situation involving teachers who worked as polling center supervisors or clerks and were assigned to centers that were different from the ones in which they had previously registered. Yet, in this case, a list of the teachers' names was supplied by the Ministry of Education to the CEC well in advance which allowed for the proper transfer of names to the appropriate centers. As such, teachers voted without any problems or difficulties.

The responsibility for the situation concerning police and security force members does not lie with the CEC or its jurisdiction. However, on election day, these issues became serious problems that the CEC had to address and remedy. That is why the decision to allow voting by ID cards only included police and security force members.

Lessons Learned:

It is important to take stock of lessons learned in the 2005 presidential elections, the most important of which was that the civil registry was inappropriate for election purposes.

Since the numbers who voted in the civil registry before the controversial CEC decisions were taken were relatively small and the numbers remained likewise even at the end of the voting period and its extension time, then the decisions taken by the CEC could not have affected the final election results by more than a few fractions of a percent for any one candidate. Yet, these small fractions could be very crucial in the upcoming PLC elections, in which a greater number of candidates will compete in much smaller constituencies. It is thus paramount to reconsider the use of the civil registry which essentially led to the CEC decisions. PLC members may have overlooked the civil registry's shortcomings and the problems that such an issue could cause.

The fact that only 12% of those listed on the civil registry actually voted compared to 71% of those on the voter registered lists should further illustrate the more efficient use of the registered voters list as a means of conducting elections.

It is also important to examine election practices in other countries. Jordan, a neighbouring country, and the United States, a distant country, both conduct their elections on the basis of voter registration lists. This does not mean that civil registries are not used anywhere else, but they are only used in countries where an official body exists that is capable of processing it, regularly updating it and distributing a voting card for every eligible voter. Such a task clearly requires extensive efforts which would be particularly difficult under the ongoing conditions of the Israeli occupation. It would be simpler and more efficient to use the list of registered voters which could be updated before the next elections by conducting further registration drives. Those registration drives, however, must only be conducted after the PLC reconsiders the use of the civil registry.

Voting in Jerusalem:

One cannot assess the recent elections and the challenges that it involved without addressing the electoral process in East Jerusalem, the citizens of which face a unique situation due to Israel's illegal annexation of that part of the city in 1967. The elections in East Jerusalem were conducted according to agreements reached between the PNA and

Israel in 1995 and 1996. These agreements took place under disadvantageous conditions for the Palestinian people. Unfortunately, even these agreements were not properly adhered to by the Israeli side in the 2005 presidential elections.

One hopes that the current political situation in the region would create the atmosphere needed to refocus attention on electoral arrangements in East Jerusalem. It is of utmost importance that these arrangements take prominence prior to the PLC elections and that new agreements are reached to conduct the elections in conformity with international standards of fairness, transparency and most important with dignity.

Proper Election Climate:

Most of the above relates to procedural and political issues that could be addressed, discussed and remedied. What is unacceptable, however, is the external pressure that was applied to the CEC staff both at its headquarters in Ramallah and, at the district level, by certain Palestinian groups. The fact that live shots were fired in front of the CEC headquarters on election day demonstrates the scale of the problem which led several CEC officials and staff to resign in protest (their resignations have been temporarily put on hold). Such actions marred the integrity of the presidential elections and came dangerously close to tarnishing an important achievement in the history of the Palestinian people as attested by the many local and international observers who monitored the elections process quite scrupulously.

It is hoped that the new President of the PNA will address those violations and ensure that they are not repeated. The credibility of the democratic process hinges on the ability to conduct elections by an independent body that is not subjected to external pressures, whether those pressures take the form of live bullets or a mere phone call.

Soon after his election victory, the newly elected President announced that he would call for an investigation of the aforementioned violations. If that investigation is properly conducted and resolved, then that by itself might be considered as one of the most important outcomes of the recent Palestinian presidential elections.

The above is a translation of an article that was published in Arabic in the local paper al-Quds in Jerusalem on January 24, 2005.

Chapter Nine: Statistics

Introduction

This chapter includes statistical tables that illustrate the results of voter registration and polling processes in the 16 electoral districts. It also includes statistical tables that show a breakdown of results by age, gender, and locality.

Most of the results are based on data from the voters list due to its accuracy in comparison to the civil register.

Statistical Tables: The Registration Process

Table No. (1) Eligible voters by district and type of register.

Table No. (2) Registrants on the voters list by age and district.

Table No. (3) Registrants (male and female) on the voters list by age and district.

Table No. (4) Male registrants on the voters list by age and district.

Table No. (5) Female registrants on the voters list by age and district.

Table No. (6) Re-registered eligible voters holding foreign passports.

Table No. (1) Eligible Voters by District and Type of Register.

District No.	Electoral District	No. of Registrants in the Voters Register	No. of Voters in the Civil Register	Grand total
01	Jerusalem	28,387	30,912	59,299
02	Jenin	87,473	57,974	145,447
03	Tulkarem	60,395	40,510	100,905
04	Tubas	18,922	7,266	26,188
05	Nablus	115,846	75,941	191,787
06	Qalqiliah	29,491	18,890	48,381
07	Salfit	23,159	9,499	32,658
08	Ramallah	88,965	62,239	151,204
09	Jericho	14,602	10,186	24,788
10	Bethlehem	60,482	33,035	93,517
11	Hebron	159,707	89,959	249,666
12	North Gaza	73,835	28,704	102,539
13	Gaza	138,582	98,647	237,229
14	Deir al-Balah	62,039	30,524	92,563
15	Khan Younis	78,504	46,620	125,124
16	Rafah	51,910	27,276	79,186
Grand Total		1,092,299	668,182	1,760,481
Percentage		62.05%	37.95%	100.00%

Table No. (2) Registrants on the Voters List by Age and District.

District No.	Electoral district	Females	Males	Grand total
01	Jerusalem	12,091	16,296	28,387
02	Jenin	40,350	47,123	87,473
03	Tulkarem	29,489	30,906	60,395
04	Tubas	9,168	9,754	18,922
05	Nablus	54,863	60,983	115,846
06	Qalqiliah	13,537	15,954	29,491
07	Salfit	11,117	12,042	23,159
08	Ramallah	42,010	46,955	88,965
09	Jericho	6,744	7,858	14,602
10	Bethlehem	28,282	32,200	60,482
11	Hebron	73,865	85,842	159,707
12	North Gaza	34,337	39,498	73,835
13	Gaza	62,498	76,084	138,582
14	Deir al-Balah	29,528	32,511	62,039
15	KhanYounis	35,537	42,967	78,504
16	Rafah	24,454	27,456	51,910
Grand Total		507,870	584,429	1,092,299
Percentage		46.50%	53.50%	100.00%

Table No. (3) Registrants (Male and Female) on the Voters List by Age and District

District No.	Electoral District	18 - 22 YRS	23 - 30 YRS	31 - 40 YRS	41 - 60 YRS	Over 61 YRS	Total
01	Jerusalem	5,447	7,180	6,589	7,068	2,103	28,387
02	Jenin	15,628	21,062	21,574	21,532	7,677	87,473
03	Tulkarem	10,428	13,588	14,448	15,967	5,964	60,395
04	Tubas	3,597	4,615	4,569	4,314	1,827	18,922
05	Nablus	20,444	26,772	28,981	29,288	10,361	115,846
06	Qalqiliah	5,851	7,224	6,951	7,225	2,240	29,491
07	Salfit	4,466	5,417	5,570	5,413	2,293	23,159
08	Ramallah	17,113	20,484	20,224	22,563	8,581	88,965
09	Jericho	2,685	3,655	3,685	3,545	1,032	14,602
10	Bethlehem	10,963	14,147	14,712	14,876	5,784	60,482
11	Hebron	33,145	40,929	38,463	36,035	11,135	159,707
12	North Gaza	16,345	19,028	16,965	16,617	4,880	73,835
13	Gaza	29,833	34,449	31,820	33,928	8,552	138,582
14	Deir al-Balah	12,893	15,118	14,414	15,211	4,403	62,039
15	Khan Younis	17,121	19,683	17,187	18,770	5,743	78,504
16	Rafah	10,721	12,832	11,824	12,540	3,993	51,910
Grand total		216,680	266,183	257,976	264,892	86,568	1,092,299
Percentage		19.84%	24.37%	23.62%	24.25%	7.93%	100.00%

Table No. (4) Male Registrants on the Voters List by Age and District

District No.	Electoral District	18-22 YRS	23-30 YRS	31-40 YRS	41-60 YRS	Over 61 YRS	Total
01	Jerusalem	3,072	4,210	3,763	3,947	1,101	16,093
02	Jenin	8,480	11,444	11,868	11,543	3,722	47,057
03	Tulkarem	5,408	7,181	7,563	8,175	2,566	30,893
04	Tubas	1,878	2,432	2,435	2,158	840	9,743
05	Nablus	10,798	14,219	15,469	15,253	5,330	61,069
06	Qalqiliah	3,208	3,948	3,793	3,889	1,092	15,930
07	Salfit	2,347	2,899	2,985	2,778	1,033	12,042
08	Ramallah	9,068	11,207	10,651	11,819	4,321	47,066
09	Jericho	1,537	1,971	1,963	1,870	504	7,845
10	Bethlehem	5,862	7,581	7,923	7,871	3,014	32,251
11	Hebron	17,961	22,106	20,742	19,173	5,844	85,826
12	North Gaza	8,879	10,211	9,255	8,763	2,583	39,691
13	Gaza	16,207	19,165	17,855	18,446	4,350	76,023
14	Deir al-Balah	6,935	8,117	7,781	7,699	1,987	32,519
15	Khan Younis	9,217	11,237	9,597	10,016	3,105	43,172
16	Rafah	5,783	6,961	6,405	6,459	1,601	27,209
Grand total		116,640	144,889	140,048	139,859	42,993	584,429
Percentage		19.96%	24.79%	23.96%	23.93%	7.36%	100.00%

Table No. (5) Female Registrants on the Voters List by Age and District

District No.	Electoral District	18-22 YRS	23-30 YRS	31-40 YRS	41-60 YRS	Over 61 YRS	Total
01	Jerusalem	2,375	2,970	2,826	3,121	1,002	12,294
02	Jenin	7,148	9,618	9,706	9,989	3,955	40,416
03	Tulkarem	5,020	6,407	6,885	7,792	3,398	29,502
04	Tubas	1,719	2,183	2,134	2,156	987	9,179
05	Nablus	9,646	12,553	13,512	14,035	5,031	54,777
06	Qalqiliah	2,643	3,276	3,158	3,336	1,148	13,561
07	Salfit	2,119	2,518	2,585	2,635	1,260	11,117
08	Ramallah	8,045	9,277	9,573	10,744	4,260	41,899
09	Jericho	1,148	1,684	1,722	1,675	528	6,757
10	Bethlehem	5,101	6,566	6,789	7,005	2,770	28,231
11	Hebron	15,184	18,823	17,721	16,862	5,291	73,881
12	North Gaza	7,466	8,817	7,710	7,854	2,297	34,144
13	Gaza	13,626	15,284	13,965	15,482	4,202	62,559
14	Deir al-Balah	5,958	7,001	6,633	7,512	2,416	29,520
15	Khan Younis	7,904	8,446	7,590	8,754	2,638	35,332
16	Rafah	4,938	5,871	5,419	6,081	2,392	24,701
Grand total		100,040	121,294	117,928	125,033	43,575	507,870
Percentage		19.70%	23.88%	23.22%	24.62%	8.58%	100.00%

Table No. (6) Re-registered Eligible Voters Holding Foreign Passports

District No.	Electoral district	No. of registrants
01	Jerusalem	556
02	Jenin	993
03	Tulkarem	727
04	Tubas	200
05	Nablus	1,136
06	Qalqiliah	341
07	Salfit	428
08	Ramallah	3,629
09	Jericho	320
10	Bethlehem	988
11	Hebron	2,070
12	North Gaza	1,539
13	Gaza	2,539
14	Deir al-Balah	1,153
15	Khan Younis	1,962
16	Rafah	966
Grand total		19,547

Statistical Tables: The Polling Process

Table No. (7)	Summary of the final results of the presidential elections
Table No. (8)	Summary of the final results - (voters list and civil register) by district.
Table No. (9)	Summary of the final results - (voters list) by district
Table No. (10)	Summary of the final results - (civil register) by district
Table No. (11)	Jerusalem district
Table No. (11)	Jenin district
Table No. (11)	Tulkarem district
Table No. (11)	Tubas district
Table No. (11)	Nablus district
Table No. (11)	Qalqilya district
Table No. (11)	Salfit district
Table No. (11)	Ramallah district
Table No. (11)	Jericho district
Table No. (11)	Bethlehem district
Table No. (11)	Hebron district
Table No. (11)	North Gaza district
Table No. (11)	Gaza district
Table No. (11)	Deir al-Balah district
Table No. (11)	Khan Younis district
Table No. (11)	Rafah district
Table No. (12)	Voters (male & female) by age and districts
Table No. (13)	Male voters by age and district.
Table No. (14)	Female voters by age and district
Table No. (15)	Total number of voters by gender and district.

Table No. (7) Summary of the Final Results of the Presidential Elections

No.	Name of Candidate (Category)	Political Affiliation	No. of Votes	Percentage of Total Voters
1	Mahmoud Abbas-Abu Mazen	Fatah Movement	501,448	%62.52
2	Mustafa Barghouthi	Independent Candidate	156,227	%19.48
3	Tayseer Khaled	Democratic Front for The liberation of Palestine	26,848	%3.35
4	Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar	Independent Candidate	22,171	%2.76
5	Bassam Al-Salhi	Peoples Party of Palestine	21,429	%2.67
6	Sayyed Barakeh	Independent Candidate	10,406	%1.30
7	Abd Al Karim Shbair	Independent candidate	5,717	%0.71
8	Invalid papers	-	30,672	%3.82
9	Blank papers	-	27,159	%3.39
Total No. of Voters			802,077	100.00%

NB: The invalid papers indicated herein above are the ballot papers which were not filled by voters pursuant to the CEC's directions, such as abiding by marking the same or marking with (X) for more than one candidate. As for the blank papers, they represent the unmarked papers. While the total no. of voters represent the actual no. of voters – whether their ballot papers were considered valid, invalid or blank.

Table (8) – Summary of Final Results (Voters List and Civil Registry) by District Office

Candidate	District Office															Total	
	Jerusalem	Jenin	Tulkarem	Tubas	Nablus	Qalqilia	Salfit	Ramallah	Jericho	Bethlehem	Hebron	North Gaza	Gaza	Deir Al Balah	Khan Younis	Rafah	
Mahmoud Abbas - Abu Mazen	17,356	41,663	26,288	10,324	53,048	14,187	10,584	41,552	8,698	29,406	59,912	36,550	62,113	28,944	37,733	23,090	501,448
Percentage	%61.86	%62.26	%54.88	%67.50	%59.30	%63.57	%55.70	%58.98	%74.89	%61.07	%60.65	%67.62	%68.52	%66.44	%62.01	%65.97	%62.52
Mustafa Barghouthi	5,350	12,065	9,327	2,389	19,408	4,496	3,940	15,767	1,603	9,896	23,004	10,670	14,461	7,803	10,255	5,793	156,227
Percentage	%19.07	%18.03	%19.47	%15.62	%21.70	%20.15	%20.73	%22.38	%13.80	%20.55	%23.29	%19.74	%15.95	%17.91	%16.85	%16.55	%19.48
Taiseer Khaled	1,666	4,029	2,791	933	4,368	655	933	2,152	205	1,895	2,579	825	1,500	653	992	672	26,848
Percentage	%5.94	%6.02	%5.83	%6.10	%4.88	%2.94	%4.91	%3.05	%1.76	%3.94	%2.61	%1.53	%1.65	%1.50	%1.63	%1.92	%3.35
Abd Al Haleem Al Ashqar	559	1,427	2,658	257	2,193	347	398	2,543	109	878	1,914	1,826	3,431	1,272	1,208	1,151	22,171
Percentage	%1.99	%2.13	%5.55	%1.68	%2.45	%1.55	%2.09	%3.61	%0.94	%1.82	%1.94	%3.38	%3.78	%2.92	%1.99	%3.29	%2.76
Bassam Salhi	580	1,865	2,925	157	3,349	559	1,751	3,566	338	1,675	2,274	495	540	550	348	457	21,429
Percentage	%2.07	%2.79	%6.11	%1.03	%3.74	%2.50	%9.21	%5.06	%2.91	%3.48	%2.30	%0.92	%0.60	%1.26	%0.57	%1.31	%2.67
Al Sayyed Baraka	188	513	169	66	414	144	65	279	38	188	653	432	828	939	5,014	476	10,406
Percentage	%0.67	%0.77	%0.35	%0.43	%0.46	%0.65	%0.34	%0.40	%0.33	%0.39	%0.66	%0.80	%0.91	%2.16	%8.24	%1.36	%1.30
Abd Al Kareem Shbair	86	181	144	52	251	51	56	224	15	120	298	594	2,143	384	830	288	5,717
Percentage	%0.31	%0.27	%0.30	%0.34	%0.28	%0.23	%0.29	%0.32	%0.13	%0.25	%0.30	%1.10	%2.36	%0.88	%1.36	%0.82	%0.71
Invalid Ballots	950	2,765	1,786	510	3,234	904	676	1,889	275	1,766	3,909	1,603	3,488	1,832	2,980	2,105	30,672
Percentage	%3.39	%4.13	%3.73	%3.33	%3.62	%4.05	%3.56	%2.68	%2.37	%3.67	%3.96	%2.97	%3.85	%4.21	%4.90	%6.01	%3.82
White Ballots	1,324	2,410	1,815	607	3,192	973	599	2,484	334	2,329	4,236	1,061	2,147	1,190	1,488	970	27,159
Percentage	%4.72	%3.60	%3.79	%3.97	%3.57	%4.36	%3.15	%3.53	%2.88	%4.84	%4.29	%1.96	%2.37	%2.73	%2.45	%2.77	%3.39
No. of Voters	28,059	66,918	47,903	15,295	89,457	22,316	19,002	70,456	11,615	48,153	98,779	54,056	90,651	43,567	60,848	35,002	802,077
No. of Registered Voters	59,299	145,447	100,905	26,188	191,786	48,381	32,658	151,208	24,786	93,517	249,665	102,539	237,229	92,563	125,124	79,186	1,760,481

Table (9) – Summary of Final Results (Voters List) by District Office

Candidate	District Office															Total	
	Jerusalem	Jenin	Tulkarem	Tubas	Nablus	Qalaila	Salfit	Ramallah	Jericho	Bethlehem	Hebron	North Gaza	Gaza	Deir Al Balah	Khan younis	Rafah	
Mahmoud Abbas - Abu Mazen	17,356	41,663	26,288	10,324	53,048	14,187	10,584	41,552	8,698	29,406	59,912	36,550	62,113	28,944	37,733	23,090	501,448
Percentage	%61.86	%62.26	%54.88	%67.50	%59.30	%63.57	%55.70	%58.98	%74.89	%61.07	%60.65	%67.62	%68.52	%66.44	%62.01	%65.97	%62.52
Mustafa Barghouthi	5,350	12,065	9,327	2,389	19,408	4,496	3,940	15,767	1,603	9,896	23,004	10,670	14,461	7,803	10,255	5,793	156,227
Percentage	%19.07	%18.03	%19.47	%15.62	%21.70	%20.15	%20.73	%22.38	%13.80	%20.55	%23.29	%19.74	%15.95	%17.91	%16.85	%16.55	%19.48
Taiseer Khaled	1,666	4,029	2,791	933	4,368	655	933	2,152	205	1,895	2,579	825	1,500	653	992	672	26,848
Percentage	%5.94	%6.02	%5.83	%6.10	%4.88	%2.94	%4.91	%3.05	%1.76	%3.94	%2.61	%1.53	%1.65	%1.50	%1.63	%1.92	%3.35
Abd Al Haleem Al Ashqar	559	1,427	2,658	257	2,193	347	398	2,543	109	878	1,914	1,826	3,431	1,272	1,208	1,151	22,171
Percentage	%1.99	%2.13	%5.55	%1.68	%2.45	%1.55	%2.09	%3.61	%0.94	%1.82	%1.94	%3.38	%3.78	%2.92	%1.99	%3.29	%2.76
Bassam Salhi	580	1,865	2,925	157	3,349	559	1,751	3,566	338	1,675	2,274	495	540	550	348	457	21,429
Percentage	%2.07	%2.79	%6.11	%1.03	%3.74	%2.50	%9.21	%5.06	%2.91	%3.48	%2.30	%0.92	%0.60	%1.26	%0.57	%1.31	%2.67
Al Sayyed Baraka	188	513	169	66	414	144	65	279	38	188	653	432	828	939	5,014	476	10,406
Percentage	%0.67	%0.77	%0.35	%0.43	%0.46	%0.65	%0.34	%0.40	%0.33	%0.39	%0.66	%0.80	%0.91	%2.16	%8.24	%1.36	%1.30
Abd Al Kareem Shbair	86	181	144	52	251	51	56	224	15	120	298	594	2,143	384	830	288	5,717
Percentage	%0.31	%0.27	%0.30	%0.34	%0.28	%0.23	%0.29	%0.32	%0.13	%0.25	%0.30	%1.10	%2.36	%0.88	%1.36	%0.82	%0.71
Invalid Ballots	950	2,765	1,786	510	3,234	904	676	1,889	275	1,766	3,909	1,603	3,488	1,832	2,980	2,105	30,672
Percentage	%3.39	%4.13	%3.73	%3.33	%3.62	%4.05	%3.56	%2.68	%2.37	%3.67	%3.96	%2.97	%3.85	%4.21	%4.90	%6.01	%3.82
White Ballots	1,324	2,410	1,815	607	3,192	973	599	2,484	334	2,329	4,236	1,061	2,147	1,190	1,488	970	27,159
Percentage	%4.72	%3.60	%3.79	%3.97	%3.57	%4.36	%3.15	%3.53	%2.88	%4.84	%4.29	%1.96	%2.37	%2.73	%2.45	%2.77	%3.39
No. of Voters	28,059	66,918	47,903	15,295	89,457	22,316	19,002	70,456	11,615	48,153	98,779	54,056	90,651	43,567	60,848	35,002	802,077
No. of Registered Voters	59,299	145,447	100,905	26,188	191,786	48,381	32,658	151,208	24,786	93,517	249,665	102,539	237,229	92,563	125,124	79,186	1,760,481

Table (10) – Summary of Final Results (Civil Registry) by District Office

Candidate	District Office															Total	
	Jerusalem	Jenin	Tulkarem	Tubas	Nablus	Qalqilia	Salfit	Ramallah	Jericho	Bethlehem	Hebron	North Gaza	Gaza	Deir Al Balah	Khan Younis	Rafah	
Mahmoud Abbas - Abu Mazen	6,947	3,554	2,164	682	4,626	1,276	481	5,010	938	2,111	4,220	3,754	7,136	2,734	3,640	1,587	50,860
Percentage	63.83%	69.56%	58.90%	67.06%	65.86%	67.80%	56.72%	63.58%	76.57%	63.43%	62.41%	74.07%	79.65%	71.59%	64.91%	71.94%	67.55%
Mustafa Barghouthi	2,404	754	690	163	1,388	372	192	1,574	129	743	1,533	755	895	539	806	322	13,259
Percentage	22.09%	14.76%	18.78%	16.03%	19.76%	19.77%	22.64%	19.97%	10.53%	22.33%	22.67%	14.90%	9.99%	14.11%	14.37%	14.60%	17.61%
Taiseer Khaled	379	341	233	80	335	49	32	275	32	103	273	86	175	82	78	52	2,605
Percentage	3.48%	6.67%	6.34%	7.87%	4.77%	2.60%	3.77%	3.49%	2.61%	3.09%	4.04%	1.70%	1.95%	2.15%	1.39%	2.36%	3.46%
Abd Al Haleem Al Ashqar	273	91	217	11	186	41	78	281	44	66	187	53	63	50	59	23	1,723
Percentage	2.51%	1.78%	5.91%	1.08%	2.65%	2.18%	9.20%	3.57%	3.59%	1.98%	2.77%	1.05%	0.70%	1.31%	1.05%	1.04%	2.29%
Bassam Salhi	162	68	130	13	115	13	17	226	19	56	74	72	113	49	55	39	1,221
Percentage	0.0149	1.33%	3.54%	1.28%	1.64%	0.69%	2.00%	2.87%	1.55%	1.68%	1.09%	1.42%	1.26%	1.28%	0.98%	1.77%	1.62%
Al Sayyed Baraka	33	29	17	5	16	8	0	28	6	11	42	32	41	131	654	19	1,072
Percentage	0.30%	0.57%	0.46%	0.49%	0.23%	0.43%	0.00%	0.36%	0.49%	0.33%	0.62%	0.63%	0.46%	3.43%	11.66%	0.86%	1.42%
Abd Al Kareem Shbair	31	10	10	2	16	7	2	23	4	1	18	29	98	15	75	14	355
Percentage	0.28%	0.20%	0.27%	0.20%	0.23%	0.37%	0.24%	0.29%	0.33%	0.03%	0.27%	0.57%	1.09%	0.39%	1.34%	0.63%	0.47%
Invalid Ballots	279	153	91	34	196	49	26	207	28	91	207	203	298	133	162	106	2,263
Percentage	2.56%	2.99%	2.48%	3.34%	2.79%	2.60%	3.07%	2.63%	2.29%	2.73%	3.06%	4.01%	3.33%	3.48%	2.89%	4.81%	3.01%
White Ballots	376	109	122	27	146	67	20	256	25	146	208	84	140	86	79	44	1,935
Percentage	3.45%	2.13%	3.32%	2.65%	2.08%	3.56%	2.36%	3.25%	2.04%	4.39%	3.08%	1.66%	1.56%	2.25%	1.41%	1.99%	2.57%
No. of Voters	10,884	5,109	3,674	1,017	7,024	1,882	848	7,880	1,225	3,328	6,762	5,068	8,959	3,819	5,608	2,206	75,293
No. of Registered Voters	30,912	57,974	40,510	7,266	75,941	18,890	9,499	62,239	10,186	33,035	89,959	28,704	98,647	30,524	46,620	27,276	668,182
Voters Percentage	35.21%	8.81%	9.07%	14.00%	9.25%	9.96%	8.93%	12.66%	12.03%	10.07%	7.52%	17.66%	9.08%	12.51%	12.03%	8.09%	11.27%

