The Relationship between Psychological Resilience, Psychological Adaptation and Purpose in Life among University Students in the Preparatory Year American Journal of Education and Learning Vol. 5, No. 1, 96-111, 2020 e-ISSN:2518-6647







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#### ABSTRACT

The study aimed to show the correlational relationship between psychological resilience and both of psychological adaptation and purpose in life among university students in the preparatory year, and to make sure of the relative contribution of psychological resilience in predicting psychological adaptation and purpose in life. The sample of the study consisted of(304) university students in the preparatory year from both sexes. They were chosen by the random cluster sample method, and their ages ranged between(18-19) years. The study concluded that there is a strong and positive relationship between psychological resilience and psychological adaptation for preparatory year students, where the level of significance (0.000) and correlation coefficient (0.491), and there is a strong and positive relationship between psychological resilience and purpose in life for preparatory year students, where the level of significance (0.000) and correlation coefficient (0.549). The results of the study also showed that psychological resilience interprets a percentage of (30%) of psychological adaptation. Also interprets psychological resilience interprets a percentage of (30%) of purpose in life.

Keywords: Psychological resilience, Psychological adaptation, Purpose in life, Meaning of life, Satisfaction with life, Quality of life.

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## Highlights of this paper

 The study aimed to show the correlational relationship between psychological resilience and both of psychological adaptation and purpose in life among university students in the preparatory year, and to make sure of the relative contribution of psychological resilience in predicting psychological adaptation and purpose in life.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

Life pressures are considered the prevailing trait in this age of ours. Human societies are replete with many various and interlocking problems, specially under the scientific and technological developments, which require of man big challenges in order to confront these pressures with the positive psychological traits which he possesses and which make him able to confront these pressures.

Through the daily challenges, we can discover the successful adaptation mechanisms in order to confront these difficulties (Ong, Bergeman, & Bisconti, 2006). Thus interest and research have increased in the concepts of positive psychology (Wigtil & Henriques, 2015) which focus on positive aims, protection and adaptation abilities (Masten, 2011; Navrady, Adams, & Chan, 2017) and their clear connection with health and prosperity results (Gupta et al., 2017; Harris, Brett, Starr, Deary, & McIntosh, 2016). The concept of psychological resilience is considered as one of the concepts of positive psychology which focuses on resources and points of strength instead of focusing on illnesses and symptoms of illnesses after the shocking events, and how to manage crises. This is considered as a model change in psychology and health (Choudhry, Park, Golden, & Bokharey, 2017; Gupta et al., 2017; Kong, Ma, You, & Xiang, 2018; Peter et al., 2015; Windle, Bennett, & Noyes, 2011).

This concept is characterized by complexity, having many aspects and having many meanings (Joyce et al., 2018; Rodriguez-Llanes, Vos, & Guha-Sapir, 2013) while others defined this concept as being the ability to stay in functional stability and good health despite continuous pressures (Bonanno, 2004).

Psychological resilience is a positive natural personal trait which is characterized by flexibility (Cusack et al., 2016; Färber & Rosendahl, 2018; Hanfstingl, 2013; Kilic, Dorstyn, & Guiver, 2013; O'Dowd et al., 2018).

It is a dynamic process having multiple dimensions in which biological, knowledge, personal and cognitive factors interact (Kong et al., 2018; Surzykiewicz, Konaszewski, & Wagnild, 2019). It is also a series of individual traits which are able to confront the pressuring events (Li, Chi, Sherr, Cluver, & Stanton, 2015; Sarrionandia, Ramos-Díaz, & Fernández-Lasarte, 2018). It is also capable of resilience and healing from the dangers of threats and to preserve the natural bodily and mental performance and to avoid mental illnesses (Connor & Davidson, 2003; Parsons, Kruijt, & Fox, 2016; Robertson, Cooper, Sarkar, & Curran, 2015; Ward & Pasinetti, 2016).

It is also a basic component for achieving a suitable level of mental health (Davydov, Stewart, & Ritchie, 2010; Navrady. et al., 2018). It reflects the ability of the individuals to adapt, to overcome distresses positively and to deal actively with the challenges of life (Green, 2014; Masten. 2013; Paban, Modolo, Mheich, & Hassan, 2019; Park et al., 2018; Rees et al., 2016; Sarrionandia et al., 2018; Wu, Wang, Lee, Lin, & Guo, 2019) and to respond positively after they had been exposed to cases of fatigue such as shocks and sicknesses (Bilgin & Tas, 2018) filling the resources and to successfully adapt with severe hardships (Bellido-González et al., 2019; Luthar, Cicchetti, & Becker, 2000; Masten. & Narayan, 2012; Rees., Breen, Cusack, & Hegney, 2015). It also reflects the individual's ability to change his behavior in order to adapt with the changing environmental orientations, and to improve the individual's ability to adapt and to reinforce the individual development (He, Cao, Feng, Guan, & Peng, 2013). This includes a number of knowledge and behavioral strategies which are used in managing crises (Navrady. et al., 2018).

