

Story #167 (Tape #2, Summer 1970) Narrator: Ahmet Kalaycı (Süslü)

Location: Güvem Nahiye
Kızılcahamam kaza
Ankara vilayet

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Responsibility for Knowledge of Moslem Commandments

Once on a time a padişah went out on a journey and he met a boy. He asked the child what the commandments of God were. The boy was able to answer all his questions, one by one.* He then rewarded the boy with some money.

The boy left very pleased at this, and the padişah also left quite satisfied. The boy came home quite excited and asked for his father. "Where is my father? I have a lot of money. A man who dismounted from a horse gave me a lot of money."

They told him, "Your father has been taken away by the padişah."

is he going to do with my father?" the boy asked.

"Well," they said, "the padişah asked your father what the commandments of God were, but he did not know the answers. He will probably be executed, for this is the religious law. Those who do not know God's commandments are executed."

The boy started running after the padişah to catch up with him however far away he might be. He finally reached the padişah, who had the boy's father with him, and he said, "Here is your money. Take it back."

I have already given you the money," said the padişah. "Why should I take it back?"

*See Note to #166 for Commandments of God in Islam.

Story #167

"You gave me this money in order to have my father executed.
your money back."

"Son, I asked you God's commandments and you knew them. I liked you and I gave you that money, therefore. Although I did not know man was your father, I asked him some questions and he knew nothing about them. In our religious law, those who do not know God's commandments should be executed."

What do you think the boy said to this? "This father had me educated and I learned God's commandments thanks to him. It is not my father whom you should execute. It is his father, not mine, for the fault is his." Thus the boy was able to save his father from execution.