

Is eating dolphin and shark permissible?

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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

In the name of Allaah, the Most Merciful, the Bestower of Mercy

Question: May Allaah treat you well, O Noble Father; the questioner says: “Regarding His, (تعالى)¹, statement:

أُجِلَّ لَكُمْ صَيْدُ الْبَحْرِ وَطَعَامُهُ

[“Lawful to you is (the pursuit of) water-game and its use for food.”]²

Does it include dolphin and shark?”

Shaykh Fawzaan (حفظه الله)³: All of that which does not live except within ocean then it is considered water-game; because there is no evidence for any exceptions. They (some of the scholars) have said that the crocodile and the (water) snake are not to be eaten, but there is no evidence for this. Allaah (جل وعلا)⁴ has made it general wherein He said:

أُجِلَّ لَكُمْ صَيْدُ الْبَحْرِ

[“Lawful to you is (the pursuit of) water-game...”]⁵

Its game is that which does not live except within it. As for the crocodile, then it lives on land as well as in the water. So the view of prohibition is weightier. As for that which does not live except within the water, then this is Halaal without exception.

أحسن الله إليكم سماحة الوالد ، يقول السائل : في قوله تعالى : (أُجِلَّ لَكُمْ صَيْدُ الْبَحْرِ وَطَعَامُهُ) [المائدة:96] ، هل يشمل خنزير البحر و كلب البحر ؟

الجواب : كل ما لا يعيش إلا في البحر فهو من صيد البحر لأنه لا دليل على الإستثناءات ، هم قالوا إن التمساح والحية أنها لا تؤكل لكن ما في دليل على هذا ، الله جل وعلا عمم فقال : (أُجِلَّ لَكُمْ صَيْدُ الْبَحْرِ) [المائدة:96] ، وصيده ما لا يعيش إلا فيه ، أما التمساح فإنه يعيش في البر والبحر فيغلب عليه جانب الحظر ، أما ما لا يعيش إلا في البحر فهذا حلال دون استثناء . نعم

¹ Ta’aala (He, The Most High) (تعالى)

² سورة المائدة – Soorah al-Maa’idah [5:96]

³ May Allaah the Most High preserve him (حفظه الله)

⁴ Allaah - (Almighty Allaah) (جل وعلا)

⁵ سورة المائدة – Soorah al-Maa’idah [5:96]