## **Animal welfare vs. Human Welfare**

## The psychology, history and evolution of Halal meat consumption

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Meat consumption is an important indicator of social connectivity, which defines the bonds between societies, people sects and thier wealth and faith. As meat is a profound element of the global food culture and social activities, it has occupied a vital position in the discipline of anthropology from its earliest days. Anthropologists and psychologists view meat consumption as index which help to understand individual cultures and societies, especially when they are situated in the context of the historical believes and ethics of their life principals. Ethnographically, social scientists, rely in their research on a holistic ethical approach based on food culture of different ethnicities being studied. To probe society sociality there is a need to analyze principals of food preparation and food ethics. For instance, meat of Halal or ritual slaughter defines the ethics of Islamic believe, which has been a subject of discussion in recent years that is due to its way of processing. Precisely, slaughtering animals in the way of Halal became a way to honor the Muslims faith towards God. These type of dietary rules simply means abstaining individuals from eating the flesh of warm-blooded animals without Halal slaughter. Ritual slaughter to prepare meat is the most significant and sensitive part of the Islamic dietary regulations. People may know that Halal meat is kind of ethic, respect, and food satiety. Regardless of the reason of faith, the health is considered as another important element due to the medium of blood that is well fitted to contain germs, toxins, and food catabolites that all may cause human health problem. The system of halal eating in Islam aims to achieve: satiety and health safety for the consumers; kindness and compassion for the slaughtered animal; ecological balance, and to present the approach and philosophy of Islam in food. Halal meat is related to the issue of identity for the Muslims around the world, and negligence in it harms the identity of the Islamic food culture. However, as for the first place, the animal sacrifice of the People of the Book (Jews and Christians) is permissible that is clearly stated in Quran (Maieda Chapter: versus 5). Halal meat was associated with Muslim dietary culture since the 7th century and today there are about 1.9 billion Muslims eat Halal meat. Historically, Islam was and still interested clearly in animal welfare. Islam has taken care of animals and Prophet Muhamed emphasized on the need to deal with animals with compassion and mercy. Meat industry systems were relatively simple, today, they are much more complex due to safety and welfare policies, Halal slaughter is in favor for those rules. In principals, there are some constant elements regarding what is halal meat (permitted) for the Islamic faithful, and that there are no changes. Halal criteria have been debated, and to some extent adjusted and updated by Islamic jurists to respond to some appeals on the subject of animal welfare in different parts of the world. Indeed, Halal meat industry became central to the growth of the global meat business in most of the world parts, especially in Africa, Europe and Asia.