



# SANHA CONFERENCE - 2008

“Raising Halaal to greater heights”



Presented by: Mufti Zubair Bayat (MA)

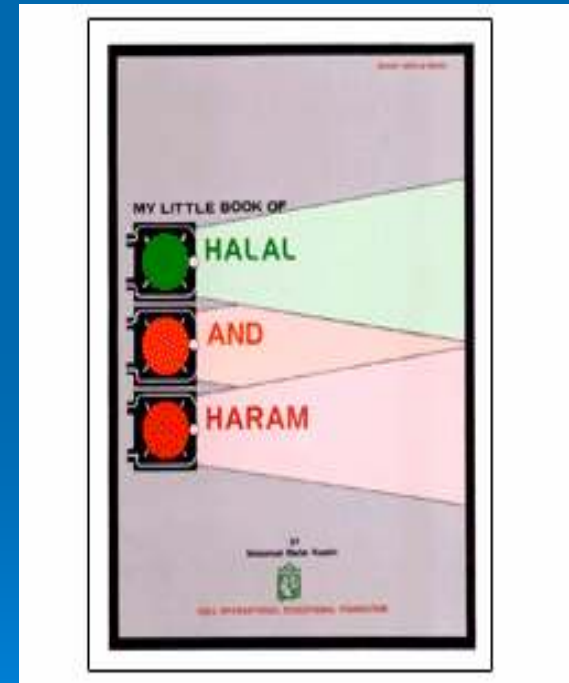
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# **ISLAMIC METHOD OF SLAUGHTER – AN EMPIRICAL STUDY**

A conceptual framework for explaining the rationale on Islamic dietary regulation

# ISLAMIC METHOD OF SLAUGHTER



# ISLAMIC METHOD OF SLAUGHTER

## WHAT IS HALAAL & HARAAM?

The author of 'A Concise Dictionary of Islamic Terms' defines Halaal as: "Lawful, permissible, legal, sacrificed with the name of Allah",

and Haraam as: "Prohibited, unlawful, forbidden and punishable from the view-point of Islam".

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## WHAT IS HALAAL?

- **Halaal** is an Arabic word meaning lawful or permitted.
- The opposite of **Halaal** is **Haraam**, which means unlawful or prohibited.
- **Halaal** and **Haraam** are universal terms that apply to all facets of life. However, we will use these terms for this activity in relation to food products, meat products, cosmetics, personal care products, food ingredients and food contact materials.
- It is the responsibility of every Muslim to eat pure (**Halaal**) foods.

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## HOLY QU'RAN ON THE SUBJECT OF HALAAL & HARAAM

- 2:168. O mankind! Eat of that which is lawful and wholesome in the earth, and follow not the footsteps of the satan. Surely! he is an open enemy for you.
- 2:172. O you who believe! Eat of the good things which We have provided you, and render thanks to Allah if it is (indeed) He whom you worship.
- 5:3. Forbidden to you (for food) are carrion and blood and swine flesh, and that which has been dedicated to any other than Allah, and the strangled, and the dead through beating, and the dead through falling from a height, and that which has been killed by (the goring of) horns, and the devoured of wild beasts, except that which you make lawful (by the death stroke).

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- 2:173. He has forbidden you only carrion, and blood, and swine flesh, and that which has been immolated to (the name of) any other than Allah. But he who is driven by necessity, neither craving nor transgressing, it is no sin for him. Surely! Allah is Forgiving, Merciful.
- 6:119. Eat of that over which the name of Allah Has been mentioned, if you are believers in His revelations.
- 5:4. They ask you (O Muhammad) what is made lawful for them. Say : ( all ) good things are made lawful for you. And those beasts and birds of prey which you have trained as hounds are trained, you teach them that which Allah taught you; so eat of that which they catch for you and mention Allah's name upon it, and observe your duty to Allah. Surely! Allah is swift to take account.



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## REQUIREMENTS OF ZABAH (SLAUGHTER)

- ◆ **Alive & Halaal (herbivorous) Species.**
- ◆ **Healthy/Disease Free Animals/Birds.**
- ◆ **Appropriate restraining method, humane handling, not to slaughter in front of other animals, sharp knife should be used.**
- ◆ **Slaughtering by a trained Muslim; no stunning.**
- ◆ **Invocation comprising of God's name. "Bismillahi Allahu Akbar" — verbally recited.**
- ◆ **Cut between throat and lower jaw, minimum of 3 out of 4 vessels to be cut. Cutting of throat, oesophagus, carotid arteries and jugular vein, but not backbone.**
- ◆ **Maximum bleeding.**
- ◆ **Good hygiene standards.**

# ISLAMIC METHOD OF SLAUGHTER

## RATIONALE FOR ISLAMIC DIETARY REGULATIONS

- Blood is a carrier of disease. With slaughter, most of the flowing blood is removed. This protects against contamination of the flesh, preventing disease.

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## GERMAN RESEARCH STUDIES PAIN INDEX IN SLAUGHTERED ANIMALS VS. STUNNED ANIMALS

- The results of a study carried out by Professor Wilhelm Schulze and his colleague Dr. Hazim at the School of Veterinary Medicine, Hannover University in Germany is interesting. The study: 'Attempts to Objectify Pain and Consciousness in Conventional (captive bolt pistol stunning) and Ritual (halal, knife) Methods of Slaughtering Sheep and Calves' concludes that Islamic slaughtering is the most humane method of slaughter and that captive bolt stunning, practiced in general, causes severe pain to the animal.

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- In the study, several electrodes were surgically implanted at various points of the skull of all animals, touching the surface of the brain. Some animals were slaughtered (Islamic method). Other animals were stunned using a Captive Bolt Pistol (CBP). During the experiment, an electroencephalograph (EEG) and an electrocardiogram (ECG) recorded the condition of the brain and the heart of all animals during the course of slaughter and stunning.

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## THE RESULTS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

### I – Islamic Method

- 1. The first three seconds from the time of Islamic slaughter as recorded on the EEG did not show any change from the graph before slaughter, thus indicating that the animal did not feel any pain during or immediately after the incision.
- 2. For the following 3 seconds, the EEG recorded a condition of deep sleep - unconsciousness. This is due to the large quantity of blood gushing out from the body.
- 3. After the above-mentioned 6 seconds, the EEG recorded zero level, showing no feeling of pain at all.
- 4. As the brain message (EEG) dropped to zero level, the heart was still pounding and the body convulsing vigorously (a reflex action of the spinal cord) driving a maximum amount of blood from the body thus resulting in hygienic meat for the consumer.

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## II - Conventional method by C.B.P. Stunning

- 1. The animals were apparently unconscious soon after stunning.
- 2. EEG showed severe pain immediately after stunning.
- 3. The hearts of animals stunned by C.B.P. stopped beating earlier as compared to those of the animals slaughtered according to the Islamic method resulting in the retention of more blood in the meat. This in turn is unhygienic for the consumer.

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QUESTIONS ??

# THANK YOU