Table No.(11) : Jerusalem District Final Results

By District and Population Centers in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Abu Dis	1,450	770	53.1	256	17.66	254	17.52	15	1.03	9	0.62	1	0.04	4	0.28	77	5.31	61	4.21
Al Judeira	437	247	56.52	153	35.01	1	0.23	7	1.6	4	0.92	1	0.23	1	0.23	8	1.83	15	3.43
Al Jib	865	555	64.16	195	22.54	1	0.12	19	2.2	38	4.39	5	0.58	3	0.35	29	3.35	20	2.31
Ar Ram & Dahiyat al Bareed	1,052	627	59.6	233	22.15	14	1.33	30	2.85	41	3.9	12	1.14	4	0.38	30	2.85	61	5.8
Az Za'ayyem	60	42	70	11	18.33	3	5	0	0	0	0	1	1.67	1	1.67	0	0	2	3.33
As Sawahira ash Sharqiya	778	380	48.84	78	10.03	214	27.51	8	1.03	3	0.39	3	0.39	1	0.13	50	6.43	41	5.27
Ash Sheikh Sa'd	87	42	48.28	20	22.99	3	3.45	1	1.15	5	5.75	0	0	1	1.15	4	4.6	11	12.64
Al 'Eizariya	1,576	944	59.9	336	21.32	86	5.46	14	0.89	9	0.57	8	0.51	4	0.25	69	4.38	106	6.73
Al Qubeiba	296	150	50.68	54	18.24	62	20.95	4	1.35	7	2.36	0	0	0	0	4	1.35	15	5.07
An Nabi Samwil	100	71	71	3	3	5	5	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	5	5	14	14
Biddu	1,495	782	52.31	159	10.64	308	20.6	16	1.07	75	5.02	9	0.6	8	0.54	44	2.94	94	6.29
Beit Ijza	209	146	69.86	33	15.79	1	0.48	0	0	0	0	3	1.44	0	0	9	4.31	17	8.13
Beit Iksa	268	96	35.82	30	11.19	2	0.75	9	3.36	8	2.99	62	23.1	0	0	19	7.09	42	15.67
Beit Hanina al Balad	173	118	68.21	28	16.18	0	0	3	1.73	5	2.89	6	3.47	0	0	9	5.2	4	2.31
Beit Duqqu	409	292	71.39	62	15.16	0	0	6	1.47	6	1.47	4	0.98	2	0.49	8	1.96	29	7.09
Beit Surik	970	679	70	176	18.14	3	0.31	26	2.68	3	0.31	6	0.62	4	0.41	28	2.89	45	4.64
Beit 'Anan	808	417	51.61	157	19.43	160	19.8	4	0.5	4	0.5	2	0.25	0	0	29	3.59	35	4.33

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Bir Nabala	333	219	65.77	60	18.02	2	0.6	15	4.5	0	0	2	0.6	1	0.3	19	5.71	15	4.5
Jaba'	540	356	65.93	69	12.78	1	0.19	71	13.2	3	0.56	3	0.56	0	0	8	1.48	29	5.37
Hizma	1,045	644	61.63	175	16.75	30	2.87	28	2.68	5	0.48	3	0.29	2	0.19	86	8.23	72	6.89
Rafat	290	168	57.93	76	26.21	10	3.45	15	5.17	6	2.07	1	0.34	1	0.34	5	1.72	8	2.76
'Anata	1,168	658	56.34	225	19.26	66	5.65	30	2.57	26	2.23	8	0.68	7	0.6	54	4.62	94	8.05
Qatanna	851	649	76.26	71	8.34	46	5.41	7	0.82	19	2.23	3	0.35	3	0.35	20	2.35	33	3.88
Qalandiya	144	98	68.06	21	14.58	0	0	7	4.86	5	3.47	1	0.69	1	0.69	3	2.08	8	5.56
Kafr 'Aqab	288	148	51.39	82	28.47	1	0.35	20	6.94	11	3.82	1	0.35	1	0.35	6	2.08	18	6.25
Mikhmas	435	296	68.05	79	18.16	4	0.92	6	1.38	4	0.92	1	0.23	2	0.46	24	5.52	19	4.37
Qalandiya Camp	1,048	815	77.77	104	9.92	10	0.95	36	3.44	11	1.05	4	0.38	4	0.38	24	2.29	40	3.82
Total	17,175	10,409	60.6	2,946	17.2	1,287	7.49	397	2.3	307	1.8	155	0.9	55	0.32	671	3.9	948	5.52

Table No.(11) : Jenin District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Umm at Tut	285	230	80.7	33	11.58	4	1.4	0	0	2	0.7	1	0.35	0	0	6	2.11	9	3.16
Umm ar Rihan	220	166	75.45	25	11.36	3	1.36	1	0.45	2	0.91	1	0.45	2	0.91	8	3.64	12	5.45
Al Judeida	1,469	644	43.84	164	11.16	327	22.26	19	1.29	252	17.15	2	0.14	5	0.34	35	2.38	21	1.43
Al Jalama	797	525	65.87	154	19.32	17	2.13	15	1.88	0	0	10	1.25	1	0.13	44	5.52	31	3.89
Ar Rama	260	131	50.38	47	18.08	16	6.15	8	3.08	36	13.85	1	0.38	0	0	8	3.08	13	5
Az Zawiya	254	187	73.62	27	10.63	5	1.97	4	1.57	8	3.15	1	0.39	5	1.97	10	3.94	7	2.76
Az Zababida	1,499	983	65.58	406	27.08	20	1.33	3	0.2	12	0.8	2	0.13	3	0.2	53	3.54	17	1.13
Silat al Harithiya	1,089	623	57.21	114	10.47	28	2.57	25	2.3	148	13.59	6	0.55	4	0.37	58	5.33	83	7.62
Ash Shuhada	478	356	74.48	84	17.57	2	0.42	2	0.42	0	0	3	0.63	1	0.21	13	2.72	17	3.56
At Tarem	147	74	50.34	16	10.88	40	27.21	1	0.68	2	1.36	1	0.68	0	0	6	4.08	7	4.76
At Tayba	502	288	57.37	121	24.1	3	0.6	10	1.99	40	7.97	4	0.8	0	0	14	2.79	22	4.38
Al 'Araqa	370	247	66.76	32	8.65	34	9.19	3	0.81	1	0.27	1	0.27	0	0	22	5.95	30	8.11
Al 'Attara	258	139	53.88	35	13.57	3	1.16	13	5.04	40	15.5	2	0.78	1	0.39	13	5.04	12	4.65
Al Fandaqumiya	854	459	53.75	124	14.52	110	12.88	26	3.04	85	9.95	2	0.23	1	0.12	18	2.11	29	3.4
Misliya	637	367	57.61	175	27.47	22	3.45	9	1.41	3	0.47	2	0.31	3	0.47	34	5.34	22	3.45
Al Mutilla	139	119	85.61	8	5.76	0	0	4	2.88	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3.6	3	2.16
Al Mughayir	745	665	89.26	44	5.91	3	0.4	4	0.54	2	0.27	3	0.4	1	0.13	17	2.28	6	0.81

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Al Hashimiya	276	173	62.68	59	21.38	7	2.54	4	1.45	1	0.36	0	0	1	0.36	18	6.52	13	4.71
Al Yamun	2,926	2,143	73.24	366	12.51	63	2.15	54	1.85	5	0.17	11	0.38	5	0.17	165	5.64	114	3.9
Umm Dar	303	173	57.1	28	9.24	37	12.21	0	0	50	16.5	2	0.66	0	0	4	1.32	9	2.97
Imreih	117	98	83.76	3	2.56	0	0	0	0	12	10.26	0	0	0	0	2	1.71	2	1.71
Barta'a ash Sharqiya	1,054	703	66.7	253	24	32	3.04	4	0.38	6	0.57	6	0.57	2	0.19	23	2.18	25	2.37
Birqin	1,335	756	56.63	249	18.65	180	13.48	46	3.45	2	0.15	8	0.6	3	0.22	60	4.49	31	2.32
Beit Qad	287	203	70.73	49	17.07	5	1.74	6	2.09	1	0.35	1	0.35	0	0	13	4.53	9	3.14
Bir al Basha	297	199	67	40	13.47	1	0.34	15	5.05	0	0	0	0	1	0.34	13	4.38	28	9.43
Ti'innik	326	214	65.64	55	16.87	13	3.99	6	1.84	3	0.92	1	0.31	0	0	11	3.37	23	7.06
Jaba'	1,660	1,082	65.18	365	21.99	110	6.63	19	1.14	5	0.3	2	0.12	2	0.12	28	1.69	47	2.83
Jalbun	831	494	59.45	171	20.58	89	10.71	4	0.48	2	0.24	4	0.48	1	0.12	39	4.69	27	3.25
Jalqamus	590	425	72.03	47	7.97	37	6.27	12	2.03	2	0.34	3	0.51	3	0.51	23	3.9	38	6.44
Jenin	7,939	4,726	59.53	2,025	25.51	126	1.59	195	2.46	62	0.78	195	2.46	30	0.38	261	3.29	319	4.02
Deir Abu Da'if	1,230	926	75.28	149	12.11	9	0.73	28	2.28	20	1.63	6	0.49	8	0.65	42	3.41	42	3.41
Deir Ghazala	340	224	65.88	39	11.47	39	11.47	16	4.71	2	0.59	2	0.59	2	0.59	11	3.24	5	1.47
Raba	1,091	686	62.88	179	16.41	3	0.27	43	3.94	11	1.01	20	1.83	4	0.37	93	8.52	52	4.77
Rummana	938	604	64.39	163	17.38	65	6.93	15	1.6	4	0.43	8	0.85	2	0.21	47	5.01	30	3.2
Zabda	309	163	52.75	24	7.77	15	4.85	2	0.65	93	30.1	2	0.65	0	0	2	0.65	8	2.59
Zububa	544	244	44.85	147	27.02	31	5.7	9	1.65	59	10.85	2	0.37	0	0	23	4.23	29	5.33
Siris	1,265	713	56.36	229	18.1	9	0.71	20	1.58	207	16.36	2	0.16	5	0.4	35	2.77	45	3.56
Silat adh Dhahr	1,300	499	38.38	453	34.85	20	1.54	37	2.85	192	14.77	6	0.46	3	0.23	55	4.23	35	2.69

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Sanur	1,068	616	57.68	108	10.11	53	4.96	20	1.87	115	10.77	2	0.19	2	0.19	90	8.43	62	5.81
Sir	285	187	65.61	83	29.12	2	0.7	1	0.35	0	0	4	1.4	1	0.35	3	1.05	4	1.4
Dahiyat Sabah al Kheir	300	163	54.33	87	29	7	2.33	3	1	1	0.33	6	2	0	0	17	5.67	16	5.33
Tura al Gharbiya	353	224	63.46	41	11.61	20	5.67	5	1.42	1	0.28	1	0.28	0	0	30	8.5	31	8.78
Dhaher al 'Abed	106	73	68.87	5	4.72	16	15.09	2	1.89	2	1.89	1	0.94	0	0	4	3.77	3	2.83
'Anin	1,036	416	40.15	70	6.76	339	32.72	8	0.77	157	15.15	2	0.19	2	0.19	24	2.32	18	1.74
'Ajja	1,049	607	57.86	285	27.17	58	5.53	15	1.43	1	0.1	2	0.19	1	0.1	56	5.34	24	2.29
Arraba	2,358	1,466	62.17	417	17.68	230	9.75	43	1.82	5	0.21	10	0.42	10	0.42	89	3.77	88	3.73
'Arrana	473	304	64.27	80	16.91	12	2.54	3	0.63	2	0.42	1	0.21	1	0.21	21	4.44	49	10.36
'Arabbuna	308	128	41.56	99	32.14	41	13.31	1	0.32	19	6.17	2	0.65	0	0	14	4.55	4	1.3
'Anza	630	417	66.19	112	17.78	14	2.22	28	4.44	1	0.16	4	0.63	0	0	27	4.29	27	4.29
Fahma	132	112	84.85	11	8.33	1	0.76	2	1.52	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3.03	2	1.52
Fahma al Jadida	699	452	64.66	69	9.87	101	14.45	11	1.57	1	0.14	2	0.29	1	0.14	28	4.01	34	4.86
Faqqu'a	862	555	64.39	207	24.01	18	2.09	23	2.67	3	0.35	1	0.12	2	0.23	29	3.36	24	2.78
Qabatiya	4,200	2,673	63.64	722	17.19	270	6.43	77	1.83	22	0.52	16	0.38	4	0.1	246	5.86	170	4.05
Kafr Ra'i	2,187	1,099	50.25	505	23.09	158	7.22	177	8.09	21	0.96	13	0.59	10	0.46	140	6.4	64	2.93
Kafr Qud	220	123	55.91	50	22.73	5	2.27	8	3.64	0	0	1	0.45	1	0.45	19	8.64	13	5.91
Kafr Dan	1,413	1,047	74.1	189	13.38	5	0.35	23	1.63	2	0.14	5	0.35	3	0.21	66	4.67	73	5.17
Kufeirit	631	352	55.78	108	17.12	123	19.49	2	0.32	1	0.16	5	0.79	2	0.32	20	3.17	18	2.85
Jenin Camp	2,304	1,587	68.88	453	19.66	14	0.61	44	1.91	14	0.61	53	2.3	6	0.26	72	3.13	61	2.65
Mirka	414	284	68.6	33	7.97	24	5.8	3	0.72	5	1.21	3	0.72	2	0.48	35	8.45	25	6.04

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Mashru' Beit Qad	142	78	54.93	34	23.94	3	2.11	5	3.52	6	4.23	2	1.41	0	0	6	4.23	8	5.63
Meithalun	1,909	1,168	61.18	513	26.87	27	1.41	73	3.82	5	0.26	4	0.21	13	0.68	46	2.41	60	3.14
Nazlat ash Sheikh Zeid	259	194	74.9	15	5.79	36	13.9	7	2.7	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.54	3	1.16
Wad ad Dabi'	132	94	71.21	11	8.33	1	0.76	8	6.06	1	0.76	1	0.76	0	0	11	8.33	5	3.79
Ya'bad	3,378	2,039	60.36	302	8.94	582	17.23	85	2.52	17	0.5	20	0.59	11	0.33	179	5.3	143	4.23
Total	61,809	38,109	61.66	11,311	18.3	3,688	5.97	1,359	2.2	1,774	2.87	484	0.78	171	0.28	2,612	4.23	2,301	3.72

Table No.(11) : Tulkarem District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Iktaba	486	268	55.14	112	23.05	26	5.35	24	4.94	1	0.21	3	0.62	2	0.41	24	4.94	26	5.35
Al Jarushiya	339	191	56.34	55	16.22	21	6.19	29	8.55	23	6.78	5	1.47	0	0	8	2.36	7	2.06
Ar Ras	201	149	74.13	20	9.95	10	4.98	1	0.5	0	0	3	1.49	0	0	11	5.47	7	3.48
Al Masqufa	50	25	50	19	38	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	6	2	4
An Nazla ash Sharqiya	589	411	69.78	50	8.49	16	2.72	21	3.57	53	9	3	0.51	2	0.34	17	2.89	16	2.72
An Nazla al Gharbiya	290	109	37.59	26	8.97	11	3.79	25	8.62	99	34.14	0	0	2	0.69	8	2.76	10	3.45
An Nazla al Wusta	119	48	40.34	23	19.33	3	2.52	7	5.88	31	26.05	0	0	0	0	1	0.84	6	5.04
Baqa ash Sharqiya	1,190	498	41.85	143	12.02	286	24.03	60	5.04	98	8.24	5	0.42	4	0.34	57	4.79	39	3.28
Bal'a	1,339	871	65.05	153	11.43	28	2.09	40	2.99	166	12.4	5	0.37	3	0.22	39	2.91	34	2.54
Beit Lid	1,705	915	53.67	459	26.92	12	0.7	49	2.87	141	8.27	3	0.18	3	0.18	40	2.35	83	4.87
Khirbet Jubara	154	55	35.71	43	27.92	13	8.44	8	5.19	0	0	2	1.3	0	0	17	11.04	16	10.39
Deir al Ghusun	2,714	1,037	38.21	458	16.88	337	12.42	107	3.94	544	20.04	6	0.22	3	0.11	127	4.68	95	3.5
Dhinnaba	1,289	782	60.67	228	17.69	97	7.53	42	3.26	33	2.56	5	0.39	1	0.08	51	3.96	50	3.88
Ramin	645	386	59.84	166	25.74	41	6.36	14	2.17	1	0.16	1	0.16	5	0.78	11	1.71	20	3.1

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Zeita	1,027	508	49.46	272	26.48	53	5.16	54	5.26	91	8.86	2	0.19	2	0.19	27	2.63	18	1.75
Saffarin	249	171	68.67	53	21.29	0	0	8	3.21	1	0.4	0	0	0	0	6	2.41	10	4.02
Shufa	391	241	61.64	69	17.65	0	0	21	5.37	42	10.74	1	0.26	0	0	7	1.79	10	2.56
Seida	1,027	303	29.5	34	3.31	10	0.97	588	57.25	59	5.74	0	0	13	1.27	12	1.17	8	0.78
Tulkarm	11,240	6,221	55.35	2,723	24.23	580	5.16	487	4.33	306	2.72	47	0.42	35	0.31	400	3.56	441	3.92
'Attil	2,442	1,370	56.1	487	19.94	14	0.57	170	6.96	218	8.93	2	0.08	6	0.25	86	3.52	89	3.64
'Izbat Shufa	235	163	69.36	32	13.62	4	1.7	6	2.55	4	1.7	0	0	4	1.7	12	5.11	10	4.26
'Akkaba	71	43	60.56	18	25.35	0	0	0	0	2	2.82	0	0	1	1.41	5	7.04	2	2.82
'Illar	1,600	859	53.69	179	11.19	23	1.44	339	21.19	102	6.38	4	0.25	14	0.88	50	3.13	30	1.88
'Anabta	2,427	1,338	55.13	584	24.06	197	8.12	70	2.88	8	0.33	6	0.25	4	0.16	92	3.79	128	5.27
Far'un	858	555	64.69	188	21.91	10	1.17	44	5.13	1	0.12	2	0.23	5	0.58	17	1.98	36	4.2
Qaffin	1,984	992	50	202	10.18	71	3.58	40	2.02	359	18.09	8	0.4	2	0.1	163	8.22	147	7.41
Kafa	215	82	38.14	53	24.65	49	22.79	13	6.05	1	0.47	0	0	3	1.4	5	2.33	9	4.19
Kafr al Labad	1,377	731	53.09	333	24.18	133	9.66	26	1.89	70	5.08	2	0.15	2	0.15	48	3.49	32	2.32
Kafr Jammal	731	441	60.33	214	29.27	8	1.09	4	0.55	18	2.46	1	0.14	2	0.27	22	3.01	21	2.87
Kafr Rumman	300	250	83.33	21	7	1	0.33	7	2.33	1	0.33	0	0	1	0.33	5	1.67	14	4.67
Kafr Zibad	436	279	63.99	116	26.61	4	0.92	2	0.46	0	0	5	1.15	4	0.92	8	1.83	18	4.13

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Kafr Sur	442	231	52.26	89	20.14	74	16.74	22	4.98	3	0.68	0	0	0	0	10	2.26	13	2.94
Kafr 'Abbush	437	241	55.15	120	27.46	4	0.92	11	2.52	2	0.46	1	0.23	1	0.23	20	4.58	37	8.47
Kur	78	39	50	9	11.54	15	19.23	5	6.41	0	0	2	2.56	1	1.28	5	6.41	2	2.56
Tulkarm Camp	3,072	2,025	65.92	416	13.54	228	7.42	94	3.06	39	1.27	18	0.59	4	0.13	146	4.75	102	3.32
Nur Shams Camp	1,680	1,030	61.31	387	23.04	29	1.73	25	1.49	6	0.36	8	0.48	3	0.18	102	6.07	90	5.36
Nazlat 'Isa	800	266	33.25	83	10.38	150	18.75	64	8	185	23.13	2	0.25	2	0.25	33	4.13	15	1.88
Total	44,229	24,124	54.54	8,637	19.53	2,558	5.78	2,528	5.72	2,708	6.12	152	0.34	134	0.3	1,695	3.83	1,693	3.83

Table No.(11) : Tubas District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Bardala	484	310	64.05	159	32.85	1	0.21	1	0.21	0	0	2	0.41	1	0.21	4	0.83	6	1.24
Tayasir	842	675	80.17	98	11.64	2	0.24	11	1.31	8	0.95	4	0.48	1	0.12	24	2.85	19	2.26
Tammun	3,060	1,952	63.79	638	20.85	183	5.98	36	1.18	9	0.29	16	0.52	7	0.23	78	2.55	141	4.61
Tubas	5,318	3,768	70.85	821	15.44	165	3.1	129	2.43	63	1.18	24	0.45	20	0.38	171	3.22	157	2.95
'Aqqaba	1,905	1,288	67.61	173	9.08	113	5.93	33	1.73	2	0.1	8	0.42	16	0.84	112	5.88	160	8.4
'Ein el Beida	365	315	86.3	23	6.3	1	0.27	6	1.64	3	0.82	0	0	1	0.27	7	1.92	9	2.47
El Far'a Camp	1,518	818	53.89	241	15.88	245	16.14	15	0.99	51	3.36	4	0.26	2	0.13	64	4.22	78	5.14
Wadi al Far'a	786	516	65.65	73	9.29	143	18.19	13	1.65	10	1.27	3	0.38	2	0.25	16	2.04	10	1.27
Total	14,278	9,642	67.53	2,226	15.59	853	5.97	244	1.71	146	1.02	61	0.43	50	0.35	476	3.33	580	4.06

Table No.(11) : Nablus District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Al Badhan	677	486	71.79	95	14.03	68	10.04	4	0.59	0	0	6	0.89	1	0.15	6	0.89	11	1.62
As Sawiya	523	324	61.95	62	11.85	12	2.29	13	2.49	82	15.68	1	0.19	1	0.19	13	2.49	15	2.87
Al Lubban ash Sharqiya	718	525	73.12	98	13.65	26	3.62	3	0.42	4	0.56	5	0.7	0	0	28	3.9	29	4.04
An Naqura	519	313	60.31	87	16.76	28	5.39	4	0.77	45	8.67	1	0.19	1	0.19	17	3.28	23	4.43
An Nassariya	586	413	70.48	92	15.7	35	5.97	3	0.51	4	0.68	2	0.34	1	0.17	27	4.61	9	1.54
Odala	357	243	68.07	93	26.05	3	0.84	1	0.28	1	0.28	1	0.28	1	0.28	5	1.4	9	2.52
Osarin	409	249	60.88	99	24.21	2	0.49	3	0.73	12	2.93	2	0.49	0	0	36	8.8	6	1.47
Burqa	1,201	689	57.37	220	18.32	17	1.42	18	1.5	193	16.07	7	0.58	4	0.33	26	2.16	27	2.25
Bizzariya	586	308	52.56	85	14.51	29	4.95	5	0.85	121	20.65	4	0.68	2	0.34	7	1.19	25	4.27
Burin	686	385	56.12	225	32.8	16	2.33	15	2.19	2	0.29	3	0.44	1	0.15	19	2.77	20	2.92
Beit Imrin	886	423	47.74	190	21.44	104	11.74	27	3.05	59	6.66	4	0.45	2	0.23	49	5.53	28	3.16
Beit Iba	1,121	712	63.51	214	19.09	22	1.96	30	2.68	5	0.45	12	1.07	3	0.27	80	7.14	43	3.84
Beit Hasan	500	402	80.4	42	8.4	9	1.8	3	0.6	23	4.6	0	0	1	0.2	9	1.8	11	2.2
Beit Dajan	1,243	581	46.74	87	7	65	5.23	12	0.97	437	35.16	2	0.16	0	0	20	1.61	39	3.14
Beit Furik	2,867	1,641	57.24	415	14.48	189	6.59	15	0.52	472	16.46	10	0.35	3	0.1	75	2.62	47	1.64
Beit Wazan	570	274	48.07	139	24.39	91	15.96	9	1.58	18	3.16	2	0.35	0	0	14	2.46	23	4.04
Beita	1,834	1,272	69.36	189	10.31	59	3.22	124	6.76	60	3.27	3	0.16	2	0.11	71	3.87	54	2.94