It is connected with a positive relationship also with positive feelings (Kuhl & Fuhrmann, 1998) whereby achieving mental health including mental, social and biological aspects is considered as one of the biggest

challenges which face societies and health care institutions (Rudwan & Alhashimia, 2018) whereby psychological resilience is connected with the state of health of the individuals who are exposed to pressuring events (Cengiz, Ergün, & Cakici, 2018) and their ability to bypass successfully the negative experiences and to adapt with the new life circumstances resulting from them, and to deal actively with the new challenges (Doğan, 2015; Fayombo, 2010; Fletcher & Sarkar, 2012; Paban et al., 2019; Rodriguez-Llanes et al., 2013).

The concept of psychological resilience can be defined as being a mental social structure which points out to the individual's ability to adapt positively and to preserve mental and bodily health in confronting pressures (Harris et al., 2016; Matzka et al., 2016; Peter., Tran, Michalski, & Mosr, 2018; Yi, Vitaliano, Smith, Yi, & Weinger, 2008; Yin et al., 2019) and the ability of mental resistance (Hanfstingl, 2013). It consists to a large extent of preventive processes (biological, knowledge, and spiritual) which help in finding a positive meaning in grave situations (Green, 2014). The concept of psychological resilience emphasizes reinforcing healthy performance and growth instead of focusing on mental problems (Li et al., 2015).

The first researchers supposed that psychological resilience is considered as a biological trait or a behavioral trait. However, the modern theories view that Psychological resilience is a functional state which consists of the personal traits and the protection factors which reinforce adapting with the pressures (Green, 2014).

Psychological resilience is considered a main indicator for the success of the individual in adapting with the circumstances of life (Abolghasemi & Varaniyab, 2010). Through the psychological resilience man can overpass challenges and difficulties which face him and overcome the feelings of anxiety, depression and mental disturbances (Liu et al., 2018; Sood, Prasad, Schroeder, & Varkey, 2011).

The definition of psychological resilience includes three main topics which are : pressuring circumstances, positive adaptation and taking risk (Wu et al., 2019).

This ability of the individual develops with the passage of time in the scope of the interactions of the individual with the environment (Fletcher & Sarkar, 2012) and which might have special effect in the following stages of old age (Harris et al., 2016; Yin et al., 2019). There is a group of psychological and social factors which contribute in psychological resilience including: effective dealing, knowledge reevaluation, positive social behavior, social support and others (Liu et al., 2018).

The concept of resilience has been connected with personal prosperity (Harms, Brady, Wood, & Silard, 2018; He et al., 2013) satisfaction with life, influence, the concept of the self, and participation (Bajaj & Pande, 2016), personal efficacy and ideal criteria, persistence, secure relations, control and spiritual influence (Sarrionandia et al., 2018) whereas some researchers considered that psychological resilience as the balance between pleasure and satisfaction with life (Kong et al., 2018).

Researchers have pointed out that there are common psychological traits among the individuals who have psychological resilience including; they are very optimistic, they feel that life is full of hope and they have curiosity for a new life (He et al., 2013).

In the recent period, Liu et al. (2018) have suggested a multi-system model of psychological resilience consisting of three structures which include:

- Physiological, biological and demographic features.
- Internal factors such as the family, friends and personal experiences.
- Obtaining health care and social services.

Man takes recourse to adaptation if his mental balance is upset due to not fulfilling his needs or not achieving his objectives. So he takes recourse to adaptation with the purpose of recovering his mental balance and lowering the anxiety and tension in him (Serebryakova et al., 2016). It also points out to the behavioral process in which the

individual achieves balance between his needs and the needs of the surrounding environment (Mahmood, 2015). Through these behavioral patterns, man can achieve psychological social balance between him and between the others, in a life which is devoid of conflicts that is adapting with society (Serebryakova et al., 2016).

