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Vegan Alternatives as the Source of Halal Cosmetic Products: An Overview on Its Potential Benefits

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ABSTRACT

In the following years, the market for vegan cosmetics is predicted to grow at a 6.5% of Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) from 2022 to 2028 and is expected to reach US \$20 billion in 2028. The demand for vegan cosmetics is being fuelled by the increased awareness of the health benefits of vegan products, such as reduced risk of skin cancer. Additionally, its market is expanding as more consumers become aware of the fact that vegan products are made from natural ingredients, devoid of chemicals, safe to use, and are cruelty-free. For instance, in US laboratories, about 100 million animals are burnt, injured, poisoned, and mistreated annually for cosmetics testing. Halal cosmetics, in contrast to vegan beauty, generally may contain animal products or substances derived from animals whilst the methods used are consistent with Islamic *Shari'ah* law. However, there is a strong possibility that animal-based cosmetics will not be halal and would irritate skin due to mineral oils, artificial agents, fragrances, and other compounds. In addition to saving animals, and protecting the environment, utilizing vegan cosmetics may be a wonderful method to lessen harsh and toxic chemicals present in most skincare products. As a result, there are more factors to consider while examining vegan cosmetics and their potential halal accreditation. This study aims to highlight the benefits of using vegan alternatives and identify the possibilities of utilizing it as a source for halal cosmetics.

Keywords: Halal cosmetics, Halal science, Vegan alternatives, Vegan cosmetics

1 Introduction

Halal cosmetics are viewed as an innovation by the market since they provide fresh internal and exterior operations that will support the expansion of customer wants. As a result, consumers are becoming more conscious of the ingredients used in cosmetic items [1]. Consequently, halal cosmetics generally may contain animal products or substances derived from animals in accordance with Islamic *Shari'ah* law. This includes the use of Gelatine, Carmine, Lanolin, and Squalene. However, there is a strong possibility that this animal-based cosmetics will not be halal and would irritate skin due to mineral oils, artificial agents, fragrances, and other compounds. In contrast, vegan cosmetics abstain from using animals for any kinds of exploitation. The adoption of utilizing vegan-based ingredients is seen to be a great alternative when producing halal cosmetics. In addition to saving animals, utilizing



vegan skincare may be a wonderful method to avoid the harsh chemicals present in most skincare products. As a result, there are more factors to consider while examining halal vegan cosmetics and their potential halal accreditation. Halal cosmetics has also been working on the clearance procedure for ingredients, especially active compounds. Since no animal products are utilized in the creation of vegan cosmetics, they are growing in popularity among customers as ethical products.

2 Materials and Methods

The qualitative comparative analysis (QCA) approach was used in this study utilising relevant articles, theses, and reliable websites to get information to explore the vegan alternatives for halal cosmetics and compare the benefits and scientific value of each vegan ingredients with components commonly used in traditional cosmetics. The data is then analysed, examined, and compared.

3 Results and Discussions

3.1 Vegan Alternatives

Testing cosmetics on animals are seen to be unnecessary and wasteful when business can already make inventive solutions using hundreds of components that have a history of safe usage that does not require any more testing. For instance, the usage of natural ingredients in cosmetics. The concept of vegan may be referred as eliminating all forms of animal exploitation and cruelty for food, apparel, cosmetics, or for any other purposes [2] such as collagen, lanolin, beeswax, carmine, and others. They are largely made of botanical materials, including oils and extracts from plants that include leaves, flowers, herbs, nuts, and seeds. The bulk of these substances are therapeutic and revitalising, helping with anything from acne and hyperpigmentation to age-related issues. Consumers are aware of the advantages of using chemical-free, environmentally friendly vegan cosmetics [3]. As a result, it encourages the creation and use of alternatives that do not involve using animals for the benefit of both humans and animals as well as the environment [4].

3.1.1 Greater Demand for Vegan Cosmetic Products

In 2022, the market for vegan cosmetics is projected to reach US \$13 billion and is anticipated to reach US \$20 billion by 2028, expanding at a CAGR of 6%. The growing understanding of the health advantages of vegan goods, such as lowering the risk of skin cancer, fuels the desire for vegan cosmetics [5]. Vegan cosmetics are also becoming more popular among consumers due to its ethical goods because no animal products are used in their production [6]. For instance, the establishment of PHB Ethical Beauty who specialised in producing organic toiletries and Draphee cosmetics that offers halal vegan cosmetic with high level of quality. With that, through the availability of inexpensive and easy-to-find vegan alternative product

for cosmetics will further enhance the halal and safety status of ingredients used in the halal cosmetics products in developing the halal cosmetics industry.

Based on the findings, Table 1 provide the alternative used for animal-based ingredients to organic-based components. Numerous research has significantly shown the common side effects resulted from the above-mentioned variables. As a result, vegan alternatives may be the major solutions for this issue due to its natural ingredients and less chemical products [7]. In relation to halal, utilizing a natural-based ingredients are highly beneficial not only for the user but also to animals and environment.

Table 1: Common ingredients used in traditional cosmetics and its vegan alternatives.

