



These animals have instincts like those of the wild beasts, so if you lose control over one of them, treat it in this way

Rāfi' ibn Khadīj (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: We were with the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) in Dhul-Hulayfah when the people were struck by hunger. They got camels and sheep as war booty. He said: The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) was at the rear. They hurried and slaughtered the animals and set up the pots. So, the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) ordered that the pots should be overturned. Then he distributed, deeming ten sheep equal to one camel. One of the camels fled, and the people ran after it till they were exhausted. There were only a few horses with them. A man, thus, threw an arrow at the camel, and Allah caused it to stop. Then he said: "These animals have instincts like those of the wild beasts, so if you lose control over one of them, treat it in this way." He, i.e., Rāfi', said: We hope—or we fear—to meet the enemy tomorrow, and we have no knives; can we slaughter with reeds? He said, "Whatever causes the blood to flow, and the name of Allah is mentioned over it, then eat it, except for teeth and claws. I will tell you about this: as for teeth, they are bones, and as for claws, they are the knives of the Abyssinians."

[Authentic hadith] [Narrated by Bukhari & Muslim]

Rāfi' ibn Khadīj (may Allah be pleased with him) informed that they were with the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) at Dhul-Hulayfah when the people were struck by hunger. They had captured camels and sheep as spoils of war from the polytheists. Acting hastily before the booty was divided, they slaughtered some of the animals and set up the pots without seeking permission from the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him). The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him), who was walking at the rear of the group, learned about this and ordered that the pots be overturned, spilling out the stock therein. Then he divided the spoils among them, deeming ten sheep equal to one camel. During this, a camel escaped, and they were unable to catch it. With only a few horses available, one of the men shot it with an arrow, and Allah caused it to stop for them. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: Indeed, these domestic animals have instincts like those of wild beasts. Whatever of them overcomes you and you are unable to catch them, deal with it in this manner. Rāfi' said: We hope to encounter the enemy tomorrow and fear that using our weapons for slaughtering might dull their edges, while we are in urgent need of slaughtering, yet we have no knives. Can we slaughter using hollow reeds? The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) said: Whatever

causes the blood to flow abundantly, and Allah's name is mentioned over it, then eat it—except for teeth and claws. I will tell you about this: as for teeth, they are bones, and as for claws, they are used by the polytheists of Abyssinia.

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