

Q: 70 – Title: Is it permissible to consume elephant meat?

Question

Is it permissible to consume elephant meat?

Answer

In the Name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

As-salamu ‘alaykum wa-rahmatullahi wa-barakatuh.

Food plays a vital role in our lives. The famous proverb states, “You are what you eat.” The Shari’ah has made the majority of edible substances permissible. However, some animals possessing certain traits have been prohibited.

The famous hadith of Sayyiduna Abdullah ibn Abbas (Allah be pleased with him) states that the Messenger of Allah (Allah bless him and give him peace) prohibited the eating of all fanged beasts of prey, and all the birds having talons.” [\[i\]](#)

The definition given by the Ibn Nujaym (Allah have mercy on him) for a predatory animal is as follows:

“A predator is every animal that would normally prey, quarry, wound, kill and transgress on other animals (or humans).” [\[ii\]](#)

“An elephant is a fanged animal; hence, it will be prohibitively disliked (makruh) to consume its meat.” [\[iii\]](#)

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[[iii](#)] (بموجب المادة 510 من القانون رقم 10 لسنة 2010م) لا يجوز تناول لحوم الفيل

[[iv](#)] بموجب المادة 306 من القانون رقم 6 لسنة 2010م (بموجب المادة 306 من القانون رقم 6 لسنة 2010م) لا يجوز تناول لحوم الفيل

[[v](#)] بموجب المادة 698 من القانون رقم 10 لسنة 2010م (بموجب المادة 698 من القانون رقم 10 لسنة 2010م) لا يجوز تناول لحوم الفيل