

Contemporary Global Halal Issues

Isa Chao

Vice Secretary General

Taiwan Halal Integrity Development Association

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Contemporary Global Halal Issues

- ◆ Halal Standards
- ◆ Halal Certification Bodies
- ◆ Need One Standard
- ◆ Unity under One Authority

Too Many Halal Standards

- ◆ Muslim Country Standards: JAKIM, MUI, GSO, OIC/SMIIC, etc.
- ◆ Each loves to lead, insists on its own
- ◆ Prefer to follow Western standards
- ◆ Do not like to follow the pioneers in Halal certification
- ◆ HCBs in the Non-Muslim countries (e.g., THIDA) have to comply to export

Some Halal Standards are Complicated

- ◆ Halal Standard should be based on Quran and Hadith
- ◆ Some Halal Standards included western industry standards such as GMP, ISO, HACCP, etc.
- ◆ More emphasis on Tayyiban (Hygiene, cleanliness, safety...)
- ◆ Less emphasis on Halalan (Ingredients, process, cross contamination, etc.)
- ◆ These Halal Standards became hefty & hard to follow→ not practical
- ◆ We have no objection to the western standards – should not be part of Halal standard

Focus on Halal & Keep it Simple

- ◆ Halalan Tayyiban
 - ◆ Better and more comprehensive than any industry standards, such as GMP, ISO, HACCP, etc.
 - ◆ In Taiwan, GMP collapsed due to food safety scandal a few years ago
 - ◆ By Allah's Protection, THIDA certified products were safe
 - ◆ Halal in Taiwan has gradually become a symbol of food safety, healthy in consumer's perspective
- ◆ Halal has always been simple, let's keep it simple
 - ◆ **"And do not say about what your tongues assert of untruth, "This is lawful and this is unlawful," to invent falsehood about Allah. " (16:116)**
 - ◆ Let's leave things that do not need Halal judgement
 - ◆ No need to include everything under our Halal Standard
 - ◆ No need to raise the threshold of Halal industry
 - ◆ Use western industry standards as a recommendation to Halal industry, not a requirement

More & more HCBs emerged

- ◆ Happening everywhere – money driven
- ◆ Unqualified HCBs, or one-man show
- ◆ Non-Muslims jumping into Halal Certification
- ◆ Halal Certification is seen as a “business”, not responsibility

Halal Certification is a Responsibility

- ◆ Halal certification can promote Halal Industry and Muslim Economy
- ◆ But HC is a responsibility, NOT a business
- ◆ Our Intention – to serve the Ummah
 - ◆ Allah is fully aware of our intention
 - ◆ We will all be judged by Allah on the DOJ
 - ◆ We also see it as a da`wah opportunity, e.g., through HAS training

HCBs Certify Overseas

- ◆ We've rejected numerous requests to certify overseas, especially China, because:
- ◆ Responsibility means more to answer on DOJ
- ◆ Responsibility is upon the Local Muslims
- ◆ Language and culture barrier
- ◆ Overseas client: Hard to monitor, supervise, high risk
- ◆ Foreign Muslims cannot do a better job than locals
- ◆ Causing competition – compromise in standard
- ◆ Endanger Halal integrity

HCBs Certify Overseas-continued

- ◆ Halal pioneer Muslim country authorities & Advanced countries
- ◆ Share their knowledge, experience
- ◆ Support and guide the developing countries
- ◆ Help through education, raise the capability of overseas Muslims

Need One Standard

- ◆ One that will be accepted by most HCBS
- ◆ One that is focused and simple
- ◆ One that is easy to implement & operate
- ◆ One that is the common basis for all HCBs

How?

- ◆ Minor differences in the Mazhab
- ◆ Seek common grounds & respect differences
- ◆ Handle the differences by labeling, the same way we label allergen

Unity under One Authority

- ◆ One standard must be under One Authority
- ◆ It should be Fair and just
- ◆ Not business oriented
- ◆ Will not compromise Halal
- ◆ Focus on Halal matters
- ◆ Help the HCBs through education
- ◆ Recognition by qualification
- ◆ “And hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided.” (3:102)

Thank
you



Taiwan Halal Integrity Development Association

Phone: 8862-2367-5231 Fax: 8862-2365-2094

Address: 3rd Flr. No. 3, Lane 25, Sec. 1,
Xinhai Road, Taipei City, Taiwan

Email: thida.info@gmail.com

Web: www.thida.org

Chinese Muslim Association (CMA)

Phone: 8862-2392-7364 Fax: 2394-8390

Address: No.62, Hsin Sheng South Road, Taipei, 10650

Email: cma@cmainroc.org.tw

Web: www.cmainroc.org.tw