The successful adaptation is reflected through man's ability to preserve positive results when confronting difficult situations (Ong et al., 2006) the ability to quickly recover from environmental pressures (Davidson, Jackson, & Kalin, 2000) preserving the personal value, restoring relations with others, and reinforcing the image of the individual personally and socially (Santon, Revenson, & Howard, 2007).

Psychological adaptation is defined as being the ability of the individual to adapt with the social environment, or changing this environment to suit himself (Wojujutari, Alabi, Emmanuel, & Olugbenga, 2018). It can also be defined as the existence or non-existence of a diagnosed mental disturbance or psychological symptoms or a negative temperament (Santon et al., 2007).

Social support affects adaptation from the physiological, knowledge and psychological aspects. Through support, the negative results of the difficult situations, and the physiological reactions resulting from tension can be lessened (Santon et al., 2007). However, low self respect can increase the possibility of bad psychological adaptation after the pressuring situations, and this is due to non-existence of positive feelings in self estimation (Zeigler-Hill & Wallace, 2012).

Among the positive indicators of adaptation are preserving the positive temperamental state and aim in life (Santon et al., 2007) satisfaction with life, feeling happy, preserving the functional performance, and preserving the daily activities (Ibrahim & Dahlan, 2015; Schaefer et al., 2013).

The concept of purpose in life is one of the important concepts in the positive psychology. It is an internal force which is responsible for the internal state of the individual (Verduin et al., 2008). The essence of human existence is that man should have purpose in life or what is called the life task (Ventegodt, Andersen, & Merrick, 2003).

Purpose in life is the psychological-social structure which embeds the feeling that the individual's life has an orientation and a meaning, and it is a basic component of the elements of psychological prosperity (Hill, Edmonds, Peterson, Luyckx, & Andrews, 2016; Wilson et al., 2018; Yiu et al., 2015).

The feelings of the purpose in life might be a psychological resource for the prevention of psychological pressures. For the individuals who have big purpose in life have the ability to use more effective adaptation strategies (Hill., Sin, Turiano, Burrow, & Almeida, 2018; Polenick, Kales, & Birditt, 2018). Thus this concept has acquired importance as being treatment mechanism, whereby the modern treatment interventions concentrate on helping people to develop, clarify and follow up the aim from organizing their life and their behaviors (Mcknight & Kashdan, 2013).

The literature in this domain indicates that the feeling of purpose in life is connected with the bodily and mental health and the quality of life in general (Alimujiang et al., 2019; Liu et al., 2018) whereby the individuals who have high purpose in life feel more power in their health (Kim, Strecher, & Ryff, 2014; Peter et al., 2015). Some physiological studies indicated that individuals having high purpose in life might live a longer life and the danger of being struck by weakness decreases among them. As for the mental state, they are less exposed to depression, sleep disturbances, knowledge lowering, and they have a good level of psychological health and more psychological and social adaptation to the sickness (Polenick et al., 2018; Schaefer et al., 2013). Socially, purpose in life among the individuals is connected positively with social integration and the quality of social relations (Li. et al., 2016).

The use of the meaning and purpose is used synonymously. The meaning and the purpose in life represent a group of positions and opinions which make the world understandable, such as the existence of aims for seeking through creative work, or performing the work or the task which is feasible, findings solutions in the difficult positions of life, loving a certain person, the experience of nature and culture, and a permanent suffering. It also works as an incentive and vital force for the aims in human life (Drageset, Haugan, & Tranvåg, 2017) and it reinforces healthy behaviors (such as relaxation and athletic exercises) which gives meaning to life (Alimujiang et al., 2019; Li. et al., 2016; Polenick et al., 2018; Zilioli, Slatcher, Ong, & Gruenewald, 2015). Although the development of purpose in life might begin in the childhood stage, the individuals do not look at it seriously until they reach the adulthood stage. Also the direct preventive influence of purpose in life protects the psychological prosperity of the individual via reinforcing the positive personality traits, and moving away from the source of tension and distress such as thinking of suicide (Law, 2012; Zhang, Mou, Tong, & Wu, 2018). This forms an important source for the prosperity of man (Drageset et al., 2017).

Purpose in life is an intention or a certain aim which the individual seeks to achieve (Drageset et al., 2017; Ibrahim & Dahlan, 2015). Finding a meaning is feeling that life has an importance, and it is worthy of interest. In case those fail in finding purpose in life, they suffer from the state of no meaning, and this is what Frankl called the existential vacuum (Drageset et al., 2017; Ventegodt et al., 2003).

