

QUESTIONS OF THE MONTH!

QUESTION:

I borrowed a tissue box from someone and want to return a larger box which I managed to buy for a cheaper price. Is this an issue of *ribbis*?

ANSWER:

The first question, to ask, is why is the larger box cheaper? If it's because it's poorer quality, then so long as the lender doesn't mind, it presumably wouldn't be *ribbis*, just make sure they're okay with it being poorer quality. If you got the larger box for cheaper because it was on sale etc., then it would be a problem of *ribis*. But there's a simple solution. Just tell him that the extra tissues are a present. Then it's not a problem, because the extra tissues aren't being added to express appreciation for the loan, but rather out of practicality.

QUESTION:

My friend ruined half of my can of soda, does he owe me back a full can or half a can?

ANSWER:

It depends if it was half full or half empty:) He owes half a can.