

Hanbali Fiqh: Book of Foods

Explanatory Notes on *Akhsar al-Mukhtasaraat*

Based on Lectures of
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Table of Contents

Prohibited Foods	2
Disliked Foods	3
Hospitality	3
Rulings on Slaughtering Animals	3
Hunting	5

Prohibited Foods

- I. Every type of food that is **pure** and **not harmful**, then by **default** it is **permissible** to eat
 - A. Food being **pure** means that there is **no impure substance** mixed into it **nor** does it come from an **impure source**
- II. The following types of foods are **prohibited** to eat:
 - A. Anything **impure** in nature
 1. Ex: blood, land animals that die of natural causes, urine, pig, human feces, etc.
 2. If a plant or fruit tree was **fertilized** using something **impure** or was **watered** with an **impure** substance, then it is also **prohibited** to eat its **produce** until it is **watered** using a **pure** substance **consuming** the **source** of the impurity
 3. Issue of *jallah*
 - a) This is an animal **permitted** for consumption that has been **fed** or **ate** something **impure**
 - (1) Ex: most of the fodder that livestock ate was of an impure source, a baby goat sucks the milk from a female dog, etc.
 - b) It is **prohibited** to **eat** its meat, milk, or eggs
 - (1) It **needs** to be **confined** for **three days** and fed only **pure** foods. Then its meat and milk become **permissible** to eat
 - c) It is **permitted** to feed **impurities** to an animal that is **not** permitted for eat
 - (1) Ex: feeding pork to a cat
 - B. Anything that is **harmful** in nature
 1. Ex: poison
 2. There are permissible foods which are **harmful** to **some** but **not** others. In this case, they would be **forbidden** for **only** those who would be harmed by them but **not** others
 - a) Ex: high levels of sugar in a food for a diabetic person is harmful to him/her, thus, it would be forbidden in his/her individual case but not others
 - C. Any **land predator** that **hunts** with its **fangs**
 1. Ex: lion, tiger, cheetah, fox, jackal, cat, dog, etc.
 2. **Exception**: hyenas are **permitted** due to a specific hadith **allowing** their consumption
 - D. Any **bird** that **hunts** with its **talons**
 1. Ex: eagle, falcon, crow, etc.
 - E. Any animal that **feeds** on **dead carcass**
 1. Ex: vulture
 - F. Any animal that **wealthy Arabs** consider **filthy**
 1. Because Allah **revealed** the **Qur'an** to them and stated in it that filthy things are **forbidden**, so we have to go by what 'filthy' meant to **them**
 - a) Ex: bat, hedgehog, porcupine, mouse, insects, bugs, etc.
 2. The **bedouin Arabs** are **not** included because they eat **whatever** they can find

- G. Any animal that was **born** to an animal that is **permissible** to eat and one that is **not permissible** to eat
 - 1. Ex: mule, which is a **child** of a **horse** and a domesticated **donkey**
 - a) A domesticated **donkey** is **forbidden** to eat
- H. All **sea animals** are **permissible** to eat **even** if found **dead**
 - 1. **Exception:** the following are **forbidden** in all cases:
 - a) Frog
 - b) Snake
 - c) Crocodile
- III. Whoever is **forced**, then he/she is **obligated** to eat the prohibited food, if that is the **only option** available for **survival**, as much as will **satisfy** the need/hunger but **no more** than that
 - A. **Exception:** poison is **never** permitted to be eaten because it results in **death**

Disliked Foods

- I. The following foods are **disliked** to eat:
 - A. Dirt
 - B. Coal
 - C. Clay/mud
 - D. Onion
 - E. Garlic
 - F. Anything that has **not yet ripened**
 - G. Swellings/bulges of animals
 - H. Right and left atriums of the heart (i.e. two upper chambers)

Hospitality

- I. It is **obligatory** to host a **guest** for a minimum of **one day and night** with whatever will **suffice** the guest's **needs** if the guest is:
 - A. Muslim
 - B. Traveling
 - C. In a village and **not** in a city
 - 1. Because it is **less likely** to find **lodging** and **restaurants** in a **village**
- II. If any of the above **three** conditions are **missing**, then it is **not** obligatory to **host** the guest
- III. It is **recommended** to host the guest for up to **three days**

Rulings on Slaughtering Animals

- I. It is **not** permitted to eat land animals **except** by ritually **slaughtering** them first
 - A. This is the **default rule** for land animals with **flowing blood** that are **permitted** to be eaten
 - 1. Any such animal **not** slaughtered ritually is considered **impure** and **prohibited** to eat
 - 2. **Exception:** locust can be eaten without having to ritually slaughter them first