This is a conceptualization which includes the satisfaction of the individual with the pevious and current daily activities of the individual (Chun, Heo, Lee, & Kim, 2016). Ryff and others pointed out to Purpose in life as being a feeling that life has a direction and the aims are applicable, whether on the short tern or on the middle turn or the long turn. This is connected with a more positive outlook to life, conceptualizing the personal growth, happiness, satisfaction, self respect, the motive for living and performing the daily activities (Boyle, Barnes, Buchman, & Bennett, 2009; Ribeiro, Neri, & Yassuda, 2018). The individuals who lack these aims in their life feel desperate, and they have no motivation for life in an active and healthy state (Alimujiang et al., 2019).

Purpose in life can be attained through creative work or art or science, from deep experiences and personal relations, and the difficult positions of suffering which cannot be avoided (Law, 2012). Education is a social tool which makes the individual faith and the future (Mahmood, 2015).

From the previous literature, the present study seeks to discover the relationship between psychological resilience and both of psychological adaptation and purpose in life, and to verify the relative contribution of the psychological Resilience in predicting psychological adaptation and pur in purpose in life among university students in the preparatory year.

From here it is possible to define the problem of this study through answering the following hypotheses:

- There is a positive statistically significant correlation between psychological resilience and adaptation among the sample of the study.
- Psychological adaptation can be predicted through psychological resilience among the sample of the study.
- There is a positive statistically significant correlation between psychological resilience and the purpose in life among the sample of the study.
- purpose in life can be predicted through psychological resilience among the sample of the study.

# 2. METHOD

### 2.1. Participants and Procedure

The present study followed the descriptive correlational methodology which attempts to discover the relations among variables. This study was conducted at Al-Istiqlal University in Palestine which includes (1200) male and

female students from the different geographical areas in Palestine and who are registered for the school year 2019/2020. The sample of the study consisted of (304) students from both sexes. They were chosen by the random cluster sample method according to the variables: gender and place of residence. All the questionnaires were retrieved and all of them were valid for statistical analysis. Table 1 clarifies the characteristics of the demographic sample. Demographic characteristics of case study participants.

**Table-1.** Demographic characteristics of the participants (n=304).

Variable	n (%)
	Gender
Male	208(68.4)
Female	96(31.6)
	Place of residence
Village	184(60.5)
Camp	39(12.8)
City	81(26.6)

Source: Field survey, 2019

### 2.2. Instruments of the Study

After reviewing many measures which suit the Arab environment, researchers adopted the following instruments:

### 2.3. Measure of Psychological Resilience

Researchers used the Measure of Psychological resilience which was prepared by Khaleel (2017). It consists of(30) items, whereby the items include the concept of psychological resilience. Response was defined by five alternatives (always, much, sometimes, rarely, and never). The validity of the measure—was verified through calculating the correlation coefficient between the mean of each item of the items of the measure with its total mean, and examining—the level of its significance at the statistical significance level—of ( $\alpha \le 0.05$ ). It was indicated that the correlation coefficient for all the items of the measure—with its total degree are statistically significant at ( $\alpha \le 0.05$ ) and they ranged between (.314 and .755).

### 2.4. Measure of Psychological Adaptation

Researchers used this measure which was developed by Jibreel (1996). It consists of (40) items which are answered according to the five-stage Lickert–Scale (always, most of the time, sometimes, little, never). The total degree of the measure ranges from (40-200). The correlation coefficient was calculated between the mean of each item of the items of the measure with its total mean , and examining the level of its significance at the statistically significant level of( $\alpha \le 0.05$ ), on the individuals of the sample of the study. It was indicated that the correlation coefficients for all the items of the measure with its total degree was statistically significant at ( $\alpha \le 0.05$ ), and they ranged between (.524 and 665).

## 2.5. Measure of the Purpose in Life

Researchers used measure of purpose in life which was prepared by Mu'awwdh and Mohammad (2005). It consists of (36 )items, the degrees of which range from (36-120) degrees. They are answered according to the five-stage Lickert Scale (Strongly agree, agree, somehow, disagree, strongly disagree). The measure consists of four dimensions (meaning of life, bearing responsibility, satisfaction with life, and quality of life). The correlation coefficient was calculated between the mean of each item of the items of the measure with its total mean, and

examining the level of its significance at the statistically significant level of ( $\alpha \le 0.05$ ). It was indicated that the correlation coefficients for all the items of the measure with its total degree is statistically significant at ( $\alpha \le 0.05$ ), and they ranged between (.424 and .705).

