Repentance That Restored a Right



مدارج

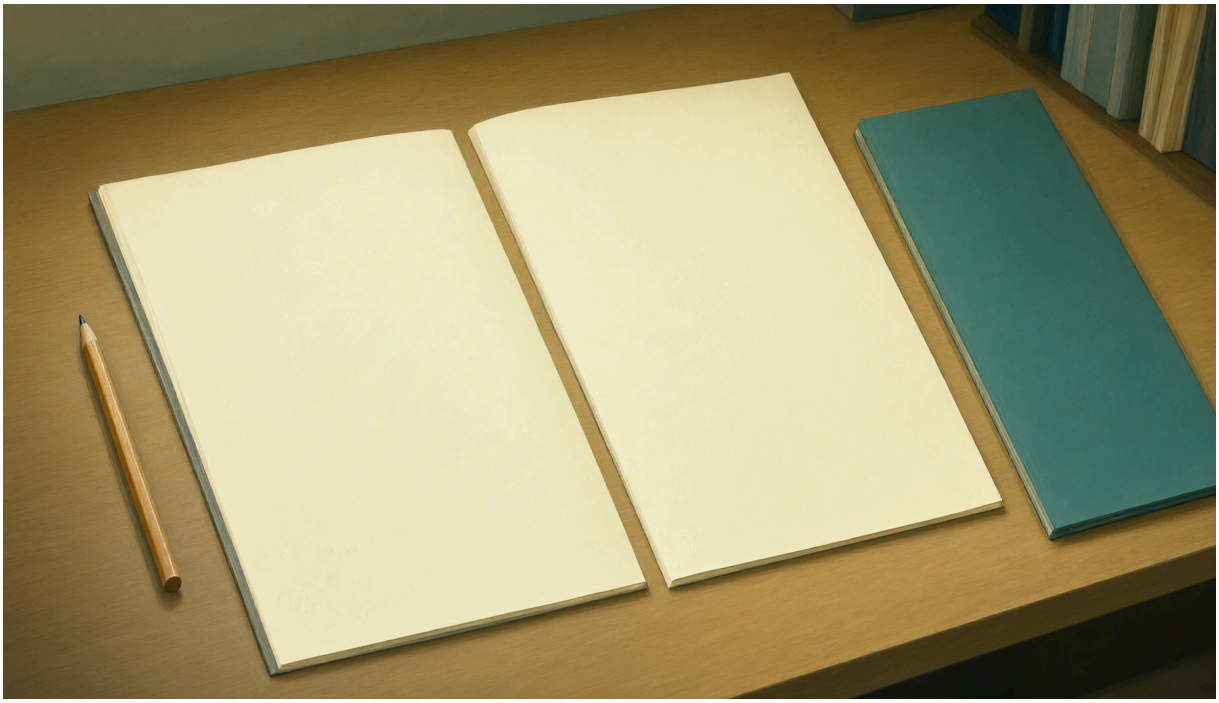


Ahmed's phone chimed as he put his workshop notebook on the table. Sixteen that year, he had been waiting for his travel reimbursement since training ended. The transfer notice showed 320 riyals. He reopened the message approving the payment: 240. He read both again and used the phone calculator. Eighty riyals remained unexplained.

He opened the headphones saved on his shopping list. His savings were short by roughly the difference now on the screen. He brought the phone closer, as though larger numbers might mean something else. Perhaps somebody had approved an additional expense. Yet the message mentioned no addition, and he had no new receipt to explain it. He closed the headphones picture, opened it again, and left the purchase button untouched.

His father, who was forty-four, came in and asked whether the workshop payment had arrived. Ahmed said it had. There was time to add the amount, but he busied himself arranging his notebook. His answer was true as far as it went. He also knew which fact he had deliberately left out. After his father left, the discrepancy was no longer merely a transfer error. Ahmed had added a silence of his own.

He opened the workshop conversation, typed a question about the amount, and erased it. He feared looking like someone who had kept the extra money until he was caught. He saved the transfer notice and approval message together and wrote: What explains the difference? He sent nothing that evening and bought no headphones. The notebook stayed open beside his phone, leaving room for an answer he had not requested.

