



PSSST...!



MODULE 9: HALAL & HARAM



PROHIBITIONS

9.0: Introduction to the concept and principles of haram.

9.1: Prohibitions of the ears

9.2: Prohibitions of the eyes

9.3: Prohibitions of the tongue

9.4: Prohibitions of consumption



THE IMPORTANCE OF EATING HALAL

1. *“O Messengers, eat from the pure foods and work righteousness” (23:51)*
2. *“O you who have believed, eat from the pure things which we have provided you.” (2:172)*
3. *“O mankind, eat from whatever is on earth (that is) lawful and pure.” (2:168)*
4. *“So eat of that (meat) upon which Allah’s name has been mentioned, if you are believers in His verses.” (6:118)*
5. *“And do not eat that upon which the name of Allah has not been mentioned, for indeed it is a grave disobedience.” (6:121)*

THE IMPORTANCE OF EATING HALAL

By being careless about the dietary laws of Islam a believer puts himself in harm's way both in this world and the hereafter. In this world, by consuming what is haram a person deprive himself from having his good deeds and prayers accepted. In the hereafter, he may suffer punishment.

‘Verily Allah is pure and He accepts only what is pure and indeed Allah has given those orders to the believers, which he has given to the Messengers. He has said, “O Messenger, eat from the pure foods and work righteous”. He -also- has said: “O you who have believed, eat from the pure things which we have provided you.”’ Then the Prophet (Allah bless him and give him peace) made mention of a man who underwent a lengthy journey in which he was disheveled and dusty. He spread his hands towards the sky (calling), “O my lord, O my lord”, however his food is Haram, his drink is Haram, his clothes are Haram and he has been nourished with Haram! So how will his call be answered?” (Muslim)

THE IMPORTANCE OF EATING HALAL

“O Sa’d purify your food (and as a result) you will become one whose supplications are accepted. I swear by He in whose hands is the soul of Muhammad, verily a servant (of Allah) tosses a Haram morsel in his stomach (due to which) no deed is accepted from him for forty days” (Tabarani)

“That body will not enter Paradise which has been nourished with Haram” (Bayhaqi)

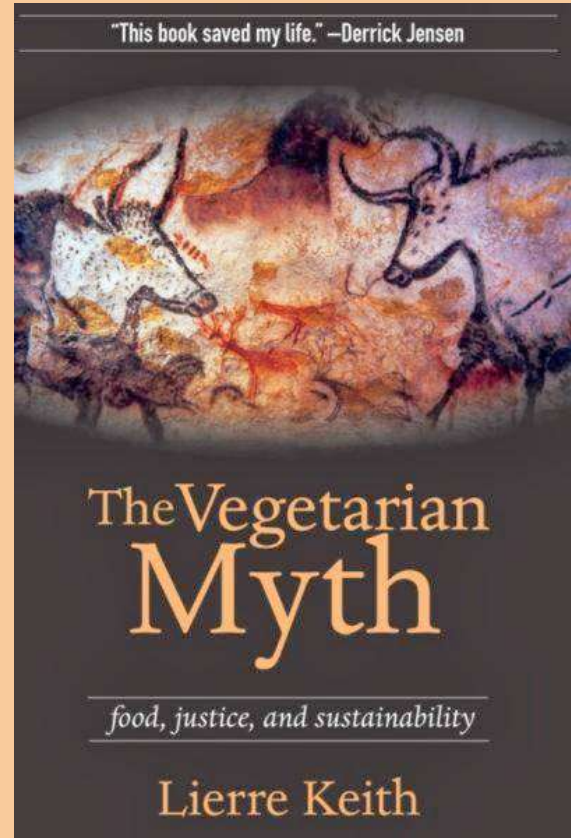
“That flesh will not enter Paradise which has grown from Haram, and all that flesh which has grown from Haram, the fire (of hell) is more worthy of it.” (Ahmad)

“A time will come upon the people wherein a man will not bother what he intakes; whether from Halal source or Haram.” (Bukhari)

WISDOMS

Humans are omnivores. There is no vegetarian civilization in human history (and vegetarianism and veganism are less sustainable to the environment).

