

# TAYYIB AND ANIMAL WELFARE IN ISLAM: MODERN LIVESTOCK FARMING PRACTICES AND WELFARE ASSURANCE CONSIDERATIONS.

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# The welfare and sentience of animals

How do you define animal welfare?

Different cultures and industries define animal welfare in different ways.

Before Animal rights laws in the modern day, the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) already taught animal rights and sentience.



# Animal Welfare in Islam

Islam recognises Allah (swt) as the creator of a hierarchy of beings, placing humans at the top due to having a higher dignity than animals.

A man took the egg and the bird began beating her wings in a state of great distress. Muhammad enquired who had tormented the bird her by taking her egg. The man said, "O God's Messenger, I have done this." The Prophet (pbuh) told him to put it back immediately.

Once the Prophet (pbuh) saw a camel on the road, whose belly and back, through extreme hunger, had become one. He said, "Fear God in your treatment of these animals who cannot speak."

# The welfare and sentience of animals

Humans are given permission to use animals for certain uses such as food, transport, hide (Quran 16:8).

Within sacred law animal cruelty or mistreatment of animals is recognised as wrong.

Killing animals for food it needs to be minimal, not wasteful and regulated carefully to ensure the procedure is as painless as possible.

The Sacred Law places many restrictions on how people who keep animals can treat them. Humans are restricted from using animals in ways where human gain comes at the expense of animal welfare.

# The welfare and sentience of animals



- Common animal welfare issues raised by Animal Welfare Advocacy groups:
  - Lack of space
  - Lack of sunlight
  - Restricted normal Animal behaviours
  - Not recognising sentience
  - Genetics.

# The welfare and sentience of animals

Food security and animal welfare in production conflict

“Necessity does not void another’s right”.

Influencing factors:

Demographic

Location

Food prices

Cultural views of animals

Animal Health vs Welfare

Ease of Husbandry

Ease of Health checking



# A wider picture

- Water pollution
- Zoonotic disease spread
- Antibiotic resistance
- Cruelty to Allah's creations
- GHG emissions
- Land use
- Growing population
- Wealth changing diet choices
- International trade



# Modern Livestock production

- Mutations. The Prophet pbuh forbade castration and Mutilation of animals. Permitted under Vet advice.
- Antibiotics should not be routinely used. Some farmers use medicines rather than addressing husbandry issues. Critical Antibiotics should not be used (unless necessary).
- It is unlawful to unnecessarily harm an animal. This does not change simply because harming them costs less and increases efficiency.
- Mixed production- Vast amount of the industry relies on Non Muslim farmers who may use Pig manure.
- AI and technology use should not excuse poor production or increase intensity.

# Halal meat production

85% of animals reared for the Halal industry are from Non- Muslim countries reared by Non- Muslims.

Studies carried out in the UK:

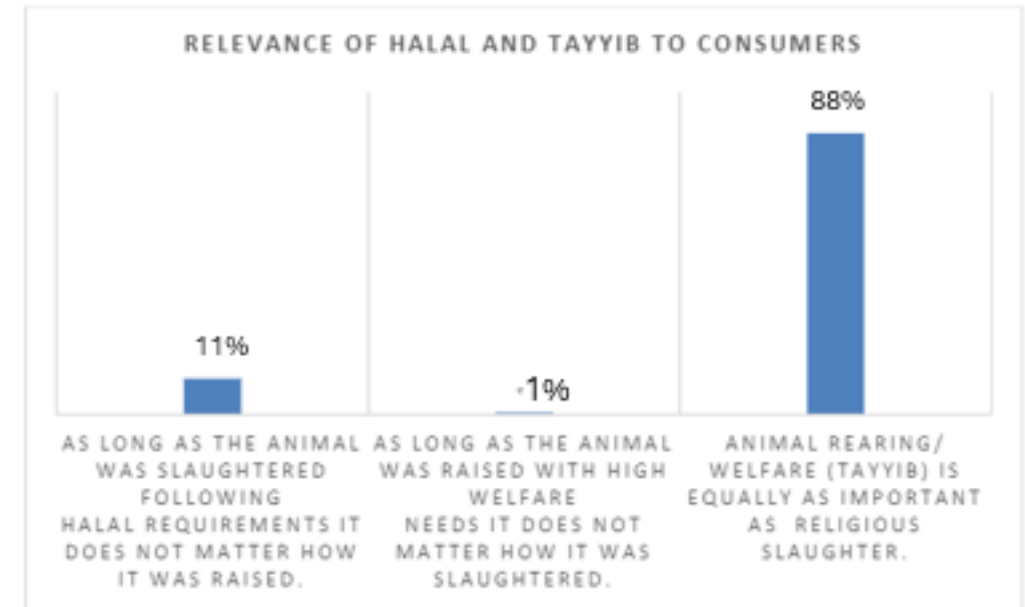
Consumers are concerned about animal welfare and believe modern farming practices are against Islam.

