

## **Muslims outraged as HFA is implicated in the PORKGATE scandal**

Muslims are outraged as how halal food authority has certified and authenticated products which contained pork?

The company which supplied halal food found to contain traces of pork DNA has been identified as McColgan Quality Foods Limited, a Northern Ireland-based company.

The company was named as the source of number of Halal savoury beef pastry products" found to contain pork DNA which it supplied to prisons, the products tested were found to have traces of porcine protein. These results shocked us all as the manufacturer in question is accredited by the Halal Food Authority.

This is quite ironic that on 2 Feb 2013 Masood Khawaja president of the Halal Food Authority went live on air assuring the Muslim on SKYNEWS as to how halal food authority standards were robust and assured the Muslim community that only one halal standard was required.

With the latest findings that 3663 identified that the PORK that was in the halal pies and pasties came from an Irish factory which had been certified by the Halal Food Authority, with this admission by 3663 is the Halal Food Authority President Masood Khawaja going to apologise to the Muslim community especial to the prison inmates as to how his organisation had approved 3663 halal pies containing pork into prison services which they were consuming.

How many other product have Halal Food Authority approved/certified that are doubtful and HARAM, as we cannot check due to the fact 3663 have removed them from their website, Further questions should be asked as to how Halal Food Authority who do not certify any beef Slaughter houses according their website YET They have endorsed/certified beef products such as burgers and pies halal.

We are encouraging all Muslims to boycott all Halal Food Authority certified products until such time as HFA can assure the Muslim community that they are to be trusted with their certification systems.

Mr Masood Khawaja is requested that he confronts the Muslim community and also takes the invitation from Birmingham Central Mosque, within next two weeks and explains how his organisation single-handedly brought the whole halal industry into disrupted.

ANSA has been actively canvassing from the offset that the industry and all local authorities to adopts the '**Guidance note on halal food issues**' as issued by Ms Sarah Appleby, Head of Enforcement and Local Authority Delivery Division.

The Food Standards Agency issued guidance for Local Authority enforcement officers in February 2003, and then reissued on 29 September 2010. Stating:

The mislabelling and misrepresentation of Halal foods is of great importance to the Muslim Community, and continues to be an issue of concern. For this reason we are re-issuing the advice drawn up in association with relevant Muslim organisations, LGR and Defra.

Food enforcement officers are requested to: Use this advice when planning inspections, food sampling and labelling checks relating to Halal foods Take appropriate enforcement action.

For and behalf of ANSA

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