

ISLAMIC LAWS (SYARIAH LAWS)

The sources of the Islamic laws are the Al Quran, Hadith, Ijma and Qiyas. All Islamic rules are also Allah's Law. It is not created by men and is not a burden to human being since it is for their own good, to have a better living in this wonderful world. It is also a tool to differentiate between those who are wise and those are not.

The following references from the Holy Quran and the Hadith have been taken into account.

1. He has forbidden you Carrion (the decaying flesh of dead animal), and blood and the flesh of swine, and that over which any name other than God's has been invoked. (Surah 2, Al-Baqarah, verse 173)

2. Forbidden to you is Carrion, and blood, and the flesh of swine and that over which any name other than God's has been invoked, and the animal that has been strangled, or beaten to death, or killed by a fall, or gored to death or savaged by a beast of prey, save that which you yourselves may have slaughtered while it was still alive. (Surah 5, Al-Maidah, verse 3)

3. The Prophet (Peace be upon him) prohibited from Satanic slaughtering, where jugular veins are left intact and just the skin alongside with some flesh tissues is cut. (Abu Daud)

4. The Prophet (Peace be upon him) prohibited cutting the spinal marrow of the goat while slaughtering. (Tibrani)

5. Abdullah Ibn-e-Abbas, Anas and Abdullah Ibn-e-Umar (Allah be pleased with them all) said that if an animal is slaughtered from the back of the neck, its meat is not Halal. (Bukhari)

Method of Slaughter in Islam (Zibh)

Muslim slaughter is an entity to the religion. The method of slaughtering is according to the Islamic Law. It is different from other religion's slaughtering method; it is not a ritual slaughtering and offerings to god. Halal animals are slaughtered to express respects to them and to thank Allah for It's gifts in providing the animal as clean and healthy food. The act of slaughtering must assure the animal suffer minimal pain as possible. All forms of Islamic slaughtering must comply with the following regulations:

a) Slaughtering must be performed manually by Muslim of sound mind, mature and he fully understands the fundamentals and conditions related to slaughtering.

- b) Animals to be slaughtered must be animals that are permitted (Halal) to be eaten.
- c) Live animals living in their habitat (Hayat Mustaqirrah). The animal must be healthy and not in the state of stress.
- d) At the time of slaughtering the name of Allah must be invoked by saying:

Bismillah, Allahu Akber

(I begin (the slaughtering) in the name of Allah - Allah is the Greatest)

- e) If at the time of slaughtering the name or names of someone other than Allah is invoked, the meat becomes Haram (Unlawful).
 - f) The respiratory tract, esophagus (channel for taking in food) and jugular vein must be severed, to assure maximum removal of blood and less suffering to the animal, and
 - g) All slaughtering devices must be sharp and are not made of bones, nails and teeth. The use of sharp and clean slaughtering devices is to assure that the act of slaughtering is quick and not cruel to the animal and that the animal experience minimal pain as possible.
 - h) The blood of the slaughtered animal must be drained as completely as possible.
 - i) The neck of the animal should not be disjoined during slaughtering intentionally.
- HALAL in general term means permitted, allowed, authorized, approved, lawful, legal, legitimate whereas HARAM means unlawful or prohibited.

Toyyiba

In fact the basis of Halal itself is hygiene and health (Halal and Toyyiba). Toyyiba refers to the food being wholesome, with respect to quality, safety, hygiene, cleanliness and nutrition and authentically scientific.

Mashbooh

The food refers as Mashbooh if it is questionable or uncertain to be consumed. For example, food having ingredients such as emulsifiers, gelatin and enzymes.

The word 'Food for Muslims' or 'food certified Halal' or 'Halal' or having similar meanings can be define as follows:

- a) Free of, and not made of, or containing any part or substance taken or extracted from animal which are forbidden (HARAM) to be consumed by Muslims, according to Islamic laws.
- b) Not containing any substances, which is declared as filth according to Islamic Laws.
- c) Not prepared, processed, produced or manufactured using utensils, equipment and / or machinery which are not free from filthy substances as directed by Islamic Laws.

Filth according to Islamic Law

Filth is things that are considered as impure and dirty and it should not be used as foods, clothes, drinks or others. Filth, according to Islamic Law, are:

Substances such as Pork, Blood and Carcasses (Carrion) which are filth by themselves and as such cannot be accepted as clean.

Sources of Halal Foods and drinks

Animals - it can be divided into two main categories:

- a) Land Animals.
- b) Water Animals.

1) **Land animals** - All land animals are permitted to be eaten **except**:

- a) Animals not slaughtered according to Islamic Laws.
- b) Pigs.
- c) Dogs.
- d) Carnivorous animals that slash and kill, such as tigers, bears and other similar animals.
- e) Birds with claws or birds that feed by snatching and tearing, such as eagles, vultures, hawks, Falcon etc (Scavengers and birds of prey)
- f) Animals which are permitted to be killed in Islam such as rats, centipedes, eagles, scorpion and other similar animals.
- g) Animals and insects forbidden to be killed in Islam, as ants, bees and woodpecker and any other animals.
- h) Animals which are generally considered as repulsive such as lice, flies and other similar animals.

2) **Water animals**:

Water animals are those which live only in water. They are Halal (Permissible) and can be eaten, except if poisonous, intoxicated, and harmful to human health.

Drinks

All forms of water are permissible (Halal) and can be taken except if they are poisonous, intoxicating, and harmful to human health. Islam forbids the intake of alcoholic and intoxicating drinks such as wines and alcoholic beers.

Presentation and Storage

All Halal goods that are kept, displayed and served must be isolated from goods that are non-Halal to prevent mixing or contaminating with filth. Any goods coming in contact with filth or non-Halal materials are considered as filth and Haram to be used or eaten.

Food processing and cooking

All processed foods are Halal if the ingredients used are Halal, so as and the processing done is clean and free from the filth.

Halal Label (Permissible)

The used of label 'HALAL', 'CERTIFIED HALAL' or any other statement which can give similar meaning, permitting, allowing Muslim to eat, drink and manufacture, preparation and sale in the premises is Halal for Muslims.