

# VEGETARIANISM IN RELIGION

## THE BAHÀ'I FAITH

"Regarding the eating of animal flesh and abstinence therefrom, know thou of a certainty that, in the beginning of creation, God determined the food of every living being, and to eat contrary to that determination is not approved."

~ *Selections from the Bahá'í Writings on Some Aspects of Health and Healing, pages 7-8*

## CAO ĐÀI

"... The most important thing is to stop killing... because animals also have souls and understand like humans.... IF WE KILL AND EAT THEM, THEN WE OWE THEM A BLOOD DEBT."

~ *Teachings of the Saints, About Keeping the Ten Precepts - Abstaining from Killing, Section 2*

## CHRISTIANITY

Meats for the belly, and the belly for meats: but God shall destroy both it and them.

~ 1st Corinthians 6:13, Holy Bible

"And while the flesh was yet between their teeth, ere it was chewed, the wrath of the LORD was kindled against the people, and the LORD smote the people with a very great plague."

~ *Numbers 11:33, Holy Bible*

## CONFUCIANISM

"All men have a mind which cannot bear to see the sufferings of others. The superior man, having seen the animals alive, cannot bear to see them die; having heard their dying cries, HE CANNOT BEAR TO EAT THEIR FLESH".

~ *Mencius, King Hui of Liang, Chapter 4*

## HINDUISM

"Since you...cannot bring killed animals back to life, you are responsible for killing them. Therefore you are going to hell; there is no way for your deliverance."

~ *Adi-lila, Chapter 17, verses 159-165*

"He who desires to augment his own flesh by eating the flesh of other creatures lives in misery in whatever species he may take his birth."

~ *Mahabharata, Anu. 115.47. FS, pg. 90*

## JUDAISM

And whatsoever man there be of the house of Israel, or of the strangers that sojourn among you, that eateth any manner of blood\*; I WILL EVEN SET MY FACE AGAINST THAT SOUL THAT EATETH BLOOD\*, and will cut him off from among his people.

\*blood: meaning "flesh"

~ *Leviticus 17:10, Holy Bible*

## TAOISM

Do not go into the mountain to catch birds in nets, nor to the water to poison fishes and minnows. Do not butcher the ox that plows your field.

~ *Tiact of the Quiet Way*

## ZOROASTRIANISM

"Those plants, I, Ahura Mazda (God), rain down upon the earth, to bring food to the faithful, and fodder to the beneficent cow."

~ *Avesta, Venidad Fargard 5-20*

"Everybody knows that vegetarian diet is good for health and to save the planet. They will be awakening their own great, compassionate, loving, self-nature. And then their level of consciousness will rise up automatically. And they will understand more than they ever did. And they will be closer to Heaven than what they are right now."

## BUDDHISM

...ALL MEATS EATEN BY LIVING BEINGS ARE OF THEIR OWN RELATIVES.

~ *Lankavatara Sutra (Tripitaka No. 671)*

"Also, after the birth of the baby, care must be exercised not to kill any animal in order to feed the mother with meaty delicacies and not to assemble many relatives to drink liquor or to eat meat.... because at the difficult time of birth there are innumerable evil demons, monsters and goblins who want to consume the smelly blood....by ignorantly and adversely resorting to the killing of animals for consumption...they bring down curses upon themselves, which are detrimental to both the mother and the baby."

~ *Ksitigarbha Sutra, Chapter 8*

"Be careful during the days immediately after someone's death, not killing or destroying or creating evil karma by worshipping or offering sacrifice to demons and deities ....because such killing and slaughtering committed or such worship performed or such sacrifice offered WOULD NOT HAVE EVEN AN IOTA OF FORCE TO BENEFIT THE DEAD, BUT WOULD ENTWINE EVEN MORE SINFUL KARMA INTO PREVIOUS KARMA (retribution), MAKING IT EVEN DEEPER AND MORE SERIOUS. ...thus, DELAY HIS REBIRTH TO A GOOD STATE."

~ *Ksitigarbha Sutra, Chapter 7*

## ESSENES

I am come to end the sacrifices and feasts of blood, and if ye cease NOT OFFERING AND EATING OF FLESH AND BLOOD, the wrath of God shall not cease from you.

~ *Gospel of the Holy Twelve*

## ISLAM

ALLAH WILL NOT GIVE MERCY TO ANYONE, EXCEPT THOSE WHO GIVE MERCY TO OTHER CREATURES.

~ *Prophet Muhammad, Hadith*

Do not allow your stomachs to become graveyards of animals!

~ *Prophet Muhammad, Hadith*

## JAINISM

A true monk should NOT ACCEPT SUCH FOOD AND DRINK as has been especially prepared for him INVOLVING THE SLAUGHTER OF LIVING BEINGS.

~ *Sutrakritanga*

## SIKHISM

Those mortals who consume marijuana, flesh and wine - no matter what pilgrimages, fasts and rituals they follow, they will all go to hell.

~ *Guru Granth Sahib, page 1377*

## TIBETAN BUDDHISM

The offering to the deities of meat obtained by killing animate beings is like offering a mother the flesh of her own child; and this is a grievous failure.

~ *The Supreme Path Of Discipleship: The Precepts Of The Gurus, The Thirteen Grievous Failures, Great Guru Gampopa*

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