- II. **Conditions** for ritual **slaughter** of land animals to be considered **valid**:
- A. The **slaughterer** should be **sane** and **mumayyaz** (7+ years of age) even if he/she is a Jew or Christian
 1. **No other** religion or atheist is allowed to be the slaughterer **except** a Jew or Christian
 - B. A **sharp tool** must be used to kill it
 1. It **cannot** be a tooth or nail
 - C. The **throat** and **esophagus** are **obligated** to be cut
 1. If a person cuts only **one**, then the slaughterer **must** immediately **go back** and cut the other. If the animal dies **before** the slaughterer is able to do so, then it will **not** be permitted to eat
 2. It is **recommended** to cut the **two jugular veins** as well
 3. If the person is **unable** to do so for whatever reason, then **injuring** the animal in **any way** will be **permitted** to kill it
 - a) Ex: an animal is too wild so the person stabs it in the chest which results in its death
 - (1) **Other similar scenarios**: animal falls into a well, animal falls from a high place without dying, animal runs away, etc.
 - b) If the animal **dies** due to a reason **other than the injury**, such as it drowning after falling into a well, it would **not** be permitted to eat
 - (1) If there is a **doubt** as to what **caused** the animal to **die**, then it is **not** permitted to eat
 - (a) Ex: a person shoots an animal which causes it to fall from a high place. Now, the person is **unsure** whether the animal died from the shooting or the fall
 - D. Saying **Bismillah** while **moving** the **hand** over the animal's neck with a **sharp** tool
 1. If someone **forgets** to say it, then it is still **permitted** to eat the slaughtered animal
 2. If someone did **not** say it on **purpose** or out of **ignorance**, like **not** knowing that this is a condition, then it will **not** be permitted to eat the slaughtered animal
 3. It can be said in **any language** and does **not** have to be in **Arabic** because the **purpose** is to **mention** Allah's name
 4. If any **other name** with Allah is **added** at the time of **slaughter**, then it is **prohibited** to eat
- III. If a **pregnant** animal is **slaughtered**, then it also **suffices** for its **baby** if it comes out **dead**
- A. If the baby comes out **alive**, then it must **also** be ritually slaughtered **first** if the person wants to **eat** it
- IV. The following are **disliked** when doing ritual slaughter:
- A. To **slaughter** the animal with a **tool** that is **not** sharp
 - B. To **sharpen** the slaughtering **tool** in **front** of the **animal**
 - C. To **skin** it or **break** its neck **before** the animal is **completely** dead
 1. The slaughterer should **wait** until the blood **stops** flowing out of it and the animal **stops** moving

- D. To artificially **inflate** the meat for the purpose of **selling** it
 - 1. It is a type of **deception** where the **seller** tries to show as if the animal was **fatter** than it really was
 - a) If the **seller** did this with the meat with the **specific intention** of **deceiving** buyers, then it is **forbidden**. If the seller did **not** do so with that intention, then it is **disliked**
- V. The following are **recommended** when doing ritual slaughter:
 - A. To make the animal face the **qiblah** while laying it down on its **left side**
 - 1. This is for sheep, rams, goats, and cows
 - B. To be **gentle** and **kind** to the animal
 - C. To say **takbeer** after *Bismillah*

Hunting

- I. **Hunting** is done for **wild** animals which are **permissible** to eat and **not** owned by anyone
 - A. Ex: gazelle, deer, rabbit, etc.
 - B. **Domesticated** animals are **not** hunted but **only** slaughtered
 - 1. Ex: camels, cows, goats, sheep, chickens, etc.
- II. Hunting animals is **permissible** with **four** conditions:
 - A. The hunter **must** be sane, *mumayyaz* (7+ years of age), and either a Muslim, Jew, or Christian
 - B. The **tool** used for hunting must either be:
 - 1. A suitable **hunting** tool
 - a) Ex: bow and arrow, gun, etc.
 - 2. A **trained** hunting **animal**
 - a) Ex: dog, falcon, etc.
 - b) A **trained** animal is one which:
 - (1) It **goes** when it is **commanded**
 - (2) It **returns** when it is **called**
 - (3) It does **not** eat from the hunted animal **after** killing it
 - (a) This condition is **specifically** for a **trained dog**. If a **trained bird** eats some from it, then it is **fine**
 - (i) If a **trained dog** eats some from it **after** killing it, then it would **not** be permitted to eat its meat because the dog hunted it for **itself** and **not** the hunter
 - C. The hunter **intended** to **hunt** when the animal was **killed**
 - 1. If the **trained animal** hunted on its **own** or the gun **accidentally** went off **without** the hunter **intending** to hunt, then it is **not** considered a valid form of hunting, thus, the **meat** of such a killed animal would **not** be permitted to eat
 - D. To say *Bismillah* **before** shooting the tool or **sending out** the animal to hunt
 - 1. Eating the hunted animal would **not** be permitted if the hunter **forgot** to say it or was **ignorant** of its ruling
 - 2. It is **recommended** to say **takbeer** after *Bismillah* as well

- III. If a hunter **releases** the hunted animal **back** into the **wild**, then it **no longer** belongs to the hunter, so **anyone** can hunt it
- A. Ex: a hunter sends his dog to capture a deer. After capture, the hunter treats it and releases it back into the wild
 - B. If the hunter **marks** it in some way before its release, then it **continues** to **belong** to the **hunter**