



AL-HAYAT CENTER FOR CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT
2007 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION OBSERVATION

CLOSING PRESS STATEMENT

November 20, 2007: 8:30 pm

Al-Hayat has deployed 1,500 trained youth to observe the voting process throughout Jordan. Since the early hours of the morning, Al-Hayat observers have been witnessing the opening procedures from outside the polling centers. Al-Hayat's goal in observing the 2007 Parliamentary election is to promote transparency and to observe the integrity of the election process.

Closing of the polling centers

According to Al-Hayat observers' reports, the vast majority of the polling centers closed at 7 pm. At the time of closing, there were no voters left outside of the polling centers unable to vote. Observers reported polling centers in the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6th districts of Amman remained open until 9 pm to accommodate voters that were waiting outside to vote. There were no incidents reported during the closing of the polling stations.

Observers reported that candidates' supporters continued with their active campaigning activities until the closing of the polling centers.

It is imperative to allow full access of independent domestic observers to observe the counting of the votes and tabulation of the elections' results. Such access is necessary to ensure the transparency and credibility of the outcome of the elections and the election process itself. In these elections Al-Hayat believes that no elections can be called transparent, free and fair unless there is independent scrutiny of the counting of the votes. As a result, a significant opportunity to demonstrate a commitment to free and fair elections has been missed in Jordan.

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