

**The Verdict of Sacrificing animals with Modern Electronic
tools and imported meat according to Islamic Sharia**

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Abstract

Today for hen sacrificing we have a big tool, which proceeds with scarifying and production of all processes, from one side they put the hen and on the other side the pure canned meat is out, the whole process of the scarifying and peeling is done here. All these processes are done via electronic tools, these tools are much sharper, and are installed between two walls, they have many parts, where many hens are being hanged from their feet. Today all the Islamic markets are indeed filled with canned meat, which are the production of America, England, Scotland Australia, and Brazil. Meanwhile, bulls and sheep are firstly shaved via gas, and later on sacrificed, or they are shut by a bullet on their head and later on sacrificed, they can die before the sacrifice.

This is a very crucial issue because all the Islamic markets are filled with such canned meat, where Muslims are unaware that this canned meat is foreign or domestic production, and at the same time people do not understand its verdict as well.

My aim for this study is to make sure of the verdict of such canned meat, and let my people know regarding its lawfulness and unlawfulness.

I have conducted this study library-based, I have utilized pertinent books and scholars' views and have my views as well.

Finlay, I have come to the result that; Muslims should avoid using such canned meat because their sacrifice has problems, if it's not forbidden, but has hesitation, Muslims must try their best not to use canned meat.

Keywords: *sacrificing, animal, production, canned meat.*

1. Introduction:

The addition in population and the different demands of people have made this situation so that today for sacrificing such modern electronic tools are utilized. In the developed states, there are thousands of sacrifice centers, where thousands of animals are being sacrificed each day.

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So its verdict must be understood, on the other hand sacrificing tools are different from animal to animal for instance, hens and bulls have different modern electronic sacrificing tools.

The main problem is; Muslims use such canned meat but they do not understand that who sacrificed it, where it is sacrificed, and all the verdicts of Islamic sharia are what Muslims do not understand.

Muslims must know before eating the canned meat, that whether the animal is being sacrificed by Muslims or non-Muslims, if it's sacrificed by non-Muslims so, Muslims should avoid using it.

Sacrificing hens:

Today, the world markets are filled with hens that are sacrificed via modern tools, so in the below lines we have tried to clarify its sacrificing process and its verdict as well. The tool which is used for hen sacrifice is very big and sharp and it proceeds the whole process of sacrificing and production. When the hens are hanged, their head are toward the earth, before sacrificing there is cold water that washes the hens, and after that, the heads of the hens come to the sharp tool where their head is cut and separated from the body, and later on, there is hot water that gets the sacrificed hens down to separate their feathers, after that the shaved hens' chest is ripped and the garbage is throughout of their chest, on the same time their body is cut here, and at the end, they are canned and packed.

1.2 The sacrificing of hens needs to be researched in the following four parts:

First: passing from the cold water which is touched with electricity.

Second: cutting head via sharp tool.

Third: passing from hot water.

Fourth: saying Bismillah (in the name of Allah) is now possible in such an electronic process.

Passing from cold water before sacrificing is a process that is not proceeded in all centers, meanwhile without electronic connection it has no effect in sacrificing, but if it's connected with electronic tools, it affects the brain of the hens, and faint the hens, so its possible to be died before sacrificing then its meat is unlawful. When its head is being cut from its body it is sometimes possible that the hen might shake and move a bit which will cause a problem in its sacrificing, and its all veins will not be cut, so the Sharia sacrificing will not happen.¹

Saying Bismillah (Kalima) is problematic in such a sacrificing process, the problem is in choosing the performer of sacrificing, because saying Kalima is obligatory, if someone else says Kalima instead of the one who performs sacrificing this sacrifice is not correct. The very first issue is to understand the performer of the sacrificing, it's said that the one who starts the sacrificing process machine for the first time is the performer of the sacrificing, so if this person says Kalima before starting the machine, is this kalima enough for the thousands of the hens that are being sacrificed later? In the precious book Quran, Allah almighty says that:

(وَ لِكُلِّ أُمَّةٍ جَعَلْنَا مَنْسَكًا لِيَذْكُرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ عَلَىٰ مَا رَزَقَهُمْ مِنْ بَهِيمَةِ الْأَنْعَامِ فَإِلَهُكُمْ إِلَهُ وَاحِدٌ فَلَهُ أَسْلِمُوا وَ بَشِّرِ الْمُخْبِتِينَ)²

It means that each animal needs a separate Kalima before sacrificing, regarding this Islamic scholar have below views:

If someone sacrifices an animal and later sacrifices the other one and misses the Kalima for the first one and says the kalima before sacrificing the second animal, if he thinks that the Kalima is enough for both animals, indeed it's not enough, here eating the meat of the first animal is not good³.

