

## LESSON 8.

<b>22) RACISM (IRKÇILIK)</b>	<b>23) EGOCENTRISM (ENANİYET)</b>	<b>24) SELF-INDULGENCE (TENPERVERLİK)</b>
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### 22) RACISM:

→ The following have always been a problem of the humanity: Sacrificing the truth to the power, overweighing of the personal benefits over all the values, when the rigid racist thoughts replace all the universal values, when national and international problems are tried to be solved using brute force.

→ When we speak about “Ottomans” and discuss the Ottoman empire we definitely do not imply any racist thinking there. Of course, being the descendants of such a famous ancestors, and being connected to such a noble lineage honours us; but this has nothing to do with racism, whatsoever. If we have to call it, we may call it a positive nationalism, which still stays within the allowed frames of the Book and the Prophet’s Sunnah.

→ In this time or century it is not correct to ask anyone to “give up one’s nationality or thoughts of his/her nation. There is no restrictions for the positive nationalism. On the other hand, racism that does not accept or excludes other nations is very harmful... and exactly in respect of that point we have to pay extra attention.

### 23) EGOCENTRISM:

→ Self indulgence, caring only about oneself, participating in any activity with consideration of personal gain, starting any job in selfish thoughts and finishing it with the same thinking, in short a name of an actual sickness of the spirit.

→ The weakest and the most dangerous feeling that a human being possesses is Egocentrism, and it is the first thing that one is required to tear it off and dispose of it. Because the unlucky ones, that got indulged into the habit of egocentrism, would find it very difficult to get to their goals without losing their right path, as they are blindfolded, and do not see the Truth and the True one.

→ For a person to get rid of the virus of egocentrism, it is important for the one to at least try to use “we” or “us”, instead of “I”, or “me”; and wish for the horizons that are shown only by Him.

### 24) SELF-INDULGENCE:

→ Even the men of Truth are trapped into four walls sometimes by self-indulgence (longing for comfort)

→ Self-indulgence and longing for comfort makes people hedonistic. Although the family and home aim to fulfill some worldly needs and are the helping tools of preparation for the life in the Hereafter, it still should be perceived from the beginning and personally as an initial, intent job; whereas getting indulged into the hedonism is the most dangerous point of slipping astray. “What if I will lose my family; oh no, what if I lose my home; God forbid if I am separated from my kids” such considerations and thinking break the human system of balance, leaving him/her open and unprotected in front of all the dangers.

→ Yes, these loyal souls that wake up the social spirit, educate people and serve as means to exalt them to the level of real humanity, devote themselves to the truth; they by no means, would be lured into self-indulgence... instead they should be ready to sacrifice their everything for the sake of such a great ideology.

**Match the following words to the definitions:**

Self-indulgence

Thinking only about oneself

Racism

Being addicted to comfort

Egocentrism

Thinking that does not accept or know, but excludes other nationalities

**Fill in the following gaps:**

....., along with some different uses, this word is derived from the word "Self, single"(ene) and comes to the meaning of "I".. Together with the meanings of self, core, personality , the root "self" gives this word the meanings of existence, opportunity and ability to be severable, appealable, readable and assessable regarding the things and events; at the same time, it gives the chance of knowing and believing, and in the frame of these it is a tool that exalts a human being to the level of dialogist, personally and socially responsible.

There is no problem in the positive nationalism. But ..... that does not recognise, accept or understand other nationalities, excluding them... is very harmful and this is the point that has to be reassessed.

For example ..... and longing for comfort makes human beings hedonistic. Although the family and home aim to fulfill some worldly needs and are the helping tools of preparation for the life in the Hereafter, it still should be perceived from the beginning and personally as an initial, intent job; whereas getting indulged into the hedonism is the most dangerous point of slipping astray. "What if I will lose my family; oh no, what if I lose my home; God forbid if I am separated from my kids" such considerations and thinking break the human system of balance, leaving him/her open and unprotected in front of all the dangers.