Halal Culture

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@AzkaHalal

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"O those who believe, eat of the good things We have provided you." (2:172)

Prohibited to you are dead animals, blood, the flesh of swine, and that which has been dedicated to other than Allah, and killed by strangling or by a violent blow or by a head-long fall or by the goring of horns, and those from which a wild animal has eaten, except what you slaughter, and those which are sacrificed on stone altars (5:3).
O you who have believed, indeed, intoxicants, gambling, [sacrificing on] stone alters [to other than Allah], and divining arrows are but defilement from the work of Satan, so avoid it that you may be successful. (5:90)

Abu Ya’la Shaddad ibn Aus, radiyallahu ‘anhu, reported that the Messenger of Allah, sallallahu ‘alayhi wasallam, said:

“Verily, Allah has enjoined excellence (ihsan) with regard to everything. So, when you kill, kill in a good way; when you slaughter, slaughter in a good way; so everyone of you should sharpen his knife, and let the slaughtered animal die comfortably.”
It has been narrated by al-Bukhari and Muslim that Muhammad peace be upon him said:

“That which is Halaal is clear and that which is Haraam is clear, and between the two of them are ambiguous (mutashabihat) matters about which many people do not know.

It has been narrated by al-Bukhari and Muslim that Muhammad peace be upon him said:

Thus he who avoids ambiguous matters clears himself in regard to his religion and his honour, but he who falls into ambiguous matters (eventually) falls into that which is Haraam,
It has been narrated by al-Bukhari and Muslim that Muhammad peace be upon him said:

"like the shepherd who pastures around a sanctuary, all but grazing therein. Truly every king has a sanctuary, and truly Allaah’s sanctuary is His prohibitions. Truly in the body there is a morsel of flesh, which, if it be whole, all the body is whole, and which, if it is diseased, all of (the body) is diseased. Truly, it is the heart.”

So

If you straighten your heart

your deeds will be straightened
Halal Culture

Is the knowledge of the religious and scientific aspects of Halal, Haram, Mushbooh, Makrooh and Tayyib and the knowledge and the steps taken to avoid Haram and doubtful products especially during this era.

Halal Culture

Part of Halal Culture is also the necessary proactive actions taken to be surrounded with Halal globally especially at this time of our life.
Halal

Is a Divine value system and lifestyle and is applicable to all facets of life.

Halal

A religious terminology of Islam that means “allowed” or “lawful”.

Halal is that which is permitted and allowed by Divine Law. With respect to Halal, there are no restrictions of consumption or use.
Haram

A religious terminology of Islam that means “prohibited”, “forbidden” or “unlawful”.

Haram is that which is absolutely forbidden by Divine law.

Halal and Haram have aspects in all parts of our life.
Mushbooh

A religious terminology of Islam meaning “suspected”.

If one does not know whether a food or drink is Halal. Such a food/drink is Mushbooh.

Makrooh

A religious terminology of Islam that means things/acts that we were asked not to do, but not in a definitive manner.
Makrooh

It may be said that it means that for which the person who does not do it out of obedience will be rewarded, but the one who does it will not be punished.

However, a person who is persisting and disregarding Makrooh will encourage himself on doing Haram.

Tayyib

A religious terminology of Islam that means “good and pure”.

In the Qur'an (God’s revelations to mankind) the concept of Tayyib is explicitly coupled with the injunction of eating Halal.
Azka

A religious terminology of Islam that means “purer”.

My references in this lecture are the documents collected over 32 years in a book of 4 volumes that list what have actually happened with regard to Halal services and I entitled it: A guide to official documents with regard to food and slaughter according to Islamic rites.
Some believe that prohibition involves only what Muslim consume of Food but it also involve what he/she used or consume as a drug or cosmetics, skin & health care products so as its ingredients not to be of forbidden sources.

It was narrated that Jabir bin Abdullah, may Allah be pleased with him: that he heard the Messenger of Allah peace be upon him at the year of the conquest of Mecca he said:

"Allah and His Messenger have forbidden the sale of alcohol and dead, pork and idols." Then it was said, O Messenger of Allah, what do you think of fat of dead animals (i.e. of eaten meat), they applied to the ships, and varnishing the hides, and used as a source of lighting for the people? He said: “No. It is forbidden“.

So, this is an evidence that even the utilization of Haram components is forbidden
I will be focusing on some of the many misconceptions in two broad area:

In this subject of Halal and Haram
In Food, Cosmetics, Drugs, Skin & Health care Products.

We have a Crisis in Halal awareness
There is **No** interest in Halal

Halal has one meaning!

But with consumers

Halal

Has a confused meaning
The Confused meaning of Halal is due to:

1) the lack of necessary information about the integrity of the complete Halal chain of many products ranging from Food to Health care Products.

