

Q: 38 – Title: With regards to the use of Shellac (insect derivative) in food preparation, is it halaal? This is mostly found in sweet / chocolate production.

Question

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Answer

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful

Assalaamu `alaykum waRahmatullahi Wabarakatuh

In principle, it is not Halaal to consume any insect or any part of it. Shellac is the secretion of the female lac bug. This secretion will be regarded as Halaal based on the analogy on the honey produced by a bee. However, during the process of manufacturing it into a glazing agent for sweets, chocolates etc, if there are traces/particles of this bug in any item (sweets, chocolates, etc), it will not be permissible to consume such items.

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ
الحمد لله الذي هدانا لهذا
ما كنا لنهتدي لولا أن هدانا الله
والحمد لله رب العالمين
289 / 5) - الحمد لله رب العالمين

And Allah knows best

Wassalaamu `alaykum

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