Meanwhile, if someone takes a knife, gets down a sheep and says Kalima for it, and suddenly leaves this sheep and gets another one, and without saying Kalima for it sacrifices it, so eating its meat is also not good.

If someone, starts saying Kalima for sacrificing an animal, and before sacrificing the animal he starts speaking to someone eating something, or drinking water, and after the break doesn't say Kalima for the animal for the second time, scholars say that if the break is short so the sacrificed is done and has no problem, but if the break is long the performer of the sacrificing must say the kalima for it and without kalima the sacrificing is not correct, at the same time scholars have not said the exact time of the break, I mean that the time that measures the short break and long break is not discussed by the scholars, it's by the practice, people would have cleared that wither its short or long break.⁴

Ibn Qudama says: ((saying Kalima for sacrificing must be on time or near time, like taking a bath. So, if someone says kalima for the sheep and later on leaves the sheep and sacrifices another sheep, so this kalima is not enough for another sheep, meanwhile if someone says kalima for a flock of sheep and after that sacrifices one by one, so a single kalima is not enough for all, and their sacrificing is also not correct, and eating this meat is not allowable.

If someone gets a knife and grazes a sheep and suddenly, leaves this grazed sheep and gets another one, or answers the salaam, or calls for water, or does such other activities, this sacrificing is correct, because once saying kalima is enough and this is also a short break which means no break.⁵

Maliki scholar Mawak (the blessings of Allah be upon him) says: Imam Malik (the blessings of Allah be upon him) said: through javelin, sending a dog and on the time of sacrificing animal saying Kalima is obligatory because Allah Almighty says:

(وَ تَذَكَّرُوا اسْمَ اللَّهِ عَلَيْهِ) ((⁶)).

The above verse of the Quran is a clear reason for saying Kalima, at the same time according to Jamhooor scholars Kalima is a basic condition (bet) for sacrificing, and for each animal a separate kalima is obligatory, and between sacrificing and kalima there should not be longer break as well. As we have said before if someone who starts the machine of sacrificing hens says the kalima for starting the machine, and later on thousands of hens will be sacrificed without kalima, here are two points; first the break between sacrificing, and the second point is the view of Imam Qudam(the blessings of Allah almighty be upon him), as he says; if someone says kalima for a flock of sheep

and sacrificing one by one and don't say a separate Kalima for each sheep, so its unlawful, this view is so near to sacrificing hens by a machine where thousands of hens are sacrificed without saying separate kalima for each hen.⁽⁷⁾

This view conflicts with several scholars' views (if someone gets two sheep and grazes them above each other, a single kalima is enough for both of them, meanwhile if someone says kalima for folk of birds and shut on them all of them are lawful, but if someone say kalima for a bird, and later on give the knife to another person and he sacrifice the bird without saying kalima so this bird is unlawful and Muslim must avoid eating its meat. But if a single knife sacrifices all the birds at the same time, a single kalima is enough for them)⁽⁸⁾

Several people have mixed these two cases, and they say that sacrificing animals via electronic machine is the same as sacrificing two sheep that are above each other, and like folk of birds. But these cases are too far from each other and are different, their difference is in the break between kalima and sacrificing. But if the electronic sacrificing production process owner stands a man near the sacrificing tool where the head of the hen is cut from its body, and he says kalima for each hen, so this kalima also has some problems which are as below:

First: the man who is responsible for saying kalima is not the performer of sacrificing, because he has no relation with sacrificing, and he doesn't start the machine as well.

Second: in the process of sacrificing the heads of the hen are cut from their body in a few seconds, so it is quite impossible to say a separate kalima for each hen.

Third: the man who is responsible for saying kalima is a human, it is almost possible that he gets busy with other things, or forgets to say kalima.

Ibn Qudam (the blessing of Allah almighty be upon him) said: ((if the hunter says kalima for a sacrificing bird, and he misses the bird and hunts another bird, so it's lawful)). But if a hunter says kalima and before shooting he changes his shooting tool, or if a performer of sacrificing says kalima and after that changes his knife, here changing tool is not notable, actually saying kalima and performing sacrificing is permissible and notable. ⁽⁹⁾

As this issue is relevant to emergency sacrificing, while our issue is optional sacrificing, so optional situation cannot be speculated with an emergency. Today the number of consumers is out of counting, while production centers are limited.

The best way to solve the problem of kalima in the electronic sacrificing production process is; for the owners of these businesses should hire a group of Muslims for only sacrificing (cutting the heads of the hens) and the other process should proceed by the machine, which is possible, these Muslims should say kalima and only sacrifice the hens, and the other process would be proceed by the electronic machine.

