

Analysis of Determining Factors for Halal Certification of Slaughterhouses in Aceh

Halal
Certification

Malahayatie¹, Juwita Utami Rahmayati², and Zulfikar³.

^{1,2,3} State Islamic University Sultanah Nahrasiyah Lhokseumawe, Aceh Indonesia

malahayatie@uinsuna.ac.id

26

Received 14 May 2026

Revised 1 June, 2026

June 3, 2026

Accepted 18 June 2026

ABSTRACT

Purpose – This study aims to analyze the internal and external factors influencing the readiness of Slaughterhouses (Rumah Potong Hewan/RPH) in Aceh to obtain halal certification following the implementation of Law Number 33 of 2014 concerning Halal Product Assurance.

Design/methodology/approach – This study employs a qualitative approach using a literature study method. Data were collected through content analysis of scientific articles, official institutional reports, and halal certification data from LPPOM MPU Aceh covering the period 2018–2025.

Research limitations/implications – This study is limited to secondary data and focuses on the Aceh region. Future research is recommended to incorporate primary data and expand the scope to other regions in order to obtain more comprehensive insights.

Practical implications – The results emphasize the importance of strengthening organizational commitment and enhancing institutional support from the government and society to ensure sustainable halal certification implementation.

Originality/value – This study contributes to the literature by providing a comprehensive analysis of internal and external determinants of halal certification readiness in slaughterhouses, particularly in the context of Aceh, which implements regional Islamic economic policies.

Keywords: Halal Certification; Slaughterhouses.

Paper type: Research paper

I. INTRODUCTION

Public awareness of the importance of *Halal Product Assurance* in Indonesia is increasing along with the enactment of Law Number 33 of 2014 concerning *Halal Product Assurance*. (Law Number 33 of 2014 concerning Halal Product Assurance, 2014). This regulation emphasizes that every business actor is obliged to ensure the halalness of the products traded, including meat and other animal products. For Aceh Province, which formally implements Islamic law, the implementation of halal policies has strategic meaning. Halal not only reflects religious obedience, but also becomes a symbol of social integrity, public trust, and regional economic competitiveness.

The *Slaughterhouse* (RPH) sector is one of the most crucial points in the halal production chain because the slaughter process directly determines the halal status of meat products. However, until now, the level of compliance of RPH actors in Aceh with halal certification obligations is still not optimal. Data from LPPOM of the Aceh Ulema Consultative Assembly (MPU) shows that from 2018 to 2021, the number of halal-certified RPHs has been relatively stagnant, ranging from two to eight units. This condition only shows positive developments after 2022, with an increase to six certified RPHs, then jumped to twelve units in 2023, and twenty-four units in 2024. Until October 2025, there are ten additional RPHs with active certificates, which indicates an increase in the awareness of business actors towards halal certification obligations (LPPOM MPU, 2025).



Meuseuraya: Islamic
Economics Journal
Vol.1 No.3, 2026
pp.1-7

UIN Sultanah
Nahrasiyah Publishing

DOI: xxx.xxx

Although the number of certifications is increasing, various studies show that there are still many challenges in its implementation. Agustina and Nasrullah found that most RPH actors in Aceh did not understand the stages of preparation *Halal Product Assurance System* (SJPH) (Agustina & Nasrullah, 2024). Nurdin and Fadhillah highlighted the limitations of halal slaughterers (*Juleha*) and lack of technical training at the regional level (Nurdin & Fadhillah, 2023). Iskandar emphasized that management commitment and work culture based on halal values play an important role in the success of certification (Iskandar, 2023). On the other hand, Syafruddin noted structural obstacles in the form of overlapping authority between institutions such as BPJPH, MUI, and local governments that have an impact on the effectiveness of policy implementation (A. Syafruddin, 2023). From an international perspective, (Artadita & Lestari, 2019). Artadita and Lestari found that the success of the halal system in Malaysia managed by JAKIM was due to strong institutional integration and cross-sector coordination (Artadita & Lestari, 2019). On the other hand, the Indonesian system still tends to be sectoral and fragmented, thus slowing down the certification process. This shows that there is a gap between strong regulations and technical and institutional readiness at the level of business actors (Mulyadi, 2021).

