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Question: If a product is certified as kosher, *e.g.* chicken or products which contain animal derivatives, does this mean that it is Halaal also? I have also been told that Allah (S.W.T.) states in the that one is allowed to eat the meat of the people of the book (Jews and Christians). Answer: In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful. As-salāmu ʿalaykum wa-rahmatullāhi wa-barakātuh. At the outset, it is important to understand that kosher foods or meats do not necessarily meet the requirements of halal. Due to major differences between Kosher and the requirements of Halaal according to Shari'ah, it is would not be permissible for a Muslim to rely on a Kosher approval. The following is an excerpt from article by SANHA (South Africa.): Whilst there are similarities in certain of the rituals, there are many differences that one may not be aware off, some of which we list below. – Kosher meat cannot be regarded Halaal, since the present day Jewish method of slaughter in an abattoir environment does not include the recitation of the name of the Almighty upon each animal which is a requirement for Halaal slaughter. – Islam prohibits all intoxicating alcohol whilst wines manufactured under rabbinic supervision and other intoxicating beverages such as beers and rum etc. are regarded as kosher. The kosher mark cannot make it Halaal. – Islam considers the entire cattle as Halaal if it is slaughtered in accordance to the Shari'ah whilst according to Jews the hind quarter is forbidden. – Gelatin is considered kosher by some Jewish authorities regardless of its source of origin. Muslims consider gelatin prepared from pork as Haraam and most Halaal authorities also do not accept gelatin from non-Halaal slaughtered animal origin as being Halaal either. Therefore food items that could contain gelatin with kosher symbols on products such as marshmallows, yoghurts etc are not automatically Halaal. – Enzymes irrespective of their source are acceptable in the cheese making and carry the kosher symbol whilst enzymes of pork origin are Haraam to Muslims. – Jewish law permits use of pork bristle brush in food preparation whilst it is Haraam for Muslims. Muslims accept and believe as an article of faith, the role of all the previous Prophets (Peace be upon them) and the scriptures revealed through them. It relies on the final verse of the final revelation revealed to the final Prophet (Peace be upon him) in his farewell pilgrimage to put matters into its proper perspective. In the verse revealed it was stated "…this day have I perfected your religion for you and completed my favour upon you and chose for you Islam as your religion." (Surah 5: Verse 3) The final divine laws of Islam are indeed perfect and best for followers. Consumption of Halaal increases spirituality and benefits us both now and in the Hereafter. There is no need to be dependent on any other sets of laws for convenience. And Allah Ta'āla Knows Best Mufti Arshad Ali Darul Iftaa, Jaamia Madinatul Uloom (Trinidad) www.fatwa-tt.com Question: Asalam'Alykum, Many Hanafi Muslims have been told that eating kosher meat from Hebrew national is ok. Can MSN or MSH (or any other knowledgeable scholar from eshaykh) give us guidance on this topic please? Answer: wa ʿalaykum salam, Eating kosher meat from Hebrew national is not ok: 1. Our faith prohibits all intoxicants including: alcohols, liquors and wines. Whereas Judaism considers them Kosher. 2. Gelatin is considered Kosher by many Jews regardless of its source of origin (in most cases prepared from swine). 3. Muslims must pronounce the name of ALLAH on all animals while slaughtering, while Kosher practice does not require it. Imam Senad Agic Head Imam (IABNA) The Islamic Association of Bosniaks in North America American Islamic Center – Chicago Are Kosher Foods Halal? بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم Answer The slaughter of Christians and Jews is Halal so long as the requirements of slaughter which Muslims are required to fulfil. This includes invoking Allah's name on each animal. On a visit to a Jewish abattoir in Manchester, it was confirmed that Allah's name is only read at the beginning of each interval and that this is sufficient according to their religious advice. It was further confirmed that invoking Allah's name once is sufficient until there is a pause in the slaughter, irrespective of how many thousands of animals are slaughtered. Once this has been confirmed, such Kosher is not Halal for Muslims. Therefore, it is not true that Kosher is Halal. There may be other rules within the Jewish faith that make it impossible for Allah's name to be mentioned on each animal. However, a prospective Muslim should abstain until he ascertains this. [Ustadh] Farid Dingle Checked and Approved by Shaykh Faraz Rabbani كان التسمية عيدا ، أو أي عيدا ، أو ذبح ، أو أي عيد ، إلا أنهم يذبحون بالليل ، وهذا لا يجوز ، لأن الذبح إنما يجوز بالنهار ، لقوله تعالى : وحيث ورد النص بذبحه بالليل ، فإن ذبحه ليلا ، على عادة قومه ، لا يستبيح به ، إلا أن يسميه مسمى ، فإن سمى الله عليه ، وذبحه ليلا ، لم يكره ذلك ، لأن الذبح إنما يكره لأجل التسمية ، وقد وجدت ، وإن ذبحه نهارا ، ولم يسم ، فإن كان ذلك في الليل ، لم يكره ، لما بينا ، وإن كان في النهار ، كره ، لما بينا ، وإن ذبح ليلا ، وسمى ، فإن كان في النهار ، كره ، لما بينا ، وإن ذبح نهارا ، وسمى ، فإن كان في الليل ، لم يكره ، لما بينا ، وإن ذبح ليلا ، ولم يسم ، فإن كان في الليل ، لم يكره ، لما بينا ، وإن كان في النهار ، كره ، لما بينا ، وإن ذبح ليلا ، وسمى ، فإن كان في الليل ، لم يكره ، لما بينا ، وإن كان في النهار ، ك