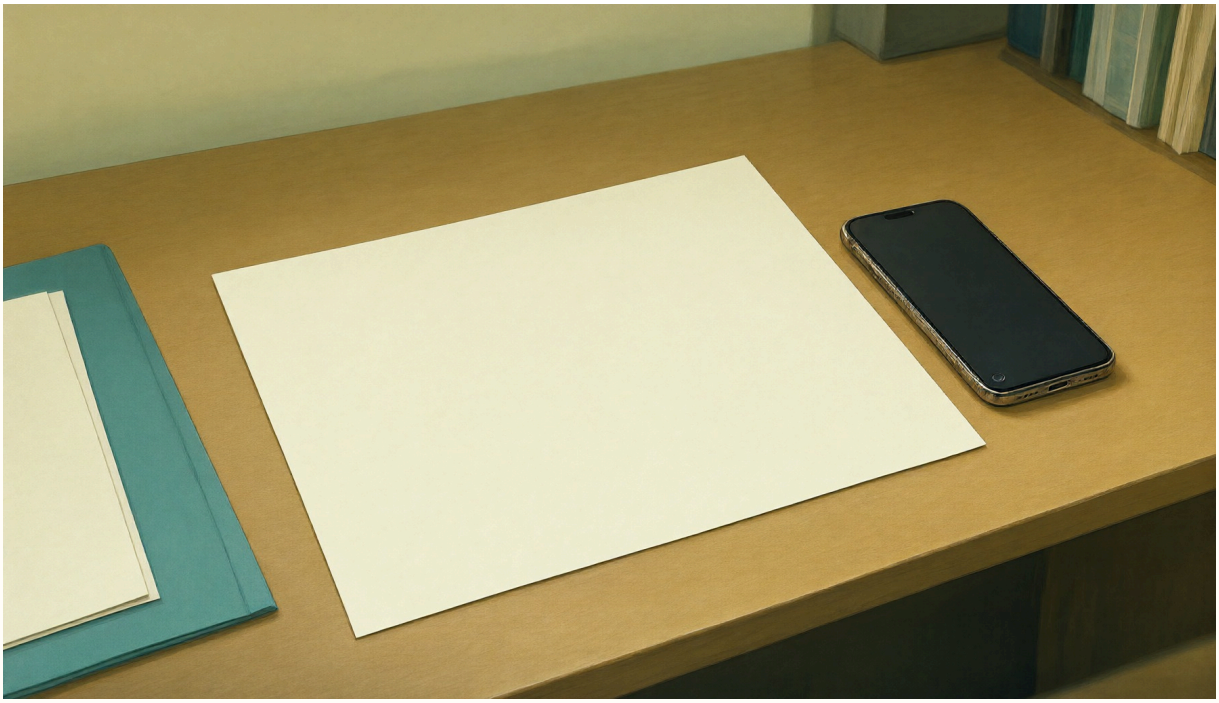


On Tuesday morning, Ahmed put his notebook before his father before their day grew busy. He said the transfer was 320 riyals although the message approved only 240. This time he gave both figures. His father asked when he had noticed. Ahmed rubbed the edge of the paper, then answered: yesterday. After a pause, he admitted thinking about spending the extra money without asking. It was uncomfortable, but it completed the answer he had left unfinished the previous evening.

His father asked to see the two records. Ahmed opened the workshop message and transfer notice. In his notebook he made three columns: approved, transferred, difference. Beneath them he wrote 240, 320, and 80. He reread the expense details, looking for an item he might have missed. Nothing in the approval explained the addition. He did not label

it a bonus or name someone as responsible for an error. So far, he had two records with different figures and a question for somebody authorized to explain them.

Ahmed asked whether he could send the difference to any account someone from the workshop supplied. His father asked how he would identify that person and their authority. Names in the participants' group proved neither. Ahmed wrote two questions: Who handles expenses? How can I reach them through a contact I know? He kept the records privately instead of posting them to the group. That evening, he searched the general workshop message for an official contact and decided what to request on Wednesday morning. He now knew the amount. He had not yet established the route for returning it.