Variables	Source	Common Side Effects	Islamic Rulings	Vegan Alternatives
Gelatine	Derived from animal collagen, skin, bones such as pig, fish, cows, and others. Used for stabilizing in face creams, lotions, and shampoos	Severe allergic reactions, Dries tightly on skin, Itching, and Unpleasant taste	Permissible if derived from halal animals and Shariah compliance.	Agar and carrageenan
Collagen	Derived from animal bone, skin, tendon, and cartilage. Used for moisturizing.	Kidney stones, Allergic reaction, Gut health issues, Burning, and Redness.	Permissible if derived from halal animals and <i>Shari'ah</i> compliance	Soy products, black beans, seeds, and others.
Squalene Oil	Made from shark liver that has moisturizing ingredient. E.g.: lip gloss, sunscreen, etc.	Itchiness, Swelling, and Irritation	Permissible if derived from halal animals and <i>Shari'ah</i> compliance	Plant-based squalene oil
L-cysteine	Derived from human sources or animals such as goose, duck, swine bristles, and others. Commonly used as hair conditioning agent, fragrance, and anti-agent products.	Dizziness, Muscle tremors, Swelling foot, and Drowsiness	<i>Syubhah</i> (doubtful) as it may be obtained from human hair.	Seeds, legumes, and oatmeal
Stearic Acid	Found in most animal fats that provide fatty acids and waxy solid. E.g.: soap, lotion, etc.	Pigmentation disorders, Cutaneous atrophy, and Acne	Permissible if obtained from halal sources	Seeds, legumes, and oatmeal
Carmine	Made from crushed beetles and used as red-colouring products. E.g.: Lipstick.	Allergies, Face swelling, Redness, and Wheezing	Some scholars allow the use of carmine. However, according to Mufti of Brunei Darussalam, the use of carmine is strictly prohibited.	Beetroot powder, Hibiscus extracts, Mica Powder
Lanolin	Extract from sheep's wool. Used for skincare formulation	Wool allergies, and Skin burning	Permissible if obtained from halal sources	Shea butter, Rice bran oil, and mineral oil

Table 2 identifies the major benefits of vegan alternatives stated in Table 1. It can be concluded that the organic and natural-based ingredients have the best effects to supports the balance of moisture and skin health [7]. Most importantly, vegan sources are less likely to cause damage and skin irritation to consumers. It is also a way to end animal cruelty and provide fewer toxic chemicals to the environment. For instance, in US laboratories, about 100 million animals are burnt, injured, poisoned, and mistreated annually for cosmetics testing. Prior to their demise, some are made to breathe deadly gases while others have holes drilled into their heads, and their skin were burnt off. Given that, Islam recommend its people to choose wisely and avoid harm at all costs.

Table 2: *Benefits of utilizing natural ingredients*

Vegan Alternatives	Cosmetic Benefits	Health Benefits
Agar and Carrageenan	Good for hydrating, revitalizing, reduce cellulite, acne, wrinkles and toning the skin	Generally non-toxic and irritating, sustainable, biodegradable, and promotes satiety.
Soy products, black beans, seeds, and others.	Improve skin texture, firms and plumps aging skin, reduce redness, reduce hyperpigmentation, smoothing skin, and improve sun damage	Lower cost, lower risk of allergies, Increased product safety profile, Rich in antioxidants, and promote heart health.
Plant-based squalene oil: Wheat germ and rice	Improve skin damages, free radicals, and boost collagen production	Healthy infusion of Vitamin A, B, D. Source of thiamin, good source of folate, and magnesium.
Vegetables and plant fats	High in vitamins, minerals, antioxidants, natural oils, and provide skin hydration and repair	High in vitamins, minerals, antioxidants, natural oils, and provide skin hydration and repair
Nuts, seeds, legumes, and oatmeal	Exfoliate and cleanse skin. Good source for healthy hair growth	Contain oleic acid, protein, iron, biotin calcium, vitamins A and others
Beetroot powder, Hibiscus extracts, Mica Powder	Nourish hair follicles from within, brighten lips, prevent hair loss, treat dandruff and relieve itchy scalp.	Contain carotenoids, Vitamin A, and calcium for better blood circulation in hair scalp.
Corn-based Shellac	Retain fragrance and prevent hair from absorbing moisture.	More cost-effective
Shea butter, Rice bran oil, and mineral oil	Relieve dry skin, ease irritation, improve eczema, and prevent cell damage	Contain linoleic, palmitic, stearic, and anti-inflammatory substances which ease swelling

4 Conclusions

Halal cosmetics must preferably not come from animals and humans, damage the environment, derived from organically grown foods, and contain pesticides or other substances deemed detrimental to human health. Therefore, through the adoption of utilizing vegan-based ingredients, the halal and safety status of cosmetics are likely to be under control and will further contribute to developing the halal cosmetic industry. In addition to saving animals, vegan alternatives may be a wonderful method to avoid the harsh chemicals present in most skincare products. As a result, there are more factors to consider while examining vegan cosmetics and their potential halal accreditation.

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