Before the advent of Islam, *all possible means* were used to acquire the meat of animals. Allah blessed humanity with laws that ensure only wholesome meat is consumed, and that it is **sanctified** through proper slaughter, differentiating between living and dead animals, and prohibiting creatures that are harmful to human wellbeing.



WISDOMS

Animals declared lawful for consumption were subjected to **certain rules** and regulations, which would ensure that the blood and other impure elements come out from their body as much as possible and that the slaughter be done in a way that was least painful and most merciful to the animal.

The ritual nature of the slaughtering also serves as a **reminder** to humans of the tremendousness of the gift of life, and the blessing of food in general and meat in particular.

The Messenger of Allah (Allah bless him and give him peace) linked eating halal meat to the fundamentals of Islam: “**Whoever prays our prayer and faces our Qiblah and eats our slaughtered animals, is a believer who is under Allah’s and His Messenger’s protection.**”
(Bukhari)

This hadith shows that halal food is one of the **specific features of Islam** which distinguishes a Muslim from a non-Muslim. The Shariah prescribes certain [1] principles, [2] rules, and [3] regulations governing meat.

LAWFUL AND UNLAWFUL FOODS (MALIKI)

According to Imam Malik, meat prohibitions only apply to what is mentioned in the following verses:

He has only forbidden you 'to eat' carrion, blood, swine, and what is slaughtered in the name of any other than Allah. But if someone is compelled by necessity—neither driven by desire nor exceeding immediate need—they will not be sinful. Surely Allah is All-Forgiving, Most Merciful. (2:173)

It is lawful for you to hunt and eat seafood, as a provision for you and for travellers. But hunting on land is forbidden to you while on pilgrimage. Be mindful of Allah to Whom you all will be gathered. (5:96)

Say, 'O Prophet,' "I do not find in what has been revealed to me anything forbidden to eat except carrion, running blood, swine—which is impure—or a sinful offering in the name of any other than Allah. But if someone is compelled by necessity—neither driven by desire nor exceeding immediate need—then surely your Lord is All-Forgiving, Most Merciful." (6:145)

'He also created' horses, mules, and donkeys for your transportation and adornment. And He creates what you do not know. (16:8)

PERMITTED

1. Grazing animals



2. Birds (even with claws)



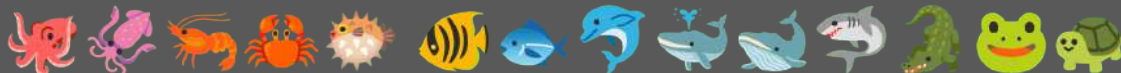
(The hadith prohibiting birds with claws is not authentic according to Malik)

3. Wild non-predatory animals



PERMITTED

4. Sea Creatures (that which can survive in water)



(A sea creature is anything that can survive in water. No *dhakat* (slaughtering) is required for them. Their *mayta* (dead) is halal regardless of who catches it.)

5. Whatever is pure that comes from permitted animals



PERMITTED

6. Insects



Insects with no flowing blood are pure even if dead, but dhakat (slaughter + saying bismillah) is still required for eating because the Quranic verse cannot be restricted by an ahad hadith (non-mass transmitted hadith) when it comes to food, in Malik's *fiqh*. Their slaughter is by anything that kills them done with the intention of eating them, even if that be one's own teeth/mouth.

DISCOURAGED (MAKRUH)

1. Predators (that which would attack a human being)



2. Vermin



(bats are considered vermin)

PROHIBITED (HARAM)

1. That which alters the mind



2. That which harms the body



(only due to its poison, but if poison not harmful, then snakes and scorpions are permitted)

3. That which is najis



+ mayta (anything dead)

4. 4 Pig



PROHIBITED (HARAM)

5. Horses, donkeys & mules



Horses, mules and donkeys are haram because Quran 16:8 restricts their use for riding and carrying loads. (Possible wisdom: it stabilizes their population and lowers their prices so transport is cheaper.)