And

2) The spread of *rumors* between consumers.
And

2) The spread of spectrum of controversial opinions issued by Mufties who made their Fatwas based on assumptions rather than actual case. They also did not differentiate between compulsory and non-compulsory cases, and between self and forced transformation cases.

These religious opinions has resulted in opening a door that allowed the entry of what is permissible and what is not permissible.

Enrich your Halal Culture with the following list of facts that are in agreement with all Halal services provider:
1) Living in a Muslim country does not mean that the products sold in their markets are Halal. Why?

Because their markets are open to global markets and they do not have effective Halal laws.

2) Products that are made in Muslim countries are not necessarily Halal. Why?

Because it is universally known that the country that is last packaged the product put its name on the label.
Think with me:
• We buy English tea! But does Britain grown tea? Answer: No

• And there is an orange juice made in Kuwait! But does Kuwait grow oranges? Answer: No

So, the country that is last packaged the product put its name on the label.

**Question**: Is the raw meat used by famous local companies in the Gulf countries to manufacture processed meat products like hot dogs and sausages are from a meat of locally slaughtered cows, lamb or chickens??

**The Answer**: All locally processed meat products are made from imported meat from non-Muslim countries with few and very rare exceptions.
Q: Are imported raw meats really Halal?

I.e., Was the meat stunned or came into contact with forbidden materials!

Answer:

Meat that are sold in the market are of three kinds:

Fresh meat
Chilled meat
Frozen meat

What is the different?
Fresh meats are from locally slaughtered animal/birds

Chilled and frozen meats are from meat of animals/birds that are slaughtered in non-Muslim countries.

Chilled and Frozen meat are stunned before slaughtered

One exception which is very rare to happen: some slaughter houses from non-Muslim countries start from non-stunned meat.

But, what is stunning? And what's wrong with it?

Is to make the animal or bird at the time of slaughter motionless and in certain types of electrical stunning without breathing as well.
What is the effect of stunning on bird/animal before slaughter?

All cows in the west are stunned mostly with percussive captive bolt stunner on their heads and if left without slaughtering it will not go back to life (i.e., Mawqoozah).

In France as well as in many European countries and for the purpose of fast lost of consciousness birds are stunned to death at low frequencies (50Hz)*.

Many variables decide the quality of Stunning (in term of death and living of the stunned animals), and the most important ones are:

Current (mA) and Frequency (Hz)

But

Frequency (Hz) is the parameter most causative of killing the animal during stunning.

Accordingly, chicken carcasses, which comes to all GCC and Middle East countries from Europe, America and Brazil, that is accompanied with a Halal certificate and is stunned with a frequency of 50 Hz the percentage rate of killed ranged from 61%-99%.

At 75 M amp the rate kill is 61%
At 90 M amp the rate kill is 81%
At 120 M amp the rate kill is 90%
At 150 M amp the rate kill is 99%
At higher stunning frequencies (1500Hz) chickens recover back to clear signs of life after slaughtering (after 57 seconds)**.

But stunning at the high frequency, the slaughtering process of stunned chickens is much faster than the time chickens recover back to clear signs of life.


So, what is the verdict?

We find the verdict in the Muwatta, of Imam Malik: With Mawqoozah and in similar cases, if the animal/bird can not live with, it is not permissible to eat its meat even if it was slaughtered before death*.

He also put a condition for the Zabiha, he said: if the animal/bird at the time of slaughtering has No ongoing breathing and it is not in a disturbance state, then its meat after slaughtering is not allowed to be eaten.*
So: Is all imported raw meat to GCC for processing are stunned.

According to international food laws, the processing plant that last packed the product must put its name and its country on the packaged label.

Because the consumer read on the packaged label Made in a Muslim country he thought and kept in his mind that the slaughter has been in an a Muslim country.

Where it has actually happened in Australia.
And apply on any product that contains food or medicine or cosmetics or skin care product.

A country of origin for raw materials is not known.

Where do you stand with Chicken soups, or Beef/Chicken Cubes?

Is the starting meat material Halal?

I do not know the answer, but definitely the raw materials came from various parts of the world. I advise strongly to avoided these products. Why? Because the last factory who has packaged the product has put its name on the packaging label.

Another reason is that the same machines that processed these products possibly has previously processed Haram material.
I have personally detected traces of pork in locally manufactured minced lamb meat sold in one of the GCC market with a Halal label.

This lead me to the next question:

Q: Is the complete manufacturing chain of imported raw food in the country of origin Halal?

To answer this question I have to put forward these facts:
Do you know of a new technology that some western commercial apple juices (rare case) are clarified using animal gelatin (bovine, or pig), and this **hidden ingredient** is **allowed not to be written** on the food label.

