

Animal Rights & Rulings in this Respect♦

Islam is the religion of mercy. In the manner in which it directs us to be kind to the poor, the needy and the helpless, similarly it also directs us to be kind and merciful to the animals. There is no doubt that Allah the Almighty has created them to serve the human kind and to be beneficial to them, but at the same time He has bound us by the limitations which is to be strictly observed. They should not be treated in any way that reflects cruelty. In this respect the following suggestions are being approved.

1. Every animal should be provided food as per the demands by nature for them, including those containing meat, provided they are not “Najs” or dirty as per the Shariah and are not harmful for them.
2. Giving them injections for increased volumes in milk or meat is permissible if it is not harmful to the animal or the people provided that while milking these animals their health and the requirement of their babies is not compromised with.
3. When cross-breeding different types of animals the off-spring shall be considered as the type of the female.

Note: As per Imam Shafayi the off-spring shall be considered as that of the parent bearing inferior characteristics, for example if a she-goat is bred with a dog the off-spring shall be considered that of the dog (Mufti Umrain Yusuf Konkani, Jamia Arabia, Shri Vardhan).

4. It is permissible to keep animals in cages for decorative purposes, if proper arrangements are made for their safety and nourishment.
5. It is not proper to keep dangerous wild animals as pets only for the fulfilment of one’s interest or desire.
6. Medical experiments on animals is permissible if beneficial to the human kind.
7. It is permissible to place certain instruments or remove certain parts after sedating animals on the condition that these procedures are not a cause of perpetual pain for them.
8. Any regulation by the government prohibiting hunting of animals in view of the environment or the conservation of the species should be adhered to.
9. If the slaughter of a halal animal-permissible by Shariah, is bound to have adverse effects on communal harmony, or these have been banned by law, it does not render the animal Haram-impermissible by Shariah. However the

slaughter of these animals by Muslims should be avoided as a precautionary measure.

10. If the government has banned the hunting down of any wild animal or bird by law the Muslims should refrain from hunting them.
11. For stopping the spread of an epidemic the affected stock can be killed but their burning alive or burying them alive is not proper as per the Shariah.

It is permissible to kill dangerous animals as a safety measure provided danger from them is imminent.