6. Human beings



7. Soil & dirt



DIRE NEED

The following are allowed in dire need, arranged from least to worst:

1. The halal that was stolen
2. That which is differed upon by the scholars (such as horses which is permitted in the Hanafi school)
3. *Mayta* (an animal found dead)
4. That which was hunted while in *ihram* (since hunting in *ihram* is sinful)
5. Pig

LAWFUL AND UNLAWFUL FOODS (HANAFI)

He has only forbidden you 'to eat' carrion, blood, swine, and what is slaughtered in the name of any other than Allah. But if someone is compelled by necessity—neither driven by desire nor exceeding immediate need—they will not be sinful. Surely Allah is All-Forgiving, Most Merciful. (2:173)

Forbidden to you are carrion, blood, and swine; what is slaughtered in the name of any other than Allah; what is killed by strangling, beating, a fall, or by being gored to death; what is partly eaten by a predator unless you slaughter it; and what is sacrificed on altars.(5:3)

Say, 'O Prophet,' "I do not find in what has been revealed to me anything forbidden to eat except carrion, running blood, swine—which is impure—or a sinful offering in the name of any other than Allah. But if someone is compelled by necessity—neither driven by desire nor exceeding immediate need—then surely your Lord is All-Forgiving, Most Merciful." (6:145)

PERMITTED

1. Non-Predatory Herbivores



- Abu Hanifa said that horse meat was *makruh* (disliked, either mildly or prohibitively) based on Quran 16:8. Abu Yusuf and Muhammad al-Shaybani and most later scholars deemed it as lawful.

2. Non Predatory Birds



PERMITTED

3. Fish



4. Locusts and Grasshoppers



5. Rabbits and Hares



Rabbits are permitted based on the hadith in al-Nasa'i (4310, 4312) and Ahmad (210).

6. Whatever is Pure That Comes from Permitted Animals



PERMITTED

7. Fruit and Vegetables



8. Anything Impure That Undergoes Transformation (Istihalah) (This includes wine vinegar, the deer musk pod, civet musk, swine that turns to ashes or salt)



Transformation is based on the hadith praising vinegar and musk (al-Tirmidhi (1839), al-Nasa'i (1906). Honey undergoes a process of transformation and is mentioned in the Quran (16:69).

MILDLY DISCOURAGED (MAKRUH TANZIHI)

1. Lawful Animals That Only Eat Impurities (Unless they are caged for a few days and cleansed)



PROHIBITED

1. Predatory Animals



2. Vermin and Reptiles



(Vermin, reptiles and insects are from the *khaba'ith* according to the Hanafis. The *khaba'ith* are mentioned in 7:157: “‘They are’ the ones who follow the Messenger, the unlettered Prophet, whose description they find in their Torah and the Gospel. He commands them to do good and forbids them from evil, permits for them what is lawful and forbids to them what is impure (*khaba'ith*), and relieves them from their burdens and the shackles that bound them.)

PROHIBITED

3. That Which Alters the Mind (Unless for Medicinal Purposes)



4. That Which Harms the Body (Includes Soil and Dirt)



5. That Which is Impure (Flowing blood, wine, etc.)



6. Private Parts of Animals (Penis, testicles, anus, bladder, spleen)



PROHIBITED

7. Carrion Meat (Not slaughtered properly i.e. roadkill, Allah's name not mentioned etc.)



8. Insects



9. Predatory Birds

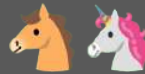


10. Pigs and Boars



PROHIBITED

11. Donkeys & Hinnies (A hinny is the offspring of a female donkey and a male horse)



12. Sea Creatures Other Than Fish



Sea creatures other than fish are considered as carrion and from the *khaba'ith*—the vile and filthy, this includes frogs, crabs, and snakes. (Other schools allowed all sea creatures).

13. Human Beings and Their Parts