The validity degree of the instruments was verified through following the Internal Consistency method by using the validity coefficient of (Cronbach Alpha). The value of the validity coefficient for these measures is as indicated in the following Table 2:

**Table-2.** Value of validity coefficient for the instruments, psychological resilience, psychological adaptation, and purpose in life.

Dimension	Number of Items	Alpha Value
Psychological resilience	30	0.827
Psychological adaptation	40	0.804
Dimensions of the measure purpose in life		
Meaning of life	15	0.794
Bearing responsibility	9	0.872
Satisfaction with life	6	0.764
Quality of life	6	0.804
Purpose in life total degree	36	0.850

Source: Field survey, 2019.

### 2.6. Statistical Treatments of the Data

The arithmetic means and the standard deviations were calculated for answering the questions of the study. The (Pearson Correlation) coefficient was calculated, and the (Simple Regression) test in order to examine the hypotheses of the study, while the correlation coefficient of the instrument of the study was calculated by means of the Cronbach Alpha validity equation.

### 3. RESULTS

The First Hypothesis: There is a statistically significant positive correlation between psychological resilience and psychological adaptation among the university students.

In order to test the existence of a correlational relation between the level of psychological resilience and the level of psychological adaptation among the university students through the Pearson Correlation Test. The following clarifies this:

 $\textbf{Table-3.} \ \ Relationship \ between \ the \ level \ of \ psychological \ resilience \ and \ the \ level \ of \ psychological \ adaptation.$ 

Psychological Resilience	Psychological Adaptation
Correlation coefficient	.491**
Significance level	.000
Number	304

Note: \*\* Value of the Pearson correlation coefficient, statistically significant at the significance level of ( $\alpha \le 0.01$ ).

The Second Hypothesis: Psychological adaptation can be predicted through psychological resilience among the university students.

In order to test this hypothesis, the test of the Simple Linear Regression was conducted. The following clarifies this:

Table-4. The test of the simple linear regression for the level of psychological resilience in the level of psychological adaptation.

Independent Variable	R	R2	Coefficients		Statistical significar	
			Constant	В		
Psychological resilience	.491	.241	1.877	.420	.420	0.000
Source: Field survey, 2019.						

There is a statistically significant positive correlation at the significance level of ( $\alpha \leq 0.05$ ) between psychological resilience and psychological adaptation among the students of the university. This indicates the strength of the relationship between the two variables. It is also clear that the coefficient of the influence of psychological resilience in the psychological adaptation is(.420), and it indicates the existence of a direct linear relationship between psychological resilience and psychological adaptation. Also the value of the definition coefficient was(.241), and this clarifies that psychological resilience can interpret more than (24%) of the psychological adaptation among the students of the university.

Third Hypothesis: There is a statistically positive correlation between psychological resilience and purpose in life among the students of the university.

In order to test the existence of a correlational relationship between the level of psychological resilience and the level of purpose in life among the students of the university, this was done through the Pearson Correlation test. The following clarifies this.

Table-5. The relationship between the level of psychological resilience and the level of purpose in life.

	Psychological resilience
Meaning of life	
Correlation coefficient	.339**
Significance Level	.000
Number	304
Bearing responsibility	
Correlation coefficient	.473**
Significance level	.000
Number	304
Satisfaction with life	
Correlation coefficient	.365**
Significance level	.000
Number	304
Quality of life	
Correlation coefficient	.414**
Significance level	.000
Number	304
Purpose in life	
Correlation coefficient	.549**
Significance level	.000
Number	304

**Note:** \*\* Value of the Pearson Correlation Coefficient, statistically significant at the significance level of  $(\alpha \le 0.01)$ .

There is a linear relationship between the level of psychological resilience and the dimensions of purpose in life among the students of the university, and between the psychological resilience as a whole, whereby the significance level for all of these dimensions was (.000). This value is smaller than (0.05). It is also clear that this relationship is positive and relatively strong, whereby the correlation coefficients for the dimensions were successively (.339, .473, .365, .414, .549).

Fourth Hypothesis: purpose in life can be predicted through psychological resilience among the students of the university.

**Table-6.** The test of simple linear regression for the level of purpose in life.

Independent Variable	R	R2	Coefficients		Statistical	significance
			Constant	В		
Psychological resilience	.549	.301	1.626	.633	0.000	.549
Source: Field survey, 2019.						

There is a statistically significant positive correlation at the significance level of ( $\alpha \le 0.05$ ) between psychological resilience and purpose in life among the students of the preparatory year. This indicates the strength of the relationship between the two variables. It is also clear that the coefficient of the influence of psychological resilience in purpose in life is(.633). This indicates the existence of a direct linear relationship between psychological resilience and purpose in life. The value of the definition coefficient was(.301), this clarifies that psychological resilience can interpret more than(30%) from purpose in life among the students of the preparatory year.

