

# Self-Reliance

By the end of this unit, students will be able to:

- realize the significance of avoiding dependency and giving honour for him/her self.
- recognize effects of contraband.
- mention the significance of self-confidence.

## 8.1 Avoiding Dependency

### 8.1.1 Avoiding Dependency and Giving Honour for him/her self

#### Heroic Addisu



Picture 8.1. Disability does not hinder self-reliance

He is Ato Addisu Bona. He is a physically disabled person whose two hands can do nothing. His two legs also cannot work. To move from place to place, he just slides on the ground. His parents considered him as having no chance except begging so did not educate him. He came to the street from the age of five.

However, as he grew older, he developed a strong vision that “I have to work to eat”. In this country

where even healthy peoples come to begging by deliberately damaging their bodies, however, Addisu was disgusted begging. He trained his legs for work even though he could not walk. He moved to other towns from the province where he has brought up.

Firstly, by being with a radio and watch technician, who is maintaining those materials, he realized the work of that person. Hence, he started to support that person. Next, he started to work for self and to earn money. However, due to the absence of well-established shop, his properties were stolen. But he managed to gather wood products and nails along the road and made “Kushineta”, the moving materials of disabled persons from place to place.

Though he has no conducive working environment in Addis Ababa, he is able to depart from dependency. Furthermore, he is married and has four children and another child of his relatives’ altogether. Hence, he is administrating seven people.

### Activity 1

Answer the following questions on basis of the passage:

1. What is the factor that initiated Addisu to avoid dependency?
2. If there are physically disabled persons in your locality, discuss how they manage to avoid dependency.
3. Do you give respect to yourself? How is it expressed?

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Honouring him/her self is to mean not creating inferior position for self and knowing the right position of the self. Knowing and accepting him/her and improving the relations with others by education and using his/her potentials exhaustively is an expression of honouring him/her self. People who honour themselves, explain their opinions freely. They are always ready to share what they know with others. On the basis of this, they are self-reliant in economic and social relations and self-confident. They hate dependency and illegitimate aids of others because it lowers their respected identity. The story that we read regarding Addisu is model of this situation.

### Activity 2

Answer the following questions:

1. Mention characteristics of people honouring themselves?
2. What do you think a person of self-honoured would do if he/she is mistaken and if that mistake told is by someone?
3. Why does a self-honoured person dislike begging and illegitimate aid of others?

### 8.1.2 Self-reliance and Avoiding Dependency

- What does avoiding dependency mean?
- What does self-reliance mean?

#### Torba

There was a child called Torba in the village of Dilamo Anfrara. Since he lost his parents at his early age, a wealthy person took him to take care of him. Then Torba started to live while they were giving remaining foods of others and lying in the kitchen on the floor. Since he has a dependency feeling, he eats what they give him and makes no response when they hit him.

Some neighbouring peoples by observing what is going on with the Torba, advised him by saying “Why cannot you escape?” But he said, “If I escape from this home, I may be a street child and forced to drop my education. But if I learn, I can break two yokes of dependency.” As he said, he learned his education and joined university. Eventually he graduated even with higher result and became a physician. He went to some far area by being employed.

After that, when he comes to Dilamo Anfrara, for a break, clean beds are given him. Varied food items are also prepared. Due to the self-confidence, in a way not endangering the dignity of his former caretakers, he started to forward suggestions and started discussions in the spirit of equality.

### Activity 3

Answer the following questions on the basis of the passage:

1. Choose two persons: one chairperson and the other a secretary. Next, discuss how Torba has become self-reliant and avoided dependency?
2. Discuss with examples what would have been happened if Torba had escaped from the home as other neighbouring peoples advised him?

Self-reliance and avoiding dependency are the two sides of a coin. If any person uses opportunities and competencies to self-rely, everything is achievable. But opportunities and competences are the two things that need due attention. If any person accidentally declares to take part now in an international marathon or to carryout engineering work, it is not more than a dream. To involve in either of or in both of above work, first there are important things to be fulfilled. For example, to win in world marathon, physical strength, checking the health, taking trainings and experiences are important. To be an engineer also, getting due education and educational certificates are important.

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In other ways, every person can achieve his/her goals if he/she make attempts, using opportunities and is able to be systematic and tolerant over constraints. Torba in order to depart him from dependency used the opportunity by being with a wealthy person. He passed different problems through tolerance. Hence, he departed from dependency and became self-reliant.

An independent person has free opinion. Hence, such persons initiate further work and a better life. Since he/she is not under the good willing of others, he/she will have the capacity to emanate constructive ideas and hence becomes good citizen.

