



MUSJID TIMES

NOTICE FOR MUSJID BOARDS

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DON'T COUNT YOUR CHICKENS BEFORE THEY ARE CERTIFIED

South Africa is one of the world's leading consumers of chicken and poultry is its largest agricultural industry. About 5 million birds are slaughtered daily which caters for 75% of the demand while the remaining 25% is imported from the EU, USA, Brazil, Argentina and other countries from time to time.

Alhumdulillah! with the vision and blessings of our pious Ulama predecessors, efforts were made more than 50 years ago to regulate the predominantly non-Muslim meat and poultry industry for the provision of Halaal for consumers and traders alike. This has resulted in almost all slaughter at commercial abattoirs in the country being done by hand with Muslim slaughterers under Muslim supervision. Click here to read why SANHA does not accept machine slaughter: <http://www.sanha.org.za/flashnews/flashn31.htm>

Whilst the 75% is covered under Halaal certification, it is the imported unregulated and the illegal black market that is a very serious threat to the integrity of the Halaal market. Just this past weekend, criminals were arrested for fraud and corruption with a consignment of 27 000 Kgs of imported poultry labelled as Halaal. Click here for the report: <https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/three-bust-in-possession-of-27-000kg-of-poultry-meat-offering-r800-000-bribe-to-gauteng-cop-20220129>

It's too ghastly to contemplate just how much more than this tip of the iceberg bust, meat shipments slip into our country with our porous borders and corrupt officials, let alone the food safety protocols that are breached in storage and transport. A substantial portion of poultry is channeled to the fast food and hospitality industry where the consumer does not even have the benefit of a product label, of the country of origin or a Halaal mark of assurance. Not a whimper of protest or indignation against this is registered by detractors.

STRENGTHENING OR ERODING OF INSTITUTIONS

Division, differences and disputes are the cause of the Ummah's weakness and defeat, as Allah Ta'ala cautions us in the Noble Quran, *"And obey Allah and His Messenger, and do not dispute (with one another) lest you lose courage and your strength departs, and be patient. Surely, Allah is with those who are As-Saabiroon (the patient)"* (Surah 8: Verse 46)

The institution of Halaal Certification is a blessing to the Ummah of South Africa and builds on the solid foundation of our esteemed Ulama and forefathers. We welcome and appreciate your duas, encouragement and support.

LET'S INCREASE THE BLESSINGS WITH MUTUAL SUPPORT AND GRATITUDE!

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