Meat, Leather, and Other Animal-Based Products - 12 /Feb/ 2020

question| Are we allowed to consume the meat of a canonically edible animal if we cannot verify whether it has been slaughtered legitimately and in accordance with the rules prescribed by Islamic law?

answer| If the meat is purchased from a Muslim market, it is canonically pure (*ṭāhir*) and edible (*ḥalāl*). If, however, it is imported from a non-Muslim country, it is deemed to be canonically inedible, unless (1) it can be verified that it is derived from a properly slaughtered carcass or (2) its importer is a Muslim who, *we may assume*,* has verified its derivation from a properly slaughtered carcass before selling it to his Muslim customers.

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* That is, we need not be certain that the Muslim importer of the meat has verified that the meat is derived from a properly slaughtered carcass. The fact that the importer is Muslim and the possibility that he *may* have verified the legitimate production of the meat in accordance with Islamic law are sufficient grounds for rendering the meat he sells canonically edible for his Muslim clients.