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Tell	1,158	921	79.53	101	8.72	12	1.04	24	2.07	0	0	2	0.17	4	0.35	34	2.94	60	5.18
Talfit	732	479	65.44	158	21.58	15	2.05	10	1.37	26	3.55	2	0.27	1	0.14	18	2.46	23	3.14
Jamma'in	1,611	865	53.69	378	23.46	25	1.55	49	3.04	83	5.15	8	0.5	2	0.12	96	5.96	105	6.52
Jurish	344	215	62.5	30	8.72	8	2.33	1	0.29	45	13.08	3	0.87	1	0.29	15	4.36	26	7.56
Huwwara	1,306	720	55.13	407	31.16	33	2.53	24	1.84	2	0.15	4	0.31	4	0.31	55	4.21	57	4.36
Duma	400	247	61.75	49	12.25	21	5.25	8	2	29	7.25	2	0.5	0	0	25	6.25	19	4.75
Deir al Hatab	863	656	76.01	82	9.5	6	0.7	13	1.51	22	2.55	5	0.58	0	0	30	3.48	49	5.68
Deir Sharaf	770	397	51.56	62	8.05	187	24.29	13	1.69	58	7.53	4	0.52	1	0.13	25	3.25	23	2.99
Rujeib	1,129	612	54.21	160	14.17	222	19.66	12	1.06	5	0.44	6	0.53	1	0.09	33	2.92	78	6.91
Zawata	599	406	67.78	86	14.36	40	6.68	15	2.5	5	0.83	0	0	4	0.67	15	2.5	28	4.67
Zeita Jamma'in	409	192	46.94	89	21.76	26	6.36	27	6.6	22	5.38	1	0.24	4	0.98	13	3.18	35	8.56
Salim	1,240	928	74.84	175	14.11	26	2.1	21	1.69	36	2.9	3	0.24	2	0.16	21	1.69	28	2.26
Sabastiya	1,113	621	55.8	146	13.12	156	14.02	14	1.26	93	8.36	5	0.45	4	0.36	39	3.5	35	3.14
Sarra	800	543	67.88	114	14.25	65	8.13	9	1.13	3	0.38	7	0.88	4	0.5	22	2.75	33	4.13
Talluza	724	481	66.44	138	19.06	24	3.31	14	1.93	20	2.76	1	0.14	3	0.41	24	3.31	19	2.62
'Iraq Burin	258	202	78.29	36	13.95	2	0.78	6	2.33	1	0.39	2	0.78	0	0	3	1.16	6	2.33
'Azmut	847	669	78.98	64	7.56	16	1.89	22	2.6	8	0.94	4	0.47	5	0.59	19	2.24	40	4.72
'Asira al Qibliya	649	222	34.21	150	23.11	188	28.97	6	0.92	29	4.47	2	0.31	0	0	34	5.24	18	2.77
'Asira ash Shamaliya	2,502	1,459	58.31	575	22.98	252	10.07	39	1.56	8	0.32	13	0.52	8	0.32	87	3.48	61	2.44
Aqraba	1,032	723	70.06	124	12.02	3	0.29	67	6.49	5	0.48	8	0.78	4	0.39	29	2.81	69	6.69
'Ammuriya	99	44	44.44	2	2.02	2	2.02	2	2.02	37	37.37	0	0	0	0	6	6.06	6	6.06

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
'Awarta	1,220	624	51.15	448	36.72	13	1.07	17	1.39	38	3.11	2	0.16	0	0	43	3.52	35	2.87
'Urif	656	468	71.34	44	6.71	39	5.95	12	1.83	2	0.3	6	0.91	0	0	22	3.35	63	9.6
'Einabus	371	244	65.77	63	16.98	5	1.35	7	1.89	2	0.54	5	1.35	0	0	14	3.77	31	8.36
Furush Beit Dajan	241	104	43.15	11	4.56	3	1.24	0	0	119	49.38	0	0	0	0	3	1.24	1	0.41
Qabalan	941	401	42.61	60	6.38	3	0.32	21	2.23	358	38.04	6	0.64	7	0.74	24	2.55	61	6.48
Qaryut	521	187	35.89	32	6.14	243	46.64	13	2.5	0	0	3	0.58	3	0.58	9	1.73	31	5.95
Qusra	942	633	67.2	198	21.02	18	1.91	5	0.53	28	2.97	3	0.32	6	0.64	18	1.91	33	3.5
Qusin	521	321	61.61	45	8.64	22	4.22	14	2.69	64	12.28	3	0.58	0	0	19	3.65	33	6.33
Kafr Qallil	1,026	602	58.67	107	10.43	130	12.67	7	0.68	90	8.77	1	0.1	2	0.19	66	6.43	21	2.05
Madama	415	200	48.19	178	42.89	1	0.24	4	0.96	3	0.72	1	0.24	2	0.48	10	2.41	16	3.86
Majdal Bani Fadil	550	415	75.45	80	14.55	10	1.82	10	1.82	6	1.09	4	0.73	1	0.18	10	1.82	14	2.55
Balata Camp	3,884	2,705	69.64	654	16.84	66	1.7	73	1.88	14	0.36	20	0.51	13	0.33	187	4.81	152	3.91
'Askar Camp	3,361	2,211	65.78	509	15.14	186	5.53	76	2.26	56	1.67	21	0.62	8	0.24	165	4.91	129	3.84
'Ein Beit el Ma Camp	1,140	747	65.53	272	23.86	20	1.75	26	2.28	2	0.18	8	0.7	6	0.53	31	2.72	28	2.46
Nablus	31,343	16,760	53.47	9,536	30.42	1,064	3.39	1,062	3.39	278	0.89	162	0.52	110	0.35	1,242	3.96	1,129	3.6
Yasid	826	597	72.28	163	19.73	12	1.45	17	2.06	1	0.12	2	0.24	1	0.12	14	1.69	19	2.3
Yatma	607	361	59.47	62	10.21	94	15.49	29	4.78	27	4.45	4	0.66	1	0.16	16	2.64	13	2.14
Total	82,433	48,422	58.74	18,020	21.86	4,033	4.89	2,078	2.52	3,163	3.84	398	0.48	235	0.29	3,038	3.69	3,046	3.7

Table No.(11) : Qalqilia District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Al Funduq	154	111	72.08	37	24.03	1	0.65	0	0	0	0	1	0.65	1	0.65	1	0.65	2	1.3
An Nabi Elyas	131	79	60.31	21	16.03	1	0.76	1	0.76	0	0	1	0.76	0	0	10	7.63	18	13.74
Immatin	600	415	69.17	105	17.5	4	0.67	11	1.83	3	0.5	7	1.17	2	0.33	33	5.5	20	3.33
Baqat al Hatab	425	257	60.47	86	20.24	2	0.47	15	3.53	1	0.24	1	0.24	0	0	30	7.06	33	7.76
Beit Amin	277	194	70.04	53	19.13	1	0.36	4	1.44	8	2.89	0	0	1	0.36	3	1.08	13	4.69
Jit	712	470	66.01	93	13.06	13	1.83	44	6.18	29	4.07	8	1.12	4	0.56	26	3.65	25	3.51
Jinsafut	543	354	65.19	120	22.1	0	0	10	1.84	3	0.55	8	1.47	0	0	22	4.05	26	4.79
Jayyus	864	571	66.09	176	20.37	0	0	8	0.93	42	4.86	5	0.58	0	0	23	2.66	39	4.51
Habla	1,813	1,151	63.49	395	21.79	64	3.53	25	1.38	89	4.91	8	0.44	4	0.22	41	2.26	36	1.99
Hajja	616	301	48.86	269	43.67	1	0.16	7	1.14	0	0	5	0.81	1	0.16	19	3.08	13	2.11
Khirbet Sir	195	140	71.79	28	14.36	0	0	2	1.03	9	4.62	5	2.56	1	0.51	5	2.56	5	2.56
Ras at Tira	249	200	80.32	31	12.45	2	0.8	2	0.8	3	1.2	0	0	0	0	3	1.2	8	3.21
Ras 'Atiya	395	260	65.82	102	25.82	10	2.53	8	2.03	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	1.77	8	2.03
Sanniriya	788	525	66.62	195	24.75	3	0.38	4	0.51	6	0.76	2	0.25	2	0.25	22	2.79	29	3.68
'Izbat al Ashqar	136	94	69.12	32	23.53	1	0.74	2	1.47	0	0	0	0	1	0.74	1	0.74	5	3.68
'Izbat Salman	196	146	74.49	30	15.31	14	7.14	1	0.51	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.51	4	2.04
'Azzun	454	294	64.76	45	9.91	3	0.66	12	2.64	52	11.45	1	0.22	2	0.44	17	3.74	28	6.17

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
'Azzun 'Atma	1,086	728	67.03	164	15.1	26	2.39	16	1.47	41	3.78	8	0.74	1	0.09	30	2.76	72	6.63
'Isla	295	227	76.95	51	17.29	2	0.68	4	1.36	1	0.34	0	0	0	0	2	0.68	8	2.71
Far'ata	206	130	63.11	30	14.56	15	7.28	5	2.43	0	0	0	0	1	0.49	11	5.34	14	6.8
Falamya	251	140	55.78	86	34.26	3	1.2	8	3.19	1	0.4	2	0.8	1	0.4	4	1.59	6	2.39
Qalqiliya	7,802	4,752	60.91	1,535	19.67	274	3.51	103	1.32	167	2.14	57	0.73	18	0.23	482	6.18	414	5.31
Kafr Thulth	1,275	677	53.1	299	23.45	155	12.16	22	1.73	46	3.61	10	0.78	3	0.24	30	2.35	33	2.59
Kafr Qaddum	689	511	74.17	90	13.06	6	0.87	12	1.74	3	0.44	5	0.73	0	0	27	3.92	35	5.08
Kafr Laqif	282	184	65.25	51	18.09	5	1.77	8	2.84	14	4.96	2	0.71	1	0.35	5	1.77	12	4.26
Total	20,434	12,911	63.18	4,124	20.18	606	2.97	334	1.63	518	2.53	136	0.67	44	0.22	855	4.18	906	4.43

Table No.(11) : Salfit District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Iskaka	329	173	52.58	48	14.59	69	20.97	7	2.13	12	3.65	2	0.61	0	0	7	2.13	11	3.34
Az Zawiya	1,486	706	47.51	408	27.46	40	2.69	25	1.68	178	11.98	2	0.13	8	0.54	86	5.79	33	2.22
Biddya	1,683	1,156	68.69	269	15.98	16	0.95	43	2.55	48	2.85	8	0.48	10	0.59	82	4.87	51	3.03
Bruqin	977	612	62.64	248	25.38	0	0	21	2.15	7	0.72	0	0	2	0.2	47	4.81	40	4.09
Haris	841	384	45.66	361	42.93	27	3.21	13	1.55	5	0.59	5	0.59	2	0.24	24	2.85	20	2.38
Khirbet Qeis	115	72	62.61	15	13.04	17	14.78	1	0.87	2	1.74	2	1.74	1	0.87	2	1.74	3	2.61
Deir Istiya	1,126	622	55.24	168	14.92	3	0.27	8	0.71	263	23.36	3	0.27	2	0.18	15	1.33	42	3.73
Deir Ballut	1,101	691	62.76	277	25.16	20	1.82	25	2.27	30	2.72	5	0.45	1	0.09	31	2.82	21	1.91
Rafat	670	360	53.73	116	17.31	66	9.85	12	1.79	70	10.45	0	0	3	0.45	29	4.33	14	2.09
Sarta	743	368	49.53	95	12.79	41	5.52	17	2.29	171	23.01	7	0.94	2	0.27	19	2.56	23	3.1
Salfit	2,927	1,605	54.83	665	22.72	286	9.77	66	2.25	85	2.9	10	0.34	5	0.17	107	3.66	98	3.35
Farkha	498	215	43.17	76	15.26	23	4.62	23	4.62	122	24.5	1	0.2	1	0.2	22	4.42	15	3.01
Qarawat Bani Hassan	882	652	73.92	113	12.81	1	0.11	10	1.13	7	0.79	3	0.34	6	0.68	48	5.44	42	4.76
Qira	391	214	54.73	24	6.14	51	13.04	1	0.26	85	21.74	0	0	0	0	2	0.51	14	3.58
Kafr ad Dik	1,557	975	62.62	295	18.95	3	0.19	48	3.08	176	11.3	2	0.13	1	0.06	23	1.48	34	2.18
Kifl Haris	932	423	45.39	288	30.9	22	2.36	28	3	69	7.4	5	0.54	4	0.43	36	3.86	57	6.12
Marda	630	346	54.92	183	29.05	5	0.79	10	1.59	37	5.87	1	0.16	0	0	26	4.13	22	3.49

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Mas-ha	623	210	33.71	63	10.11	92	14.77	12	1.93	193	30.98	3	0.48	2	0.32	25	4.01	23	3.69
Yasuf	643	319	49.61	36	5.6	119	18.51	11	1.71	113	17.57	6	0.93	4	0.62	19	2.95	16	2.49
Total	18,154	10,103	55.65	3,748	20.65	901	4.96	381	2.1	1,673	9.22	65	0.36	54	0.3	650	3.58	579	3.19

Table No.(11) : Ramallah District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Abu Shukheidim	456	306	67.11	40	8.77	39	8.55	24	5.26	11	2.41	1	0.22	3	0.66	19	4.17	13	2.85
Abu Qash	466	246	52.79	111	23.82	49	10.52	16	3.43	27	5.79	2	0.43	0	0	8	1.72	7	1.5
Al Bireh	6,493	3,821	58.85	1,350	20.79	82	1.26	434	6.68	276	4.25	45	0.69	26	0.4	182	2.8	277	4.27
Al Janiya	371	249	67.12	67	18.06	14	3.77	9	2.43	3	0.81	3	0.81	1	0.27	10	2.7	15	4.04
At Tayba	587	464	79.05	95	16.18	11	1.87	3	0.51	8	1.36	0	0	0	0	2	0.34	4	0.68
At Tira	438	259	59.13	58	13.24	15	3.42	9	2.05	12	2.74	2	0.46	4	0.91	28	6.39	51	11.64
Al Lubban al Gharbi	394	195	49.49	71	18.02	1	0.25	7	1.78	52	13.2	1	0.25	0	0	38	9.64	29	7.36
Al Midya	350	190	54.29	31	8.86	45	12.86	8	2.29	46	13.14	0	0	1	0.29	17	4.86	12	3.43
Al Mazra'a ash Sharqiya	1,257	641	50.99	313	24.9	172	13.68	18	1.43	67	5.33	10	0.8	2	0.16	16	1.27	18	1.43
Al Mazra'a al Qibliya	697	396	56.81	79	11.33	79	11.33	24	3.44	7	1	2	0.29	1	0.14	59	8.46	50	7.17
Al Mughayyir	532	333	62.59	83	15.6	78	14.66	8	1.5	10	1.88	2	0.38	0	0	10	1.88	8	1.5
An Nabi Salih	224	158	70.54	9	4.02	28	12.5	9	4.02	11	4.91	0	0	0	0	3	1.34	6	2.68
Umm Safa	208	156	75	37	17.79	1	0.48	2	0.96	1	0.48	0	0	0	0	3	1.44	8	3.85
Budrus	480	226	47.08	171	35.63	27	5.63	11	2.29	10	2.08	0	0	1	0.21	14	2.92	20	4.17
Burqa	372	226	60.75	83	22.31	20	5.38	14	3.76	1	0.27	5	1.34	1	0.27	7	1.88	15	4.03
Burham	228	127	55.7	57	25	0	0	0	0	15	6.58	1	0.44	3	1.32	13	5.7	12	5.26
Bil'in	397	286	72.04	64	16.12	0	0	11	2.77	1	0.25	0	0	0	0	15	3.78	20	5.04

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Bani Zeid	1,668	822	49.28	527	31.59	33	1.98	55	3.3	146	8.75	3	0.18	3	0.18	39	2.34	40	2.4
Beit Sira	306	229	74.84	40	13.07	9	2.94	4	1.31	1	0.33	1	0.33	1	0.33	5	1.63	16	5.23
Beit 'Ur at Tahta	1,188	628	52.86	280	23.57	2	0.17	13	1.09	142	11.95	1	0.08	3	0.25	58	4.88	61	5.13
Beit 'Ur al Fauqa	294	93	31.63	110	37.41	3	1.02	8	2.72	33	11.22	0	0	2	0.68	25	8.5	20	6.8
Beit Liqya	1,457	639	43.86	563	38.64	115	7.89	22	1.51	4	0.27	1	0.07	4	0.27	36	2.47	73	5.01
Beit Nuba	138	72	52.17	49	35.51	0	0	2	1.45	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1.45	13	9.42
Beitillu	689	415	60.23	169	24.53	2	0.29	8	1.16	44	6.39	2	0.29	1	0.15	29	4.21	19	2.76
Beituniya	2,643	1,739	65.8	456	17.25	22	0.83	133	5.03	67	2.53	20	0.76	16	0.61	82	3.1	108	4.09
Beitin	513	259	50.49	164	31.97	7	1.36	45	8.77	9	1.75	4	0.78	2	0.39	9	1.75	14	2.73
Bir Zeit	1,368	681	49.78	424	30.99	12	0.88	37	2.7	131	9.58	2	0.15	1	0.07	40	2.92	40	2.92
Turmus'ayya	711	389	54.71	254	35.72	8	1.13	22	3.09	3	0.42	1	0.14	2	0.28	11	1.55	21	2.95
Jifna	488	182	37.3	172	35.25	1	0.2	0	0	115	23.57	0	0	0	0	11	2.25	7	1.43
Jiljiliya	200	155	77.5	31	15.5	0	0	9	4.5	0	0	0	0	1	0.5	1	0.5	3	1.5
Jammala	362	218	60.22	99	27.35	12	3.31	5	1.38	3	0.83	2	0.55	0	0	6	1.66	17	4.7
Khirbet Abu Falah	1,069	741	69.32	178	16.65	6	0.56	26	2.43	4	0.37	4	0.37	3	0.28	45	4.21	62	5.8
Kharbatha al Misbah	1,236	859	69.5	173	14	27	2.18	31	2.51	34	2.75	3	0.24	1	0.08	45	3.64	63	5.1
Kharbatha Bani Harith	601	382	63.56	95	15.81	60	9.98	13	2.16	2	0.33	3	0.5	5	0.83	19	3.16	22	3.66
Dura al Qar'	479	316	65.97	91	19	12	2.51	17	3.55	5	1.04	2	0.42	0	0	20	4.18	16	3.34
Deir Ibzi'	636	397	62.42	110	17.3	34	5.35	1	0.16	63	9.91	2	0.31	0	0	15	2.36	14	2.2
Deir Abu Mash'al	653	254	38.9	253	38.74	74	11.33	30	4.59	1	0.15	1	0.15	4	0.61	17	2.6	19	2.91
Deir as Sudan	451	270	59.87	106	23.5	11	2.44	20	4.43	21	4.66	2	0.44	0	0	9	2	12	2.66

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Deir Jarir	1,069	761	71.19	148	13.84	32	2.99	39	3.65	13	1.22	4	0.37	3	0.28	24	2.25	45	4.21
Deir Dibwan	924	652	70.56	179	19.37	3	0.32	40	4.33	2	0.22	2	0.22	4	0.43	24	2.6	18	1.95
Deir 'Ammar	1,019	716	70.26	244	23.95	17	1.67	19	1.86	2	0.2	2	0.2	1	0.1	14	1.37	4	0.39
Deir Qaddis	612	319	52.12	158	25.82	53	8.66	30	4.9	5	0.82	7	1.14	0	0	16	2.61	24	3.92
Deir Nidham	201	100	49.75	52	25.87	7	3.48	25	12.44	3	1.49	0	0	2	1	0	0	12	5.97
Ras Karkar	455	355	78.02	49	10.77	8	1.76	6	1.32	0	0	2	0.44	4	0.88	12	2.64	19	4.18
Ramallah	5,627	3,285	58.38	1,435	25.5	86	1.53	198	3.52	293	5.21	24	0.43	13	0.23	130	2.31	163	2.9
Rammun	721	475	65.88	150	20.8	45	6.24	17	2.36	1	0.14	1	0.14	1	0.14	12	1.66	19	2.64
Rantis	690	356	51.59	92	13.33	20	2.9	182	26.38	12	1.74	2	0.29	5	0.72	8	1.16	13	1.88
Surda	362	268	74.03	46	12.71	3	0.83	12	3.31	9	2.49	6	1.66	0	0	10	2.76	8	2.21
Silwad	922	674	73.1	107	11.61	12	1.3	43	4.66	4	0.43	8	0.87	2	0.22	23	2.49	49	5.31
Sinjal	1,040	673	64.71	236	22.69	9	0.87	22	2.12	12	1.15	4	0.38	3	0.29	27	2.6	54	5.19
Shabtin	235	135	57.45	39	16.6	1	0.43	1	0.43	48	20.43	1	0.43	0	0	5	2.13	5	2.13
Shuqba	886	512	57.79	222	25.06	2	0.23	45	5.08	41	4.63	1	0.11	1	0.11	32	3.61	30	3.39
Saffa	1,200	636	53	429	35.75	2	0.17	30	2.5	42	3.5	5	0.42	5	0.42	25	2.08	26	2.17
'Abud	853	349	40.91	327	38.34	1	0.12	1	0.12	157	18.41	0	0	0	0	5	0.59	13	1.52
'Arura	736	274	37.23	84	11.41	82	11.14	35	4.76	210	28.53	4	0.54	5	0.68	21	2.85	21	2.85
'Abwein	645	474	73.49	93	14.42	6	0.93	17	2.64	32	4.96	1	0.16	0	0	6	0.93	16	2.48
'Ajul	315	127	40.32	24	7.62	2	0.63	12	3.81	130	41.27	1	0.32	0	0	8	2.54	11	3.49
'Atara	733	402	54.84	249	33.97	10	1.36	10	1.36	15	2.05	0	0	2	0.27	16	2.18	29	3.96
'Ein Siniya	183	111	60.66	50	27.32	2	1.09	9	4.92	1	0.55	0	0	2	1.09	2	1.09	6	3.28

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
'Ein 'Arik	456	330	72.37	93	20.39	0	0	9	1.97	4	0.88	0	0	1	0.22	12	2.63	7	1.54
'Ein Qiniya	256	142	55.47	89	34.77	17	6.64	3	1.17	0	0	1	0.39	0	0	1	0.39	3	1.17
'Ein Yabrud	356	190	53.37	110	30.9	2	0.56	26	7.3	0	0	4	1.12	1	0.28	10	2.81	13	3.65
Qibya	1,067	348	32.61	165	15.46	211	19.78	31	2.91	230	21.56	3	0.28	7	0.66	31	2.91	41	3.84
Qarawat Bani Zeid	933	409	43.84	326	34.94	15	1.61	20	2.14	136	14.58	0	0	11	1.18	7	0.75	9	0.96
Kafr 'Ein	624	331	53.04	142	22.76	10	1.6	3	0.48	97	15.54	1	0.16	1	0.16	22	3.53	17	2.72
Kafr Malik	807	599	74.23	109	13.51	4	0.5	22	2.73	2	0.25	2	0.25	1	0.12	22	2.73	46	5.7
Kafr Ni'ma	889	474	53.32	163	18.34	30	3.37	35	3.94	112	12.6	4	0.45	0	0	21	2.36	50	5.62
Kobar	728	359	49.31	255	35.03	9	1.24	18	2.47	30	4.12	11	1.51	6	0.82	20	2.75	20	2.75
Al Am'ari Camp	1,370	880	64.23	233	17.01	7	0.51	81	5.91	41	2.99	6	0.44	9	0.66	52	3.8	61	4.45
Al Jalazun Camp	1,416	978	69.07	297	20.97	11	0.78	32	2.26	15	1.06	5	0.35	6	0.42	30	2.12	42	2.97
Qaddura Camp	1,111	695	62.56	227	20.43	15	1.35	50	4.5	44	3.96	8	0.72	7	0.63	23	2.07	42	3.78
Mazari' an Nubani	603	311	51.58	76	12.6	1	0.17	52	8.62	142	23.55	1	0.17	4	0.66	9	1.49	7	1.16
Ni'lin	1,262	740	58.64	395	31.3	13	1.03	23	1.82	8	0.63	2	0.16	1	0.08	32	2.54	48	3.8
Yabrud	170	83	48.82	37	21.76	18	10.59	11	6.47	6	3.53	0	0	1	0.59	2	1.18	12	7.06
Total	62,576	36,542	58.4	14,193	22.68	1,877	3	####	3.7	3,285	5.25	251	0.4	201	0.32	1,682	2.69	2,228	3.56

Table No.(11) : Jericho District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Jericho (Ariha)	5,097	3,944	77.38	674	13.22	21	0.41	51	1	131	2.57	22	0.43	9	0.18	92	1.8	153	3
Al Jiftlik	799	548	68.59	177	22.15	6	0.75	1	0.13	36	4.51	2	0.25	0	0	16	2	13	1.63
Az Zubeidat	496	317	63.91	155	31.25	4	0.81	0	0	9	1.81	0	0	0	0	5	1.01	6	1.21
Al 'Auja	949	721	75.97	103	10.85	15	1.58	11	1.16	10	1.05	1	0.11	0	0	52	5.48	36	3.79
An Nuwei'ima	386	325	84.2	19	4.92	1	0.26	4	1.04	20	5.18	0	0	0	0	5	1.3	12	3.11
'Ein ad Duyuk at Tahta	260	179	68.85	35	13.46	11	4.23	2	0.77	9	3.46	0	0	1	0.38	7	2.69	16	6.15
'Ein ad Duyuk al Foqa	295	234	79.32	37	12.54	1	0.34	3	1.02	9	3.05	0	0	0	0	4	1.36	7	2.37
Fasayil	275	220	80	36	13.09	0	0	0	0	6	2.18	0	0	0	0	4	1.45	9	3.27
Aqbat Jaber Camp	1,044	665	63.7	135	12.93	102	9.77	11	1.05	56	5.36	3	0.29	0	0	43	4.12	29	2.78
'Ein as Sultan Camp	516	395	76.55	64	12.4	1	0.19	6	1.16	4	0.78	4	0.78	1	0.19	16	3.1	25	4.84
Marj Na'ja	273	212	77.66	39	14.29	11	4.03	1	0.37	4	1.47	0	0	0	0	3	1.1	3	1.1
Total	10,390	7,760	74.69	1,474	14.19	173	1.67	90	0.87	294	2.83	32	0.31	11	0.11	247	2.38	309	2.97