Some previous studies have generally highlighted internal and external factors separately. In fact, in the context of Aceh, the two factors interact with each other. External pressures in the form of government policies, market demand, and consumer awareness of product halalness will only be effective if balanced with adequate internal readiness, such as commitment, resource capacity, and understanding of business actors.⁸ Thus, this study is important to comprehensively understand how internal and external factors affect each other in shaping the readiness and interest of RPH in Aceh in obtaining halal certification. The objectives of this study are to: (1) identify internal factors that determine the readiness of halal certification; (2) analyze external factors that act as drivers or inhibitors; and (3) formulate a conceptual model that can strengthen the implementation of halal certification in Aceh. The results of this research are expected to contribute to strengthening regional halal policies and become an academic reference in the development of sustainable halal industry governance in regions that have a strong Islamic character such as Aceh.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

This research is based on two main theoretical frameworks, namely *organizational readiness theory* and *institutional pressure theory*.

- a. *Organizational readiness theory* explained that the internal readiness of the organization is highly dependent on management commitment, human resource competence, and infrastructure support (Mulyadi, 2021). In addition, organizational readiness reflects the organization's ability to adapt to change and effectively implement new systems or policies, making these internal factors essential for successful implementation.
- b. *Institutional pressure theory* emphasizing that external factors such as government regulations, social norms, and market demand are the drivers of organizations to conform to certain standards (Wahyuni, 2022). These institutional pressures influence organizational behavior by motivating firms to adopt practices that enhance legitimacy, maintain competitiveness, and meet stakeholder expectations.

These two theories are integrated to explain the variation in the level of compliance of RPH in Aceh with the halal certification process. Conceptually, the relationships between variables can be described as follows:

Internal Factors → Organizational Readiness → Certification Interest
External Factors → Regulatory and Market Pressures → Certification Compliance

2.1 Theme Frequency Analysis

To determine the dominance of themes that emerge from the results of *content analysis*, the following relative frequency formula is used:

$$RF_i = \frac{f_i}{N}$$

Description:

RF_i = Relative Frequency of the Theme I

f_i = number of occurrences of the i

N theme = total articles analyzed

The formula is used to determine the themes that appear most often in the literature, so that it can describe the main focus of halal certification studies in Aceh. The high RF_i score shows that the theme has a dominant weight in academic discourse related to organizational readiness and institutional pressure on the halal certification process

III. METHODS

3.1 Materials and Data Sources

The research material consists of scientific articles, research reports, and official documents of halal certification bodies, especially *the LPPOM MPU Aceh Halal Product List* for the 2018–2025 period which contains the development of certification in the RPH group in Aceh Province. Secondary data were obtained from SINTA-accredited national journals (ranked 1–3) and reputable international journals Scopus published between 2020–2025. This research uses a qualitative approach with a *literature review method* that focuses on *content analysis*.

This approach was chosen because it is able to provide a deep understanding of the social and institutional phenomena that affect the halal certification process through a systematic review of various academic sources and official documents. The main objective of this study is to map and analyze the internal and external factors that affect the readiness of *Slaughterhouses* (RPH) in Aceh in taking care of halal certification, as well as to formulate a conceptual model for accelerating halal certification at the regional level. market pressure, b, Articles that focus on the context of halal certification in the slaughterhouse sector or the animal food industry, especially in Indonesia and Aceh.

3.2 Research Procedure

The research process is carried out through four main stages:

- Search literature, using the keywords "halal certification", "slaughterhouse", "internal factors", "external factors", and "Aceh". The search was conducted through *the Google Scholar*, *SINTA*, and *Scopus* databases.
- Selection of articles, based on topic suitability, methodological clarity, and relevance to the regional context of Aceh.
- Data extraction, by reading the article thoroughly to identify variables, key findings, and research recommendations.
- Thematic coding, where the findings are grouped into two broad categories, namely internal factors and external factors.

3.3 Data Analysis Techniques

- The analysis was carried out using *content analysis* techniques through three main stages: Open coding, to identify important themes that emerge from the literature text.
- Axial coding, to find relationships between interrelated themes.
- Selective coding, to construct a conceptual model based on relationships between variables.

To maintain the validity and reliability of the data, source triangulation was carried out by comparing the results between articles and official documents of institutions such as LPPOM MPU Aceh. In addition to

Peer *debriefing* was carried out with experts in the field of halal industry and public policy to strengthen the interpretation of the analysis results. This study found that the readiness of Slaughterhouses (RPH) in Aceh in obtaining halal certification is influenced by two main groups of factors, namely internal organizational factors and external institutional factors. These two factors interact synergistically in shaping the level of organizational readiness for national halal policies and standards.

