



## PRESS RELEASE

The following religious Ulemas have denounced the recently floating publications by some mosque imams, where it was alleged without any verification, that there were lapses in Halal Food Authority *accreditation* and *authentication*. Giving specific reference to the Halal Food Authority approved KFC stores, Mufti Barakatullah confirmed that various learned Ulemas from India have issued *Fatawas* that approved the use of *mechanical slaughter* for poultry for halal purposes. And as the modus operandi of Halal Food Authority always conforms strictly to the following three Quranic injunctions, *the authenticity of Halal Food Authority's accreditation and authentication process is indeed acceptable and trustworthy*. These injunctions are:

- The animal/bird is not dead prior to slaughtering
- All flowing blood is drained out of the carcass
- A licensed Muslim slaughterman does the rendition of *shahadah/tasmiyah* at the time of slaughtering



# Halal Food Authority



Mufti Barakatullah, Maulana Mohammed Ovaisi, Dr. Abdul Wahhab, along with the president of 'MINAB', Allama Shahid Raza Naimi have issued a joint statement in which they have urged these

imams to refrain from issuing unsubstantiated statements as these cause aversion in the Muslim community. They also said that according to the Holy Quran, prior to spreading any contentious opinions, whether they are in relation to halal or any other religious matters, one should not only visualise the religious guidelines but also verify scientific and technological data and research, and in this case it has to be seen that Islamic injunctions are compatible with them.

These learned scholars and Ulemas, who are also members of Halal Food Authority's '**Board of Religious Advisors**', further stated that these imams who are against the use of science and technology should envisage that the present day animals and birds for human consumption are a product of intensive farming.

Animal feed, rearing, hatcheries, and slaughtering and cutting plants for these animals and birds are a direct result of advancement and acceptance of science and technology. Muslim were pioneers and inventors of early scientific advancement and research in the last millennium. Therefore, we should take full advantage of science and technology within the remits of Islamic Laws, Jurisprudence and teachings.

Ulemas treasured the fact that the KFC stores that have been approved by Halal Food Authority are completely free from any *Pork* or *Pocine* ingredients. They were positive that sometime soon curry houses and restaurants owned by Muslims would also be free from alcohol and alcoholic drinks - Insha Allah.

Halal Food Authority also appealed to the imams and managements of mosques and their representatives that they should honour and respect these international Fatawas, and should refrain from issuing inaccurate and inexact statements in relation to halal meat and halal foodstuffs, and its accreditation. Otherwise there is a likelihood that it would cause confusion and repugnance in the Muslim community, and this will bring about awry results.



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Taking into consideration the growing trade of halal foods, the Ulemas' also said that there was no need for us to further investigate the word halal. They said that there was infact a dire need for Muslims to establish manufacturing facilities for halal foodstuffs, abattoirs and cutting plants so that Muslim entrepreneurs could benefit from the 85-90% of the halal trade that is currently being served by non-Muslims. In doing so it would always be possible that any foodstuff or meat or poultry items that are available would be of halal origin and permissible from every point of view of Islamic Shari'ah and dietary rules.

**Mufti Barakatullah  
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