And then we get surprised why do they write the word **Halal** on apple juice.
Surprisingly some Muslim countries put the word **Halal** on bottled Water. **Why?**

Because water over there is filtered in some occasions, before being bottled, using fine animal bones !!

What about food additives like:

**E470-E479**

These are **emulsifiers** of unknown fat origin, and even if it is written on the label: **of vegetable origin**; it must be verified by a third party.

**E542**

This is a bone phosphate that is used as **anticaking agent** in **powdered products** like chocolate, coffee, and so on.
We complete

The list agreed between **Halal** services providers

3) Products like soaps (all types) bars, **hand washing liquids**, shampoos, detergents and toothpastes that are manufactured by Muslim countries are not necessarily **Halal**.
Because these factories do not necessarily start with Halal raw materials.

Or they mold what they receive from the mother company.

Examples:

Most of the famous Soap brand names made in Saudi Arabia are made from Animal fat of unknown origin.

Surprisingly, these soaps are well spread in Malaysian markets and thought by the consumers as Halal and they think because it came from Saudi Arabia, so it must be Halal!!
Will you go for these brands for your next shopping?

Or will you be looking for alternative brands that are made of 100% pure vegetable oil?

Lotions, cosmetics, and antiperspirants contain fats of unknown sources, better to avoid them.
Alternative: Halal Lotion, and Halal beauty products, and Halal deodorants.

What toothpaste do you use?

All toothpaste brands are manufactured from fat (glycerin) of unknown sources.
Toothpastes produced without the use of fat (Glycerin). If the word glycerin is mentioned without specifying its source my advise is to avoid.

Toothpastes of known brands produced in Malaysia of palm oil is also your best choice.

4) Products that are sold in international food chain restaurants/shops owned by Muslims are not necessarily Halal.
5) Products that its ingredients written in Arabic are not necessarily Halal.

6) Products that some of there ingredients refer to be from vegetable sources are not necessarily Halal.
Also:

7) Products written on their label: free of animal fats does not necessarily mean it is Halal.

And

8) Products written on their label: Does not contain fat or meat from pig are also not necessarily Halal.

Why?
Because it may also contain undeclared hidden forbidden components.

These allegations need a third party to confirm them (i.e., a Halal Accredited Muslim body).

What do you know about Aspartame or E951?

Do you now it is made from two amino acids of unknown sources and its synthesis is catalyzed by an enzyme called Acylase that come from pigs kidney.

But what is Aspartame?

It is the sweetener used in all diet drinks and food.

NutraSweet® · Canderel® · Sweetex® · Natra Taste® · Equal®
What do you know about Rennet in cheese?

This enzyme convert milk into cheese, but what is the source of this enzyme?

Mostly comes from animal sources of unknown status of the slaughter.

Our best go would be microbial rennet.

What follows: Is to avoid all cheeses, cheese burger, pizzas, Kenafa, and spread cheeses unless the cheese made from microbial rennet.

But

If it comes to our attention that the microbial rennet is from a starting Haram material then we should avoid it.
What do you know about Gelatin E441

It is the animal (Bovine or Pig) protein that is used to hold or capsule Food/medicine.

Also found in many food and medical products.

Many Mufties mad a wrong Fatwa on Gelatin and gave it the Halal verdict based on the transformation theory (Istihala).

However, many who thought that Gelatin transformed have based their verdicts on the assumption that it has transformed.

Another example of transformation Mufties always give is Soap! Soap defined as the salt of fat.

Q: But does Fat transform in Soap making?

A: I do not think so.
9) Meals (or airline flight meals) that are intended for Vegans consumption (100% of vegetable sources) are not necessarily Halal.

And

10) Jewish kosher meals are also not necessarily Halal.
Because there is a kosher wine, a vegetarians wine, and there is also a kosher porcine gelatin that may enter kosher diets.

Porcine = Pig/Pork

11) And the phrase: slaughtered by hand, and fed with 100% Pure Vegetable feed is not necessarily Halal.
Why?

Because slaughtering by hand does not negate stunning before or after slaughter.

Our best go would be locally slaughtered meat.

But Watch out!

There are chickens that are slaughtered in Arabian Gulf countries using electrical stunning, to avoid ask before you buy.

The other option is: Brazilian Chicken labeled: without stunning.
Also, pay attention to these Islamic countries because they use electrical stunning on their chickens:

- Malaysia
- Turkey
- Some of UAE poultry (Al-Ein)

Jordan and Morocco also encourage the use of electric stunning before slaughter of chickens.

Do not Ask if it is **Halal**

Ask where it has been slaughtered
12) Products that are printed on their packages with the word **Halal** are not necessarily Halal.

Again

The allegation need a third party to confirm it (i.e., a Halal Accredited Muslim body).