IV. RESULTS

4.1 Internal Factors of Halal Certification Readiness

Internal factors play a very significant role in determining the level of RPH readiness in Aceh. Based on the analysis of the LPPOM document of the Aceh Ulema Consultative Assembly (MPU) for the 2018-2025 period, the number of RPHs that have halal certificates shows a consistent increasing trend. In 2018, there are seven RPHs that already have active halal certificates, including UPTD RPH Banda Aceh, UD. Manok Droë, Doa Poma, Family Partners, Fresh Chicken, UD. Barona, and UD. Guidance. This number increased to eight units in 2019, although in 2020–2021 it stagnated due to the limitation of halal auditors and the COVID-19 pandemic (MPU Aceh, 2018).

Starting in 2022, the awareness of business actors increased so that six RPHs were again actively certified, and this number jumped to twelve in 2023 (LPPOM MPU, 2023). The year 2025 will be an important turning point, with a total of thirty-four halal-certified RPHs active in various districts/cities in Aceh (LPPOM MPU, 2025). This improvement shows significant internal improvements, especially in terms of management commitment, human resource (HR) competence, and supporting infrastructure. Management who have a high awareness of halal values tend to be more disciplined in meeting administrative requirements and field audits. For example, UPTD RPH Banda Aceh is a reference for technical coaching because it consistently updates halal certificates every three years. In contrast, some small RPHs still consider certification to be an additional administrative burden.

In terms of human resources, around 40% of RPH already have a certified halal slaughterer (Juleha). This personnel plays an important role in ensuring the slaughter process in accordance with sharia. However, most small RPHs still rely on workers without formal training and do not understand the preparation of the Halal Product Assurance System (SJPH). (Agustina & Nasrullah, 2024). In addition, differences in infrastructure are also the main differentiating factors. Modern RPH like UD. Arafah (Lhokseumawe) and RPH Ruminansia Pegasing (Central Aceh) have implemented halal-non-halal area separation and automatic cleaning systems, while traditional RPH still uses simple equipment without cross-contamination control.

Internal Factors	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Management commitment	18	31,6
The Competence of the Scavenger Hunt	15	26,3
Supporting infrastructure	13	22,8
Leadership and organizational culture	11	19,3
Total	57	100,0

Source: Literature and document analysis of LPPOM MPU Aceh, 2025

Table 4.1 shows that management commitment is the most dominant factor in halal certification readiness. This is in line with *Organizational Readiness Theory*, (Weiner, 2009), which emphasizes that an organization's readiness for change is highly dependent on the ability of leaders to mobilize internal resources to achieve common goals.

Table 4.1
Dominant
Internal Factors in
the Readiness of
Halal Certification
RPH Aceh (2018–
2025)

4.2 External Factors of Halal Certification Implementation

Law Number 33 of 2014 and Qanun Aceh Number 8 of 2016 provide a strong legal basis for the halal product assurance system (M. Syafruddin, 2023). However, the effectiveness of its implementation depends on coordination between institutions such as BPJPH, MUI, and LPPOM MPU Aceh. Limited auditors and overlapping authority had hampered the certification process in 2019–2022.

Since 2024, coordination between institutions has shown improvement. LPPOM MPU Aceh collaborates with universities and local governments in training new halal auditors, which has an impact on accelerating the issuance of certificates for RPH in various regions (Wahyuni, 2022). From the market side, 82% of consumers in Banda Aceh now make the halal label the main indicator of trust in meat products, thus encouraging business actors to accelerate the certification process.

The support of professional associations such as the Aceh RPH Association and the Indonesian Juleha Community in the Aceh Region has also contributed through mentoring, socialization, and integrated training since 2023. This effort has succeeded in increasing the awareness of business actors on the importance of SJPH as part of halal quality management.

Internal Factors	Frequency of Occurrence	Percentage (%)
Government regulation and supervision	14	28,0
The role of certification bodies (BPJPH, LPPOM MPU)	13	26,0
Consumer awareness and demands	12	24,0
Association and community support	11	22,0
Total	50	100,0

Table 4.2
Dominant External
Factors in the Aceh RPH
Halal Certification Process
(2018–2025)

Source: Literature and document analysis of LPPOM MPU Aceh, 2025

These findings reinforce *Institutional Pressure Theory*, DiMaggio & Powell, (1983), which explains that external pressures in the form of regulations, social norms, and market demand function as a driver for organizations to adapt to national halal standards.

The above conceptual model illustrates that the increase in the number of halal-certified RPHs from seven units in 2018 to thirty-four units in 2025 is not solely due to regulatory pressures, but the result of a synergistic interaction between internal readiness and external pressures. RPHs that have high commitment and competent human resources are more responsive to regulatory and market demands, while RPHs with internal weaknesses tend to be slow to adapt.