Passing hens from hot water:

After the sacrifice, the hens are down to the hot water, where hens lose their feathers, this process might create two problems:

First: it's possible that the hens might not be sacrificed fully by sharia, and later on will be drowned alive in hot water, where they could die, so eating the meat of such hens is unlawful.

Second: drowning in the hot water is with garbage and feathers of the hens, so it's also possible that because of the heat of the water, the garbage of the hen could be mixed with the meat, in this situation scholars have avoid eating such meat. In Dar al-mukhtar it mentioned that: ((when a hen is drowning in hot water for losing its feathers)) Ibn abide has written under this: ((it's stated in Fath al-qadir: such animal could not be cleaned, but in a view of Abo Usef it's said that it could be cleaned, the reason for not cleaning is; because of boiling water garbage of the hen get mixed with its meat)).⁽¹⁰⁾ Foremost, in our issue this problem could not happen, because the boiling point of the water is controlled and is not boiled to mix the feathers and garbage with the meat, I mean that the boiling centigrade of the water is under 100 and the hen is drowning for few minutes. Ibn Abidin (the blessings of all almighty be upon him) said: ((in Egypt it's famous that meat that is drowning in boiled water is uncleaned, accept this practice is also not fair because on the one hand, the water is not as boiled as to mixed the garbage with meat and on the other hand it's only for separating the feathers or hair of the animal, which is an easy way. ⁽¹¹⁾

2. Artificial sacrificing of animals

Sacrificing big animals like sheep and cows is different from sacrificing hens, big animals are not sacrificed through machines, humans sacrifice them, meanwhile, in some countries, there are famous sacrificing centers that sacrifice big animals, for instance in England they squeeze the throat of the animal, it's famous by English sacrificing method.

Via this method, they tore the chest of the animal between two spines, and later on, they ventilate the air to ban its breathing, and finally, without bleeding it loses a life, which is an unlawful action by Islam, and this is unlawful and has no reason to be lawful, if it's done by Muslim or non-Muslim.

It's mentionable that most of the sacrificing centers perform the sacrificing in a way that cuts a part of its neck, meanwhile, the veins of the neck are not known whether they are cut or not, at the same time the one who sacrifices his religion is also unknown, but most often non-Muslims perform it, which is against the Islamic Sharia. At the same time in modern countries, they have another method for sacrificing big animals, they anesthetize the animal and later on sacrifice it with ease, the most common way is by gun, actually the gun is not like shooting bullets, instead of bullets they gun has a needle and via needle they shut on the head of the animal, this needle piercing the brain of the animal and the animal loses the mind, and after that sacrifice it.

The second way of anesthetizing: they use a big hammer, via big hammer they hit the animal on the head, and later on the animal feels much pain and gets down to earth,

and they sacrifice it. Today this method is not used, because it's a kind of torture to animals and instead of this method they use guns.

The third way of anesthetizing: is via gas, they put the animal in a room where there is no oxygen and which is full of a gas that anesthetizes the animal, and after a while, it gets down to earth and finally sacrifices it with ease.

The Fourth way of anesthetizing: give an electricity shock, In this way, they put an electric tool on the head of the animal, and later on the electricity goes to the mind of the animal and loses the mind, and in the end, they sacrifice it without any harm.

2.1 The Verdict of anesthetizing:

To know the verdict of Islamic Sharia regarding the anesthetizing of animals for sacrifice, it needs to be studied in two different parts; part number one is: is using such methods allowable or not? Part number two to be discussed is; that if a Muslim or other religious man sacrifices it after anesthetizing, is the sacrificing correct or not?

First:

The very first point to be discussed is the ease of sacrificing animals, it means to ease the pain of the animal in sacrificing if anesthetizing is allowed or not. Indeed, Mohammad (peace and blessings of Allah Almighty be upon him) has said (that whenever you sacrifice an animal, sacrifice it in a good way, and when you want to kill an animal, kill it in a good way; you have to sharpen your knife to not torture the animal)⁽¹²⁾

it is an acceptable fact that Islam has shown a great way for sacrificing an animal, in which the animal does not feel much pain which is cutting the vein of the animal, if we have a look at the method of heating by hammer on the head of the animal, it's not allowed because in this method the animal feels much pain so, heating via hammer for sacrificing is against the rules and regulations of our precious religion Islam, meanwhile heating on the gun, and surrounding in a room full of gas is much painful than cutting vein, the foremost point, the Islamic scholars who have researched regarding animals, they say that these ways (using gun, gas and electricity shocks) ease the pain of the animal, so if in these ways the animal is alive and later on sacrifice it, it's correct and has no problem in Islamic Sharia but if in these ways the animal dies, then its sacrificing is no correct and eating its meat is unlawful.

