



JAMIATUL - ULAMA OF GAUTENG®

جمعية العلماء

Council of Muslim Theologians

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

13/02/2024 – 2 Shabaan 1445

STATEMENT REFUTING SANHAS SPURIOUS CLAIMS REGARDING BAKERS BISCUITS

Some years ago, SANHA had certified synthetic pork as Halaal. SANHA went out of its way to impress on the minds of the public that synthetic pork is Halaal. However, due to the intense pressure from the public, they gave an undertaking that they will henceforth no longer certify it as Halaal due to the repulsive pork connotation.

Just as a person with Imaan is naturally averse to the word "pork", alcohol is also viewed with disgust and apprehension by a Muslim.

The Quraan Majeed states: "...The flesh of swine which indeed is **filth**..." (Surah An'aam 145)

The Quraan Majeed states very clearly: "Liquor and gambling are **filth** from the actions of Shaytaan" (Surah Maa-idah 90)

Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam has declared liquor to be "The mother of vice." (Majma'ul Kabeer 11498)

No Muslim, in his right frame of mind, will keep an empty alcohol can in his house. Neither will he allow his child to play with the same. No person of Imaan intentionally looks at or scans through alcohol adverts.

Nabi Sallallahu Alayhi Wa Sallam said: “Allah has cursed wine, its drinker, its server, its seller, its buyer, its presser, the one for whom it is pressed, the one who transports it, and the one to whom it is transported.” (Abu Dawood #3674)

Therefore, Our Fatwa stands that Bakers Tennis, Chockits, Lemon Creams and Iced Zoo biscuits are Haraam.

For more information on Sanaha certifying pork products, kindly view the book via the attached link.

<https://muftiakhoosen.net/images/UMMATI%20SERIES%20SANHA.pdf>

Kindly view the below Fatwa (Islamic Ruling) regarding Ethanol Alcohol.



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Question... SAHNA says Baker's biscuits which contain synthetic alcohol, and not alcohol from dates and grapes, cannot be declared Haraam, whilst Jamiatul Ulama Gauteng declares such biscuits to be Haraam. Kindly advise?

Answer... Firstly, we need to determine what is synthetic alcohol (Ethyl):

Ethanol (also called ethyl alcohol) is a volatile, flammable, colorless liquid with a characteristic wine-like odor and pungent taste. It is a psychoactive recreational drug, and the **active ingredient in alcoholic drinks**. Ethanol is naturally produced by the **fermentation** process of sugars by yeasts or via petrochemical processes such as ethylene hydration.

Ethanol refers to a certain group of alcohols which contain two carbon atoms in their chemical structure, and this group of alcohols have **intoxicating properties**. Ethanol can be produced by the **fermentation** of crops, or synthetically by the hydration of ethene.

Synthetic alcohol is a tasteless ingredient formulated to be added to versions of non-alcoholic drinks from beer to wine and spirits. (Wikipedia)

Considering the above, the Islamic ruling will be as follows:

Synthetic alcohol is **NOT** Halaal to consume. According to Imaam Abu Hanifah Rahmatullahi Alayhi and Imaam Abu Yusuf Rahmatullahi Alayhi, this form of alcohol (ethanol) is allowed if it does not cause intoxication. **However, if it is found in items used purely for pleasure (for example, consuming ethanol-containing food and drink) then all A'immah agree that such a product is Haraam.**

Imaam Muhammad Rahmatullahi Alayhi holds the view that all types of alcohol are totally **Haraam**, irrespective of the source, even though it may be utilized in such a small quantity that it does not cause intoxication.

The Ulama have written that the Fatwa has been passed on the view of Imaam Muhammad Rahmatullahi Alyhi due to Fasaad (corruption) being prevalent in our era.

One may argue that if a small quantity of ethanol is consumed, then it doesn't lead to intoxication. Mufti Saeed Palanpuri Rahimahullah has written in his commentary of Tirmidhi Sharif that taking alcohol in small quantity creates the desire to consume it in larger quantity, and this continues until one becomes an alcoholic.

It is necessary for us to follow the preferred view in the Hanafi Mathab which is the view of Imaam Muhammed Rahmatullahi Alayhi.

In conclusion: Bakers Tennis biscuits, chockits, lemon creams and iced zoo biscuits will be Haraam.

The following Darul Iftas also consider Ethanol to be Haraam for consumption:

1. Majlisul Ulama: <https://themajlis.co.za/articles/the-new-coke-liquor/>
2. Darul Uloom Azaadville: <https://www.iftadua.co.za/ethanol-in-food-and-drink-items/3933/>
3. Darul Ifta Ibn Masud: <https://fataawa.co.za/ethanol-and-propylene-glycol/>
4. Jamiat Joburg: <https://www.jamiat.joburg/blog/no-title-17.html>
5. Jamiat Northern Cape: <https://jamiatnc.co.za/books/rum-intoxicants-response-askimam/>
6. Mufti Siraj Desai Saheb: <https://alfarouq.co.za/ethanol-in-robertsons-essence/>

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