

South African National Halaal Authority

الهيئة الوطنية لتوثيق الحلال بجنوب أفريقيا

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1 Jumadal Ukhra 1442

15 January 2021

Honourable Members of Halaal Certification Bodies

Dear Brother/Sister in Islam,

Assalaamu 'alaikum wr wb.

We pray that you, members of your team, families and friends are well and keeping safe by the Grace of the Almighty Allah at the beginning of this new calendar year.

What a turbulent year we have all experienced in 2020. A year like no other in living memory. What started out as a virus outbreak, labelled as Covid19 in Wuhan, China in January 2020 asoon became an epidemic which rapidly turned into a full-blown global pandemic. All with devastating effects and catastrophic results leaving two million people dead and destroying many economies in just twelve months.

It touched everybody in some way or the other. Working remotely from home, conferencing and workshop classes by video, lockdowns and minimal socialising, retrenchments and decimation of industries such as airlines, restaurants etc. became the new norm. Most of all as a society we cannot forget the inconsolable loss of loved ones and not being able to be at their side during their final hours. May Allah Ta'ala grant Jannah to the deceased ones and give their families patience and fortitude to bear the loss.

During these crucial times, heroes emerged from all walks of life. From the frontline, professional medical people who risked their lives daily in overworked and overcrowded facilities, businesses that kept the lights on with their services, transport and security personnel who kept the wheels turning and the overlooked essential services such as the refuse collectors and grave diggers. We salute them all for their valiant efforts and may the Almighty bless them for their sacrifices in ensuring our safety and well-being.

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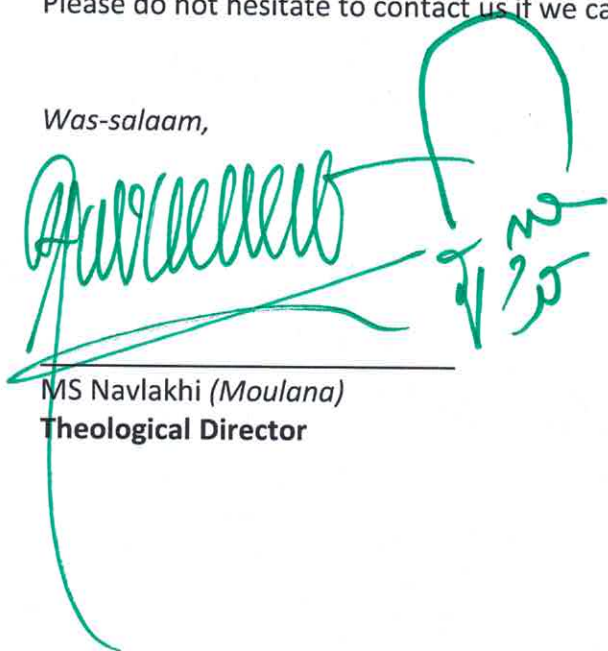
All over the world people are praying, bowing down and prostrating with pleas for deliverance from the dreaded Coronavirus. We are all aware of the important role a Halaal diet plays in relation to the acceptance of prayers and acts of worship. Allah Almighty has decreed, ***“O you who believe! Eat of the good things that We have provided for you, and be grateful to Allah, if it is Him you worship.”*** (Chapter 2 Verse 172)

Therefore, a special accolade and appreciation is also reserved for our colleagues and partners, the Halaal certifying bodies (HCB's) of the world for your courageous role in upholding the huge responsibility and Amaanah (trust) of ensuring the provision of Halaal foods for the Ummah. You are among the unsung heroes in this battle for the Ummah to be able to consume Halaal for sustenance and Salvation. Your members traversed huge distances visiting various manufacturing sites to conduct evaluations and audits of facilities at high personal risk to ensure that Halaal integrity remains intact. Your reward is with Allah Ta'ala. Jazakumullah Khairan.

We would love to thank you personally but practicality dictates otherwise. On behalf of all of us at SANHA and Muslims around the Globe, please accept our heartfelt gratitude and our sincerest good wishes for your success, safety and good health during this coming year, Aameen.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance.

Was-salaam,

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to be 'MS Navlakhi', with a large flourish above it. To the right of the signature, there are some handwritten numbers and symbols, possibly '9/25'.

MS Navlakhi (Moulana)
Theological Director