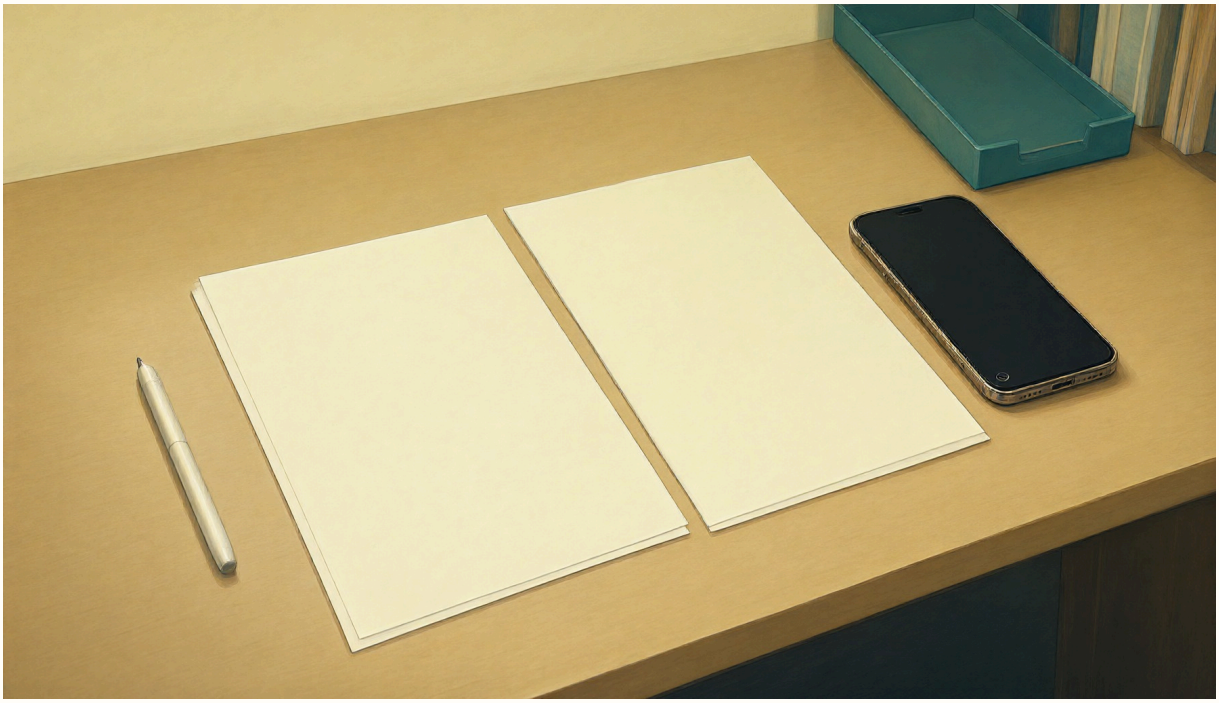


On Wednesday morning, Ahmed found a missed call and a message from an unsaved number. The sender claimed to handle workshop payments and requested a transfer screenshot to explain a settlement. Ahmed almost opened his private folder. A quick reply seemed the shortest way to end his worry. Then he stopped. He did not know the sender, and the message established no connection with the organization that had paid him. He neither accused the person of lying nor accepted the claim as sufficient reason to send his information.

He returned to the original training invitation and found the contact number his father had used before the workshop. He called to ask who handled expenses without explaining his account details to everyone who answered. The staff member checked the workshop name and dates, then identified Sami as the coordinator reviewing those payments. Sami was forty-two and maintained the center's expense records. Ahmed asked

to reach him through the center rather than relying on the unfamiliar number. The staff member arranged a Thursday morning appointment and asked him to bring the two records he wanted explained.

Ahmed wrote Sami's name and the appointment beside his three figures. He had identified somebody to meet, but still needed to present the discrepancy and hear the procedure for his case. He added two questions: Was there an approved addition missing from the message? If not, who would confirm the correct return account? He closed the unfamiliar conversation without sending pictures or money and prepared his records. Wednesday ended with a contact and an appointment, not a refund receipt.