Consumers however are driven by price.

Aalimah/ Alim agree The way the animal is reared is equally as important as slaughter (60%)

Aalimah/ Alim Express the need for Halal meat production to have a minimum standard determined by the industry.

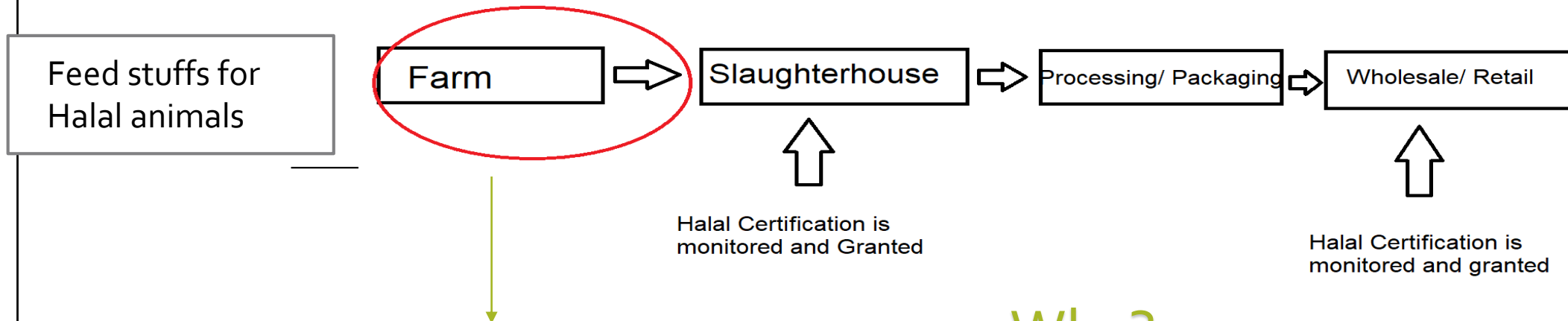
**53%** Of consumers and Aalim think an independent label for taylor and animal welfare standards should be incorporated on Halal meat.



# ISLAMIC FARMING CONCEPT HALAL STANDARDS EXPANSION



## Animal Rearing and Welfare.



## Why?

- Farms rear to country legislation.
- Some farming practices breach sacred law.
- *Known* low welfare and suffering is against Islam.
- The Halal industry would benefit from its own animal rearing standards.

- Animal suffering, damage to human and environmental health is occurring which goes against Islamic boundaries of Khalifa.
- Ensure and market a genuine Halal AND Tayyib product/ ethical.
- UN Goals.
- Consumer awareness and desire for high animal welfare is growing.



## The concept of a One health inclusive of spiritual health

They are all interconnected, one cannot be without the other as Allah intended. Spiritual health is upset if the balance is incorrect, just as the environment is affected by our human actions. This is not a new concept. Allah created us this way.

**Human Health**



**Environmental Health**



**Animal Health**



**Spiritual Health**



# Creating a United World class industry of high welfare

“Addressing Common ground issues”

How?



- Research into areas of modern farming which borderline sacred law.
- Align with UN goals and ethical livestock rearing.
- Project plans with cost analysis/ affects.
- Phased approach.
- Education and training.
- Expand Halal certification?

# Creating a United World class industry of high welfare

- Purchasing meat with known cruelty along the supply chain is against sacred law.
- Training, understanding basics of animal behaviour and welfare beneficial for monitoring the Halal industry.
- Expansion of Halal monitoring would be beneficial to ensure a full Halal and Tayyib chain.
- Changes are not exclusive to farming. Should consider; Live Livestock transport and the Cosmetic industry.
- Affordability and fairtrade farming

“ Everyone knows that unslaughtered meat is haram to eat, but few realize how little baraka [n.b. blessing] there is in even slaughtered meat when the animals have been raised in misery and suffering, or when cooked by those of indifferent morals. One should be aware of what one is doing to oneself”.

- Sheikh Nuh Ha Mim Keller

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Let's connect