Table No.(11) : Behlehem District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Umm Salamuna	303	198	65.35	54	17.82	0	0	2	0.66	8	2.64	1	0.33	2	0.66	3	0.99	35	11.55
Abu Nujeim	259	168	64.86	30	11.58	3	1.16	3	1.16	39	15.06	4	1.54	1	0.39	5	1.93	6	2.32
Artas	1,040	706	67.88	214	20.58	1	0.1	29	2.79	2	0.19	1	0.1	2	0.19	39	3.75	46	4.42
Al Khas	176	128	72.73	28	15.91	0	0	8	4.55	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	3.41	6	3.41
Al Khadr	1,891	1,136	60.07	434	22.95	77	4.07	48	2.54	10	0.53	2	0.11	8	0.42	84	4.44	92	4.87
Ad Doha	1,769	1,039	58.73	455	25.72	9	0.51	64	3.62	29	1.64	16	0.9	3	0.17	58	3.28	96	5.43
Ash Shawawra	858	541	63.05	145	16.9	6	0.7	20	2.33	1	0.12	4	0.47	4	0.47	75	8.74	62	7.23
Al 'Ubeidiya	1,671	1,295	77.5	105	6.28	28	1.68	14	0.84	9	0.54	7	0.42	7	0.42	82	4.91	124	7.42
Al 'Asakira	245	158	64.49	30	12.24	7	2.86	10	4.08	3	1.22	2	0.82	3	1.22	14	5.71	18	7.35
Al 'Iqab	339	223	65.78	56	16.52	6	1.77	10	2.95	0	0	2	0.59	3	0.88	17	5.01	22	6.49
Al Fureidis	376	219	58.24	14	3.72	82	21.81	12	3.19	1	0.27	5	1.33	1	0.27	12	3.19	30	7.98
Al Ma'sara	387	200	51.68	74	19.12	10	2.58	12	3.1	8	2.07	3	0.78	4	1.03	20	5.17	56	14.47
Al Manshiya	120	82	68.33	8	6.67	0	0	5	4.17	11	9.17	0	0	0	0	6	5	8	6.67
Al Maniya	320	244	76.25	20	6.25	33	10.31	6	1.88	0	0	2	0.63	0	0	10	3.13	5	1.56
Al Walaja	444	279	62.84	62	13.96	2	0.45	20	4.5	4	0.9	3	0.68	3	0.68	23	5.18	48	10.81
Battir	556	331	59.53	144	25.9	0	0	6	1.08	7	1.26	3	0.54	1	0.18	17	3.06	47	8.45
Beit Ta'mir	259	126	48.65	17	6.56	59	22.78	8	3.09	20	7.72	2	0.77	4	1.54	6	2.32	17	6.56

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Beit Jala	4,757	2,418	50.83	1,372	28.84	68	1.43	59	1.24	596	12.53	12	0.25	6	0.13	128	2.69	98	2.06
Beit Sahur	5,005	2,718	54.31	1,209	24.16	601	12.01	12	0.24	218	4.36	6	0.12	4	0.08	110	2.2	127	2.54
Beit Fajjar	3,089	2,169	70.22	502	16.25	4	0.13	42	1.36	57	1.85	18	0.58	12	0.39	85	2.75	200	6.47
Bethlehem (Beit Lahm)	6,870	4,151	60.42	1,653	24.06	240	3.49	107	1.56	290	4.22	29	0.42	10	0.15	164	2.39	226	3.29
Tuqu'	1,708	1,274	74.59	198	11.59	24	1.41	64	3.75	5	0.29	5	0.29	4	0.23	74	4.33	60	3.51
Juhdum	671	501	74.66	65	9.69	4	0.6	10	1.49	4	0.6	4	0.6	1	0.15	28	4.17	54	8.05
Jurat ash Sham'a	513	235	45.81	219	42.69	4	0.78	2	0.39	0	0	1	0.19	1	0.19	20	3.9	31	6.04
Harmala	277	150	54.15	26	9.39	5	1.81	22	7.94	3	1.08	2	0.72	0	0	35	12.64	34	12.27
Husn	621	390	62.8	76	12.24	13	2.09	2	0.32	61	9.82	1	0.16	4	0.64	25	4.03	49	7.89
Khirbet ad Deir	635	420	66.14	146	22.99	16	2.52	22	3.46	1	0.16	3	0.47	2	0.31	13	2.05	12	1.89
Dar Salah	328	215	65.55	55	16.77	1	0.3	16	4.88	6	1.83	2	0.61	1	0.3	9	2.74	23	7.01
Ras al Wad	243	128	52.67	32	13.17	32	13.17	8	3.29	1	0.41	2	0.82	1	0.41	18	7.41	21	8.64
Rakhme	294	194	65.99	68	23.13	1	0.34	5	1.7	1	0.34	1	0.34	1	0.34	18	6.12	5	1.7
Za'tara	1,686	923	54.74	188	11.15	269	15.95	41	2.43	9	0.53	7	0.42	7	0.42	176	10.44	66	3.91
Dhahrat an Nada	343	277	80.76	26	7.58	1	0.29	3	0.87	1	0.29	0	0	1	0.29	7	2.04	27	7.87
'Arab ar Rashayida	272	258	94.85	7	2.57	1	0.37	1	0.37	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1.47	1	0.37
Ad Duheisha Camp	2,063	1,223	59.28	542	26.27	43	2.08	43	2.08	29	1.41	10	0.48	8	0.39	62	3.01	103	4.99
Al 'Aza Camp	455	294	64.62	121	26.59	3	0.66	7	1.54	2	0.44	1	0.22	2	0.44	5	1.1	20	4.4
'Ayda Camp	639	489	76.53	70	10.95	14	2.19	23	3.6	3	0.47	2	0.31	0	0	19	2.97	19	2.97
Marah Rabah	319	137	42.95	52	16.3	38	11.91	12	3.76	1	0.31	2	0.63	2	0.63	25	7.84	50	15.67
Nahhalin	1,423	730	51.3	333	23.4	44	3.09	19	1.34	72	5.06	9	0.63	1	0.07	104	7.31	111	7.8

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Hindaza	379	290	76.52	35	9.23	1	0.26	3	0.79	1	0.26	0	0	2	0.53	23	6.07	24	6.33
Wadi Umm Qal'a	128	96	75	5	3.91	9	7.03	4	3.13	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	5.47	7	5.47
Wadi al 'Arayis	269	184	68.4	32	11.9	0	0	6	2.23	0	0	2	0.74	1	0.37	13	4.83	31	11.52
Wadi an Nis	258	80	31.01	138	53.49	1	0.39	2	0.78	2	0.78	0	0	1	0.39	14	5.43	20	7.75
Wadi Rahhal	286	129	45.1	59	20.63	30	10.49	4	1.4	22	7.69	0	0	1	0.35	9	3.15	32	11.19
Wadi Fukin	281	149	53.02	34	12.1	2	0.71	6	2.14	72	25.62	1	0.36	0	0	3	1.07	14	4.98
Total	44,825	27,295	60.89	9,153	20.42	1,792	4	822	1.83	1,609	3.59	177	0.39	119	0.27	1,675	3.74	2,183	4.87

Table No.(11) : Hebron District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Idhna	4,673	2,501	53.52	1,221	26.13	12	0.26	40	0.86	657	14.06	21	0.45	12	0.26	108	2.31	101	2.16
I'zeiz	515	382	74.17	74	14.37	7	1.36	4	0.78	3	0.58	0	0	1	0.19	32	6.21	12	2.33
Al Burj	475	296	62.32	101	21.26	1	0.21	11	2.32	1	0.21	5	1.05	2	0.42	32	6.74	26	5.47
At Twaneh (Al Masafer)	154	86	55.84	43	27.92	4	2.6	3	1.95	1	0.65	0	0	3	1.95	1	0.65	13	8.44
Al Jab'a	165	93	56.36	44	26.67	1	0.61	1	0.61	2	1.21	1	0.61	0	0	9	5.45	14	8.48
Al Heila	157	141	89.81	12	7.64	2	1.27	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0.64	1	0.64
Hebron (Al Khalil)	15,860	8,651	54.55	4,649	29.31	231	1.46	462	2.91	172	1.08	254	1.6	72	0.45	631	3.98	738	4.65
Ad Duwwara	411	286	69.59	83	20.19	2	0.49	3	0.73	1	0.24	1	0.24	0	0	25	6.08	10	2.43
Ad Duweir	198	143	72.22	32	16.16	4	2.02	2	1.01	0	0	1	0.51	0	0	11	5.56	5	2.53
Ar Rifa'iyya	165	123	74.55	21	12.73	6	3.64	7	4.24	1	0.61	1	0.61	1	0.61	2	1.21	3	1.82
Ar Ramadin	852	656	77	93	10.92	1	0.12	10	1.17	1	0.12	2	0.23	3	0.35	36	4.23	50	5.87
Ar Rihiya	676	446	65.98	114	16.86	1	0.15	5	0.74	2	0.3	5	0.74	0	0	68	10.06	35	5.18
As Samu'	4,142	2,441	58.93	1,012	24.43	121	2.92	119	2.87	38	0.92	23	0.56	18	0.43	183	4.42	187	4.51
As Simiya	264	197	74.62	49	18.56	0	0	5	1.89	2	0.76	0	0	0	0	9	3.41	2	0.76
Ash Shuyukh	1,737	1,208	69.55	209	12.03	80	4.61	27	1.55	3	0.17	11	0.63	3	0.17	88	5.07	108	6.22
As Sura	589	349	59.25	135	22.92	1	0.17	22	3.74	3	0.51	3	0.51	2	0.34	36	6.11	38	6.45
At Tabaqa	314	119	37.9	154	49.04	11	3.5	6	1.91	0	0	10	3.18	0	0	2	0.64	12	3.82

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Adh Dhahiriya	3,522	2,390	67.86	614	17.43	126	3.58	28	0.8	38	1.08	20	0.57	7	0.2	134	3.8	165	4.68
Al 'Uddeisa	430	298	69.3	42	9.77	40	9.3	6	1.4	0	0	2	0.47	0	0	13	3.02	29	6.74
Al Faqir	89	65	73.03	16	17.98	1	1.12	0	0	0	0	2	2.25	0	0	1	1.12	4	4.49
Al Karmil	504	235	46.63	152	30.16	51	10.12	16	3.17	2	0.4	0	0	1	0.2	20	3.97	27	5.36
Al Kum	499	221	44.29	210	42.08	0	0	7	1.4	4	0.8	0	0	8	1.6	28	5.61	21	4.21
Al Majd	457	211	46.17	145	31.73	1	0.22	4	0.88	0	0	0	0	2	0.44	40	8.75	54	11.82
An Najada	44	31	70.45	6	13.64	1	2.27	0	0	0	0	1	2.27	0	0	1	2.27	4	9.09
Al Hijra	142	90	63.38	39	27.46	0	0	0	0	6	4.23	1	0.7	0	0	2	1.41	4	2.82
Imreish	412	272	66.02	87	21.12	0	0	4	0.97	7	1.7	2	0.49	0	0	17	4.13	23	5.58
Bani Na'im	4,040	3,085	76.36	392	9.7	226	5.59	82	2.03	11	0.27	20	0.5	9	0.22	81	2	134	3.32
Biyar al 'Arus	504	264	52.38	137	27.18	40	7.94	11	2.18	0	0	3	0.6	3	0.6	24	4.76	22	4.37
Beit Ula	1,717	1,077	62.73	240	13.98	5	0.29	56	3.26	151	8.79	28	1.63	13	0.76	61	3.55	86	5.01
Beit ar Rush at Tahta	112	61	54.46	33	29.46	2	1.79	1	0.89	0	0	1	0.89	0	0	11	9.82	3	2.68
Beit ar Rush al Fauqa	232	166	71.55	45	19.4	0	0	1	0.43	0	0	3	1.29	0	0	11	4.74	6	2.59
Beit Ummar	3,603	1,970	54.68	1,237	34.33	21	0.58	32	0.89	40	1.11	9	0.25	2	0.06	143	3.97	149	4.14
Beit 'Amra	491	339	69.04	122	24.85	2	0.41	7	1.43	1	0.2	2	0.41	1	0.2	7	1.43	10	2.04
Beit 'Awwa	1,660	1,066	64.22	483	29.1	0	0	12	0.72	11	0.66	5	0.3	2	0.12	44	2.65	37	2.23
Beit 'Einun	381	276	72.44	74	19.42	2	0.52	3	0.79	1	0.26	3	0.79	2	0.52	7	1.84	13	3.41
Beit Kahil	1,256	719	57.25	78	6.21	126	10.03	32	2.55	186	14.81	8	0.64	4	0.32	52	4.14	51	4.06
Beit Mirsim	103	68	66.02	26	25.24	0	0	3	2.91	0	0	2	1.94	0	0	3	2.91	1	0.97
Tarqumiya	3,489	2,356	67.53	820	23.5	9	0.26	40	1.15	96	2.75	14	0.4	7	0.2	62	1.78	85	2.44

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Taffuh	1,412	1,041	73.73	158	11.19	72	5.1	65	4.6	4	0.28	8	0.57	8	0.57	19	1.35	37	2.62
Tallat as Sumud	495	340	68.69	83	16.77	4	0.81	8	1.62	3	0.61	0	0	2	0.4	29	5.86	26	5.25
Hitta	170	119	70	40	23.53	1	0.59	1	0.59	0	0	2	1.18	0	0	4	2.35	3	1.76
Hadab al Fawwar	366	263	71.86	52	14.21	2	0.55	8	2.19	4	1.09	1	0.27	4	1.09	14	3.83	18	4.92
Hureiz	162	84	51.85	23	14.2	17	10.49	3	1.85	3	1.85	1	0.62	0	0	15	9.26	16	9.88
Halhul	4,549	2,471	54.32	1,075	23.63	34	0.75	197	4.33	99	2.18	31	0.68	14	0.31	340	7.47	288	6.33
Kharas	1,509	751	49.77	465	30.82	0	0	5	0.33	178	11.8	1	0.07	0	0	36	2.39	73	4.84
Khirbet Salama	195	111	56.92	46	23.59	1	0.51	4	2.05	1	0.51	4	2.05	1	0.51	16	8.21	11	5.64
Khursa	711	424	59.63	188	26.44	11	1.55	13	1.83	3	0.42	8	1.13	5	0.7	36	5.06	23	3.23
Khallet al Maiyya	273	169	61.9	51	18.68	35	12.82	5	1.83	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	2.93	5	1.83
Khallet Salih	228	155	67.98	56	24.56	4	1.75	1	0.44	1	0.44	1	0.44	1	0.44	4	1.75	5	2.19
Dura	4,261	2,167	50.86	1,484	34.83	33	0.77	108	2.53	33	0.77	24	0.56	13	0.31	179	4.2	220	5.16
Deir al 'Asal at Tahta	189	122	64.55	32	16.93	3	1.59	0	0	2	1.06	3	1.59	0	0	13	6.88	14	7.41
Deir al 'Asal al Fauqa	317	169	53.31	115	36.28	0	0	2	0.63	2	0.63	1	0.32	0	0	17	5.36	11	3.47
Deir Samit	844	485	57.46	192	22.75	1	0.12	16	1.9	29	3.44	2	0.24	1	0.12	60	7.11	58	6.87
Rabud	520	320	61.54	121	23.27	3	0.58	10	1.92	1	0.19	3	0.58	0	0	33	6.35	29	5.58
Ras at Tawil	161	116	72.05	23	14.29	2	1.24	3	1.86	0	0	0	0	1	0.62	5	3.11	11	6.83
Zif	105	65	61.9	29	27.62	1	0.95	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3.81	2	1.9	4	3.81
Sa'ir	3,212	1,839	57.25	685	21.33	417	12.98	11	0.34	5	0.16	8	0.25	5	0.16	106	3.3	136	4.23
Sikka	199	124	62.31	55	27.64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	4.02	12	6.03
Shuyukh al 'Arrub	353	291	82.44	18	5.1	2	0.57	1	0.28	1	0.28	1	0.28	2	0.57	13	3.68	24	6.8

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Safa	314	195	62.1	54	17.2	0	0	9	2.87	2	0.64	2	0.64	0	0	24	7.64	28	8.92
Surif	2,474	1,423	57.52	615	24.86	8	0.32	35	1.41	144	5.82	7	0.28	4	0.16	84	3.4	154	6.22
Qafan al Khamis	424	346	81.6	16	3.77	11	2.59	5	1.18	1	0.24	1	0.24	0	0	20	4.72	24	5.66
Qalqas	87	57	65.52	8	9.2	1	1.15	13	14.94	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	5.75	3	3.45
Qila	216	155	71.76	30	13.89	1	0.46	7	3.24	4	1.85	0	0	3	1.39	7	3.24	9	4.17
Kurza	214	146	68.22	44	20.56	0	0	1	0.47	1	0.47	0	0	0	0	10	4.67	12	5.61
Karma	207	126	60.87	36	17.39	1	0.48	6	2.9	1	0.48	4	1.93	0	0	14	6.76	19	9.18
Kureise	621	374	60.23	158	25.44	4	0.64	15	2.42	3	0.48	2	0.32	1	0.16	29	4.67	35	5.64
Kuziba	246	153	62.2	28	11.38	46	18.7	1	0.41	1	0.41	1	0.41	1	0.41	8	3.25	7	2.85
Al 'ArrubCamp	2,196	1,512	68.85	368	16.76	22	1	76	3.46	11	0.5	8	0.36	4	0.18	102	4.64	93	4.23
Al Fawwar Camp	1,171	708	60.46	165	14.09	72	6.15	9	0.77	67	5.72	4	0.34	2	0.17	97	8.28	47	4.01
Nuba	750	449	59.87	185	24.67	2	0.27	7	0.93	10	1.33	1	0.13	3	0.4	44	5.87	49	6.53
Wadi ash Shajina	237	94	39.66	117	49.37	5	2.11	2	0.84	0	0	0	0	1	0.42	9	3.8	9	3.8
Yatta	7,595	4,950	65.17	1,612	21.22	352	4.63	121	1.59	32	0.42	18	0.24	22	0.29	256	3.37	232	3.05
Total	92,017	55,692	60.52	21,471	23.33	2,306	2.51	####	2	2,087	2.27	611	0.66	280	0.3	3,702	4.02	4,028	4.38

Table No.(11) : North Gaza District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Al Qaraya al Badawiya al Maslakh	806	534	66.25	211	26.18	10	1.24	14	1.74	0	0	3	0.37	5	0.62	15	1.86	14	1.74
Beit Hanun	7,736	5,299	68.5	1,673	21.63	76	0.98	205	2.65	141	1.82	21	0.27	85	1.1	149	1.93	87	1.12
Beit Lahiya	11,434	7,247	63.38	2,619	22.91	212	1.85	431	3.77	175	1.53	88	0.77	81	0.71	349	3.05	232	2.03
Jabalya	12,184	8,557	70.23	1,936	15.89	114	0.94	506	4.15	57	0.47	117	0.96	217	1.78	410	3.37	270	2.22
'Izbat Beit Hanun	1,627	1,248	76.71	235	14.44	36	2.21	38	2.34	20	1.23	9	0.55	5	0.31	14	0.86	22	1.35
Jabalya Camp	15,201	9,911	65.2	3,241	21.32	291	1.91	560	3.68	49	0.32	162	1.07	172	1.13	463	3.05	352	2.32
Total	48,988	32,796	66.95	9,915	20.24	739	1.51	1,754	3.58	442	0.9	400	0.82	565	1.15	1,400	2.86	977	1.99

Table No.(11) : Gaza District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Al Mughraqa (Abu Middein)	1,170	758	64.79	207	17.69	45	3.85	42	3.59	1	0.09	12	1.03	13	1.11	72	6.15	20	1.71
Juhor ad Dik	591	365	61.76	141	23.86	41	6.94	11	1.86	0	0	3	0.51	0	0	18	3.05	12	2.03
Gaza	70,329	47,222	67.14	11,891	16.91	1,000	1.42	2,819	4.01	345	0.49	707	1.01	1,861	2.65	2,752	3.91	1,732	2.46
Ash Shati' Camp	8,875	6,068	68.37	1,251	14.1	238	2.68	430	4.85	113	1.27	61	0.69	168	1.89	329	3.71	217	2.45
Madinat Az Zahra'	727	564	77.58	76	10.45	1	0.14	16	2.2	18	2.48	4	0.55	3	0.41	19	2.61	26	3.58
Total	81,692	54,977	67.3	13,566	16.61	1,325	1.62	3,318	4.06	477	0.58	787	0.96	2,045	2.5	3,190	3.9	2,007	2.46

Table No.(11) : Deir Al Balah District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Az Zawayda	3,556	2,285	64.26	614	17.27	9	0.25	121	3.4	212	5.96	17	0.48	32	0.9	182	5.12	84	2.36
Al Musaddar	613	462	75.37	111	18.11	0	0	9	1.47	4	0.65	4	0.65	6	0.98	7	1.14	10	1.63
Deir al Balah	9,453	6,397	67.67	1,747	18.48	56	0.59	186	1.97	85	0.9	420	4.44	95	1	280	2.96	187	1.98
Al Bureij Camp	5,983	3,958	66.15	1,099	18.37	163	2.72	164	2.74	73	1.22	38	0.64	43	0.72	258	4.31	187	3.13
Al Maghazi Camp	5,508	3,861	70.1	1,104	20.04	52	0.94	137	2.49	26	0.47	19	0.34	41	0.74	152	2.76	116	2.11
An Nuseirat Camp	10,000	6,064	60.64	1,896	18.96	179	1.79	508	5.08	84	0.84	114	1.14	110	1.1	649	6.49	396	3.96
Deir al Balah Camp	3,611	2,507	69.43	526	14.57	79	2.19	82	2.27	7	0.19	172	4.76	32	0.89	115	3.18	91	2.52
Wadi as Salqa	1,024	676	66.02	167	16.31	33	3.22	16	1.56	9	0.88	24	2.34	10	0.98	56	5.47	33	3.22
Total	39,748	26,210	65.94	7,264	18.28	571	1.44	1,223	3.08	500	1.26	808	2.03	369	0.93	1,699	4.27	1,104	2.78

Table No.(11) : Khan Younis District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Al Fukhkhari	656	382	58.23	205	31.25	4	0.61	14	2.13	6	0.91	10	1.52	3	0.46	16	2.44	16	2.44
Al Qarara	3,930	2,686	68.35	641	16.31	24	0.61	71	1.81	49	1.25	135	3.44	60	1.53	148	3.77	116	2.95
Al Mawasi (Khan Yunis)	1,176	859	73.04	219	18.62	0	0	8	0.68	3	0.26	8	0.68	20	1.7	33	2.81	26	2.21
Bani Suheila	6,682	3,160	47.29	637	9.53	37	0.55	117	1.75	27	0.4	2,335	34.94	25	0.37	253	3.79	91	1.36
Khan Yunis	25,022	15,922	63.63	4,918	19.65	291	1.16	554	2.21	126	0.5	527	2.11	560	2.24	1,401	5.6	723	2.89
Khuza'a	3,027	1,924	63.56	502	16.58	69	2.28	56	1.85	0	0	270	8.92	10	0.33	156	5.15	40	1.32
'Abasan al Jadida(as Saghira)	1,310	742	56.64	206	15.73	50	3.82	26	1.98	9	0.69	223	17.02	0	0	36	2.75	18	1.37
'Abasan al Kabira	5416	3,257	60.14	743	13.72	247	4.56	104	1.92	13	0.24	716	13.22	9	0.17	251	4.63	76	1.4
Khan Yunis Camp	8,021	5,161	64.34	1,378	17.18	192	2.39	203	2.53	56	0.7	136	1.7	68	0.85	524	6.53	303	3.78
Total	55,240	34,093	61.72	9,449	17.11	914	1.65	1,153	2.09	289	0.52	4,360	7.89	755	1.37	2,818	5.1	1,409	2.55

Table No.(11) : Rafah District Final Results

By District and Population Centres in the Voters List

Name Of Candidate		Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen		Mustafa Barghouthi		Tayseer Khaled		Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar		Bassam Al-Salhi		Sayyed Barakeh		Abd Al-Kareem Shbair		Invalid Ballots		Blank Ballots	
Population Center	No. Of Voters	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Votes	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage	No. Of Papers	Percentage
Al Bayuk	1,671	1,030	61.64	313	18.73	13	0.78	29	1.74	165	9.87	24	1.44	8	0.48	61	3.65	28	1.68
Al Mawasi (Rafah)	524	427	81.49	60	11.45	3	0.57	0	0	3	0.57	5	0.95	2	0.38	10	1.91	14	2.67
Tall as Sultan	5,369	3,333	62.08	954	17.77	94	1.75	186	3.46	52	0.97	118	2.2	46	0.86	397	7.39	189	3.52
Rafah	13,647	9,172	67.21	2,199	16.11	348	2.55	472	3.46	95	0.7	139	1.02	106	0.78	788	5.77	328	2.4
Shokat as Sufi	1,453	904	62.22	313	21.54	50	3.44	31	2.13	31	2.13	21	1.45	17	1.17	54	3.72	32	2.2
Rafah Camp	10,132	6,637	65.51	1,632	16.11	112	1.11	394	3.89	88	0.87	150	1.48	95	0.94	689	6.8	335	3.31
Total	32,796	21,503	65.57	5,471	16.68	620	1.89	1,112	3.39	434	1.32	457	1.39	274	0.84	1,999	6.1	926	2.82

Table No. (12) Voters (Male & Female) By Age and District

District No.	Electoral district	*Under 18 YRS	18-22 YRS	23-30 YRS	31-40 YRS	41-60 YRS	Over 61 YRS	G. total
01	Jerusalem	12	5,344	6,676	6,373	7,384	2,270	28,059
02	Jenin	2	12,651	15,073	16,562	16,998	5,632	66,918
03	Tulkarem	1	8,078	10,452	11,590	12,835	4,947	47,903
04	Tubas	2	2,520	3,235	4,099	3,545	1,894	15,295
05	Nablus	10	15,729	20,144	22,779	23,641	7,154	89,457
06	Qalqiliah	1	3,890	5,097	6,317	5,316	1,695	22,316
07	Salfit	1	3,353	3,630	5,624	4,353	2,041	19,002
08	Ramallah	18	13,540	15,958	15,885	19,194	5,861	70,456
09	Jericho	0	2,024	2,793	2,856	2,777	1,165	11,615
10	Bethlehem	2	8,286	14,675	10,718	11,171	3,301	48,153
11	Hebron	15	21,503	24,202	23,470	22,616	6,973	98,779
12	North Gaza	6	11,257	13,350	12,528	13,298	3,617	54,056
13	Gaza	13	16,408	20,049	20,682	24,858	8,641	90,651
14	Deir al-Balah	0	8,575	9,925	10,208	11,498	3,361	43,567
15	Khan Younis	1	12,909	15,064	13,133	15,432	4,309	60,848
16	Rafah	0	7,810	7,924	7,347	9,250	2,671	35,002
Grand total		84	153,877	188,247	190,171	204,166	65,532	802,077
Percentage		0.01%	19.18%	23.47%	23.71%	25.45%	8.17%	100.00%

