

ANTE- AND POST-MORTEM EXAMINATION OF ANIMALS FOR SACRIFICE ON EID-UL ADHA DAY AT NURUL SA'ADAH MOSQUE, KUPANG CITY

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ABSTRACT. *Eid-Ul-Adha is a big Islamic event celebrated by the Muslim community worldwide, including Indonesia. Sacrificing animals and distributing the carcasses to the community are unseparated parts of the Eid-Ul-Adha ceremony, hence, ensuring the animal health and food safety aspects of the carcasses through ante- and post-mortem examinations are indispensable. Ante- and post-mortem examinations were implemented on 4 bulls and 8 rams that would be sacrificed at Nurul Sa'adah mosque, Kupang City, during Eid-Ul-Adha. Ante-mortem examination results indicated all bulls and rams were healthy. The post-mortem examination results showed that abnormalities were not found in the carcasses, indicating that the carcasses would not spread any zoonotic diseases to humans. These post-mortem results also confirmed a similar health status of the sacrificed animals as identified in the ante-mortem examination. In conclusion, based on the ante- and post-mortem examination results, the carcasses of bulls and rams that are sacrificed at Nurul Sa'adah mosque during Eid-Ul-Adha day can be distributed to the community as they are safe for human consumption.*

Keywords: *Eid-Ul Adha, ante-mortem examination, post-mortem examination, animal health, food safety*

INTRODUCTION

Eid Ul-Adha (Idul Adha) is one of the Islamic great events. Indonesia is a non-Muslim country with the largest Muslim population in the world, and hence, the Eid-Ul-Adha celebration has become an important annual event for the vast majority of the Indonesian community (Azizah & Fauzi, 2021).

Two of the important parts of the Eid-Ul-Adha event are sacrificing animals, such as camels, bulls, or rams (Abdullah, 2016), and sharing the carcasses with others, such as the surrounding communities (Ibrahim et al., 2022). As the carcass is for human consumption, ensuring the quality of the carcass prior to its distribution through a series of ante- and post-mortem examinations is compulsory to guarantee food safety and prevent zoonotic diseases that will spread through the carcass, such as anthrax, brucellosis, and Q-fever (Abdul Sattar et al., 2023). In addition, according to Indonesian law, the carcasses should meet 4 requirements, which are aman, sehat, utuh, halal, shortened as ASUH, which means the carcasses should be safe for consumption, contain a well-balanced nutrition,

not mixed with meat from other animals, and meet the Islamic rules (Dewi et al., 2024).

According to Indonesian law, ante- and post-mortem examinations are compulsory for all animals that will be slaughtered and their carcasses. Ante-mortem examination is implemented on animals before they are slaughtered and is aimed to assess the animal's health, and additionally, to see if the animals meet the requirements of the sacrificed animals according to the Islamic rules as adopted in the regulation. Ante-mortem examination is always followed by post-mortem examination. It is applied to the carcass of the slaughtered animals and is intended to ensure food safety prior to carcass distribution to the community (Anonim, 2014).

Christians and Catholics dominate the population of Kupang City, however, there are also Muslim communities, comprising 11.108% of the Kupang population (BPS, 2024), who occupy this city. Therefore, Eid-Ul-Adha is an important event in this city, particularly for Muslims. Since animal sacrifice is crucial during the Eid-Ul-Adha celebration (Tarlam et al., 2023), hence, ante- as well as post-mortem examinations are also indispensable in Kupang

City. In this city, the ante- and post-mortem examinations are organized by the government through the Department of Animal Husbandry, Marine, and Fisheries. The Indonesian Government regulation about Veterinary Public Health and Animal Welfare states that the examination of animals before and after being slaughtered must be performed by veterinarians (Anonim, 2012), therefore, it is crucial for veterinarians to assist the ante- and post-mortem examinations during Eid-UI-Adha. This article aims to describe the ante- and post-mortem examinations and their results during the Eid-UI-Adha celebration at Nurul Sa'adah mosque, Kupang City.

METHODS

Ante- and post-mortem examinations were applied to all animals that would be sacrificed during the Eid-UI-Adha celebration at Nurul Sa'adah mosque, Kupang City. The examinations were done by veterinarians assigned to this location with the assistance of the paramedics.

The ante-mortem examination procedure, its assessment standard (Herenda et al., 1994), and results categories based on the Indonesian regulations of Qurban animal slaughter (Anonim, 2014) were implemented to bulls and rams at Nurul Sa'adah mosque. Briefly, ante-mortem examination covered physical examination to check any abnormalities in behaviour, posture, body structure and conformation, gait, and discharges or protruding from body openings (Herenda et al., 1994). It also verified the age of the animals (Dewi et al., 2024). Assessment was done based on the results of the ante-mortem examination. The final assessment result would fall into 1 of the 2 categories, which were allowed to be slaughtered or prohibited from slaughter (Anonim, 2014).

