



Umm Hufayd, Ibn ‘Abbās's aunt, sent some dried yogurt, ghee (butter), and a mastigure (sand lizard) to the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) as a gift

Ibn ‘Abbās (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: Umm Hufayd, Ibn ‘Abbās' aunt, sent some dried yogurt, ghee (butter), and a mastigure (sand lizard) to the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) as a gift. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) ate the dried yogurt and the ghee, but left the mastigure, because he disliked it. Ibn ‘Abbās said: “The mastigure was eaten at the table of the Messenger of Allah (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) and if it had been unlawful to eat, it could not have been eaten at his table.”

[Authentic hadith] [Narrated by Bukhari & Muslim]

Ibn ‘Abbās (may Allah be pleased with him) says that his maternal aunt, Umm Hufayd, sent the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) some food that consisted of dried yogurt, ghee, and a mastigure. The Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) ate it all except the mastigure, because he had an aversion to it; he disliked it. His natural disposition, however, does not affect the ruling of eating of this animal. He explained elsewhere that the mastigure was not a common food in his land. So he abstained from eating it, not for religious reasons, but because he had a natural aversion to eating it. Ibn ‘Abbās deduced from this Hadīth that the mastigure is permissible to eat, because it was eaten at the Prophet's table. If it had been unlawful to eat, the Prophet (may Allah's peace and blessings be upon him) would have forbidden it.

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