

204826 - What are the animals that are permissible to hunt during Hajj?

the question

What are the animals that are permissible to hunt during Hajj? Where? And when?

Detailed answer

It is not permissible for the pilgrim in ihram to hunt land animals so long as he is in ihram, and it is not permissible for him or one who is not in ihram to hunt in the Haram zone. It is permissible for the pilgrim who is in ihram for Hajj and ‘umrah to catch fish and other aquatic animals.

Allah, may He be exalted, says (interpretation of the meaning):

{O you who have believed, Allah will surely test you through something of the game that your hands and spears [can] reach, that Allah may make evident those who fear Him unseen. And whoever transgresses after that - for him is a painful punishment

O you who have believed, do not kill game while you are in the state of ihram. And whoever of you kills it intentionally - the penalty is an equivalent from sacrificial animals to what he killed, as judged by two just men among you as an offering [to Allah] delivered to the Ka'bah, or an expiation: the feeding of needy people or the equivalent of that in fasting, that he may taste the consequence of his deed. Allah has pardoned what is past; but whoever returns [to violation], then Allah will take retribution from him. And Allah is Exalted in Might and Owner of Retribution

Lawful to you is game from the sea and its food as provision for you and the travelers, but forbidden to you is game from the land as long as you are in the state of ihram. And fear Allah to whom you will be gathered}

[al-Ma'idah 5:94-96].

Shaykh Muhammad al-Amin ash-Shinqiti said:

Allah, may He be exalted, says: {Lawful to you is game from the sea}.

The apparent meaning of this verse clearly indicates that game from the sea is permissible for the pilgrim who is in ihram for Hajj or ‘umrah, and that is indeed the case, just as He stated specifically that the prohibition on hunting for the pilgrim in ihram refers specifically to land game, as He says: {but forbidden to you is game from the land as long as you are in the state of ihram}. From this it may be understood that game from the sea is not prohibited for the pilgrim in ihram, as is clear.

And he (may Allah have mercy on him) said:

The scholars are unanimously agreed that hunting land game is prohibited for the pilgrim in ihram for Hajj or ‘umrah. This consensus applies to wild animals whose meat may be eaten, such as antelope, gazelles and so on.

All the scholars are unanimously agreed that whatever a pilgrim in ihram hunts, it is not permissible for the pilgrim in ihram to eat the game he caught, or for any other pilgrim to eat it, and it is not permissible for anyone who is not in ihram, because it is “dead meat” (i.e., meat that has not been slaughtered in the prescribed manner).

Adwa’ al-Bayan, 2/117, 118.

And Allah knows best.