### Activity 4

Answer the following questions:

1. Mention factors, which are important for self-reliance?
2. What does it mean when we say, “self-reliance and avoiding dependency are the two sides of a coin?”
3. What does it mean knowing self-competence and self-ability? Explain by supportive examples.

### 8.1.3 The Significance of Avoiding Dependency for Economic and Social Development and for Creating Good Citizen

- What is the advantage of avoiding dependency for country’s economic and social progress?

#### How did German manage to revive from the destruction?

Germany was among the participants of Second World War. She was totally destroyed at that time. Anti-Nazi measures and the measure of the Nazi’s by themselves destroyed the country’s infrastructures, industries, building, and houses and so on. For this reason, at the end of the war, Germans started to live by aid and support from other parts of world.

However, at that moment, individuals with opinions and zeal of independence and self-reliance appeared from different corners of the country. They started to move with strong feeling to have general progress in the country.

Therefore, fifteen years after the war ended, Germany recovered from such losses and managed to create a strong economic and social life which enabled her to be a highly developed country in Europe. The achievement of the Germans was a miracle because individuals departed from a dependency outlook. There was also the existence of hard workers who were honouring themselves.

### Activity 5

Answer the following questions on basis of the passage:

1. How do German avoid economic and social dependency? Discuss.
2. What is expected from us to develop our country?

The progress and development of a given country is the cumulative result of citizens’ outlook and practice. Hence, a country with individuals departed from dependency outlook and with self-confidence and hardworking, can achieve higher level in social and economic life. Such dedication to be independent makes a person free from economic and social dependencies. The cumulative result should bring economic and social progress.

A country by virtue of natural resource endowment only cannot be developed. The basic issue for development is having people departed from a dependency outlook. Individuals who attempt to depart themselves from dependency can even solve severe problems and can achieve economic and social progress. The miracle Germans did can be the major illustration for this.

On other way, avoiding dependency is the basis for promoting the sovereignty of a country. If the

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sovereignty of a country depends on foreign loans and grants, it is under great threat. By holding the grant and loan, donors can impose their interests over the takers, which can be a challenge to sovereignty.

In general, a society departed from dependency can create self-confident good citizens which disgust dependency. At the same time, good citizens play greater role to promote their country's economic and social level.

### 8.1.4 Contraband and Dependency

- What is the effect of contraband on country's economic and social development?

#### Contrabandist Kume

By being involved in contraband, Kume usually feels worry and fear. He pays bribe for individuals who work at custom to import illegal commodities to the country. However, he has a fear that one day such attempts will be failed and he will be found red-handed; he knows that he will face financial penalty as well as arrest. W/ro Alemnesh, his wife, and children are also in great fear.



Picture 8.2. Contraband is anti-development

One day W/ro Alemnesh and their children agreed to call Ato Kume to discuss the issue. In the

meantime, their children reflected that contraband is the result of a dependency outlook as they learned from civics and ethical education. They strongly told him that he is endangering his country and people all together. They discussed the fear and threat the family is facing, having unnecessary life while he is giving bribes and losing a lot of money when commodities are nationalized. In the discussion, they agreed that, contraband has no significance for the contrabandist, government and people in general. Eventually, Ato Kume agreed to stop that criminal activity.

### Activity 6

On basis of the passage, answer the following questions:

1. By selecting a chairperson and secretary, discuss and reach to the conclusion on the idea "contraband has no significance".
2. By inviting any person who is engaged in anti-contraband work, discuss on general conditions of contraband?

Contraband affects the peace, health and social life of the people of the whole world. Specially, it becomes a great threat on developed countries by transporting drugs and sophisticated war weapons.

Even in our country, contraband is expanding from time to time. Contrabandists are strengthening their power through modern war weapons and communication materials. Furthermore, by initiating peoples who have little knowledge about contraband through giving certain advantages, they are acting adversely. Based on this, it has an adverse effect on our country's attempt to alleviate poverty.

Contraband is strongly carried out in our Eastern part of country. Different electronic materials, salvages, perfumes and cosmetics are imported through that line. Contrabandists furthermore export thousands of animals, chats, coffee, grains, hides and skins to States abroad. The North and South East

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part of our country is another hotline of contraband. Though the magnitude is less, this criminal action is done also in other parts of our country.

Currently, a number of activities are on going to control contraband and trade theft and to collect appropriate taxes and duties. For this reason, the Ministry of Revenue, the Federal Interior Revenue Authority and Ethiopia Custom Authority are unified together as Ethiopian Revenue and Custom Authority by official declaration.

In these organizations, in order to counter contraband, there is the establishment of “National anti-contraband and custom trade theft strategy”. The objective of these strategies is controlling contraband and trade thefts to the extent it may not affect our economy and avoiding illegal trades to collect appropriate tax and duty as far as the economy of the country can provide. If taxes and duties are effectively collected, this in turn would support our country’s development.

