
Letters of Support



A letter from Mufti Ismail Kacholwi

I begin by taking the name of Allah and sending salutations upon His noble messenger (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him).

Thereafter: I (Mufti Ismail Kachholvi) declare not only am I aware of Sheikh Muhammad Bin Khalifah but I have also accompanied him to France to closely review and gain familiarity with the Halal monitoring and tagging system of the “AVS” organisation.

At present Sheikh Muhammad Bin Khalifah has with a few companions started, in Leicester the Halal Monitoring Committee (HMC), which aims to emulate the system of France. I pray that Allah helps them in the attainment of their objectives.

I also request that our Muslim brotherhood come to their aid, and assist them in whichever way required.

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Another letter from Mufti Ismail Kacholwi

An Important and Necessary Appeal

Today, Tuesday 7th Rabi-ul-Aakhir 1420 A.H. corresponding to 20th July 1999, in Bradford's Masjid-e-Bilal, the Ulama of Bradford, Batley, and Dewsbury have held an important meeting, wherein the agenda was solely that of falsely labelled Poultry which has become a major issue, as it is generally this, that is utilised by Muslim households. The problem is that although they may be labelled Halal, their ulterior reality may be that of Haram. E.g. electrically stunned chicken may be dead before slaughter.

Many large production slaughterhouses do not respect the pre-requisites of shariah in regards to the slaughter of animals, and instead opt for machines that can slaughter chickens at rates of several thousand per hour, therefore no way catering for the implementation of the divine injunction of taking the name of Allah on each animal.

There also exists the problem of people importing cheap meats from abroad for which there is absolutely no way of ascertaining authentically the meats being Halal or not. All these problems as well as others rise because of the greed of various individuals and their love of profits over Islam.

This problem warranted much research and debate as the consumption/accrual of Haram is not only forbidden in itself, but also has evil/negative effects on the rest of our worship/earnings. We therefore unanimously urge Muslims to exercise the following necessary precautions.

Whenever purchasing/consuming foods one should endeavour to ask and make sure of its origins and not to feel shy in asking for its origins, and not to feel shy or be belittled while asking. The Former Grand-Mufti of Pakistan, Mufti Muhammad Shafee Uthmaani (Rahimahullah) in his Tafseer (exegesis) of the Holy Qur'an write under the verse (Kahaf), "in any area where predominantly the foods available are not Halal, to purchase consumables without prior enquiry is impermissible".

Muslim abattoirs are urged not to use any method of stunning at all. They should take full advantage of the leniency of the law that allows Muslims and Jews to slaughter without stunning. Even in the instance of all the animals being alive post-stunning, the act of stunning still remains abhorred.

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It has been proven by extremely authentic sources that a substantial quantity of foreign products/meats find their way to our shores. And as these are cheaper and readily available they attract a vast number of Muslims in the meat trade to opt for them. The Imams of Fiqh (jurisprudence) all state that meat is essentially Haram and if it is slaughtered according to Shari (Islamic) requisites will it be Halal. Those in the meat trade must not look at mere profits of personal gain, but for their own sakes as well as for the entire Muslim community they should rather consider whether the food is Halal or not. It is indeed shameful that the laws of physical health and safety are adhered to and understood, while the laws of religious and spiritual health and safety are blatantly ignored.

The larger Muslim organisations are all requested to provide a complete and lasting solution to this problem by creating/supporting, on a national scale an organisation that works to provide the Muslim population Halal meat that is free from any doubt, whether pertaining to the meats' source or implementation of any questionable operations upon the meat. This will indeed be a great service to our Muslim brotherhood.
