

These companies were awarded with “Halal”

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Subject: Food Report

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Last week the news that was prepared by Ali Ekber ERTÜRK from Akşam Newspaper and published in the newspaper drew a great attention and many newspaper and internet sites cited the news and announced it to their readers.

The news mentioned about “Auditor Training with Halal Certificate” conducted by “GIMDES” last month and expressions like “being covered, which had been the pudicity of women were accepted as sacred and those who insulted it were damned. This magnificent order could be summarised in three words: Life, faith, jihad.” that were included in the course schedule were also emphasized. These expressions were expressed with an unaccustomed wording in the Halal Food Auditor training.

We asked about this issue to the President of GIMDES and the Editor of our Site Dr. H.K. BÜYÜKÖZER. We want to share his response with you. You should read this explanation below.

The first companies of Turkey with “Halal” certificate are determined. 10 companies were awarded with halal label from GIMDES. As for Halal Food Auditors, them being taught with information that are not relevant with food like “those who insulted being covered were damned” has sparked a debate.

10 out of 27 companies that applied to Food and Need Substances Auditing and Certification Association (GIMDES) that conducts studies about Halal certification were qualified with “halal” certificate. The export products of the companies that obtained certificates will have a “Halal” logo on them from now on. On the logo that is designed by GIMDES, “Halal” wording will be stated in Turkish, Arabic and English. Inspection regarding the other 17 companies that have applied for the certificate and are waiting in the queue is still in progress.

Those who insulted were damned

15 trainees who have completed the training program that have attended the “Halal Food Auditorship” started by GIMDES are qualified to become auditors. Lecture notes with the title “The life style offered by Islam” have contents that are open for discussion. In those lecture notes it is stated that “In this geography, not long ago, there was an Islamic life style” and it continues like that: “In this life style of ours, there were fraternity among people, neighborhood, common happiness, and common grief. Being covered, which had been the pudicity of women were accepted as sacred and those who insulted it were damned. This magnificent order could be summarized in three words: Life, faith, jihad.” As for one of the lectures, it is said that “For those

materials which are explicitly described to be haram, their interchange is also haram in the Islamic society. Production, freedom of movement and trading of things like wine, ham, maytah, blood is prohibited. They are not accepted as properties, therefore, their ownership is also not accepted either.”

Companies being awarded with Halal Certificates

BirlikTarım, MaysaGıda

BeşsanMakarna, UlusoyUn

BemtatGıda, ÖzdoğuranGıda

Göknur A.Ş., Amylum

Nişasta San., HanselandKimyeviÜrün San., Rumeli Maya

Companies that are waiting

The following companies are waiting in the line to be qualified with the halal certificate by GIMDES: BereketDöner, BallıSütÜrünleri, KandazlarOrganikveHelalGıdaÜrünleri, AbalıoğluYem, Soya veTekstil A.Ş., UnifoGıda San, SüphanTarımÜrünleri, ÖznesilEntegreTavukçulukveYemSanaii, Akyem, Semolina Gıda, KervanGıda, Pak Gıda, GülalTarım, SC Mine Limited, Arı MühendislikTarımveHayvancılık, VenüsSalça, and Tat Nişasta.

Halal and haram Lists

The trainees were given a list about which food is halal and which ones are haram. According to the list, cow, sheep, camel and goat milk, honey, fish, non-intoxicating plants, naturally frozen fruits, nuts or resinous fruits like peanuts, pistachios, hazelnuts, walnuts, granule nourishments like wheat, barley, rice, rye, oat, meats of animals like cattle, camel, sheep, deer, chicken, duck and wildfowl, as long as they are slaughtered and hunted in accordance with Islamic regulations are halal. On the haram list, there is ham, blood, animals eating meat, parts of dead animals, animals with halal meat which are not slaughtered in accordance with Islamic regulations, reptiles and insects, wine, ethyl alcohol and alcohol.

Ali Ekber ERTÜRK - ANKARA

Statement of Dr. Hüseyin Kami BÜYÜKÖZER about the news:

Islam is an integral. If a person declares to be a Muslim, s/he has to believe in it as a whole and apply it in his/her life in all aspects. In a word, Islam is a “Life Style”, it is a “Life Order”. A person who calls himself/herself as a Muslim, will struggle with his/her own nafs within this life order, will struggle with his/her own evil, will struggle with injustices. Because, s/he will be the addressee of “the one who keeps quite against injustices is the mute evil” warning of the Prophet. For this reason, For a Muslim, life is about “Faith and Jihad”.

A person who plans to be a Halal Food Auditor has to, above everything else, include this life style in his/her own life and internalize Islam. Otherwise, s/he cannot conduct these auditing works that s/he will perform by the name of God with required merits.

Halal-haram lines that comprise the whole life in Islam are clear. All of these lines are drawn by God. Therefore, they belong to God. That is, they are Divine. People cannot arbitrarily change those lines. Emphasizing this sensitivity to the participants in the training was essential for the purpose of the training program.

In addition, I want to put emphasis on the “Halal Certificate” implementation of GIMDES. As I have stated above, Halal Certification is an implementation to be performed by the name of God. Company authorities who want to obtain Halal Certificates for their products, either Muslims or non-Muslims, must believe in the “Halal Assurance System” to be implemented by GIMDES both spiritually and mentally from the bottom of their hearts. In any case, company authorities who are Muslims have to believe in that as the order of their religion. Company authorities who are non-Muslims, have to believe in that because respecting the most natural, the most sacred rights of their Muslim customers is a civil humanistic duty.

To make this belief applicable, Company executives in both groups will establish their “Internal Halal Auditors” that will internally be formed from Muslims under the supervision of GIMDES and they will audit productions together with GIMDES.