# 11609 - Eating beef that has not been slaughtered properly until after it has been killed

### the question

I am presently residing in Canada. I have learned that in this country, in the province that I live in (ontario), the animals for beef etc..are killed then slaughtered.
So this will defeat the purpose of any muslim eating this meat.  Since, the animal is dead before it is slaughtered.  Some say we can eat the meat in Canada becaue these pple here are ahlul kitab.
So, my question is when invited and eating at a muslim family's home who believes that they can go to the local supper market and buy the meat and eat from it. And insist the meat is halal to be eaten....what must I do? Should I just eat the meat even though I know they buy from the local supper market? I have tried telling them in a nice manner, directly, but they insist that the meat is halal.  I am a new muslim and they have been very supportive in my hard times.
I do not want to just snob them or not visit them due to my fears. What is my obligation and can I eat the meat??? Please help, most lecturers and scholars that come here, keep insisting that the question has been answered and never answer it for us new muslim.  And I have done my research as far as what I can do and not do and I am really not sure on this

### Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

Beef that has been killed before being slaughtered (i.e., before its neck is cut in the halaal method) is considered to be maytah (“dead meat”) and it is not permissible to eat it, because Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

“He has forbidden you only Al Maitah (meat of a dead animal), blood, the flesh of swine, and any animal which is slaughtered as a sacrifice for others than Allaah (or has been slaughtered for idols or on which Allaah’s Name has not been mentioned while slaughtering). But if one is forced by necessity, without wilful disobedience, and not transgressing, then, Allaah is Oft Forgiving, Most

Merciful

[al-Nahl 16:115]

With regard to what you mention about some Muslims eat meating that has been killed before being slaughtered, it may be that they are sure that the meat that they are eating has been slaughtered according to sharee'ah, or it may be that they are ignorant of the rulings on this kind of meat, or they may have asked (scholars) who told them that this meat is halaal.

Whatever the case, you have to avoid eating these meats, and if anyone asks you to eat it, you should refuse to do so, and explain why you are refusing – so that they will follow that or at least excuse you for not eating it.

With regard to what you mention about some people saying that it is permissible to eat this meat because they are the People of the Book, the answer is that it is permissible to eat meat that has been slaughtered by the People of the Book, but this meat that you describe is not meat that has been slaughtered by them; rather it is dead meat, and it is not permissible to eat dead meat even if it was killed by a Muslim.

Shaykh 'Abd al-'Azeez ibn Baaz (may Allaah have mercy on him) said:

"Allaah says (interpretation of the meaning):

'Made lawful to you this day are At Tayyibaat [all kinds of Halaal (lawful) foods, which Allaah has made lawful (meat of slaughtered eatable animals, milk products, fats, vegetables and fruits)]. The food (slaughtered cattle, eatable animals) of the people of the Scripture (Jews and Christians) is lawful to you and yours is lawful to them'

[al-Maa'idah 5:5]

This aayah makes it clear to us that the food of the People of the Book – i.e., the Jews and Christians – is permissible for us, but if we know that they have slaughtered a permissible animal in a manner other than that prescribed in sharee'ah, such as killing it by strangulation, electric

shock, hitting it on the head, etc., then it is meat “which has been killed by strangling, or by a violent blow” (cf. al-Maa'idah 5:3), so it is haraam, just as meat which has been killed by strangling, or by a violent blow by a Muslim is also forbidden to us. But if we do not know what is the case, then the meat slaughtered by them is halaal for us, in accordance with the aayah.”

(Majallat al-Jaami’ah al-Islamiyyah, no. 3, p. 156

In conclusion, we hope that you will spread the fatwa of Shaykh ‘Abd al-‘Azeez ibn Baaz to the Muslims whom you know, as much as you can. And Allaah knows best.