Islamic Scholar Taqi Usmani says: I was in America and visited one of the sacrifice centers from the close, when I went there, I man came and shut the bull on the head via gun, the gun had a needle and the needle went into the brain of the bull and right on the spot, it started bleeding and the bull got down to earth, and all the parts of the body of the bull last working, and died.

The responsible for the center told me: that after shooting in the head, the bull is alive for twelve minutes, and if you sacrifice it within twelve minutes you can do it, but after twelve minutes the bull suffocates and dies. Taqi Usmani adds; what I observed there is quite far to believe the life of the bull after shooting by gun on the head because when I was standing there the bull got down to earth in seconds.

Regarding the electricity shocks, some experts say that in some cases it stops the functions of the heart, on the other hand when the gas is more than its limit, it is likely to kill the animal.

For sure, this topic needs lots of research and study, we hope that expert Muslims will work on it. Islamic states should establish a committee of professionals and experts for these issues, and after the research, the committee will share the findings with Muslim nations. As these ways are in doubt, Muslims should keep themselves away from them, it's mentionable that Jews do not accept the anesthetizing method for sacrificing, so Muslims must not accept it anyway.

3. The Verdict of imported meat:

It's totally that today Islamic markets are full of imported meat, and most of this meat comes from America, Brazil, England, and Scotland, as we said before the sacrificing of book people is lawful if they obey the rules and the regulations of the sacrificing. Even Jewish people still respect and obey their first rules of sacrificing, they have separate sacrificing centers, and their meat is called Kawsar, and wherever they live they have their meat called Kawsar.

So, we can say that imported meat from eastern markets to Islamic countries is not allowable, for the reasons below:

1. Understanding the religions of the sacrifices is quite tough, because in Eastern countries lots of non-Muslims live, and it's much more difficult to differentiate them.
2. If we doubtfully or without a doubt understand that the performer of sacrificing is Christian, then it is also a much tougher task to understand whether he is originally Christian or his religion is Christianity, as we know that most Christians do not believe in Allah Almighty, so their sacrificing is unlawful.
3. If it's understood that the performer of the sacrificing is Christian, then some Christians use unlawful ways of sacrificing, for instance, hanging the animal, not cutting the veins of animals.
4. Commonly, Christians do not say the name of Allah while sacrificing, so according to the view of Jamhoor Scholars Kalima is the very first condition for correct sacrificing.

As a consequence, we can say that Muslims should avoid using meat that is imported from Eastern markets until he is fully satisfied that the sacrificing of the animal is done according to the rules and regulations of Islam.

A Hadith narrated from Adi bin Hatham(may Allah be pleased with him): the base in animal meat is unlawfulness, until its proof of lawfulness, so the prophet of Islam Mohammad (peace and blessings of Allah almighty be upon him) has said for haunting that; when other dogs can come close to your haunting dog, so you have to avoid haunting, meanwhile according the haunting prophet of Islam Mohammad (peace and blessings of Allah almighty be upon him) says: (if you found a drowned animal in water, so avoid eating it, because you do not understand whether its died itself or you have haunted it)⁽¹³⁾

In the end, I would better say that; all the writing on canned meat bottles and cans is fake and if eastern producers have written that Halal or sacrificing is legal, any whey Muslims should avoid using imported meats.

Conclusion:

Sacrificing hens through electronic machines has the following findings:

- 1- In some sacrifice centers, they put the hens in cold water before the sacrifice, which is most likely to die before the sacrifice, and professionals and experts say that 90 percent of the hens lose their lives in this stage.
- 2- In some hens, it's possible to shake and the neck vein might be left uncut.
- 3- In the process of cutting the head of the hen, saying Kalima for each hen is almost impossible, so if the starter of the machine says Kalima for thousands of the hens, it does not meet the requirement of Islamic sacrificing.
- 4- The hen whose vein is left uncut, it's possible to lose his life in hot water.

The finding of imported meat

- 5- The meat that is imported from Eastern countries has lots of problems, for instance, the performer of the sacrificing his religion is unknown and nowadays most people do not stick to their religion as well, so Muslims must avoid using imported meat from pagan countries.
- 6- Meanwhile, in the time of anesthetizing it's possible that an animal could die, so if there is the possibility of death, then using its meat is not correct.

Suggestions:

After the completion of my study, I have the following suggestions:

- 1- Before sacrificing the hens, for cleaning hens the water should not be as cold to cause the death of the hen, meanwhile should not be contacted with electricity.
- 2- In the process of sacrificing hens, in the stage of cutting the head of the hens, be hired a Muslim man to cut the head of the hen from its body and say separate kalima for each hen.
- 3- In sacrificing big animals like sheep, cows bulls... Muslims should avoid anesthetizing animals.

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