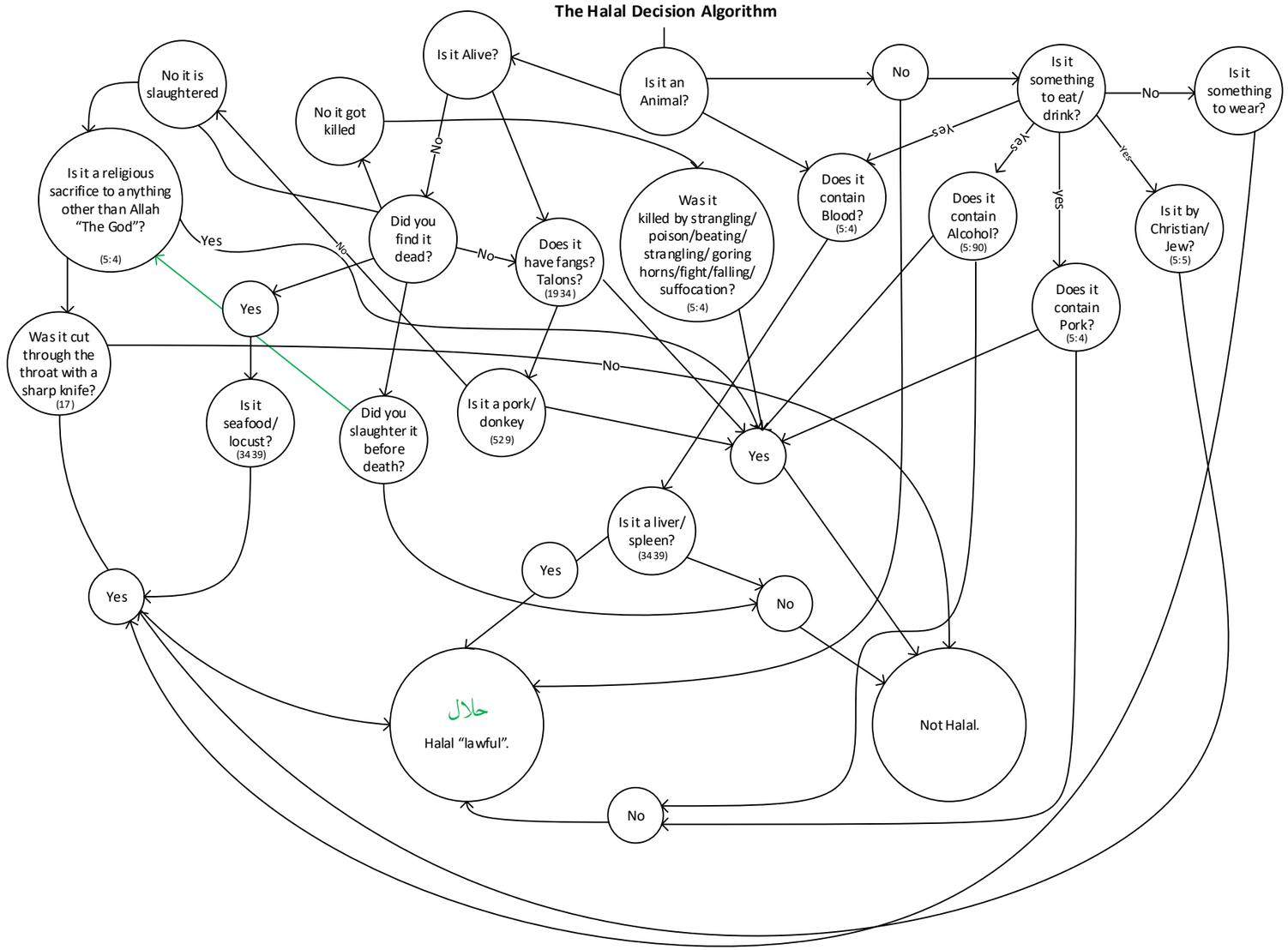
The Halal Decision Algorithm



(5:5) This day [all] good foods have been made "lawful", and the food of those who were given the Scripture is lawful for you and your food is lawful for them. And [lawful in marriage are] chaste women from among the believers and chaste women from among those who were given the Scripture before you, when you have given them their due compensation, desiring chastity, not unlawful sexual intercourse or taking [secret] lovers. And whoever denies the faith - his work has become worthless, and he, in the Hereafter, will be among the losers.
Quran

(1934) Ibn 'Abbas reported that Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) prohibited the eating of all fanged beasts of prey, and all the birds having talons.
Sahih Muslim 1934 a.

(5:4) This day [all] good foods have been made lawful, and the food of those who were given the Scripture is lawful for you and your food is lawful for them. And [lawful in marriage are] chaste women from among the believers and chaste women from among those who were given the Scripture before you, when you have given them their due compensation, desiring chastity, not unlawful sexual intercourse or taking [secret] lovers. And whoever denies the faith - his work has become worthless, and he, in the Hereafter, will be among the losers.
Quran

(17) Verily Allah has prescribed ihsan (proficiency, perfection) in all things. So if you kill then kill well; and if you slaughter, then slaughter well. Let each one of you sharpen his blade and let him spare suffering to the animal he slaughters."
40 Hadith Nawawi 17

(3439) "Two kinds of dead meat and two kinds of blood have been permitted to us. The two kinds of dead meat are fish and locusts, and the two kinds of blood are the liver and spleen."
Book 29, Hadith 3439

Allah's Messenger (ﷺ) forbade the eating of donkey-meat.

Sahih al-Bukhari 4218

حلال

Personal notes on this diagram

Halal means lawful, it is not just for food but everything. In Islam, The God permitted for humans everything, unless it was explicitly stated as not lawful/haram. It is a process not a brand.

Some companies put Halal stamp on wearables, or sugar, or perfumes, which in my opinion is not correct. For example, it is actually halal for a perfume to contain Alcohol even if it is Haram to drink it.

Halal food is the most famous amongst Muslim communities, because Halal food is usually 100% safe to consume for the body. Food that's not halal usually is harmful to health.

A lot of people (including Muslims) think that Halal is just cutting the throat of the animal. However, the kill has to happen with many conditions to ensure that the kill is respectful for the animal. Conditions like sharpening the knife, not killing in front of other animals, not begin the cutting the meat until the soul has left the animal body, praying to God, etc. In this diagram, we just show the "Was it cut through the throat with a sharp knife" condition, to keep the diagram simple.

Disclaimer: this diagram is just a basic demonstration on Halal food. It's purpose is to show the algorithm only. Please do not accept everything as portrayed. Consult with your national Ifta'a agency for any inquiries.

@MrmMhd

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