### 4. DISCUSSION

University life is considered a difficult stage—for the students, whereby the student moves from the school environment to the university environment, which requires of him to deal efficiently with hard situations which confront him. This gives an incentive for him to achieve self organization and self efficacy (Bingöl, Batik, Hosoglu, & Firinci Kodaz, 2019).

From the results of the present study, it was indicated that there is a positive correlational relationship between psychological resilience and both of psychological adaptation and purpose in life among the students of the preparatory years. It was also indicated the ability of the psychological resilience to predict psychological adaptation and purpose in life. The researchers view that this is a logical result in the relationship of psychological resilience with the variables of the study.

These psychological factors are considered among the important factor for achieving success for the student, for they reflect the extent of his ability to confront the pressuring circumstances in the university environment and positive adaptation with them to achieve what the student aspires to, although the students in this stage live a disturbed transitional stage which requires of them to confront many personal and academic problems which are represented in quick transformations at the affective, cognitive and social levels.

The researchers believe that university students in the Palestinian society confront a number of difficulties and pressures. There are political, economic and social pressures. They live in a society which lacks political and economic stability, and there are less available opportunities to realize themselves and their ambitions. For they are in need of psychological capacities which enable them to continue with this life in order to achieve their goals through persistence, efficacy, psychological and social adaptation and bearing responsibility. It is as if the daily suffering which they live increases their internal psychological strength. This makes them stronger in confronting the challenges. This indicates that the students have the ability to adapt in a positive psychological way, to confront difficult situations and they have many aims in life. This reflects a state of satisfaction with life, meaning in their life and a high degree of psychological resilience. This means that the students have the ability to change their behaviors in order to adapt with the changing environmental circumstances, their ability to bypass successfully the negative experiences, adapting with the new life circumstances resulting from them and to deal positively with the new challenges. This includes a number of knowledge and cognitive strategies which are used in managing the pressures.

This is what was mentioned by Frankl (1958) who defined that people may develop a sense of goal even when they face big suffering (Neville et al., 2018). Life may have a meaning even under pressuring circumstances, and feeling purpose in life is necessary for preserving mental health (Boyle et al., 2009; Boyle. et al., 2012). This is what was emphasized by the study of Ulker-Tumlu and Recepoğlu (2013); Yakıcı and Traş (2018). The result of the present study agreed with the study of Wu et al. (2019) which emphasized that individuals who enjoy a high degree of psychological resilience are usually more successful in dealing with difficult situations, and they have the ability to take positive positions in the difficult circumstances which surround them.

Confrontation is considered a basic psychological characteristic and one of the important components of resilience (Gillespie, Chaboyer, & Wallis, 2007). These students have high expectations, a meaning for life, their own goals, the skill of solving personal problems, persistence, and tolerance (Connor & Davidson, 2003; Fayombo, 2010) and the ability to realize positive adaptation (Luthar et al., 2000).

### 5. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

It is indicated from this study that there are some restrictions concerning the sample, because it was confined to the students of the preparatory year only. Usually studies focus on the students of the university as a whole. Also there was no equality between the number of males and the number of females in the sample, and this affects the results of the study. Although the sample of the study was from all the geographical areas in the Palestinian society, the students from the society of the village were much more than from the society of the city and the camp. This perhaps has an effect on the results of the study, because the nature of the daily life and the prevailing social culture in the village, the city and the camp may play a role in defining the results of the study.

However, this study offered contribution in the educational literature through uncovering the predictive relationship of psychological resilience and both of the psychological adaptation and purpose in life.

### 6. CONCLUSIONS

It was indicated from the present study that there is a positive correlational relationship between psychological resilience and both of psychological adaptation and purpose in life. It was also indicated that the psychological resilience can predict psychological adaptation and purpose in life among the students of the preparatory year. This increases our understanding of the relations between psychological resilience and the relevant variables. This study can be an introduction for future predictive studies which take interest in the students, and take into consideration social, political and economic fators which might affect the power of endurance in them.

### 7. RECOMMENDATIONS

- Conducting predictive studies which deal with social, economic and political factors which might affect the
  psychological resilience of the students.
- Conducting similar studies which include all the students with other psychological variables such as
  psychological solidity, orientation towards the future, meaning of life and other concepts of positive
  psychology.

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