
Forgetting to mention Allaah's Name when slaughtering

Translated by Abu Abdirrahmaan Nasser ibn Najam

Taken from the works of Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللهِ)

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

With regards to the obligation to mention Allaah's Name when slaughtering and it being a condition for the meat to be halaal, the Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللهِ)¹ comments:

So if he forgets to mention (it), then it (the slaughtered animal) is haraam, because the shart (precondition) does not fall away due to its being forgotten – the proof being that were a man to pray whilst being in state of hadath out of forgetfulness, then his prayer is not correct.

And because Allaah, the Most High, said:

And do not eat from that upon which the Name of Allaah has not been mentioned.

[Soorah al-An'aam (the 6th chapter) aayah 121]

And He made it unrestricted with regards to the one who is slaughtering.

So if someone were to say: We understand that saying Allaah's Name is a condition, and that were he to leave it inattentively or out of forgetfulness or deliberately, then the slaughtered animal would be haraam. But what do you have to say about the statement of Allaah, the Most High:

O our Lord, do not punish us if we forget to do something which was obligatory for us to do or fall into error by doing something which we were prohibited from doing!

[Soorah al-Baqarah (the 2nd chapter) aayah 286]

And Allaah said: I have done so.²

We say (in reply): We do not (say that Allaah) will take to account this person who slaughtered the animal and forgot to mention Allaah's Name, and we say that there is no sin upon him.

But there remains the (issue of the) person who is eating when he comes and wishes to eat from this (animal), and he asks, "Was the Name of Allaah mentioned upon it or not?"

¹ (رَحْمَةُ اللهِ) (rahimahullaah) May Allaah the Most High have mercy on him

² Reported by Muslim in the Book of 'Eemaan

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So it is said to him, "The Name of Allaah was not mentioned upon it," so he does not eat. But if we were to suppose that this person ate from this slaughtered animal out of forgetfulness or out of ignorance, then there is nothing (from sin) upon him.

(Sharh al Arba'een an-Nawawee (p191) of Shaykh Muhammad ibn Saalih al 'Uthaymeen (رَحْمَةُ اللَّهِ))