



**O mankind!
Eat of that which
is lawful and
good on the
earth
[Al Baqarah 2:168]**

The issue of halal meat is one of importance in Islam, however in recent times with the advent of modernisation Muslims have gone away from tradition methods of slaughtering. We should always refer back to Allah and His Messenger for all Islamic rulings, as Allah (swt) says,

(And) if you differ in anything amongst yourselves, refer it to Allah and His Messenger [Surah An Nisa' 4:59]

'THE ISLAMIC PRACTICE IS TO SLAUGHTER THE ANIMAL'

In Islam the practice is known as 'Dhabh' (slaughter) which has always been to apply a sharp blade to the neck of the animal.

The Messenger (saw) said,

"Verily Allah has prescribed proficiency in all things. Thus, if you kill, kill well; and if you slaughter, slaughter well. Let each one of you sharpen his blade and let him spare suffering to the animal he slaughters." [Sahih Muslim] #5167

And Allah (swt) says,

**Therefore turn in prayer to your Lord and sacrifice
(to Him only) [Surah Al Kawthar 108:2]**

Allah (swt) has twinned slaughtering with prayer, both are ritual acts. The ritual act in Islam has a set form which must be done in accordance with the example of Muhammad (saw) who said, "Take (learn) your ritual acts from me" [Musnad Ahmed] #14793

THE CONDITIONS FOR DHABH

There are six main conditions:

- 1 Muslim slaughterer (Male or Female)
- 2 The Slaughterers must pray
- 3 The knife must be sharp
- 4 The slaughtering must be merciful
- 5 Must mentioned Allah (swt) name
- 6 Must spill all blood of the animals

The following should be considered:

- Don't harm the animal pre-dhabh
- Carry out dhabh in a slaughterhouse
- Use Halal Meat Only slaughterhouse
- This is to avoid haram contamination

THE CONSEQUENCE OF HARAM

Unanswered Supplication (Dua'):

"O Lord! O Lord!" While his food is unlawful, his drink is unlawful, his clothing is unlawful, and he is nourished unlawfully, so how can he be answered?" [Sahih Muslim] #2393

Will Not Enter Paradise:

A body nourished with Haram will not enter Jannah (Paradise)". [Tirmidhi and Tabarani]

Incur The Wrath Of Allah (SwT):

"And Allah curses him who sacrifices for anyone besides Allah" [Sahih Muslim] #5239

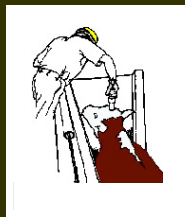
Leads to Apostasy:

'Eat not, Oh believers, of that meat on which Allah (swt's) name has not been pronounced at the time of slaughtering the animal, for surely it is Fisq and certainly the evil do inspire their friends to dispute with you and if you were to obey them by making a **dead (un-slaughtered) animal lawful and eating it, then you would indeed be Mushrikoun' (Polytheists).** [Surah Al Anam 6:121]

STUNNING IS NOT A HALAL METHOD!



Captive Bolt Gun



Stunning is not an Islamic method of slaughtering. It causes harm to the animal as well restricts spilling of the blood from the animal.

Experimental studies in Europe have deduced the following:

"Islamic slaughtering is the most humane method of slaughter and that captive bolt stunning, practiced in the West, causes severe pain to the animal."

The Effects Of Stunning

Animals die before Dhabh
Rotten blood is left inside
Pain & cruelty inflicted
Repeat stunning on failure
Risk of Mad Cow Disease (BSE)

The Effects Of Dhabh

Dhabh does not touch the nervous system at all. Rather it allows the brain to function and thereby keeps the heart working expelling the blood.

COMMON HARAM PRACTICES



Abu Hurayrah (R.A.) narrates that the Prophet of Allah (SAW) said, "A time will come upon the people wherein a person will not bother what he intakes, whether from a Halal source or from a Haram source." [Sahih Bukhari]

- Taped Tasmiyah playing of 'Bismillah Allahu Akbar' .
- Non-Muslims Slaughtering the animal.
- Mechanical slaughter carried out by a mechanical rotating blade with no Muslim to actually carry out the dhabh.
- Butchers unaware of the Islamic Method (Even though they display the Halal logo!)
- Proclaiming Bismillahi over haram meat does not make it halal. Especially burgers from McDonalds etc...
- Haram meat in schools, restaurants, fast-food shops, planes, trains and other public places.
- Haram meat at Muslim functions & gatherings. Generally we shouldn't doubt them. However in light of the issue we should check.

CONCLUSION

In order for any meal to be considered Halal, it is necessary that the entire process from the raw source; meat, ingredients to preparation; cooking, freezing, storage and dispatch to consumption be in accordance to the Islamic requirements.

It is imperative that we ensure the meat we eat is halal to the best of our abilities. It is sinful to eat meat which is not slaughtered or cooked in accordance to Islam. Haram meat is void of any blessings from Allah (swt) and this will have consequences on our subsequent actions. The text on the issue is so clear-cut and the practice of Muslims for centuries was to adhere vehemently to the ways of the Messenger (saw) and his Companions (Rah).

We trust this short treatise explained the key points related to the issue of Halal Meat, and Allah (swt) knows best.

For further information on the issue of Halal Meat please refer to our book - 'The Issue of Halal Meat'

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