* This category was considered infringer and was referred to the general prosecution

Table No.(13) : Male Voters By Age and Districts

District No.	Electoral district	*Under 18 YRS	18-22 YRS	23-30 YRS	31-40 YRS	41-60 YRS	Over 61 YRS	G. total
01	Jerusalem	10	3,498	4,390	3,895	4,399	1,302	17,494
02	Jenin	1	7,704	8,498	9,284	9,200	3,734	38,421
03	Tulkarem	0	4,413	5,759	6,345	6,777	2,662	25,956
04	Tubas	1	1,384	1,800	1,746	2,101	1,394	8,426
05	Nablus	9	8,827	11,302	12,886	12,104	4,167	49,295
06	Qalqiliah	1	2,389	3,034	3,245	3,064	1,022	12,755
07	Salfit	1	1,864	2,282	2,544	2,348	1,311	10,350
08	Ramallah	14	7,904	9,762	8,905	9,929	3,673	40,187
09	Jericho	0	1,243	1,632	1,724	1,528	529	6,656
10	Bethlehem	2	4,807	6,908	5,621	7,649	2,059	27,046
11	Hebron	14	11,876	14,998	13,222	12,350	3,849	56,309
12	North Gaza	4	6,964	8,340	7,674	7,697	1,966	32,645
13	Gaza	11	10,578	13,287	13,612	14,755	5,347	57,590
14	Deir al-Balah	0	5,375	6,394	5,658	6,448	1,831	25,706
15	Khan Younis	1	7,520	9,408	7,661	8,524	2,791	35,905
16	Rafah	0	4,286	5,284	4,698	5,227	1,547	21,042
Grand total		69	90,632	113,078	108,720	114,100	39,184	465,783
Percentage		0.01%	19.46%	24.28%	23.34%	24.50%	8.41%	100.00%

* This category was considered infringer and was referred to the public prosecution

Table No.(14) : Female Voters By Age and Districts

District No.	Electoral district	*Under 18 YRS	18-22 YRS	23-30 YRS	31-40 YRS	41-60 YRS	Over 61 YRS	G. total
01	Jerusalem	2	1,846	2,286	2,478	2,985	968	10,565
02	Jenin	1	4,947	6,575	7,278	7,798	1,898	28,497
03	Tulkarem	1	3,665	4,693	5,245	6,058	2,285	21,947
04	Tubas	1	1,136	1,435	2,353	1,444	500	6,869
05	Nablus	1	6,902	8,842	9,893	11,537	2,987	40,162
06	Qalqiliah	0	1,501	2,063	3,072	2,252	673	9,561
07	Salfit	0	1,489	1,348	3,080	2,005	730	8,652
08	Ramallah	4	5,636	6,196	6,980	9,265	2,188	30,269
09	Jericho	0	781	1,161	1,132	1,249	636	4,959
10	Bethlehem	0	3,479	7,767	5,097	3,522	1,242	21,107
11	Hebron	1	9,627	9,204	10,248	10,266	3,124	42,470
12	North Gaza	2	4,293	5,010	4,854	5,601	1,651	21,411
13	Gaza	2	5,830	6,762	7,070	10,103	3,294	33,061
14	Deir al-Balah	0	3,200	3,531	4,550	5,050	1,530	17,861
15	KhanYounis	0	5,389	5,656	5,472	6,908	1,518	24,943
16	Rafah	0	3,524	2,640	2,649	4,023	1,124	13,960
Grand total			63,245	75,169	81,451	90,066	26,348	336,294
Percentage		0.00%	18.81%	22.35%	24.22%	26.78%	7.83%	100.00%

* This category was considered to have violated the law and was referred to the public prosecution

Table No.(15): Total Number of Voters By Gender and Districts

District No.	Electoral district	Females	Male	Grand total
01	Jerusalem	10,565	17,494	28,059
02	Jenin	28,497	38,421	66,918
03	Tulkarem	21,947	25,956	47,903
04	Tubas	6,869	8,426	15,295
05	Nablus	40,162	49,295	89,457
06	Qalqiliah	9,561	12,755	22,316
07	Salfit	8,652	10,350	19,002
08	Ramallah	30,269	40,187	70,456
09	Jericho	4,959	6,656	11,615
10	Bethlehem	21,107	27,046	48,153
11	Hebron	42,470	56,309	98,779
12	North Gaza	21,411	32,645	54,056
13	Gaza	33,061	57,590	90,651
14	Deir al-Balah	17,861	25,706	43,567
15	KhanYounis	24,943	35,905	60,848
16	Rafah	13,960	21,042	35,002
Grand total		336,294	465,783	802,077
Percentage		41.93%	58.07%	100.00%

Chapter Ten: Appendices

Appendices

Appendix No. (1) Presidential decree on the formation of the CEC.

Appendix No. (2) Presidential decree appointing Dr. Rami Hamdallah as Secretary General and Judge Iman Nasser Eddin as member of the CEC.

Appendix No. (3) Brief biographies of the CEC Commissioners and Chief Electoral Officer.

Appendix No. (4) The legal note on the Elections Law issued by the CEC on the March 24, 2004.

Appendix No. (5) Presidential decree calling for the preparation of the voters list.

Appendix No. (6) List of international observers and guests during the registration process.

Appendix No. (7) Presidential decree calling for presidential elections.

Appendix No. (8) Law No. 4 of 2004 regarding the amendment of the Elections Law and the adoption of the civil register for election purposes.

Appendix No. (9) CEC press release regarding the adoption of the civil register for election purposes.

Appendix No. (10) Presidential decree setting the start and end dates for electoral campaigning.

Appendix No. (11) CEC press release announcing the preliminary results the presidential elections.

Appendix No. (12) CEC press release announcing the final results the presidential elections.

Appendix No. (13) CEC certificate addressed to Mr. Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) confirming his victory in the presidential elections.

Appendix No. (14) The text of the CEC letter addressed to the Attorney General regarding the electoral offences committed during the polling process.

Appendix No. (15) The protocol pertaining to elections in Jerusalem.

Appendix No. (16) Memorandum of the Minister of Negotiations Affairs to the CEC regarding elections arrangements in Jerusalem.

Appendix No. (17) Code of conduct for local and international observers.

Appendix No. (18) List of accredited international observers.

Appendix No. (19) Preliminary report of the EU observation commission:

Appendix No. (20) Preliminary report of the observation delegation of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI).

Appendix No. (21) CEC letter to independent candidates requesting financial reports detailing expenses and funding sources of their electoral campaigns.

Appendix No. (22) Campaign finance reports for presidential candidates.

Appendix No. (1)

Presidential Decree On The Formation Of The CEC

President of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, President of the Palestinian National Authority,

Having reviewed the Law No. 5 of 1995 concerning the transference of powers and competences;

Having reviewed the Law No. 13 of 1995 concerning the elections; and Based upon the powers bestowed on me;

I hereby promulgate the following decree:

Article 1

The permanent CEC shall be comprised as follows:

1. Dr. Hanna Nasser as the President of the Commission;
2. Dr. Ali Jarbawi as the Secretary General of the Commission;
3. Judge Ishaq Muhanna as member;
4. Judge Mazin Sisalem as member;
5. Advocate Ali As-Safarini as members;
6. Advocate Shukri An-Nashashibi as member;
7. Dr. Rami Al-Hamdallah as member;
8. Mrs. Lamis Al-Alami as member; and
9. Advocate Ibrahim As-Saqqa as member.

Article 2

The CEC shall operate in accordance with the provisions of the Elections Law and/or any other legislation related to the elections in Palestine.

Article 3

All competent authorities, each within its own jurisdiction, shall implement this decree. The decree shall enter into force upon its issuance and shall be published in the Official Gazette.

Article 4

Issued in the city of Ramallah on 27/10/2002.

Yasser Arafat

President of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization
President of the Palestinian National Authority

Appendix No. (2)

Presidential Decree on the Appointment of Dr. Rami Al- Hamdullah as Secretary General and Judge Iman Nasir Addin as the Ninth Member of the CEC

Palestine Liberation Organization

Palestinian National Authority

The President

Dr. Hanna Nasir

Chairman of the CEC

We would like to thank you for your letter in which you informed us of the CEC's decision to extend the voter registration period and postpone the exhibition and challenge period which was scheduled for 20/11/2004 until an appropriate time.

We kindly request that Dr. Rami al-Hamdullah be appointed as Secretary General and Judge Iman Nasir Addin as the ninth member of the CEC.

As we congratulate you and wish you the best on the occasion of the upcoming month of Ramadan, we highly appreciate your efforts and those of the CEC staff and encourage you to keep up the good work until the CEC goals are fulfilled.

Together, we shall work until a free and independent Palestinian state is established, with Jerusalem as its capital.

Ramallah on: 18/10/2004

Yasser Arafat

President of the State of Palestine

President of the PLO Executive Committee

President of the PNA

Appendix No. (3)

Brief Biographies of the CEC Commissioners and Chief Electoral Officer

Dr. Hanna Nasir (Chairman)

Dr. Nasir was a founder of Birzeit University and its first President until his retirement in August 2004. From 1974-1993, he was exiled by the Israeli authorities and, during that period, he was elected for two terms as an independent member of the executive committee of the PLO. He has been an active member of the International Association of Universities and, from 2000-2004, served as one of its Vice Presidents. Dr Nasir holds a PhD in physics from Purdue University in the United States.

Dr. Rami Hamdallah (Secretary-General)

Dr. Hamdallah is the President of An-Najah National University in Nablus. He holds a PhD in applied linguistics from Lancaster University in Britain. He is a member of several academic organizations that are related to international cooperation with Palestinian Universities. He also serves as the Chairman of the Palestinian Stock Exchange Board.

Advocate Ibrahim Saqa (member)

Mr. Saqa holds a degree in law from Cairo University. He has been working in the field of advocacy since 1954 and has a law office in Gaza. Mr. Saqa was a member of the CEC, which supervised the 1996 elections.

Judge Ishaq Muhanna (member)

Ishaq Muhanna holds a degree in law and currently occupies the position of legal advisor to the Appeals Court in Gaza (head of the jury and judge).

Judge Iman Nassir Addin (member)

Iman Nassir Addin gained a degree in law from Damascus University in 1981. She is a judge for the Appeals Court in Ramallah. She was appointed as a member of the CEC on October 18, 2005 following the resignation of Dr. Ali Jarbawi.

Advocate Ali Safarini (member)

Ali Safarini works in the field of legal advocacy in his Ramallah-based office. He was a member of the CEC which supervised the 1996 elections.

Ms. Lamis al-Alami (member)

Lamis al-Alami has obtained two master's degrees, one in English literature from the American University in Beirut and the other in applied linguistics from Edinburgh University in Britain. She is the general manager of the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights (PICCR).

Judge Mazin Sisalem (member)

Mazin Sisalem obtained a degree in law from Ein Shams University in Cairo. He is a legal advisor (judge) to the Appeals Court in Gaza.

Chief Electoral Officer: Mr. Ammar Dwaik

Mr. Dwaik was appointed as the CEC's Chief Electoral Officer in October 2004. He holds a Masters in law and jurisdiction from the American University in Washington, a higher diploma in police sciences from the Police Academy in Cairo and a BA degree in law from Yarmouk University in Jordan.

Dr. Ali al-Jarbawi- (Former Secretary General and CEO)

Dr. Jarbawi obtained a PhD in political science in 1981, a Masters in general administration in 1978 from Cincinnati University and a BA in sociology from Birzeit University in 1976. He held the position of CEC Secretary General and CEO from the time of the CEC's establishment until his resignation in 2004.

Appendix No. (4)

CEC Memorandum Regarding the Elections Law on March 24, 2004

Introduction

Having a modern and well-drafted Elections Law is one basic requirement for free and honest elections, a basic condition for the success of the electoral process and a guarantee for having an independent party supervising the elections.

In order to achieve its goals in organizing free, honest, and effective elections, the elections law must be comprehensive to include all basic principles of the electoral process. The law must be flexible so that it can leave room for the party supervising the elections to set up the regulations and procedures necessary to implement the law under all conditions; the law must not be drafted in general terms that might allow varying and contradicting interpretations.

This paper tackles the basic principles that must be included in the Elections Law in general, and provides some critical comments on the procedural aspects in Elections Law No. 13 of 1995. It introduces recommendations that need to be adopted to secure the independence of the CEC and the effectiveness of its work.

In writing this paper, the CEC seeks to perform its role in preparing for and supervising the elections with effectiveness provided that its work be in line and harmony with the law and that it won't be coerced, for practical reasons, not to fully implement the law.

The Principles that Must be Achieved by the Elections Law

There is a group of principles that must be included in the Elections Law so that it can perform its mission in an effective manner. Those principles are the following:

1. It Must be Comprehensive

The Elections Law must be comprehensive so that it can organize and regulate all aspects of the electoral process in terms of defining the eligibility and conditions of voters and candidates and the various phases of the electoral process, as well as the establishing of the electoral system and defining the party responsible to supervise the whole process. It also regulates the manner in which it is formed, its term and method of discharging the organization of appeals and objections against the measures and decision issued by that party. It defines the party that is authorized to look into the appeals and the setting up of principles of election campaigns and other matters that deal with the core of the electoral process.

In particular, the Elections Law must affirm the following matters:

- The right of all citizens to participate in the elections as voters or/and candidates if eligibility conditions are met by the voter or/and the candidate;

- To hold a periodic and regular election process;
- The voting measures to include freedom of the voter to choose his/her representative and the secrecy of the ballot, the accuracy and transparency in ballot casting and counting;
- Achieving equality and balance between the ballots of voters in making an impact on the results;
- Securing equal opportunities between the contestants;
- The supervision process must be conducted by an independent party that is known for its honesty, efficiency, and neutrality.

On the other hand, the principle of comprehensiveness stipulates that the law does not include any provisions not directly related to the elections or provisions that are supposed to be regulated according to other laws, such as the law of parties.

2. Not Going into Procedural Details

In a manner that does not contradict with the principle of comprehensiveness; the Elections Law must not include many details, especially at the procedural level. The elections process is a major and complicated process and requires flexible measures. Setting up too many details in the law will restrict or impede the work of the party supervising the elections. If the procedures are phrased in an incorrect or rigid manner, this will cause major practical and logistics problems that might lead to the failure of the whole elections process, or at least it will put the party supervising the elections under certain conditions that force it to violate the law.

On the other hand, the Elections Law must not be phrased in general terms, which might give room for misinterpretation or having multi and contradictory interpretations.

The provisions detailed in the law must be practical, applicable, cohesive and flexible. The law was set up to be implemented not to be violated. The law must set up the general legal framework and draw up the basic guidelines very clearly, leaving the procedural and practical details to be set up by the supervising party.

3. Securing the Independence and Effectiveness of the Party Supervising the Elections

The Elections Law must secure the independence of the party supervising the elections in terms of the jurisdictions granted to it and its structure and the mechanism that forms it. The law must state clearly that the party supervising the elections has full responsibility for the elections process in all its aspects and stages, starting with the registration of the voters and ending with the declaration of the final results, as well as the holding of complementary elections and other issues. Moreover, the party supervising the elections must be granted jurisdiction to set up the necessary

regulations to enforce the law and to detail the electoral procedures within the guidelines of the general principles set up by the law.

4. Securing Transparency And Accountability

The law must affirm and stress the principles of transparency and accountability so that all measures and procedures pertaining to the elections are declared while the political parties, candidates and observers are allowed to look at those measures and procedures. In addition, the law must guarantee the right of the person affected by any decision or measure pertaining to the elections to appeal before an independent judiciary party.

In light of the above-mentioned principles, we will deal with the most important comments that we find in the Palestinian Elections Law No. 13 of 1995.

The Palestinian Elections Law No. 13 of 1995

The Palestinian Elections Law No. 13 of 1995 was set up after the completion of a major part of the preparations for the elections, including the registration of the voters. Therefore, a major part of the law was not implemented on real grounds. The law was issued with the start of the PA, before the formation of the PLC and before it started issuing Palestinian laws. It is noted that the Elections Law tried to tackle matters not related to the Elections Law but to other laws, such as the Basic Law and the Law of Political Parties and the Law of Public Meetings.

Moreover, the law's inclusion of procedural details that were supposed to be part of the regulations and instructions to be issued by the CEC and not by this law were exaggerated. Many of the details mentioned in this law are impractical and cannot be implemented on real grounds and in the event that they are implemented, will cost the treasury large amounts of money or cause severe embarrassment to the CEC since it is unlikely that it will be able to implement them. It should be noted that many of the procedures mentioned in the law were surpassed in the 1996 elections given their impracticality.

The following comments on the Palestinian Elections Law No. 13 of 1995 precede a set of recommendations which the committee believes are necessary in case the law is submitted for discussion before the PLC.

First: Supervising and Administering the Elections:

The law stipulated that the CEC is the higher commission that assumes responsibility for supervising and administering the elections. This CEC is responsible for preparing and organizing the elections and for taking all necessary measure to secure honest and free elections. Since the members of the CEC are not full-time employees, and since the CEC is not capable of performing all the duties of the electoral process in terms of practical matters, the law stipulated the establishment of an office of the CEC with several branches making up the offices of the District Elections Commission (DEC) which, in sum, form the executive administration of the elections.

Having a CEC and an electoral administration that works under its supervision is the most common model in most countries. However, there are several basic remarks on what was mentioned in the law in that respect:

1. Appointing a CEC:

The law stipulated that the President of the Palestinian Authority appoints the members of the CEC, including the head and general secretary of the CEC. There is a major tendency in a large number of democratic countries to set up guarantees in the field of appointing the members of the electoral committees to make sure that they are independent from the executive authority, such as when the parliament is given a role of appointment or in ratifying an appointment, or in proposing a group of names from whom the President chooses.

Recommendation: to reconsider the mechanism of appointing the members of the CEC so that the PLC is granted a role in this task.

2. The Structure of the CEC:

The law stipulated that the CEC consist of nine members but it did not explain if this number includes the head of the Commission and its general secretary or not.

Recommendation: to clarify the number of the members of the CEC, whether it is nine members including the head of the commission and its general secretary, or nine members in addition to the head and the general secretary.

3. The CEC and the Permanent Elections Commission:

The law stipulated that, after concluding the electoral process, the CEC is dissolved automatically with all its funds and resources to be transferred to the Palestinian Permanent Elections Commission which has to be appointed by the President of the PNA. The law did not explain the nature of work and jurisdictions of the Permanent Elections Commission or membership eligibility or number of members. The law did not explain the fate of the electoral administration (the CEC and the DEC offices) at the end of the elections.

There are various models of electoral systems in the world, but most often, there is a permanent electoral administration and electoral committees with a set term which is usually related to the term of the parliament or the President.

Recommendation: to stress and affirm that the work of the CEC is permanent and to define the term of its members, including the head of the commission and the general secretary; it is preferable to have the term coincide with the terms of the PLC And to stipulate the continuation of the work of the electoral administration after the elections in order to supervise the updating of the list of voters and hold partial and complementary elections if the need arises.

4. Independence of the CEC:

* Financial Independence of the CEC: Article 23/1 of the Elections Law stipulates that the CEC enjoys full financial and administrative independence and is not subject to any government authority or other administrative authorities.

Recommendation: recognizing the importance of the above-mentioned article, it is necessary to reinforce and consolidate this article through affirming the independence of the financial committee and the need to allocate an item in the general budget for this field, as well as to stress the CEC's role in proposing its own budget. The monitoring of the work of the financial committee must stay in the hands of an independent party, such as an international commission. It must not be undertaken by a government commission belonging to the executive authority.

* The jurisdiction of the CEC in setting up the regulations: Article 24/3 of the Elections Law stipulates that the commission enacts the regulations stipulated for the implementation of the law which shall be ratified by the PNA. The text did not specify the party authorized to issue ratification inside the PNA: the President, the Council of Ministers, or the PLC. The mere condition on the need to obtain ratification of any party impacts on the CEC's independence and interferes in its work.

Recommendation: to delete this paragraph from Article 24 and affirm the CEC's right to set up its own regulations provided they are in line with the law and that they be subject to an appeal before the competent judicial authorities.

* Article 24/6: this article stipulates "to ensure the observance of equal legal conditions and opportunities in all of the constituencies and publish it in the local press"; this is an unclear text.

Recommendation: to clarify the text in a better way; if the provision of equal opportunities before all candidates in the constituencies is denoted, it should be mentioned very clearly.

* The CEC is the sole party supervising the elections: Article 22 of the Elections Law stipulates that the CEC is considered the highest commission that assumes the responsibility of administering and supervising the elections and that it is also responsible for preparing and organizing elections and for taking the necessary procedures and measures to ensure they are honest and free. Article 24 of the Law also stipulates, "the following is part of the jurisdictions of the Central Elections Commission: to administer the electoral process and fully supervise the process from the start until the end."

On the other hand, the Law of General Statistics No. 5 of 2000 stated that among the tasks of the Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics is "to update regularly and every three months the voters lists according to date provided by the census and prepare the voters lists when necessary."

To secure independence and effectiveness of the CEC, it must be responsible for all phases of the electoral process, including the voters lists.

Recommendation: the need to remove the seeming contradiction between the text found in the Law of General Statistics and the text found in the Law of Elections through affirming that the CEC is the sole party responsible for conducting the elections and that it has the right to seek the assistance of any party if it deems that is necessary to perform the work according to the terms of reference set up by the Commission.

5. The District Elections Commissions (DEC):

In addition to the national election offices which answer to the CEC and is subject to its instructions and works as a link between the voters, the candidates and the central office, the law stipulated having what is called the District Election Commission (DEC) with each consisting of five members to be appointed by the CEC from among university professors, lecturers, lawyers, political scientists, economists, sociologists and public administrators. The law granted these committees several supervisory and executive jurisdictions, such as receiving nominations of candidates for the membership of the PLC, sending them to the CEC, reviewing the protocols with election results, monitoring the electoral process, as well as counting the votes and approving the agents and representatives of the candidates and parties. Also included is the preparation of the lists of locations and public places within their constituencies for the purpose of organizing the electoral campaign and other jurisdictions.

The original idea is that the CEC assumes full responsibility for the elections and implements this through the electoral administration. Having DEC fragments the central role of the CEC and brings about contradictions regarding the supervising party and the party that makes the decisions, which might cause major organizational problems.

The issue of having DEC and national elections offices creates serious problems and brings about overlaps and contradictions in the jurisdictions and fragmentation in the administrative and legal reference of the constituencies offices. The law stipulated similar jurisdictions for the DEC and the national elections offices and did not explain the relationship between both or their respective jurisdictions.

Moreover, the DEC consist of members who do not serve as full-time employees. In cases where the members of these committees are granted executive jurisdictions, such as receiving nomination applications, the whole electoral process will be delayed.

Having District Elections Commissions, along with the national elections offices, is a unique model and unprecedented in the electoral systems. The various electoral systems stipulated usually having one CEC along with an electoral administration with branches in the region.

In the experience of 1996, District Elections Commissions were appointed a short period before the elections and after the conclusion of most of the preparations for the elections, which caused problems in the CEC.

Recommendation: canceling the District Elections Commissions. If there is an insistence on their presence, we recommend that they are given pure monitoring tasks and jurisdictions and not executive authorities. In case there is insistence on keeping these commissions, we do not see any need to limit membership in these committees to university professors, lecturers, lawyers, political scientists, economists, sociologists and public administrators. Any person with a university degree, experience and a reputation for his/her integrity and neutrality can become a committee member.

Second: Electoral Registration

1. Detailed Mechanism

The law went far in detailing the issue of voter registration. The details mentioned will restrict and impede the work of the CEC and they are impractical. The objective circumstances confronting the CEC are complex and continuously changing. It might decide to hold registration in a manner enforced by the prevailing conditions. In any case, the registration process must meet the following conditions: the process must include all those who have the right to vote and to exclude all those who do not have the right to vote. It must also ensure that it has an updated and accurate electoral register that is accessible to the citizens and subject to their claims.

Recommendation: We believe that the law should stipulate the basic principles and general regulations of the process, such as defining the eligibility conditions for elections and affirming the right of every citizen who meets the requirements to add his name to the electoral register and to stipulate that no elector's name can appear in more than one constituency as well as to stress on the principle of granting access to the electoral register by the citizens and the political parties for the purposes of making claims against the information in the register. The details on the actual registration should be left to the regulations set up by the Commission. The law must also stipulate that registration is to be conducted by the electoral administration under the CEC's supervision and responsibility.

2. Polling and Registration Station Commissions

The law stipulated that the polling station commissions which supervise the polling stations on the day of the elections are the same parties that conduct electoral registration. The election process takes place over one day but the registration takes several weeks and the employee who conducts the registration should not necessarily be available on election day and vice versa. Keeping this text will impede the work of the commission, especially given that it might not find persons who can devote their time to working in the two capacities. Moreover, the Commission might adopt a method of registering the electors that does not require the polling station commissions to register. It might be more appropriate to open centers for registering the electors, or divide the work registration commissions with structures different from the polling stations commissions. The commission might deem it appropriate to divide the regions for purposes of registration in a manner different from the division of polling stations commissions.

Recommendation: To include the text on the basic principles in registration that we mentioned above and leave the details of registration to the regulations set up by the commission.

