

Selling Brushes made of Pig hairs

Question: We have a factory that manufactures brushes using pig hairs. Our supplier cuts the hair off living pigs, washed them five times in water and chemicals and then sends them to us. We then dye them in boiling water. The brushes are used to paint walls, windows and other surfaces. Is it permissible to sell such brushes and is the money earned from it Halal?

(2) Can we buy the brushes from elsewhere and sell them?

Answer: (1,2) According to the preferred opinion of the scholars, it is not permissible to sell pig hairs and the revenue thus earned is not Halal. This applies equally if you manufacture the brushes or if you buy them elsewhere and sell them.

One must therefore endeavour to give up this business, if not at once, then gradually, but as soon as is possible. Hadhrat Moulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi RAH. mentions in his advice that while some sins such as shaving the beard and wearing one's garments above the ankles can be forsaken immediately without any repercussions, there are other sins that a person needs to wean off gradually. For example, a person with a meagre salary who habitually takes bribes will be put out of pocket if he has to leave the sin immediately. He therefore needs to leave it gradually, always keeping the intention in mind to stop the practice. People are unable to leave such sins immediately and if forced to do so, will eventually spend the rest of their lives without forsaking it. It is necessary for a person to make sincere du'aa to Allaah, pleading to Allaah to assist him in forsaking the sin. Inshaa Allaah, he will be able to do so within a few weeks.

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