Similar to ante-mortem examination, post-mortem examination, its techniques and evaluation standards (Herenda et al., 1994), and results categories according to the Indonesian regulation (Anonim, 2014) were implemented to the carcasses of the sacrificed animals. Briefly, post-mortem examinations were done

by viewing, palpating, and incising the carcass to check for any abnormalities, particularly related to deviations found in the ante-mortem examination (Dewi et al., 2024; Herenda et al., 1994). The examination results were assessed and categorized based on the assessment standard in which the animal carcass could be distributed unconditionally, distributed under certain conditions, or prohibited from distribution (Anonim, 2014).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In Eid-UI-Adha 2024, the total number of animals sacrificed at Nurul Sa'adah mosque was 12 consisting of 4 bulls and 8 rams (Table 1; Figure 1, Figure 2). The bulls' ages ranged from 2 to 3 years old, while the rams ranged from 1 to 2.5 years old. The age of these animals that would be sacrificed meets the requirements of the Islamic rules in which the age of bulls and rams that will be slaughtered during Eid-UI-Adha should be more than 2 and 1 year old respectively (Abdullah, 2016). Hence, from the Islamic approach, the bulls and rams at Nurul Sa'adah mosque were legitimate for sacrifice.

Table 1. Animals That Were Sacrificed at Nurul Sa'adah Mosque in Eid-UI-Adha 2024

Animals	Age	Number
Bali bulls	2 y.o	3
Angus bull	3 y.o	1
Local rams	2-2.5 y.o	7
Local ram	1 y.o	1

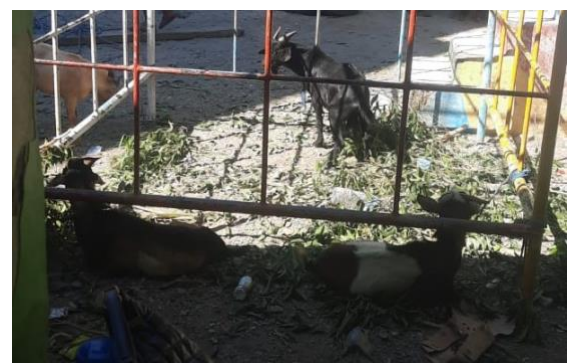


Figure 1. Local rams for slaughter at Nurul Sa'adah mosque during Eid-UI-Adha 2024



Figure 2. Bull for slaughter at Nurul Sa'adah mosque during Eid-UI-Adha 2024

Physical examination of the bulls and rams at the Nurul Sa'adah mosque showed that the animals did not show any physical abnormalities or clinical signs of animal diseases (Table 2), particularly zoonotic diseases that threaten human health; hence, can be concluded that those animals were healthy. A healthy animal is expected to produce a healthy carcass that is safe for human consumption. Therefore, the absence of any physical abnormalities or clinical signs is the gold standard that should be shown by animals at slaughter and physical inspection in the ante-mortem examination is the technique to confirm it.

Table 2. Physical Examination Results of Animals Sacrificed at Nurul Sa'adah Mosque in Eid-UI-Adha 2024

Animals	Physical examination
Bali bull 1	Normal
Bali bull 2	Normal
Bali bull 3	Normal
Angus bull	Normal
Local ram 1	Normal
Local ram 2	Normal
Local ram 3	Normal
Local ram 4	Normal
Local ram 5	Normal
Local ram 6	Normal
Local ram 7	Normal
Local ram 8	Normal

Assessment based on the results of the ante-mortem examination of bulls and rams that would be sacrificed during Eid-UI-Adha 2024

at Nurul Sa'adah mosque indicated that those animals met the categories "can be slaughtered". Within this category, those bulls and rams proceeded to the next phase which was slaughtering by implementing the Islamic procedure of animal slaughter (Abdullah et al., 2019) (Figure 3).

The carcasses of all bulls and rams slaughtered at Nurul Sa'adah mosque were subsequently examined in the post-mortem examination (Figure 4) before being distributed to communities around the mosque. Post-mortem examination results showed abnormalities were not found in the carcasses (Table 3), indicating the carcasses were free from animal diseases, and hence, were safe for human consumption. These post-mortem results were also consistent with the findings of the ante-mortem examination which indicated that bulls and rams that would be sacrificed at Nurul Sa'adah mosque were healthy and, thus, fell into the "allowed to be slaughtered" category.



Figure 3. Animal slaughter at Nurul Sa'adah mosque during Eid-UI-Adha 2024



Figure 4. Post-mortem examination at Nurul Sa'adah mosque during Eid-UI-Adha 2024

Overall, ante- and post-mortem examination results of bulls and rams that were slaughtered at the Nurul Sa'adah mosque during Eid-UI-Adha 2024 showed that they were healthy, and their carcasses were also safe for

humans. Therefore, the carcasses were then allowed to be distributed to the communities and consumed by humans since they would not pose any threats to human health.

Table 3. Post-Mortem Examinations Results of Bulls and Rams That Were Sacrificed at Nurul Sa'adah Mosque in Eid-UI-Adha 2024

Animal ID	Digestive System (liver)	Respiratory System (trachea, lung)	Urinary System (kidney)	Reticuloendothelial System (spleen)	Cardiovascular System (heart)
Bali bull 1	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Bali bull 2	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Bali bull 3	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Angus bull	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Local ram 1	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Local ram 2	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Local ram 3	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Local ram 4	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Local ram 5	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Local ram 6	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Local ram 7	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
Local ram 8	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal

CONCLUSIONS

Animal slaughter is one of the important parts of the Eid-UI-Adha celebration. Since the final ceremony of this religious event is distributing meat or carcasses of the sacrificed animals to the communities, ensuring the animal health, as well as the food safety of the carcasses, is crucial. After a series of ante- and post-mortem examinations of the bulls and rams that were slaughtered at the Nurul Sa'adah mosque, the results show that the animals are healthy, and the carcasses of these animals are safe for human consumption. This signifies the importance of veterinarians' contributions to public health in preventing as well as minimizing the spread of zoonotic diseases to humans.

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