3. Electoral Registration Card:

Article 73 of the Elections Law stipulates that, "the elector may be identified by means of the electoral registration card established in Article 16 of this law, the identity card, or any other document admitted for this purpose by the Polling Station Commission, upon the condition that he or she is entered in the electoral register." Upon referring to Article 16, there is no mention of the electoral registration card as stipulated in Article 73.

Recommendation: We believe that including a text on the electoral registration card is an unnecessary detail in the law. Therefore, we propose the deletion of everything pertaining to this matter.

4. Person Disqualified to Vote:

Article 8/2 stipulates "judicial decisions related to disqualifying a person to vote must be immediately communicated to the relevant Polling Station Commission as soon as these start the electoral registration." The aim of this text is to deprive some people who are mentioned in the article from the right to vote, but the mechanism defined by the article are impractical and difficult to implement.

Recommendation: We believe the text must stipulate the cases in which a person is deprived from the right to vote and leave the mechanism to implement it to the procedures that are set up by the CEC.

5. Appeals

The law grants the Polling Stations Commissions the power to look into appeals against the preliminary electoral register. We affirm the need to separate between the Polling Stations Commissions and the process of registration; we also believe that there should be separation between the Polling Stations Commissions and the process of looking into and deciding on the appeals. The appeals process is a big operation that requires time and technical knowledge. The CEC might deem it necessary to allocate specialized committees to look into the appeals in each constituency.

Recommendation: We think that it is better if the law clearly states the right of citizens to appeal against the preliminary electoral register within a set period of time and to leave the issue of defining the mechanism to look into the appeals to the procedures set up by the commission.

6. Time Limit of the Appeal:

The law stipulated a period of five days to submit an appeal and seven days to the Polling Stations Commissions to look into the appeal. We believe that this time limit is insufficient.

Recommendation: In order to give more time and allow as many people as possible to look at the electoral register and present their appeals, there is a need to grant the CEC the jurisdiction to extend the time limit so that the law can stipulate the minimum time limit for the appeals and let the commission decide on extending this time limit as the objective conditions of each constituency allow.

7. Appealing Against the Polling Stations Commission's Decisions:

Article 18/2 stipulates the following “The Central Elections Commission shall adjudicate on the appealed decision within three days from its filing.”

Due to the large number of appeals usually submitted, the CEC will not be able to decide on all those appeals within three days only even if it remains in open session.

Recommendation: To extend the time limit or to state in the law that the CEC has the right to form specialized committees to look into the appeals under the supervision of the commission.

8. Publishing the Electoral Register:

It is necessary to publish the preliminary electoral register to give citizens a chance to review it and submit appeals if the need arises. However, the law stipulates publishing the register four different times; the process of publishing is very costly and time consuming. Besides, the mechanism of publishing as mentioned in the law is not practical and contrary to the 1996 elections.

Recommendation: The law should stipulate having two registers; the preliminary register to be published to the citizens and the final register.

9. The Final Electoral Register:

The law used the term “final electoral register;” Article 19/3 stipulates “the Central Elections Commission shall compile the final electoral register based on the copies of the final electoral registers provided by each Polling Station Commission;” in fact, there is one final electoral register and not final electoral registers.

Recommendation: to stipulate only two registers: the preliminary electoral register and the final electoral register.

10. Defining the Borders of the Constituencies

Article 5/2 of the Elections Law stipulates “the regulations implementing this law shall establish the number of seats of the Council allocated to each district, which shall be proportional to the number of inhabitants” while paragraph 3 of the same article states “the above mentioned regulations shall be issued as soon as the registration of electors in the various constituencies is finished”. This means that Article 5 paragraph 2 points to determining the number of seats in each constituency based on the number of the inhabitants in the district while paragraph 3 points to determining the number of seats based on the number of registered electors.

There are three criteria in the comparative electoral systems. Some countries adopt the criteria of the number of inhabitants in determining the number of seats while other countries use the criterion of number of electors qualified to vote while other countries adopt the criterion of the number of registered electors.

Recommendation: adopting one criterion in determining the number of seats in each constituency and explain this in the text of the article which leaves no room for any doubts.

11. The Electoral District and the Constituency

Article 15/2 states “No elector shall be registered in a district different from that where he or she resides.

Recommendation: to state that the name of the elector shall not be registered in any constituency other than his constituency and not district.

Third: Nomination

1. Extending the Term of Nomination

article 43/2 states “the President of the PNA may extend the time limit to submit nomination applications” this is considered an interference in the work of the commission that is supposed to be responsible for all aspects of the electoral process.

Recommendation: to leave the jurisdiction of extending the time limit for accepting nomination applications to the commission.

2. Publishing the List of Candidates:

Article 45/1 states: “Each District Election Commission shall publish the final list of nominated candidates to the membership of the Council at least 22 days before the polling day”.

Recommendation: the publishing of the list of candidates should be central, meaning that the list comes from the CEC and not from the DEC or the National Elections Offices because of the sensitivity of the issue of accepting or refusing nomination applications and declaring them and to make sure that the person was not nominated as candidate in more than one constituency or that he nominated himself to the position of the President and membership in the PLC at the same time.

Fourth: Registering the Partisan Entities

The third chapter in the articles between 48-53 organized the matter of registering the partisan entities. This matter is outside the jurisdiction of the Elections Law and the CEC; this should be stated explicitly in the Law of Political Parties.

Recommendation: to organize the matter of registering the partisan entities in a special law separate from the Elections Law.

Fifth: The Poll

1. Details

There is a lot of detailing in the law regarding the polling process. The mechanism mentioned in the law is complicated, creating major problems in the 1996 elections. It is better to summarize those details and deal with basic principles of the electoral process, which states that the CEC is responsible for the electoral process through the polling stations commissions and that the right to vote is granted to each citizen whose name is listed in the electoral register and that the polling is conducted in secret and individual ballots; as for the details, they should be left to the regulations and instructions that are set up by the Commission.

2. Sixth and Seventh Chapters

The fifth and sixth chapters pertaining to ballot papers and other electoral material contains lots of procedural details, such as the kind and color and shape of the ballot papers and the electoral envelopes and the detailed mechanism for the electoral process and the way to vote on the ballot paper and all other details. All details in these two chapters are procedural details and their place is the regulations and not the law of elections. Besides, some of the ideas in these two chapters are not practical, the following are some of the comments:

* The Electoral Envelopes: Article 61 states “there shall be special envelopes into which the ballot papers, both for the election of the President and for the election of the members of the Council; envelopes for the election of the President shall be of a red color and those for the election of the Council shall be of a white color. Envelopes for the election of the members of the Council shall carry the name of the relevant constituency”. Having all these envelopes will increase the financial burden and will increase the time for the electoral process and the counting. In order to achieve confidentiality of the electoral process, it is enough to design ballot papers that can be folded by the elector.

* Additional ballot papers: Article 62/1 states “At least 24 hours before the commencement of the election, each DEC shall send to each one of the Polling Station Commissions a number of ballot papers and envelopes which shall be 25% superior to the number of electors registered in the relevant polling district”. We believe that this is the task of National Elections Commission Offices and not the work of the DEC; besides, there is no need for this big ratio which requires increase in public spending; we believe that 10% is enough.

* Keeping the identity card of the elector: Article 72 states that the President of the Polling Station Commission keeps the personal identity card of the elector after giving him two ballots and their envelopes. We believe that this is an unnecessary detail in the law and it is better to leave this to the regulations section. Keeping the identity card of the elector will impede work and movement inside the polling station.

* Number of Electors in the Polling Station: Article 72/2/h states "There shall be no more electors than the double of the number of polling places (booths) at any one time in the polling station". This is an unnecessary detail in the law; the place of such a detail is in the regulations section. Moreover, there can be polling stations that take more than the double of the number of the polling places (booths), or the polling stations might be small and cannot contain this number; therefore, it is best to leave this matter to the regulations set up by the Commission.

* Poll hours: Article 72 states "the poll shall commence at 7 hours am and shall be closed at 19 hours pm". The law should leave this matter to the Elections Commission. Defining the number of hours depends on various factors, including the factor of season whether it is in winter or summer and the number of available polling stations and the average of number of electors in each station. Practically, reducing the hours will lead to giving more time to the counting process.

Sixth: Counting the votes

1. Detailing

the law was drowned with details on the counting process and did set up a complicated and unclear mechanism in some aspects. The drafting of the articles pertaining to the counting of the votes is unclear and disorganized with illogical sequencing. The law should stipulate the basic principles of the counting process, which are the transparency of the counting process so that the agents and observers are attending the process and accuracy in the counting through a mechanism set up by the Commission and promptness in concluding the process without affecting the accuracy of the results and providing security at all phases and aspects of the counting process. The details must be left to be dealt with in the regulations section.

2. Sending the Results to the Elections Commission

the law in articles between 77 and 81 state that the results are to be sent to the CEC twice; there is no need to send them twice; once is enough.

3. Declaring the Preliminary Results

Article 82/3 states "each District Elections Commission shall publish the provisional results of the elections in its constituency"

Recommendation: to leave the matter of declaring the results to the CEC because of the sensitivity of the issue of declaring the results and because it needs to scrutinize the results before declaring the final results.

4. Counting and Scrutinizing the Results

Articles 84, 85 and 86 talk about a long and complicated process of counting the votes and scrutinizing the results and declaring them. For example, article 84/3 state "the scrutiny of the District Elections Commission shall consist of the study of the protocols sent of the filed claims and of the contested ballot papers verifying the data

stated in them". Article 85 states "once the District Elections Commission have finished all the operations described in Article 845, their Presidents shall hand in person to the CEC all the protocols and the required electoral material together with the election results"; all of these details are procedural details and unnecessary to be mentioned in the Elections Law. They are also impractical and complicate the process of declaring the results. There is no need for all the counting processes mentioned here; it is enough to state that in case there is a claim, it will be looked into; otherwise, there is no need to have the counting three times as it is mentioned in the law.

Seventh: the Electoral Campaign

1. List of the Public Venues

Article 56 states:

1. To assist coordination of the electoral propaganda activities of candidates and registered partisan entities, the District Election Offices shall assemble a list of all available venues and facilities (in their constituency) for the holding of such activities, as well as for the display of electoral posters.
2. District Election Offices shall send these lists to CEC for their approval. The CEC, on its part, shall send such lists to the District Election Offices, through the National Election Office."

Recommendation: We believe that this is not part of the jurisdiction of the CEC but should be organized within other laws, such as the Law of Public Meetings. This article was not implemented in the previous elections. This article is impractical. The issue of organizing the public meetings is the role of the police and the Ministry of the Interior according to the Law of Public Meetings. In case of any claims by some candidates on certain prejudices against them by the official parties, this can be solved by the Commission. The text should make it clear that the executive authority must not interfere at all in the activities of electoral campaigns of the candidates.

2. Organizing the Electoral Campaigning:

Article 57 states:

1. The National Election Office shall agree with the official Palestinian information media a special program of times and spaces to be offered to candidates and partisan entities for their electoral propaganda;
2. In preparing this program, the National Election Office shall give equal and fair opportunities to all the candidates and partisan entities taking into account the number of candidates nominated by each partisan entity in the various constituencies. In the case of candidates for the position of the President, the treatment shall be equal;

3. Any claim referring to the above-mentioned program shall be submitted to the Central Election Commission as soon as possible."

Recommendation: The role of CEC or the Central Election Office is not to organize the electoral campaign; the text should stress clearly on the equality between the candidates and the freedom of access to the mass media, including the official media institutions. In that case, the role of the CEC will deal with the monitoring aspect and to make sure that they abide by this article but not to interfere in the organizational aspect. The CEC can interfere to set up regulations or measures to explain means of offering equal opportunities for the candidates in the official media. The text should state clearly on the role of the CEC in supervising the behavior of the official media during the electoral campaigning to secure its neutrality.

3. Campaign Period

The law states very clearly that the period of the electoral campaigning is 21 days without explaining the mechanisms of implementing this article. For example, if one of the candidates violates the provisions of this article, it is not clear what is the punitive measure dealing with the violation; moreover, the period of 21 days are insufficient.

Recommendation: There is a need to clarify the mechanism of implementing the period of electoral campaigning and the legal ramifications pertaining to this period, in addition to the legal punitive measures in case certain violations take place. We also believe that it is necessary to extend the period of electoral campaigning to between 35-40 days.

Eighth: The Elections Appeals Court

1. Number of Judges:

The law states, "There shall be an Election Appeals Court formed by a President and four judges appointed by the President of the PNA in the Presidential Decree calling the elections. In order to take valid decisions, the Court shall sit with the attendance of at least the President and two of its members. The attendance of all the members of the Court shall be required to decide on matter of special importance, according to the decision of the President." (Article 31)

Recommendation: We believe there is a need to increase the number of members in the committee with the possibility of having the court sit with the attendance of three judges (the President or the person assuming his position and two other judges) so that the members in Gaza Strip alone or the members in the West Bank alone can form the body of the court due to the difficulty of movement between the two regions.

2. Electoral Ballots

Article 81/7 states, "One copy of both protocols is to be delivered to the Central Election Commission, one copy is to be delivered to the Election Appeals Court;" this adds major financial costs and is impractical.

Recommendation: We propose providing the court with the protocols only in case of claims or appeals.

3. Notifications

Article 108 states, "Every decision, order, document, or announcement the notification of which is required under the provisions of this Law, shall be considered notified in a valid and legal form on the day following that of its handing to the person concerned, or 24 hours after its being sent by registered mail to his or her known address."

This is impractical and restricts the process of notification, especially in light of the current conditions that require flexibility in notification procedures.

Recommendation: To leave the matter of notification to the CEC which shall regulate it in the regulations section.

4. Receiving Claims

Article 25/2 states, "Any appeal to the Election Appeals Court may be lodged with the Court itself or through the National Election Office or any of the District Election Offices;" there should be separation between the work of the CEC and its administration and the work of Election Appeals Court.

Recommendation: To have the claims submitted to the Court directly and not to have any role for the District Election Offices in receiving claims in order to affirm on the principle of separation between the CEC and the Elections Appeals Court.

Ninth: Repeating elections in case of a tie

1. In Case There is a Tie on the Position of the President

Article 88/2 states "in the case of a tie between the two candidates with the most votes, new elections between both candidates shall be called to take place within 10 days." The period of 10 days is not enough at all to hold elections which require logistics arrangements and printing ballot papers and other preparations that requires a longer period.

Recommendation: To extend the period to, at least, 30 days.

2. In Case There is a Tie on the Position of Membership in the Council

Article 89/3 states, "In the case of a tie between two or more of the candidates with the most votes, new elections between those candidates shall take place within 10

days." The phrasing of this article is inaccurate. There might be a tie in the votes of those candidates competing for the third or fourth place.

Recommendation: The phrasing should read as follows: "If there is a tie in the votes of the candidates competing for one seat;" moreover, the period of ten days is not sufficient to hold new elections.

Conclusion

This paper aimed to shed some light on the problems and shortcomings of some procedural aspects in the Law of Elections No. 13 of 1995. The paper tried to provide some recommendations in this field, but did not tackle the electoral system since this is a matter outside the context of jurisdictions of the CEC which is mainly interested in effectively performing its duty to organize free and honest elections regardless of the electoral system adopted.

It is clear that there are numerous procedural shortcomings in the law of 1995 and that many problems will persist if the loopholes persist. The law went too far in elaborating on the details of various aspects of the electoral process. Many of the details are phrased inappropriately or in a rigid way that does not leave the CEC any room to adapt matters according to the prevailing and changing conditions.

In addition to the procedural problems, there are core loopholes in the law in the area of guaranteeing the independence and effectiveness of the CEC. The law failed to tackle all the principles of the electoral process and addressed issues that relate to other laws. The Elections Law was intended for the organization of a "one-time" election and was set up in a period that witnessed a legal vacuum in numerous fields.

There is an urgent need to reconsider many provisions of the law and rephrase them in a manner that secures the comprehensive aspect of all basic principles and their capacity to organize the process, as well as to allow some room for flexibility so that the CEC can set up the executive measures that match the changeable and objective circumstances.

Appendix No. (5)

Presidential decree calling for the preparation of the Voters List

Presidential Decree

No. () of 2004

Regarding the Call for the General Elections

President of the State of Palestine;

President of the PLO Executive Committee

President of the Palestinian National Authority,

After having reviewed:

Law No. 5 of 1995 concerning the transference of powers and competences;

Law N^o. 13 of 1995 concerning the elections, and

Based upon the powers bestowed in me; and

In fulfillment of the public interest,

I hereby promulgate the following Decree:

Article 1

The compiling of the voters list shall commence and the registration shall take place starting from Saturday, September 4, 2004.

Article 2

The preliminary voters list shall be exhibited for challenge starting from Saturday, November 20, 2004 and for a period of five days.

Article 3

All competent authorities shall implement this Decree. The Decree shall enter into force starting from the date of its issuance and shall be published in the Official Gazette.

Issued in the city of Ramallah: June 21, 2004.

Yasser Arafat

President of the State of Palestine

President of the PLO Executive Committee

President of the Palestinian National Authority

Appendix No.(6)

List of International Observers and Guests during the Registration Process

A. Accredited Observation Bodies and No. of Observers

No.	The country / Observation Bodies	No. of Observers
1	Italy: - Gruppo Volantariato Civile (GVC) - Centro Regionale d'Intervento e Cooperazione (CRIC)	8
2	U.S.A: The National Democratic Institute	11
Total		19

B. Accredited guests during the registration process

No.	Country	No. of guests
1	Belgium	1
2	Canada	2
3	Chili	1
4	Denmark	2
5	European Union (EU)	6
6	France	3
7	Germany	5
8	Ireland	1
9	Italy	2
10	Japan	4
11	Holland	3
12	Spain	3
13	Sweden	4
14	The United Kingdom(UK)	2
Total		39

Appendix No. (7)

Presidential Decree Calling for Presidential Elections.

Presidential Decree No. () of 2004, on the call for the presidential elections
The President of the Palestinian National Authority,
Having reviewed the modified Electoral Law;
Having reviewed Law No. 13 of 1995 concerning the elections;
Having seen Law No. 16 of 1995 concerning the modification of some of the articles
in Elections Law No. 13 of 1995;
Based upon the powers bestowed upon me; and
In fulfillment of the public interest,
I hereby promulgate the following Decree:

Article 1

The Calling of Elections

The Palestinian people in Gaza, the West Bank, and Jerusalem shall be called for a
general, free, and direct election to elect the President of the Palestinian National
Authority on Sunday, January 9, 2005.

Article 2

Complementary Registration

The CEC shall conduct a complementary registration period for Palestinians who
were not able to register their names during the registration period.

Article 3

The Commencement of Candidature

Candidature shall commence on November 20, 2004, and shall last for 12 days.

Article 4

The Electoral Campaign

The electoral campaign shall commence on December 27, 2004, and shall end on
Saturday morning, January 8, 2005.

Article 5

Enforcement

The President and members of the CEC must implement this Decree. The Decree
shall enter into force upon its issuance and shall be published in the Official Gazette.

Issued in the city of Ramallah on November 14, 2004.

Rawhi Fattouh

President of the Palestinian National Authority

Appendix No. (8)

Law No. 4 of 2004 Regarding the Amendment of the Elections Law and the Adoption of the Civil Register for Election Purposes

Elections Law

No. (4) Of 2004

Amendment of Elections Law No. 13 of 1995

Article 1

Article (15) of Elections Law No. 13 of 1995 shall be modified as follows:

1. The voters list, which has been prepared in accordance with the electoral law and the civil registry, shall both be accredited for the purpose of determining all eligible voters for the general elections and the municipal elections.
2. The voter's name must only be included in the voter registry of the electoral district in which he resides.
3. Only eligible voters shall be included in the voter registry as stated in the electoral law.

Article 2

Article (90) of Elections Law No. 13 of 1995 shall be modified by adding the following paragraphs:

1. The elected President's term is four years, and it will commence on the date that the final results of the election is declared.
2. The timing of the upcoming legislative elections shall be determined according to the electoral law.

Article 3

All the institutions concerned must implement this law. The law shall enter into force starting from the date it is issued and shall be published in the Official Gazette.

Issued in the city of Ramallah on December 1, 2004.

Rawhi Fattouh

President of the Palestinian National Authority

Appendix No. (9)

CEC Press Release Regarding The Adoption Of The Civil Register For Election Purposes

The CEC would like to clarify the following issues to the public:

1. Following the issuance of the amended Elections Law in which the civil registry has been adopted along with the voters list, the CEC would like to clarify that the civil registry has been adopted contrary to the CEC recommendations which were expressed on numerous occasions and in legal notes. Thus, the CEC hereby refutes the PLC press release which said that the adoption of the civil registry was based on a CEC decision. At the same time, the CEC expresses its adherence to the amended law and undertakes to adopt all measures necessary to secure the integrity of the electoral process, such as using voter ink and opening registration centers for civil registry voters.
2. The CEC would also like to confirm that it has not received any official confirmation regarding the holding of elections in Jerusalem up until this moment, and reaffirms its position not to take part in any elections that exclude Jerusalem from the electoral process.

The CEC hereby requests that all parties concerned facilitate the movement of voters and candidates by lifting sieges and check points in order to enable them to exercise their right to nominate and campaign without hindrances.

Appendix No. (10)

Presidential Decree Setting the Start and End Dates for Electoral Campaigning.

Presidential Decree No. () of 2004 on the call for presidential elections

President of the Palestinian National Authority,

Having reviewed Law No. 5 of 1995 concerning the transfer of powers and competences;

Having reviewed Law No. 13 of 1995;

Based upon the powers bestowed upon me; and

In fulfillment of the public interest,

I hereby promulgate the following Decree:

Article 1

Article (4) of the Presidential Decree issued on November 14, 2004, shall be modified as follows:

1. The electoral campaign shall commence on Saturday morning, December 25, 2004, and shall end on Friday midnight, January 7, 2005.
2. All activities related to the electoral campaign shall cease 24 hours prior to the polling day, and shall not occur on the polling day.

Article 2

All the institutions concerned must implement this Decree. The Decree shall enter into force starting from the date it is issued.

Issued in the city of Ramallah on December 7, 2004.

Rawhi Fattouh

President of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA)

Appendix No. (11)

CEC Statement- The Announcement of the Presidential Elections Initial Results on Jan 10, 2005.

The 2005 Palestinian presidential elections were held in an orderly fashion, thanks in great part to the cooperation of Palestinian citizens.

However, with respect to the electoral process, the CEC makes the following two qualifications:

1. Israeli forces which continue to occupy Palestine imposed huge obstacles to the participation of Jerusalem residents in the elections. Former US President, Jimmy Carter, Mr. Michel Rocard, and a number of other international observers intervened in response to the Israeli obstructions and disruptions in an effort to resolve the problems. Despite their intervention, disruptions on the part of the Israeli's continued, and this affected the turnout of voters in Jerusalem. The CEC also notes that the electoral procedures that were permitted in Jerusalem by the Israelis did not meet the democratic standards for elections of this type.
2. On election day, the CEC received thousands of telephone calls from individuals whose names appeared on the civil register, but who were unable to locate their polling centers. This was despite intensive efforts made by the CEC to clarify issues for civil registry voters, including announcements in the daily newspapers, radio, TV, and other forms of media, as well as the availability of a toll-free telephone information service. It became clear that this problem had the potential to deprive many voters of their voting rights. In response, the CEC decided to resolve the issue through the following steps:
 - a. Allow those who carried identification cards but were unable to locate their polling centers, to vote at the nearest civil register polling center.
 - b. Recorded the name of the voter along with the number of his/her identification card. This record would permit the CEC to ensure at a later time that the vote has not been duplicated. Even though the presence of indelible ink on a voter's thumb made multiple voting impossible, the recording of names was taken as an additional precautionary measure.
 - c. Since this decision was taken at a relatively late time, the opening of civil registry polling centers was extended by two hours. To provide an equitable opportunity for all voters, voting at the polling centers were also extended by two hours.
 - d. The CEC will compare the names of those who voted on the basis of their identification card, against the record of voters drawn from the lists. If duplicate voting becomes apparent through this crosschecking

procedure, the CEC shall take all necessary measures in accordance with the law.

The CEC would like to emphasize that it was faced with two options; either deprive some people of the right to vote, or allow them to participate with controls to prevent duplication. The CEC found the second option the more appropriate. While the CEC has conducted its work within the legal framework, it observes that the civil registry does not fulfill the needs of the CEC, and furthermore contains many mistakes and flaws. The CEC has pointed this out on numerous occasions, including to the PLC which approved use of the list. Furthermore, the fact that only 12% of the approximately 700,000 eligible voters listed on the civil registry actually turned out to vote, suggests that the use of the list is unnecessary, and that the proper course of action would be to abandon the use of the civil registry and instead augment the voters list through further registration.

The results announced today are provisional, totaling the counting reports from all 2,838 polling stations. Before the CEC can issue final results, the electoral district offices will study all complaints, and respond appropriately to those complaints. In accordance with the election law, political parties, candidates, their agents or representatives may appeal the decisions issued by the CEC within two days of the date of publishing the final elections results.

The CEC would like to thank all those who have contributed to the success of the electoral process. It would like to especially thank the administrative team of the CEC, and employees of the Ministry of Education, the police, and local and international observers. It would like to especially thank the candidates who acted in a responsible manner throughout the election period.

775,146 Palestinian voters voted in the West Bank, including Jerusalem, and Gaza Strip. The results for each of the candidates are as follows (Note: the order of the candidates corresponds to the order they appeared on the polling paper)

Name of Candidate (Category)	Political Affiliation	No. of Votes	Percentage
Mahmoud Abbas-Abu Mazen	Fatah Movement	483039	62.32%
Mustafa Barghouthi	Independent Candidate	153516	19.80%
Tayseer Khaled	Democratic Front for The liberation of Palestine	27118	3.50%
Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar	Independent Candidate	20774	2.68%
Bassam Al-Salhi	Peoples Party of Palestine	20844	2.69%
Sayyed Barakeh	Independent Candidate	9809	1.27%
Abd Al Karim Shbair	Independent candidate	5874	0.76%
Invalid papers	-	29366	3.79%
Blank papers	-	24806	3.20%
Total		146, 775	100.00%

Appendix No. (13)

CEC Statement- The Announcement of the Presidential Elections Final Results On January 12, 2005.