Thus, the success of halal certification in Aceh is the result of a balance between organizational readiness and institutional pressure. To strengthen the sustainability of the halal system in the future, strategic steps are needed in the form of increasing human resource capacity, modernizing infrastructure, and closer collaboration between local governments, certification bodies, and the halal community. This integrated effort is expected to be able to expand the range of certification and ensure the sustainability of the halal product assurance system throughout the Aceh region.

V. CONCLUSION

This study concludes that the readiness of Slaughterhouses (RPH) in Aceh in obtaining halal certification is determined by the synergy between internal and external factors that reinforce each other. Internally, management commitment, the competence of human resources, especially halal slaughterers (Juleha), and the availability of infrastructure according to halal standards are the main factors determining success. Meanwhile, external factors in the form of government regulations, support from certification bodies such as BPJPH, MUI, and LPPOM MPU Aceh, and increasing consumer awareness of halal products have also accelerated the adoption of halal product assurance systems. An important finding of this study is that the harmonious interaction between external pressures and internal readiness is able to create an adaptive and sustainable halal governance model, as reflected in the increase in the number of certified RPH from seven units in 2018 to thirty-four units in 2025. The novelty of this research lies in the identification of a synergistic relationship between internal institutional capacity and the effectiveness of external policies in strengthening the halal certification system at the regional level. These results are expected to be the basis for local governments, certification bodies, and academics in formulating strategies to strengthen the halal ecosystem that are more integrated and become a reference for further research related to halal institutional readiness models in other sectors.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The author expresses his appreciation to all parties who have provided assistance and support in the process of writing and completing this article. Special thanks are extended to those who have contributed to the provision of the data and information needed, as well as to colleagues who have provided constructive.

REFERENCES

- Agustina, Y., & Nasrullah, M. F. (2024). Readiness of Poultry Slaughterhouse Business Actors in Socah District, Bangkalan Regency towards Halal Certification. *Al-Qardh Journal*, 9(2), 113–127. <https://e-journal.iain-palangkaraya.ac.id/index.php/qardh/article/view/9290>
- Artadita, S., & Lestari, Y. D. (2019). Halal Slaughterhouse Certification: The Comparison between Two Halal Certification Bodies. *Business Review*, 10(3), 211–227. <https://doi.org/10.21512/bbr.v10i3.5968>
- DiMaggio, P. J., & Powell, W. W. (1983). The iron cage revisited: Institutional isomorphism and collective rationality in organizational fields. *American Sociological Review*, 48(2), 147–160. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2095101>
- Iskandar, M. (2023). Determinants of halal certification adoption in meat processing SMEs in Indonesia. *Journal of Islamic Marketing*, 14(2), 231–245.
- LPPOM MPU. (2023). *List of Halal Products of LPPOM MPU Aceh. That is why we need to be vigilant. — That is why we*
- LPPOM MPU. (2025). *List of Halal Products of LPPOM MPU Aceh. That is why we need to be vigilant. — That is why we*
- Law Number 33 of 2014 concerning Halal Product Assurance (2014).
- MPU Aceh. (2018). *List of Halal Products of LPPOM MPU Aceh Province in 2020*. 3. <https://mpu.acehprov.go.id/>

-
- Mulyadi, A. (2021). The challenges of halal certification in the meat processing industry in Indonesia. *Journal of Sharia Economics and Business*, 8(2), 115–126. <https://doi.org/10.22373/jesb.v8i2.4567>
- Nuridin, H., & Fadhilah, N. (2023). Factors driving and inhibiting halal certification in the chicken slaughtering industry in Aceh Besar. *Indonesian Journal of Halal Economics and Management*, 4(1), 11–26.
- Syafruddin, A. (2023). Evaluation of the implementation of Aceh's halal policy on the slaughterhouse industry. *Journal of Public Policy and Sharia*, 5(1), 34–49.
- Syafruddin, M. (2023). The role of institutions in the effectiveness of halal certification in Aceh. *Journal of Public Policy and Administration*, 11(3), 145–158. <https://doi.org/10.25077/jkap.11.3.145-158.2023>
- Wahyuni, S. (2022). Muslim consumer perception of the importance of halal certification of meat products in Banda Aceh. *Journal of Islamic Business and Consumer Behavior*, 6(1), 55–66. <https://doi.org/10.31004/jibcb.v6i1.1824>
- Weiner, B. J. (2009). A theory of organizational readiness for change. *Implementation Science*, 4(1), 67. <https://doi.org/10.1186/1748-5908-4-67>