**Q:** What does it mean buying non-stunned meat?

**A:** It mean glorification one of Allah’s (God’s) rituals that is slaughtering without stunning where a gushing of blood at the time of slaughter as prescribed by Islam a situation that does not happen with stunning.
One of Islam’s visual rituals is slaughtering according to Islam as described in the hadith.....

«What cause it to bleed like rivers and the name of God was uttered upon it then eat, ---------------------- -----> * Agreed.

Whoever glorify Allah’s (God’s) rituals it is from the piety of hearts

Buying soap made from vegetable oil is a form of glorifying the rituals of Allah; because the prevailing soap in the market is from the fat of stunned animals.
There is **No** interest in Halal

Practically

Most governments in Muslim countries and Muslim consumers are not serious or even interested in Halal
Officially, most Islamic countries have a meat law with the following statements:

“All imported meat shipments Must be accompanied by a Halal certificate."

But in practice
There is no law regulate Halal certificates

We can detect fraud in Halal certificates with a little homework.

I personally got to know many types of fraud in Halal certificates, and here is some examples:
It has come to one of the Arabian Gulf countries a Halal Certificate from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) where a non-Muslim employee within that department has declared that the meat shipment is **Halal**.

A Halal Certificate issued by a Christian Officials named Ed Jones
Another Halal certificate issued by New Zealand meat factory where the plant manager who is also a non-Muslim declared that the meat is Halal.

A Halal Certificate issued by a Christian organization (here it is the company)
And as long as the shipment is accompanied by a piece of paper [says] it is Halal it is accepted by the authorities in the imported Islamic countries.

Therefore, we find that some slaughterhouses in Western countries are willing to do anything to get certificates from a Fake Halal supervisors (i.e., they are forging Halal certificates and Halal seals), and put the Halal word written in Arabic.

For example: 

![Halal symbol]
The original Seal and fake one of the Australian Federation of Islamic Councils

The original Seal and fake one of the Federation of Islamic Associations of New Zealand
Therefore, **International Islamic Fiqh Academy** Warned Islamic countries not to count much on the **Halal seals signs** on imported meat.

**Why?**

Because producers in West countries do not care for the requirements of Islamic rites.

It is indeed disturbing that the embassies of the Arabs or the Arab Gulf states put behind Halal certificates their stamped declaring the authenticity of the seals on the certificates without incurring any responsibility for the content of the certificate.
The seal of an Arab Embassy or of an Islamic country is on the back of Halal slaughtering certificate witnessing the authenticity of seal on the certificate with a statement that said: the embassy is not responsible for the contents of that certificate.

In conclusion, the embassy here does not mean that the meat covered by a certificate is Halal.

Another example of no interest in Halal:

The existence of following statement:

Importers must put the word “Halal" on packaged meat and the words "beef" or "fish" on packaged products containing gelatin, with a certificate issued by the exporter!!

So as to allow entry of such products.

These statements are taken that these products are Halal.
They are misleading.... Why?

Because in most of these cases and in other similar cases these statements and certificates have not been verification by a third party, which is:

HALAL IS MORE THAN JUST A LABEL,
IT IS AN ASSURANCE OF QUALITY, SAFETY AND CLEALINESS TO ALL
In some cases, Halal services is being offered by a group claimed to be Muslim, and by virtue of Islam are not Muslims.

An example would be:
The Halal certificates issued by Qadiani in Western Australia.
Finally

A Rabi is issuing Halal certificate to the Muslims

A Halal Certificate
issued by a Jewish
Rabi in Germany
This is a Kosher Certificate that is also issued by the same Jewish Rabbi in Germany. The Rabi signatures in the two certificates hold different names.
Rabbi Abraham Hochwald Z"L was Regional Rabbi of the Northern Rhine, received his semicha from Yeshivas Hebron (Jerusalem) and was a member of the Conference of German Rabbis and the Conference of European Rabbis. He started with his Kosher Certificates in 1980.

Rabbi Hod-Hochwald is Head of the Kashrus-Commission of the ORD (Orthodoxe Rabbiner Deutschland). He received his semicha from Yeshivas Hebron (Jerusalem) and is a member of the Conference of German Rabbis and the Conference of European Rabbis. He also wrote articles on Kashrus in International Food Ingredients and in the Jewish press in Europe and Israel.

We offer an extensive knowledge of the structure of the German food industry, including raw materials and chemical substances, and a perfect knowledge of several European languages, besides Hebrew and Yiddish.
سبحنك اللهم وحميدك أشهد أن لا إله إلا أنت، أستغفرك وأتوب إليك

Dr. Hani Mansour Al-Mazeedi
With brother Amjad Mahboob
in Australia in 1981