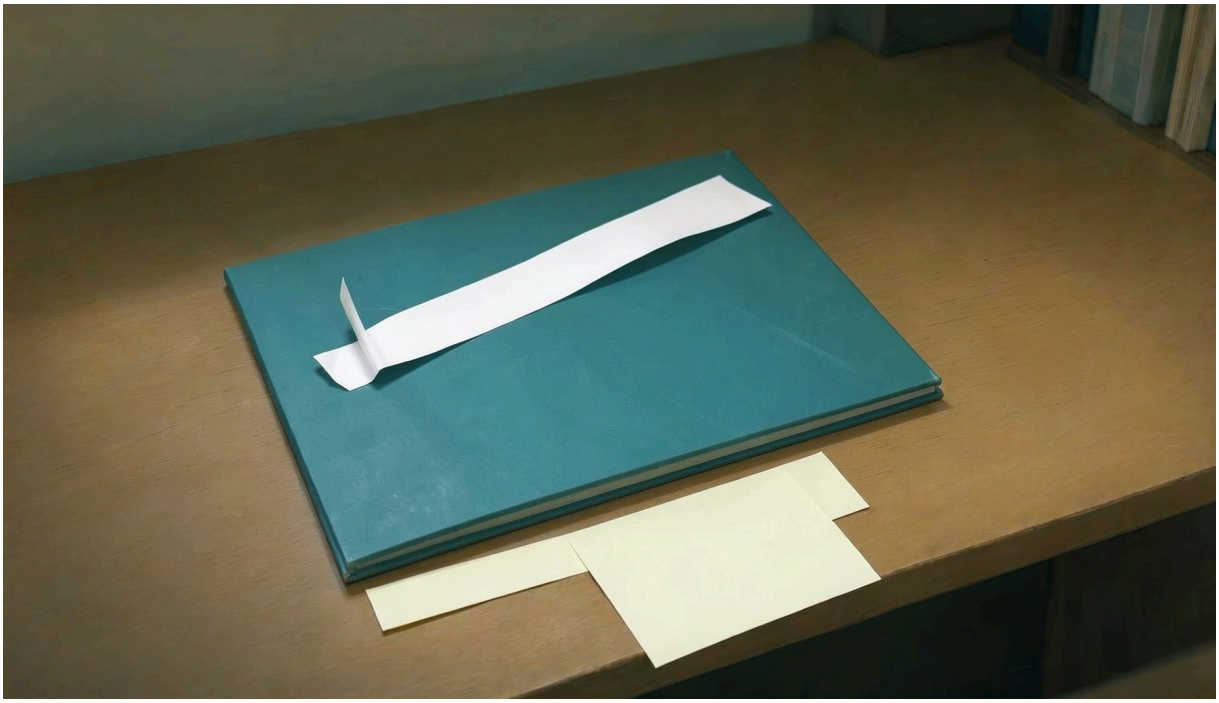


Thursday arrived, the day Ahmed had set for his meeting with the person in charge of accounts. He headed to the center carrying his small notebook, with the two records ready. He felt a touch of anxiety, but he

understood that honesty was the only path to ease his conscience. At the reception, he asked for Sami, the forty-two-year-old finance coordinator. He received the necessary directions and entered to meet him.

Ahmed sat across from Sami and placed his notebook on the table. He began explaining the situation calmly, stating that the transfer notice he received was for 320 riyals, while the approved message from the workshop specified only 240. Ahmed clearly presented both documents, pointing out the difference of eighty riyals. He did not try to hide any detail; he simply wanted to know if the figure resulted from a technical error or an approved addition that had not appeared in the original message, waiting to hear the official explanation.

Sami compared the approval and transfer records. The ledger showed 240 riyals and no approved addition explaining the extra 80. He wrote the transaction reference on a settlement sheet and identified the center account authorized for this case. He asked Ahmed to check the recipient name before returning the excess, then send the receipt through the known workshop conversation. Ahmed read the sheet and explained the steps back rather than leaving with vague instructions. Sami confirmed where to send any further question. Ahmed filed the sheet with his records. He had not returned the money yet; he set Friday morning for that step.



On Friday morning, Ahmed sat with his phone and Sami's settlement sheet. He compared the transaction reference, center name, and account details with the information in the app. At the amount field, he paused. He was not returning his approved travel allowance or sending back the entire payment. Only the extra eighty riyals needed to go to the center. He entered the amount and read it again. He wanted to finish quickly, but another mistake would not repair his earlier delay. With the sheet beside him, he added the settlement reference and reason for the return.

After checking the details, Ahmed confirmed the transfer. When the transaction notification appeared, he opened it and checked the amount, recipient, and date. He saved the receipt with the original records and kept Sami's sheet. The receipt was evidence of a transaction, not a certificate of his intentions. His account showed that eighty riyals had

left it, but the screen could not tell him whether Sami had matched the payment to the correct record. Contacting the center was still necessary. He kept the file open.

In the known workshop conversation, Ahmed attached the receipt, explained the return, and requested confirmation against the settlement reference. He removed unnecessary details before sending; no login information or unrelated account screenshots belonged there. Then he put down the phone. No reply came immediately. What would Sami think about the delay? The screen offered no answer. Ahmed resisted writing a second message praising his own honesty. He left the file ready for confirmation and returned to his day while he waited.



On Friday afternoon, Sami replied through the workshop conversation. He confirmed receipt of the eighty riyals, matched it to the settlement reference, and stated that nothing remained due on this transaction.

Ahmed compared the reference with his receipt and filed the reply. This confirmation came from the person checking the ledger, rather than his phone alone. He showed his father the last page. Asked what he would do about another discrepancy, Ahmed said he would ask promptly, before wanting something became an excuse to keep someone else's money.

He remembered the headphones on his shopping list. The excess had not been a gift, and returning it did not make his delay right. The accounting mistake was separate from his choice to remain silent after understanding it. He regretted that choice and hoped for Allah's mercy while making amends. He would not make Sami's praise a condition of that hope. Sami's reply contained no lengthy compliment, only a practical confirmation. Ahmed closed the file, put it away, and removed the eighty riyals from his spending plans. The headphones would wait for savings of his own.

On a private sheet, imagine a student receiving excess activity reimbursement. Write what needs clarification, who can check the record, and how to verify that person's role through a known channel. Distinguish a friend's advice from an answer by someone authorized to review the transaction. Use no real names, accounts, or financial documents, and send the sheet to nobody. Discuss choosing appropriate help with a trusted adult. This is practice in asking and verifying, not a general ruling on different cases of restoring rights.