Assurance of Tayyib from a Food Safety perspective in Halal Food Sector

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Abstract

Purpose - Rapid developments in Halal standardization and certification have brought diversities within the sector, including the area of food safety. In an attempt to bring clarity to the field of Halal assurance, this paper aims to achieve an understanding of the Tayyib concept and give insight to its various aspects from a food safety perspective.

Design/methodology/approach - This research presents an interdisciplinary work of Islamic jurisprudence and food science, which intertwines research on food safety and the fundamental sources of Halal and Haram jurisprudence.

Findings - Tayyib is a crucial concept of Islamic Jurisprudence, which directs Muslim consumers towards healthy and safe food choices. The Tayyib concept offers a holistic approach guiding the Halal food sector on the appropriate food sources, food-handling environment, and practices within it, highlighting problematic areas of cross-contamination.

Practical implications - This paper enables to put the current Halal standardization, certification and assurance activities into perspective, evaluate the Halal and Tayyib food safety scope uptake within the Halal food sector and gauge the possible benefits from acknowledged conventional food safety measures.

Social implications - A better understanding of the Tayyib concept by various food industry players could lead to its proper implementation and through that to a higher level of compliance in Halal assurance activities. This could better reassure the consumers of Halal products and achieve their improved wellbeing.

Originality/value – To our best knowledge, this paper is the first that attempts to elaborate on the principle and scope of the Tayyib concept from the food safety perspective within the Halal food assurance framework.

Key Words Tayyib, Food safety, Halal, Haraam, Islam, Hygiene, Contamination

Paper type Conceptual paper