The CEC held a meeting today at its headquarters in Ramallah to announce the final results of the 2005 presidential elections held on January 9, 2005. The CEC had announced provisional results of the election on Monday, January 10.

Prior to the announcement, the CEC reviewed all complaints and observations addressed to the electoral committees of all electoral districts. The CEC also reviewed reports received from the same committees on the electoral process in each district.

The vast majority of complaints involved the illegal election campaigning activities on election day, the actions of candidates' representatives and the conduct of CEC staff. No complaints were reported on the counting procedures.

The CEC also heard from candidates' representatives who attended the meeting and later announced the following results.

Name of Candidate (Category)	Political Affiliation	No. of Votes	Percentage
Mahmoud Abbas-Abu Mazen	Fatah Movement	501,448	%62.52
Mustafa Barghouthi	Independent Candidate	156,227	%19.48
Tayseer Khaled	Democratic Front for The liberation of Palestine	26,848	%3.35
Abd Al-Halim Al-Ashqar	Independent Candidate	22,171	%2.76
Bassam Al-Salhi	Peoples Party of Palestine	21,429	%2.67
Sayyed Barakeh	Independent Candidate	10,406	%1.30
Abd Al Karim Shbair	Independent candidate	5,717	%0.71
Invalid papers	-	30,672	%3.82
Blank papers	-	27,159	%3.39
Total		802,077	100.00%

Appendix No. (13)

Central Elections Commission (CEC) Certificate Addressed to Mr. Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) Confirming his Victory in the Presidential Elections.

Central Elections Commission

Palestine

Date: January 12, 2005

Dear Mr. Abu Mazen ,

Based on the final counting of votes in the second presidential elections held on February 9, 2005, we would like to inform you that you have won the majority of votes in these elections.

We hereby congratulate you and wish you the best.

Dr. Hanna Nassir

CEC Chairman

Dr. Rami Al- Hamdullah

Secretary General

Appendix No. (14)

The CEC Letter Addressed to the Attorney General Regarding the Electoral Offences Committed during the Polling Process.

Central Elections Commission

Palestine

Mr. Hussein Abu Assy

Attorney General

Palestine

REF: The electoral offenses

Dear Sir,

Attached herewith is a list of voters who were proven to have voted more than once in violation to Article 4/97 of the Elections Law No. 13 of 1995 and also a list of disqualified voters who voted without having reached the legal age contrary to Article 5/97 of the same law in order to take the legal procedures against them.

Kind regards

Dr. Hanna Nasir

Chairman of the Central Elections Commission

NB: Attached is a list of 504 voters who voted more than once and 84 voters who voted while under the legal age.

Appendix No. (15)

The Protocol Pertaining to Elections in Jerusalem

1. Election Campaigning

A subcommittee of the CEC shall be established comprising representatives of the CEC and Israel, to coordinate issues relating to election campaigning in Jerusalem. Candidates conducting campaign activities in Jerusalem shall apply for the necessary permits through the CEC. The CEC shall obtain the necessary permits from the Israeli side in the CEC subcommittee. In addition, the CEC may disqualify candidates whose election campaigning in Jerusalem fails to comply with the provisions of the Palestinian Election Law and this Agreement.

2. Polling Arrangements

a. **Location:** A number of Palestinians resident in Jerusalem will vote in the elections through services rendered in post offices in Jerusalem, in accordance with the capacity of such post offices. The relevant post offices for the purposes of these arrangements shall be:

- i. Salah-a-din post office;
- ii. Jaffa Gate post office;
- iii. Shuafat post office;
- iv. Beit Hanina post office; and
- v. Mount of Olives post office.

b. **International Observation**

International observers will be present in the above post offices on the day of the elections.

i. Those Palestinians in Jerusalem who will vote in the elections through post offices in Jerusalem shall be notified of the relevant post office by electoral registration cards provided by the CEC (hereinafter "the electors").

ii. On arrival at the post office, electors shall identify themselves to the relevant postal personnel (hereinafter "the personnel") and present their electoral registration card.

iii. The personnel shall provide the electors with the following:

- a. two ballot papers, one for the election of the President, and one for the election to the PLC; and

- b. two envelopes addressed to the DEO.
- iv. The electors shall mark the ballot papers at the post office counter, then place them in the envelopes to be inserted in receptacles, the size and shape of which shall be agreed between the two sides.
- v. At the end of the day, the receptacles shall be promptly delivered to the office of the relevant DEO. Such delivery shall be open to international observers. These receptacles shall be sealed prior to delivery.
- vi. The DEO shall be responsible for the counting and totaling of votes cast through the arrangements set out above as part of the total election count.

Appendix No. (16)

Memorandum of the Minister of Negotiations Affairs to the CEC on 23 January 2004 Regarding Elections Arrangements in Jerusalem

4. **Voter Registration Process:** Launching the voter registration campaign through door-to-door registration and allowing polling through ID cards. Provided that the CEC workers shall bear Jerusalem ID cards.
5. **Election Campaigns:**
 - a. Posters, stickers and brochures may be used in public places as agreed by both sides.
 - b. Meetings and public forums may be held in hotels, schools, houses, clubs and closed halls. On the other hand, it is prohibited to conduct such meetings in religious places, such as churches and mosques.
 - c. Posters, stickers and brochures may be used in private places and shops upon the consent of owners.
6. **Candidates Heading To Jerusalem:** The CEC should be informed of the time and location at least 12 hours in advance of any intention to hold public forums or other meetings in closed halls or elsewhere in Jerusalem. The CEC will follow up the request with the Israeli authorities.
7. Each candidate shall be entitled to obtain Jerusalem pass permits for him/herself and for a number of his assistants, and each candidate shall have an office.
8. Participation in the elections is an accepted right for every Jerusalem citizen, thus the Israeli authorities shall clearly state that they will not be subject to any aggravation or harassment as a result of exercising this right.
9. The CEC shall provide the necessary training for the registration and polling staff.

10. Polling in Jerusalem shall take place at the following post offices:

- a. Salah Addin post office.
- b. The Armanian Quarter (the old city) post office.
- c. Attour post office
- d. Shu'fat post office
- e. Beit Hanina post office

11. International Observation Bodies: shall supervise the electoral process in Jerusalem at all stages without interference.

This memorandum has been delivered without signatures.

Appendix No. (17)

Code of Conduct for Local and International Observers

Introduction

The Central Elections Commission (CEC) is pleased to welcome local and international observation of all phases of the electoral process, including voter registration, political parties registration, nomination of candidates and polling and counting. To this end, the CEC has issued the bylaws regarding the accreditation of local observers and international observers, which grant equal opportunities to all interested local and international organizations and institutions to apply for accreditation to observe the elections.

The CEC values electoral observation as an important component of the electoral process and recognizes the international standards that must be fulfilled by electoral observation organizations and personnel. Therefore, the CEC has issued a code of conduct for local and international observers (hereinafter, the code of conduct) to highlight the observation standards and define the rights and duties of local and international observers. The present

The Code of Conduct constitutes Annex (A) to the Accreditation Procedures of Local Observers and the Accreditation Procedures of International Observers issued by the CEC.

General Provisions

1. The Right To Observe The Electoral Process

The right to observe the electoral process is guaranteed by the Elections Law. It shall be exercised by observation organizations and its personnel accredited by the CEC in accordance with the relevant bylaws.

2. Adherence to the Code Of Conduct

All CEC accredited local and international observation organizations and observers shall adhere to the provisions, principles and standards stated in this Code of Conduct.

3. Immunities

International observers shall not enjoy any special immunities, unless otherwise established by the relevant authorities.

Principles and Standards of Electoral Observation

Observation consists of gathering of information regarding the electoral process, in a systematic and consistent manner, without interfering in the process itself. Additionally, it entails the issuing of objective evaluations on the basis of information

gathered by the accredited observation organizations. Electoral observation shall conform to the following principles and standards:

1. **Neutrality:** To exercise observation in a neutral and impartial manner, without bias towards any of the electoral stakeholders or any other party and, with due respect to the electoral process.
2. **Non-Partisanship:** Electoral observers must be totally disengaged from any financial, hierachal or administrative affiliation to any Palestinian political party or independent candidates, regardless of the parties' participation in the electoral process.
3. **Comprehensiveness:** To consider all aspects and factors related to the electoral process during the observation process. Observation organizations shall identify the phases of the electoral process under observation, including the locations covered in the process of formulating comments and evaluations.
4. **Institutionalism:** Accreditation to observe the electoral process shall only be granted to observation organizations rather than individuals. Therefore, observers may not issue any individual statements concerning their observation findings regarding the progress of the electoral process. In contrast, the observation organization is entitled to issue reports and make statements regarding the progress of the electoral process through delegated spokespersons.
5. **Transparency:** Observation organizations and observers shall reveal all methods used in information gathering, including the types of assumptions and analyses utilized, as well as the methodologies adopted to carry out the observation and formulate conclusions.
6. **Accuracy:** Observation organizations and observers shall use accurate and reliable information throughout the observation process, and shall always refer to the sources of such information.
7. **Abiding by the Laws and Bylaws:** Observation organizations and observers shall recognize and respect the sovereignty of the Palestinian National Authority, and shall respect the Palestinian Laws, the CEC regulations and procedures, as well as its role and staff members.

Observers' Rights

Local and international observers shall enjoy the following rights:

1. To observe all phases of the electoral process, and to collect relevant information and access necessary resources to accomplish their mission.
2. To contact the CEC, and to obtain information and responses to any inquiries, as well as to communicate any comments and/or findings resulting from observation. The CEC Electoral Affairs Department at HQ shall respond to any inquiries and/or comments made by the observation organizations.
3. To have unimpeded access to all registration, polling and counting centers, stations and the data entry center.

4. To issue observation reports and statements concerning the progress of the electoral process. However, these must be institutional reports and statements, and shall be accurate, comprehensive and relayed by the spokespersons accredited by the observation organization.
5. To make institutional statements concerning their observation findings to the media, and to meet with partisan entities and civil society organizations, as well as to enjoy freedom of movement throughout the Palestinian territories without any restrictions and without violating any of the aforementioned principles and standards.

Inside Registration, Polling and Counting Centers and Stations

Observers may talk to voters or registrants inside the registration and/or polling centers. However, observers may not do so inside the polling stations or registration rooms. Observers may observe registration, polling and counting procedures at a reasonable distance inside the registration and polling centers and stations.

Observers' Duties

Observers shall adhere to the following duties, which aim at streamlining the observation process without violating the progress of the electoral process:

1. To wear the accreditation badge in a visible manner while exercising their duties, and to present an official and formal identification document to the competent authorities upon request.
2. To refrain from interfering in the activities of the electoral administration, the political parties, the candidates, the registrants or the voters, except when explicitly allowed by the Bylaws and the Code of Conduct. Observers shall not engage in partisan activities or activities beneficial to any of the partisan entities or candidates. An observer, however, may monitor such events in a neutral manner, maintaining due impartiality with regards to all political parties and/or candidates.
3. To refrain from exerting influence on registrants' or voters' choices and decisions, and from obstructing the correct progress of any of the electoral operations, or from giving instructions to any of the CEC staff members.
4. To provide the CEC with copies of all reports issued by the observation organization on the electoral process. The observation organization shall be committed to develop a final report within a time-frame not exceeding two months from the date the electoral process is finalized. The observation organization shall provide the CEC with a copy of such report as soon as it is issued.

Inside the Registration, Polling and Counting Centers and Stations, and the Data Entry Center

1. Observers shall abide by the instructions issued by the officials at the registration, polling, counting and data entry centers, as well as the regulations concerning the presence of observers and agents inside such centers.

2. Observers shall not record any personal details relating to registrants or voters, such as their names or the names of the individuals or entities that they vote for.
3. Observers shall refrain from creating any disturbances or chaos that may affect the smooth progress of the electoral operations, and shall not display, wear or hold any logos, colors or symbols identical or similar to those of any partisan entity or candidate.

Final Provisions

The relevant committee of the CEC may revoke the accreditation of any observer in the event he/she is proven to having violated the provisions of the effective Laws, Bylaws or this Code of Conduct, in accordance with the rules stated in the Bylaw regarding the Accreditation of Local Observers and the Bylaw regarding the Accreditation of International Observers.

Appendix No. (18)

List of accredited international observers

Country And Observation Body	Number Of Observers
Argentina	4
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs	4
Australia	4
- Australian Representative Office	4
Austria	2
- Society for Austro-Arab Relations	1
- Women in Black, Vienna	1
Belgium	13
- Association Belgo-Palestinienne	13
Brazil	18
- Ministry of External Relations	18
Canada	16
- Short-term Observer Mission with the European Union (EU) Election Observation Mission	16
Chile	1
- Chilean Representative Office	1
China	13
- Government Delegation	13
Colombia	2
- Ministry of Foreign Relations	2
Cyprus	3
- House of Representatives Of Cyprus	1
- Ministry of Interior	2

Denmark	2
- General Workers Union in Denmark	1
- Socialist People's Party	1
Egypt	23
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs	17
- Ibn Khaldoun Center for Development Studies	6
European Union	184
- European Union (EU) Election Observation Mission	184
France	47
- Campagne Civile Internationale Pour La Protection Du Peuple Palestinien	34
- French Consulate General in Jerusalem	8
- National Assembly of France	5
Greece	36
- Greek Social Forum	36
Hungary	2
- Hungarian National Division of the Inter-Parliamentary Union	2
India	5
- Indian Elections Commission	5
Italy	33
- Action For Peace	20
- Centro Regionale D'intervento E Cooperazione (Cric)	9
- Arci Nuova Associazione	2
- Movimondo	1
- Terre Des Hommes	1
Japan	24
- Ministry Of Foreign Affairs	17
- Embassy Of Japan	7
Jordan	26

- Government Delegation	18
- Parliamentary Delegation	8
Kazakhstan	2
- Embassy Of Kazakhstan	2
Mexico	1
- Vertebra	1
Netherlands	8
- United Civilians For Peace	8
Norway	40
- Short-term Observer Mission with the European Union (EU) Election Observation Mission	13
- Norwegian Labour Youth	13
- Representative Office Of Norway To PNA	12
- Norwegian Association Of Ngos For Palestine	1
Romania	5
-Ministry Of Foreign Affairs	5
Russia	27
- Government Delegation	27
South Africa	14
- South African Observer Mission	11
- South African Representative Office To PNA	3
Spain	16
- Government Of Catalonia	13
- Acsur Las Segovias	2
- Movimiento Por La Paz, El Desarme Y La Libertad	1
Switzerland	11
- Short-term Observer Mission with the (EU) European Union Election Observation Mission	10
- Collectif Urgence Palestine	1

Sweden	3
- Swedish Parliament	3
Turkey	15
- Ministry Of Foreign Affairs	15
Ukraine	8
- Ministry Of Foreign Affairs	5
- Ukrainian Middle East Studies Association	3
United Kingdom	7
- Britain-Palestine All Party Parliamentary Group	5
- Council For Arab-British Understanding	2
United States	150
- National Democratic Institute	136
- Council For The National Interest	6
- American Near East Refugee Aid	4
- International Republican Institute	3
- Agency For Relief And Development	1
International Organizations	33
- Socialist International	14
- International Student's Palestinian Societies	7
- International Committee for Solidarity with the Palestinian People	5
- International Commission of Jurists	3
- International Federation for Human Rights	3
Regional Organizations	34
- Parliamentary Assembly of the Council Of Europe	23
- Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe	5
- European United Left-European Parliament	4
- European Jews for a Just Peace	2
Total Accredited Observers	832

International Guests of the Central Elections Commission (CEC)

The CEC issued international guest cards to dignitaries, diplomats, and government officials representing the following countries:

Country	Number of Guests
Canada	6
Denmark	1
European Union (including Austria, Belgium, Britain, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, and Sweden)	70
Germany	28
Hungary	2
Mauritania	2
Portugal	2
Romania	3
Spain	4
Sweden	1
United Kingdom	6
United States	52
Total Guest Observers	177

Appendix No. (19)

Preliminary Report of the EU Observation Commission

"Palestinian election overcomes difficult and tense conditions but highlights challenges that lie ahead."

Executive Summary

The January 9 election for the President of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) represented a genuine effort to conduct a regular electoral process. Despite the difficult and tense conditions, Palestinian electoral authorities made adequate and sufficient arrangements for voters and the strong turn out showed that the public was enthusiastic to exercise its democratic rights. However, the occupation and continuing violence, as well as restrictions on freedom of movement, meant that a truly free election was always going to be difficult to achieve.

With the exception of some tense parts of the Gaza Strip, the process on election day in the regular polling stations was generally peaceful and voters had sufficient freedom of movement, with the noticeable relaxation of checkpoints in some areas, but with problems remaining in Nablus, Hebron and parts of Gaza. Observers noted that the process in the regular polling stations was well conducted and polling station commissions worked extremely hard and diligently to administer the voting.

The electoral authorities ensured that the electoral process was ready for the conduct of the poll on January 9 despite the challenges and obstacles they faced. This was an enormous effort on their behalf. However there is concern at the last minute changes for voting at the special polling stations, which was outside of the law and impacted negatively on the proper administration of voting at these places as it did not benefit from the safeguards envisioned in the law. The Central Elections Commission (CEC) is strongly urged to ensure that such a situation is not repeated in future elections.

There is concern over the lack of proper voting facilities and clear procedures for the voters of East Jerusalem, and it was noted that on election day people faced administrative obstacles in exercising their voting right. The electoral arrangements in East Jerusalem are highly problematic and the 1996 Protocol on Elections does not provide proper electoral conditions. During the campaign the final procedures were only worked out very late and candidates suffered from this. Likewise on election day, the late confirmation of procedures and consequent lack of adequate public information resulted in confusion for voters. It is clear that for the coming elections the present Israeli-Palestinian agreement concerning elections in East Jerusalem requires reconsideration in order to avoid further tension and problems.

The election campaign passed off without major incident directly linked to the campaign, but there were restrictions on the freedom of movement for candidates. This caused a lot of frustration among candidates as they faced obstacles in gaining access to voters, notably in East Jerusalem and Gaza. However, the campaign was vigorously contested, with candidates utilizing media advertising and eventually

conducting rallies in most areas. Freedom of movement would have been greatly facilitated by clearer and more timely procedures for the granting of permits for candidates and their staff.

With the exception of East Jerusalem the voter registration process conducted by the CEC was highly credible, capturing some 71% of the electorate. The later decision to also open the process to persons on the civil register complicated the work of the CEC.

There was misuse of public resources in favour of one candidate, with public officials seen campaigning in his favour. The law is clear on this point and this should not be allowed, but the electoral authorities did not act against this despite numerous complaints.

Despite the noted shortcomings, it is clear that given the context this election represents an achievement and an opportunity. Whilst democracy cannot necessarily be consolidated in one or two elections, the practice for Palestinian leaders to seek legitimacy through the ballot box is being entrenched and the spirit and numbers in which the Palestinian people registered and participated are strong indicators of a will to follow the path of the rule of law and popular participation.

It remains clear that the most serious problems facing the election stemmed from the wider political context and the impact of the existing occupation and conflict. For the electoral process the challenge now is to learn from this experience by further strengthening the independence of the CEC, ensuring more rigorous enforcement of the legal provisions and clarifying and developing the legislative framework in time for the proposed PLC elections later in the year.

Detailed Findings

Election Day

With the exception of some tense parts of Gaza, the process on election day was generally peaceful and voters had sufficient freedom of movement and were able to reach their polling places. But observers reported that restrictions remained in parts of Nablus, Hebron and Gaza. Observers noted that the process in the regular polling stations was well conducted and the proper voter list proved to be reliable. However, observers did report of widespread campaigning around polling stations, mostly for Mahmoud Abbas, which created a partisan atmosphere.

The most significant problems on election day were in East Jerusalem and in the special centers for voters on the civil register. In East Jerusalem, on the basis of the 1996 Protocol on Elections, some Palestinians had to vote in Israeli post offices, but no voter registration had been conducted due to the curtailment of the registration process in September by the Israeli authorities. The inadequate and late agreement on many of the technical arrangements for East Jerusalem, including the door-to-door registering of voters only days before the election, resulted in a lack of timely information for voters and in people being unsure of where to vote on election day,

causing confusion and anxiety. As a consequence, a decision was eventually taken on the day of the election to allow people registered during the January canvas to vote at any post office. Whilst this was a pragmatic response to a real problem, it exemplifies how poor the arrangements and information for voters had been. The procedures in post offices did not provide adequate privacy for voters and generally discouraged participation.

It should be noted that whilst the 1996 Protocol providing for voting in East Jerusalem was a joint Israeli-Palestinian Agreement and was the only arrangement available for the process, many details were lacking and it does not provide for the reasonable participation of voters, with voting being limited to post offices for up to just 6,000 of the potential electorate of some 100,000 persons. Voters in East Jerusalem should enjoy the same conditions as voters elsewhere and not be subject to the restrictions and inconveniences witnessed during this election. The CEC decision to extend the hours of polling from 19.00 to 21.00, and the concurrent last minute changes to the voting procedures allowing for all eligible persons who held an ID card but were not on the list of voters to vote at any special voting centre, resulted in an unruly and irregular process in many of the 71 centers and raised serious concerns about the process at some of those places, notably in Gaza North, Gaza City, Ramallah, Tulkarem and Hebron. This provision is not foreseen in the election law and the decision is a matter of regret.

The use of the civil register was a consequence of the PLC decision to provide the voting franchise even to persons not included on the initial voters list, which although offering the electoral franchise to more of the electorate severely complicated the work of the CEC.

Observers noted that large numbers of persons, including the police and security forces, were transported to special polling centers to take advantage of this late change, raising serious concerns about both the decision and its consequences.

The large scale presence of candidates' agents and civil society observers at polling stations increased the transparency and accountability of the electoral process, as did the provision for the posting of the results protocol at the polling centre, and these practices are both commended and encouraged for future elections.

Electoral Administration

The elections benefited from the fact that the CEC and lower level election administration bodies enjoy credibility and public confidence. This is a vast improvement from 1996 and aided the organization and credibility of the process. The EUROM has concerns regarding the last minute changes to procedures on the day of the elections, as noted, but generally the CEC performed well under difficult conditions.

The initial voter registration process of September and November 2004 was widely reported to have been well conducted, and the CEC managed to compile a safe list of

voters representing around 71% of the estimated total eligible electorate, which is a credible amount. However, it is regrettable that there was no agreement between Palestinians and Israel on registering voters in East Jerusalem, resulting in voter registration centers in East Jerusalem being closed down by the Israeli authorities. This contributed to the late identification of Palestinian voters in East Jerusalem and to the confusion on election day.

One area of concern regarding the administration is the issue of complaints and appeals. Numerous complaints were lodged with DEC and the CEC, such as the misuse of public resources. However, there was a lack of any real action on these. There was also a lack of transparency, in which complaints and decisions were not made public. Such a lack of transparency and inaction raises concerns among stakeholders as there was little evidence to suggest that the rule of law was being upheld on such issues..

Electoral Campaign

During the pre-election period, the most notable difficulty facing the process was the restriction on freedom of movement for candidates and election officials. This resulted in a number of candidates facing serious difficulties in their campaigning activities and a number of incidents between candidates and Israeli military and police at checkpoints, with Mustafa Barghouti and Bassam Salhi both facing repeated problems.

Again, this problem was exacerbated by the late and unclear procedures, notably for East Jerusalem where the procedures were only finalised in the last days of the campaign. Restrictions on freedom of movement also impacted on the preparations by the electoral authorities, particularly in Gaza where violence continued throughout the pre-election period. However, by the eve of the election all essential electoral materials were reported to have been delivered, enabling the timely opening of polling stations.

A widespread problem during the campaign was the involvement of PA institutions, personnel and materials on behalf of Mahmoud Abbas. The law is clear on this point; the PA is not supposed to be involved at all in such a manner. However, observers reported on a government minister in Hebron inviting teachers to attend a Mahmoud Abbas campaign rally; banners and posters hanging on the office buildings of Governors, Security and Police forces, Local Government and public institutions in Tulkarem, Gaza, Nablus, Hebron and Bethlehem; the active involvement of the security forces in attending campaign rallies for Mahmoud Abbas and security forces obstructing a meeting for Tayseer Khalid in Tulkarem. In many of these cases a complaint was lodged with the district or central election officials but it is uncertain whether any action was taken or not.

There were allegations made against some candidates of illicit campaign financing activities, from either public or foreign sources. It is not possible for the EUROM to verify the veracity or otherwise of such allegations and all allegations were denied by

the candidates. But if the regulatory framework had been clearer and more demanding on candidate disclosures the problem could have been addressed.

Media Coverage

Media coverage was an improvement compared to 1996, with more voices represented across the media spectrum. The legal provision of equal free airtime for candidates on Palestine TV and Voice of Palestine radio was very positive. However, on Palestine TV, for example, Mahmoud Abbas received 94% of the overall airtime in news broadcasts during the campaign period. Monitoring also showed that the privately-owned Watan TV devoted 47% of its programming to Mustafa Barghouti, while Amwaji Radio dedicated 94% of the time to Bassam Sahli.

Print media was more balanced and critical, though with a continued advantage for Mahmoud Abbas. However, it was observed that the three main daily newspapers violated the campaign silence by publishing articles on candidates and running paid advertisements. Remarks by the EUEOM Chief Observer and the Head of the European Parliament Delegation The EU Election Observation Mission (EUEOM) on election day fielded 277 observers from 26 countries throughout the West Bank and Gaza, making it the largest international observer group present.

