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INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA
بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

**FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY: A STUDY OF
THE EXISTING LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
REGULATIONS IN MALAYSIA**

BY

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**INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY
MALAYSIA**

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THE EXISTING LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
REGULATIONS IN MALAYSIA**

BY

NORIAH BINTI RAMLI

**A thesis submitted in fulfilment of the requirement
for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

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ABSTRACT

Food safety and quality is a major concern for states, consumers, food producers, manufacturers and regulatory authorities. It is concerned with ensuring that food available to consumers is safe for consumption. In Malaysia, food safety and quality is an increasingly important issue. Various factors such as improper use of pesticides, veterinary drugs, use of prohibited drugs such as nitrofurans, beta agonists, 3-MCPD in local sauces, physical contamination, microbiological contamination, heavy metal contamination and environment factor have caused severe food related diseases in this country. Food related outbreaks such as Dioxin contamination, bird flu, *nipah virus* (Febrile Encephalitis), Foot and Mouth Diseases and Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE) have brought about serious issues of public concern. The present study has shown that the problem of food safety and quality is somewhat a matter of permanent concern. Advances in knowledge, science and technology in food industries renders the food laws less effective. It is also identified that to ensure food safety and quality it requires more effort than mere enforcement of the existing legal provisions. Besides, to have a foolproof system that will eradicate the problems is almost impossible. The government and its agencies, in response to increasing number of food safety problems, are intensifying their efforts to improve food safety. Hence, strengthening and updating of legislation on food safety and quality throughout the food chain is essential in establishing effective food safety system. Besides, there is need to harmonize the national food standards, guidelines and codes of practice with the international and regional standards such as those adopted by the Codex Alimentarius Commission in order to bridge the gap in the existing legal provisions and to facilitate global food trade. In addition, the food producers and manufacturers are expected to comply with the relevant food safety measures such as Good Agricultural Practice (GAP), Good Animal Husbandry Practice (GAHP), Good Hygiene Practice (GHP), Good manufacturing Practice (GMP), Good Aquaculture Practice (GaqP), Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point System (HACCP) and many more. Although compliance with the practices is voluntary, it is identified that the programmes were able to help reduce the occurrence of potential food related outbreaks. For instance, the study identified that HACCP is proven internationally as an effective tool to prevent food related issues. The food industries should strive to establish the HACCP system. In addition, it is also identified that compliance with the various programmes such as GaqP, GMP, GAHP and GAP will help to reduce possible contamination of food. It seems therefore necessary that compliance with the programmes should be made mandatory. In addition, it is also the objective of this study to look into the problems, laws and regulations on *halal* food production in Malaysia.

) "nitrofuran"
- "3-MCPD" () "beta agonist" (

"BSE"

"nipah virus"

Codex Alimentarius "

"Commission

"GAP"

"HACCP"

"HACCP"

"HACCP"

:

APPROVAL PAGE

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis is the result of my investigations, except where otherwise stated. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted as a whole for any other degrees at IIUM or other institutions.

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Especially dedicated to my dear husband Saifol, my children Muhammad Danial,
Khairul Najwa and Ain Khaliesah and my beloved parents Ramli and Ridah

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 Lembaga Akreditasi Negara Act 1996 (Act 556)
 Lembaga Kemajuan Ternakan Negara (Dissolution) Act 1983 (Act 292)
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 Local Government (Temporary Provision) Act 1973 (Act 124) [Repealed by Act 171]
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 The Business Trade and Industry By-Laws
 Malaysian Palm Oil Board Act 1998 (Act 582)
 Market By-Laws
 Minnesota Session Laws-2001, Chapter 54, Sec. 2 *Halal* Products, 2001
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Pesticide Act 1974 (Act 149)
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Standard and Industrial Research Institute of Malaysia (Incorporation) Act 1975 (Act 57)
Standard of Malaysia Act 1996 (Act 549)
State of Illinois, 92nd General Assembly Legislation, *Halal* Food Act, 2001
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Trade Description Act 1972 (Act 87), Regulations & Orders
Trade Description (use of Expression '*HalaV*') Order 1975
Trade Description (Marking of Food) Order 1975
Veterinary Surgeons Act 1974 (Act 147)
Veterinary Surgeons (Amendment) Act 1978 (Act 284)
Veterinary Surgeons (Amendment) Act 1978 (Act 229)
Weight and Measures Act 1972 (Act 71)

LIST OF CODES OF PRACTICE, GUIDELINES, AND STANDARDS ON FOOD SAFETY AND QUALITY

ASEAN Guidelines on the Preparation and Handling of *Halal* Food
Cartagena Protocol
Code of Practice for Food Hygiene 1980
Code of Practice for Hawkers Food 1996
Code of Practice for the Export of Frozen Cooked Prawn 1980
Code of Practice for the Processing and Refining of Edible Palm Oil, Palm Olein and Palm Stearin 1993.
Codex General Guidelines on Claims (CAC/GL 1-1979), (Revised 1-1991)
Codex General Guidelines for Use of the term "*Halal*" (CAC/GL 24-1997)
Codex General Standard for Irradiated Foods (CODEXSTAN 106-1983)
Codex General Standard for the Labelling of and Claims for Prepackaged Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CODEX STAN 146-1985)
Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Food Additives when sold as such (CODEX STAN 107-1981)
Codex General Standard for the Labelling of Prepackaged Foods (CODEX STAN 1-1985), (Revised 1-1991)
Codex Guidelines on Nutrition Labelling (CAC/GL 2-1985), (Revised 1-1993)
Codex Standard for the Labelling of and Claims for Food for Special Purposes (CODEX STAN 180-191)
Food Hygiene Guidelines for Food Operators and Hawkers 2001
General Guidelines on the Slaughtering of Animals and the Preparation and Handling of *Halal* Food
Guideline for Certification of HACCP Compliance Auditor 2001
Guidelines on Cook-Chill Catering 1996
Guidelines on Food and Drinks Utilised by Muslim 1994
Guidelines on Good Hygiene Practices for Small and Medium Scale Industries Towards HACCP 2002
Guideline for HACCP Certification 2001
Guideline for HACCP Compliance Audit 2001
Guideline for HACCP Surveillance Audit 2001
Guidelines for Hospital Catering 1996
Guidelines for Kitchen in Residential Educational Institutions with focus on Critical Areas 2003
Guideline for School Canteen 1989
Good Manufacturing Practice for Noodle (Pasta) 1988
Guidelines for Mass Catering 1996
Hygiene Guidelines for Eateries and Restaurants 2001
Islamic Ruling on Animal Slaughter: The Right Path to Health
Manual for the Slaughter of Small Ruminants in Developing Countries
MS 1480:1999- Food Safety According to Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) System
MS 1265:1992-Guidelines for Irradiation of Foods

MS 1500:2000-General Guidelines on the Production, Preparation, Handling and Storage of *Halal* Food

MS 1500:2004-*Halal* Food-Production, Preparation, Handling and Storage-General Guidelines (First Revision)

MS 1514:2001-General Principles of Food Hygiene

MS 1529:2001-The Production, Processing, Labelling and Marketing of Plant-Based Organically Produced Food.