The mission was established in Ramallah on 8 December and was joined at the time of the election by 28 Members of the European Parliament, the largest electoral observation delegation deployed by the parliament to date. The MEPs were deployed along with the other observers across all 16 electoral districts. The mission's Chief Observer, Mr Michel Rocard, said holding a democratic election under occupation is fraught with difficulties and is therefore a rare event.

"In this case it has happened because it is essential. Following the death of president Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian people and national institutions chose to respect the provisions in the Basic Law and embark on an electoral process to identify their new leader. This decision was a courageous one and shows a demand for democracy," he said.

Mr Rocard, a member of the European Parliament and a former French Prime Minister, said he was pleased that the Israeli government had from the outset expressed public support for the process. "As a result of this electoral process, the Palestinian people will benefit from a democratically elected and internationally recognized leadership, which will enable them to start to face the difficult challenges that lie ahead," he added.

European Parliament vice-president, Mr Edward McMillan-Scott, who led the MEP delegation, said: "Our task is to deliver an informed political verdict on the electoral process in due course. After an initial appraisal, my colleagues have confirmed that, despite the Israeli occupation and lack of opportunity for East Jerusalem and other residents to vote, the Palestinians - especially women -- have conducted an election of

which they can be proud. It prepares the ground for the parliamentary elections, which could serve as a model for others in the region."

The EUEOM included participants from EU Member States plus Norway, Switzerland and Canada. The mission will issue a final report with recommendations at a later stage.

Appendix No. (20)

Preliminary Statement Of The NDI

International Election Observer Delegation

January 9, 2005

Palestinian Presidential Elections

Jerusalem, January 10, 2005

This preliminary statement on the Palestinian presidential elections of January 9, 2005 was produced by the NDI's international election observer delegation. The delegation, organized by NDI in partnership with the Carter Center, was led by former United States President Jimmy Carter, former Prime Minister of Sweden Carl Bildt and former Governor of New Jersey and Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Christine Todd Whitman. It also included current and former legislators, former ambassadors, elections and human rights experts, civic leaders and regional specialists from 15 countries in Asia, Europe, Latin America, the Middle East, North Africa and North America. The delegation visited the Palestinian territories from January 4-10 and deployed 80 observers to the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem. The delegation is part of NDI's comprehensive monitoring of Palestinian election processes, which is supported by USAID and which began with the September-October voter registration process and the December 2004 municipal elections. The Institute plans to continue its work during 2005's municipal elections and the PLC elections scheduled for 2006. The Institute issued a statement on the voter registration process, and NDI and the Carter Center issued a statement on the pre-election environment, both of which are available on NDI's web site at www.ndi.org. (Arabic versions are available at www.ndi-wbg.org).

The purposes of the delegation were twofold: to demonstrate the international community's continued interest in and support for the development of viable democratic institutions that will enable Palestinians to freely chose their leaders and representatives; and to provide Palestinians and the international community with an impartial and accurate assessment of the election process and the political environment surrounding the election to date. The delegation conducted its assessment on the basis of international principles for election observation, comparative practices for democratic elections and Palestinian law. For more than a decade, NDI has conducted, on an impartial basis and across the political spectrum, programs to support the development of democratic Palestinian institutions and processes. NDI and the Carter Center jointly organized an international election observation mission for the 1996 Palestinian elections.

The delegation wishes to emphasize that this statement does not constitute a conclusive assessment of the election process, given that the final official tabulation of results is not complete and that any electoral complaints that may be lodged will require monitoring through their completion. The delegation recognizes that

ultimately it will be the Palestinian people who will judge the quality of the election process.

Summary of Observations

The Palestinian presidential elections were a major accomplishment. The elections were contested vigorously and administered fairly. Election day was orderly and generally peaceful. The process, organized in just 60 days in accordance with the Palestinian Basic Law and under difficult circumstances of the ongoing conflict and occupation, represents a step forward for Palestinian democracy. The successful organization of this election demonstrates the potential for the start of a new era in Palestinian politics and the development of representative and accountable governance.

Having successfully conducted the presidential elections, there are now opportunities to advance positive developments in a broader context necessary for peace and prosperity.

Palestinians also face a number of immediate challenges as they move to consolidate their democratic institutions. They must quickly move to prepare for the next round of municipal and legislative elections, which are scheduled within the next six months. Palestinians should also enhance efforts to ensure public order and to curtail violence. It is important that the Palestinian President and his designated Prime Minister establish an effective working relationship, taking into account the 2003 amendments to the Basic Law, and the specific political, economic and social challenges facing Palestinian society today. Palestinians will require continued support from the international community and will need to build upon the Palestinian-Israeli cooperation in election planning that took place in this election period.

Election day was characterized by the following positive developments:

- A generally peaceful process, even though there were serious concerns beforehand that violence could disrupt the election;
- A mostly orderly election administration conducted by dedicated and professional officials;
- Large numbers of Palestinians who came out to cast their votes;
- The significant presence of political party and candidates' agents, as well as nonpartisan domestic election observers, adding transparency to the process;
- The large role played by women in the election process as electoral officials, party and candidates' agents, nonpartisan observers and voters; and
- The easing of travel through check points by Israeli authorities to facilitate freedom of movement and election day processes.

Election day, however, was not without problems, including the following developments:

- The large percentage of registered voters whose names did not appear on the appropriate voter list at post offices designated for voting in Jerusalem;
- Certain last-minute changes by the Central Election Commission (CEC) to conditions and hours for voting were implemented in ways that caused confusion;
- Reliance on two separate voter lists, with separate voting places based on them, caused confusion and opened potential for abuse; and
- Scattered incidents of intimidation and harassment by some Fatah activists.

The delegation recognizes that one of the candidates has challenged the election, citing abuses in the process and discriminating effects of the CEC's last minute changes in voting rules. The adjudication processes at the CEC and the Election Appeals Court may be called upon to consider these and other complaints. NDI and the Carter Center will continue to monitor developments until the process is completed and may issue additional statements or reports.

The Electoral Context

Upon the death of the President of the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) Yasser Arafat, Palestinian political leaders moved in accordance with the Basic Law to schedule the January 9 presidential elections. This demonstrated their political will to provide a smooth transitioning in accordance with the rule of law.

The successful completion of the election process will allow Palestinians to confirm that their chief executive was chosen by popular mandate in accordance with the will of the people. This would signal the determination of Palestinians to establish a democratic process by which leaders are elected and held accountable to the public. The completion of a democratic election process by Palestinians could set the stage for the development of responsive representatives and institutions of governance, which would have substantial positive implications here and throughout the region.

Legal Framework. The legal framework for the election was provided by the Basic Law and the Palestinian Election Law. Though not without shortcomings, they provide the general bases for democratic elections. In accordance with the Basic Law, the election had to take place within 60 days following the death of President Arafat. While providing for a speedy transition between elected presidents, the 60-day time limit created serious challenges for organizing the election, and the truncated 14-day official campaign provided little opportunity for new political leadership to emerge.

Election Administration. The CEC, which was formed in 2002 as an independent body, mobilized quickly and effectively to organize the election, taking advantage of having successfully conducted voter registration in late 2004.

In the short period provided for election preparations, the CEC trained more than 16,000 electoral officials to staff the approximately 2,800 polling stations, the 16 DECs and various support teams. It organized the printing and distribution of ballots and other materials, as well as their collection, and other logistical requirements. This was all the more impressive given the difficulties presented by the ongoing conflict.

The CEC enjoyed a high degree of confidence among Palestinians. It has, in many instances, demonstrated its ability to withstand political pressure and to perform its duties impartially and effectively – prerequisites for independent, nonbiased election administration.

This was an essential accomplishment for organizing democratic elections. The successful completion of the presidential elections will contribute substantially to confirming public confidence in the CEC's abilities to conduct future democratic elections, including those scheduled for this year.

The DECs and polling station officials are the subordinate election authorities, and their members are appointed by the CEC. The late appointment of the DECs on January 1 created some confusion in the organization of their work, although they appeared to accomplish their tasks by election day. The vast majority of electoral officials worked diligently and cooperated with candidates' agents, as well as with domestic and international election observers. Electoral authorities also had to reconcile a number of competing and sensitive interests concerning registries of eligible voters, voting in East Jerusalem and the effects of violence and Israeli security measures on the movement of personnel and material, particularly in Gaza.

Campaign Environment

Seven presidential candidates competed in the elections, presenting Palestinians with a choice among distinct points of view. The candidates took advantage of opportunities to campaign for voters' support, though campaigning was limited by a number of constraints described below. While the rhetoric of the campaign was heated at times, the candidates avoided inflammatory attacks on one another, and there were very few incidents involving violence between supporters of the various candidates. This is a tribute to the seriousness of the political competitors and to the Palestinian people's desire to respect political pluralism. While Hamas and Palestinian Islamic Jihad (IJ) called for a boycott of the election, there was little evidence of their use of intimidation, which points to the powerful demand of average Palestinians that political processes should be conducted freely. That candidates were able to campaign without fear of violence or retribution from those in government or on the political extremes was a major accomplishment.

Limitations on Freedom of Movement The continuing violence in Gaza and some parts of the West Bank, the hundreds of checkpoints, the separation wall, temporary closures and other security controls hampered the work of election officials, limited the ability of candidates and their supporters to campaign and had an inhibiting effect on some voters.

While the violence and security measures related to the continuing conflict and its consequences rather than the elections, their adverse impact on electoral processes was regrettable. However, there was no indication that they had a material effect on the electoral outcome or the successful organization of the election process.

The PNA and the Israeli government reached agreements on a number of issues related to the election process. Israeli officials committed to facilitating the process, and they relaxed some security measures in the 72-hours surrounding the election.

However, freedom of movement over the entire electoral period would have been necessary for candidates, voters and election authorities to participate fully in the election process. The delegation raised with Israeli officials several issues related to limitations on freedom of movement, and steps were taken by them to address these issues.

Campaigning took place in most areas other than East Jerusalem and Gaza without major obstacles, and there was no indication that Israeli authorities intervened in the election process in order to affect the outcome. Nonetheless, most candidates reported that they faced routine difficulties when traveling in the West Bank and Gaza, particularly at checkpoints, which often caused them to take circuitous routes to reach their destinations. In many instances, candidates were required to obtain permission from Israeli authorities to travel to campaign events. Some candidates complained that even when they were granted permission to travel, their campaign aides were not. In addition, several candidates were detained or arrested as they attempted to pass through checkpoints, and some apparently were beaten.

The most acute problems occurred in Gaza and Jerusalem. Violence and incursions in the south of the Gaza Strip made campaigning there impossible for several days. Rocket, mortar, gun and bomb attacks by Palestinians near the Erez checkpoint led to its closure by Israeli authorities on several occasions. This, in turn, made it difficult or impossible for candidates to enter, or in some cases, to leave Gaza. There were also violent incidents in the West Bank. For example, just two nights before the election there was a violent incident in Nablus in which Palestinian gunmen attacked two Israeli cars, killing one person and seriously wounding others. For a period, the Israeli military imposed a curfew on villages near Nablus, which raised concerns about electoral preparations, but no large-scale military action was taken. Israeli officials did not allow candidates free access to Jerusalem during the campaign. One candidate successfully held a campaign meeting in Jerusalem after obtaining a permit. Another candidate, who had been granted permission to campaign in Jerusalem, declined to do so, reportedly because he was uncomfortable with the likely presence of Israeli security officials at campaign events. When at least two other candidates attempted to campaign in Jerusalem, they were detained by Israeli authorities on the grounds that they had not acquired a permit or because they were said to have exceeded the scope of the permit that had been issued. In some cases, the permits issued to candidates granted permission for a private visit, so that any campaign activity might be construed as a violation.

It was impossible to determine to what extent Palestinian citizens were prevented or discouraged from attending campaign events because of restrictions on their movement.

Undoubtedly, there was some effect. It appears, however, that average Palestinians were able to obtain information about the candidates from a variety of sources, and it was likely that most voters would have been able to make an informed choice at the ballot box.

In addition to these matters, the PNA as well as several of the candidates, complained that many Palestinians, numbering in the thousands, had been prevented from returning from Egypt to the Gaza Strip through the Rafah checkpoint, which was closed in response to a series of attacks. It was regrettable that a workable solution to this problem was not reached in time for them to vote in the election.

Role of the Mass Media. The Palestinian mass communications media are free of official censorship and gave widespread coverage of the election campaign. Palestinians also have access to regional and international media in addition to Palestinian news sources. Media monitoring by international experts working with the European Union (EU) Election Observation Mission and other respected sources indicate that news coverage by publicly owned broadcast media demonstrated heavy bias toward the Fatah candidate. Free time was provided to all candidates by the public broadcasters, however, allowing them to air political messages, and paid political advertisements were allowed in the private media. Two of the presidential candidates own or control private media outlets, and media analysts found that those outlets provided biased coverage favoring their electoral interests.

Overall, there was considerable media coverage of the main candidates and of the election process more generally. Also, media analysts found that candidates did not use inflammatory rhetoric to attack each other. The media played a generally positive role in allowing candidates to reach voters and allowing voters to gain information about them. However, news bias in publicly owned media violates the public's trust. Public media must operate impartially towards all candidates and political parties, presenting accurate and balanced information so that citizens can make informed electoral choices and have a sound basis for demanding governmental accountability. In addition, the lack of any regulation of paid political advertising creates the possibility of lopsided campaigning and prevents the transparency needed to establish and maintain public confidence in the media and the election process.

Use of Public Resources and Campaign Financing. There were significant differences among the candidates concerning their access to campaign resources. One complaint raised by several presidential candidates and others was the apparent use of PNA resources by government officials for the benefit of the Fatah candidate. The CEC criticized some PA officials for campaigning for Mr. Abbas while on the public payroll. Uniformed Palestinian security forces appeared as supporters at some of Mr. Abbas' political events. Public resources, including government funds, vehicles, communications equipment, materials and the working hours of government officials

and employees belong to the citizens and should not be used for the benefit of any private individual or political party. This is a fundamental element of the principle of separation of party and state, as well as a broader issue of public trust. While it was difficult to verify the basis of the complaints and measure the impact of the issue, a perception of misuse of public resources undermines public confidence in government. The issue of possible misuse of funds of a nongovernmental organization on behalf of a candidate was also raised to the delegation. The lack of a clear regulatory framework concerning the financing of campaigns adds to the public perception of such problems.

Voter Registration and Use of the Civil Registry. In September and October 2004, having decided to create a new voter registry to better ensure the integrity of elections, the CEC conducted a technically sound voter registration process. That process was monitored by an NDI international observation mission. Following President Arafat's death and the announcement that elections would be held, the CEC reopened voter registration on November 24 to accommodate voters who had not previously registered, but who wished to vote.

As a consequence of the additional registration period, it was estimated that approximately 71 percent of eligible Palestinian voters appeared on the new voter registry.

NDI's voter registration monitoring mission was able to conduct computer tests of the voter registration data base and found it to be sound. However, due to the condensed timeframe for the presidential elections, it was not possible to complete independent verifications of the registry, although the NDI mission intends to conduct such activities before further elections are held. The PLC amended the Elections Law after the date for the presidential elections was set, requiring the CEC to complement the new voter registration list with the civil registry. It was unclear why the PLC required that the civil registry be used, since it has been seen to be seriously inadequate, containing the names of many people who have died or emigrated. The CEC determined that approximately 660,000 names appeared on the civil registry that were not on the existing voters list. It decided to establish 70 special voting places where anyone whose name appeared on the civil registry but not on the general voter lists might vote.

The CEC expressed concern that the two types of polling stations might be confusing to voters and vulnerable to voting abuses, but it believed potential problems could be mitigated by a combination of special safeguards and voter education. The CEC required, for example, that indelible ink be placed on the thumb of each voter to ensure that he or she could not vote more than once. However, the limited time available for voter education proved insufficient to communicate to many voters where they should vote.

During the 2004 voter registration process, the CEC introduced proxy registration for Palestinians who were in jail or detention, including those in Israeli custody. A case was taken to the Israeli High Court seeking to allow such prisoners to vote in the

January 9 presidential elections. The court rejected the petition on the grounds that it was not administratively feasible to organize voting in time for the election; this left open the possibility of Palestinian prisoners and detainees voting in future elections.

Voting in Jerusalem. The status of the city of Jerusalem created unique challenges for the election. During the recent voter registration, there was no formal agreement between Israel and the Palestinians regarding registration for Jerusalemites, and the centers in East Jerusalem were shut down by Israeli authorities after the first 10 days of a planned five-week process. However, the CEC conducted door-to-door registration canvassing after the residential election was set. For the January 9 presidential elections, the PNA and Israeli government agreed to return to the terms of the agreement they entered, i.e., to the 1996 Palestinian elections.

In 1996, Palestinians cast ballots in five post offices in Jerusalem. This time, the number expanded to six. The Israeli government considered this a form of absentee voting; the Palestinian authorities considered it voting in polling stations that happened to be post offices. Under the agreement between the PNA and the Israeli government, approximately 6,000 voters were eligible to vote at the post offices.

Voting was overseen by Israeli postal workers, many of whom are Palestinians, but no Palestinian election officials were allowed on site. International observers were allowed to witness the procedures. All but one of the facilities were small and could not accommodate a large number of voters inside the premises at any one time. Regular ballot boxes were not used. Rather, ballots were deposited in “receptacles.” Counting was not done on the spot and ballots were transported to CEC officials by Israeli postal vehicles. Security of the post offices during the voting process was the responsibility of Israeli authorities.

In addition to voting in the six post offices, the Palestinian residents of Jerusalem were permitted to vote outside the city at 12 voting centers. The CEC estimates that approximately 90,000 such voters would need to travel to the 12 centers outside Jerusalem even though the travel could be difficult.

The arrangement for Jerusalem’s Palestinian voters was inadequate and, undoubtedly, discouraged voter turnout. In addition, Palestinians living in Jerusalem must possess a special identity card. In 1996 and before the present election, there were rumours that if a resident of Jerusalem were to vote, they may have their card revoked, or otherwise face the loss of certain benefits. These rumors may have had a negative effect on voter participation despite the fact that no such reprisals took place following the 1996 elections. Also, a statement of reassurance was made by Israeli authorities that no such reprisals would take place. No matter what the contributing and mitigating effects may have been, the low voter turnout in Jerusalem on January 9 was a disappointing element in the election.

Election Day

Election day was orderly and generally peaceful. This was a particularly significant accomplishment, given the ongoing conflict and occupation, as well as the serious concerns widely expressed that violence could erupt on election day. There were, however, scattered incidents of intimidation and harassment by some Fatah activists of some voters, supporters of other candidates and, at least, one incident involving an international observer. The delegation was impressed by the dedication and professionalism of polling station officials, members of the DECs and representatives of the CEC, who worked long hours under difficult conditions. The voting and counting processes at polling stations were conducted transparently. Election authorities cooperated with party and independent candidates' agents and with nonpartisan domestic and international election observers. One of the most encouraging elements of the Palestinian elections was the continued development of election monitoring by party and independent candidates' agents, as well as by nonpartisan Palestinian nongovernmental organizations. More than 14,000 party and independent candidates' agents were accredited by the CEC to act as poll watchers. In addition, several thousand nonpartisan domestic election observers were accredited by the CEC, the main body of which was mobilized by the Palestinian Election Monitoring Civil Committee (EMCC). Together, these efforts represented a strong interest and participation in the election process.

An important safeguard in the election process was the requirement that an official protocol (tally sheet) setting forth the results of the vote count be posted publicly outside of each station. This promoted public confidence and allowed candidates' agents and domestic election observers to record the results and conduct independent verifications of the consolidated vote tallies at the DECs and the CEC.

There were problems with the voter lists derived from the civil registry that were used at special polling stations and with the lists used in Jerusalem, discussed below. Last minute changes to voting procedures and hours were confusing to voters and election officials and resulted in uneven opportunities to vote. This led some to question the fairness of the voting process.

During the course of election day, the CEC decided to extend voting by two hours, moving the closure of polls from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The CEC also decided during the course of election day to allow anyone who could prove that they were Palestinians and had not yet voted to vote at the 71 special polling stations. These decisions were not communicated to election officials or voters in a precise and timely way, which resulted in confusion and uneven implementation. While these decisions were within the CEC's legal discretion, concerns have been raised about the timing and need for such decisions.

A large percentage of registered names did not appear on the appropriate voter list at post offices designated for voting in Jerusalem. This caused tensions at those voting sites and threatened to produce significant disenfranchisement. President Carter raised this problem with officials. As a consequence, the PNA, the CEC, the Israeli government and postal service came to an agreement at midday to allow persons who could provide proof that they had registered to vote to cast ballots at the post offices,

even if their names were not on the lists. This process was to be verified by international observers.

The agreement eased tensions at the post offices and allowed a significant number of eligible voters to cast ballots who may otherwise have been disenfranchised. Inconsistent application of the agreement at the various post offices also caused some confusion and uneven opportunities to vote for some Palestinians. For future elections, restrictions on Palestinian voting in Jerusalem should be addressed.

Many expressed concerns in the lead-up to the election that Israeli checkpoints and barriers would seriously hinder election day activities. In response, the Israeli Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) assembled a professional team that worked together with the Israeli troops and other agencies and dedicated its emergency crisis center to coordinate responses to election-related problems. Internal checkpoints were eased on election day to facilitate the movement of voters. There was little presence of Israeli security forces at Jerusalem post offices designated for voting, which was a major difference from the 1996 elections. The MFA crisis center also facilitated the activities of international election observers and sought to address concerns expressed by them.

The Delegation and Its Work

NDI and the Carter Center are independent, nongovernmental organizations that have conducted more than 100 impartial pre-election, election-day and post-election observations around the world. Both organizations recognize that elections cannot be separated from the broader political process of which they are a part. NDI's and the Carter Center's methodologies for assessing elections are based on the premise that all aspects of the election process must be considered to accurately understand the nature of an election. Considerable weight must be assigned to the pre-election periods, as well as to the resolution of complaints and disputes following elections.

The delegation held meetings with: representatives of presidential candidates; the Chairman and representatives of the CEC; representatives of the news media; civic leaders; the heads of the European Union's Election Observation Mission; other representatives of the international community who are concerned with supporting a democratic Palestinian election process; and senior Israeli government officials, including the President, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister. The delegation worked in cooperation with Palestinian nonpartisan election monitoring organizations and with the international election observer mission organized by the European Union (EU).

Delegates divided into teams and were deployed to all 16 election districts of the Palestinian territories for meetings with governmental, electoral, political and civic leaders in their respective localities. On election day, the teams observed the voting, counting and tabulation processes in over 200 polling stations selected on the basis of a scientific statistical sample and at the DECs. Delegates then reconvened in

Jerusalem to debrief and develop this statement. The delegation expresses its gratitude to all with whom it met.

Appendix No. (21)

CEC letter to independent candidates requesting financial reports detailing the expenses and funding sources of their electoral campaigns on 17 January 2005

Dear Mr.

Presidential independent candidate

Subject: Request for the submission of a financial report on the electoral campaign's funding sources.

First of all, I would like to thank you for the efforts you have made in contributing to the success of the electoral process and to wish you all the best as you assume your future responsibilities as the elected president of the PNA.

On this occasion, I wish to inform you that pursuant to Elections Law (Article 4/93), the political parties and winning candidate should submit a detailed financial report covering all expenses and funding sources for the electoral campaign within 20 days of the announcement of the final results, that is, February 1, 2005.

As you are not part of any political party, the law does not apply to you. However, I would still request that you send the financial details to the commission to secure transparency of the electoral process. I would also ask that you retain the details after they have been audited accordingly by the CEC. I believe that your cooperation will be highly appreciated by the Palestinian community. Likewise, similar letters have been addressed to all independent candidates for the presidential elections.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and wish you all the best on the occasion of Eid al-Adha.

Kind Regards,

Dr. Hanna Nasir
Chairman of the Central Elections Commission

Appendix No. (22)

Campaign Finance Reports: 2005 Presidential Elections

The Elections Law stipulates that it is the responsibility of the winning parties and independent candidates to submit campaign finance reports to the CEC.

Nevertheless, the CEC asked all candidates to submit such reports in an effort to emphasize the importance of financial transparency. The CEC received financial reports from six out of the seven candidates who competed in the 2005 presidential elections. The candidate who did not submit a report was Abdel Karim Shubair.

Following is a summary of each of the submitted reports:

Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen

According to the financial report submitted by the administration of his campaign on 08/02/2005, the campaign funding costs for the Fatah movement candidate Mahmoud Abbas Abu Mazen (who also won the presidency of the PNA) were estimated at \$1,423,000 (One million four hundred & twenty three thousand USD).

The report indicated that the Fatah movement contributed one million dollars to the campaign, while the remainder came in the form of individual contributions. The report, however, did not detail how the funds were allocated.

Musatfa Barghouti

For the independent candidate Musatfa Barghouti, funding costs were estimated at \$806,638, as indicated in the report submitted on 1/02/2005. The funds were distributed on promotion and logistics. The report also indicated the funding sources which were mainly cash and in kind contributions by individuals and institutions, as well as contributions from the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. The report was audited by a legal auditor before its submission to the CEC.

Tayseer Khaled

As for the candidate of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Tayseer Khaled, the funding costs for his campaign were estimated at \$298,499, as indicated in the report submitted to the CEC on 2/02/2005. The report indicated that the Central Fund of the Democratic Front was the funding source.

Abd Al Halim Al -Ashqar

According to the report submitted to the CEC on 05/02/2005, the campaign funding source for the independent candidate Abed Al Halim Al Ashqar was mainly personal. The total funding costs were estimated at \$119,407.

Bassam Al-Salhi

As for the candidate of the People's Party, Bassam Al Salhi, the funding costs for his campaign were estimated at \$183,996, as indicated in the report submitted to the CEC on 01/02/2005. The funding sources varied between personal contributions and funds from the party's accounts.

Sayyed Barakeh

The campaign costs for the independent candidate, Mr. Said Barakeh, were estimated at \$56,725, distributed on candidacy guarantee and promotional publications. The report was submitted on 30/01/2005 and did not indicate the funding sources.