### Activity 7

Discuss the following questions:

1. Explain the effect of contraband on the economy and social life of people on a given country.
2. Discuss in detail and reach consensus on what you have to do to control contraband.

## 8.2 Self-confidence

### 8.2.1 The Necessity of Building the Feeling of Self-confidence

- What is the significance of self-confidence?
- What has to be done to develop the feeling of self-confidence?

አይን አፋር፤  
ጉበዝ በርቺ ማለት መጥቀሙን ሳያውቁ፤  
አሳደጉኝና ስህተቴን አጉልተው እያሸማቀቁ።።  
ስናገር ብሣላት ስሠራ ቢበላሽ፤  
የሚል ፍርሃት ሰብሮኝ ዕድገቴ ሲኮላሽ፤

ቀና ብዬ ሣላይ መንፈሴን አንቅቼ፤  
ራሴን ሣልቸል ቀረሁ በማውቀው ሠርቼ።።  
እየተሸማቀቅሁ መድፈር እያቃተኝ አንገት በደፋሁኝ፤  
ይጠቅመኝ ይመስል ጨዋ ዝምተኛ አይን አፋር  
ተባልኩኝ።  
አይን አፋር መሆኑ ጌላ አስቀርቶኛል  
አስወግደዋለሁ፤  
በራሴ ዕምነት ኖሮኝ ደፋር እሆናለሁ።።

### Activity 8

Answer the followings on basis of the above poem:

1. Mention behaviours which express shyness.
2. Mention and reach into consensus on the effects of shyness.

To be self-confident, there is no single identified and successful way. It depends on the culture, outlook, and the level of education of the society we exist and so on. Self-confidence is not limited for a given specific time; rather it is developing from time to time for its implementation. As far as we encounter new things, the self-confidence necessarily challenged. Destructive feelings such as “If I cannot carryout effectively, if it goes wrong, if it does not get acceptance” and the like are disturbing ones performance.

However, the following are most important points to win new encounters and to develop our self-confidence.

**Knowing and enhancing ones competence:** No person can possess all knowledge. In relation to this, every person has his/her own competence. Therefore, every person has to identify his/her own competence. Learning and reading different books; and even by discussing with others, is important to enhance knowledge. Currently, things are changing in the world. Therefore, always it is important to follow up these new things and adjusting with new emerging issues. To learn from others, first it is important to respect others views. When we listen to others’ ideas with honour and thoroughly, we

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can identify their differences and similarities with others. Then we can openly show our differences and stands.

**Accepting the reality genuinely:** It means identifying strong and weak sides. Beside this, we can accept freely on what others are saying about us and how they are looking at us. Among the ideas by admitting the important ones and disregarding worthless ones is important.

When we identify our weak and strong sides, it helps us not to be surprised on wrong suggestion and not to reach into unwise decisions by terrorizations.

**Planning and evaluating works:** This is also among basic things for the purpose of self-confidence. For example, a given student can plan to score first rank in class. If the plan is merely an ideal or written on paper without practice, it would not be a plan, rather a dream. Hence she/he has to write the details of issues which would help her/his to achieve the plan. For example, a daily study programme, non-absenteeism, attentively following while instructors are teaching, using libraries etc., have to be stated to carry out her/his plans effectively. The implementation programme can be broken down into daily, weekly, monthly and yearly. It is important to implement as well as evaluate the achievements on basis of the program. When she/he does so, the self-confidence feeling grows.

### Activity 9

Answer the following questions:

1. How does planning help for development of self-confidence?
2. What does genuinely accepting realities mean?

### Group Work

After you select a chairperson and secretary discuss on self-confidence and superiority complex.

## 8.2.2 The Significance of Self-Confidence for Ones Family and Country

- What is the significance of self-confidence for development?

### The success of W/ro Zemzem

W/ro Zemzem is the manager of organization of construction materials production. The organization is awarded her due to making a number of innovations. Therefore, a given newspaper has dealt with different persons on the efficiency and personal life of the manager of the organization. Among these, ideas forwarded by her husband and by a co-worker are stated as follows.

**The husband of W/ro Zemzem:** Zemzem forwards ideas regarding us, our children and families in order to decide together. After discussion, if issues are important, we implement them or if not, we leave them aside. If my idea is better than hers, she accepts it and puts it into practice. We talk openly if there are discomforts. Since we live by understanding one another in this way, our children are ethically well-developed. She said "Our life is progressing from time to time".

**The co-worker:** "Zemzem believes in learning from others. She shares what she knows openly. She has the courage to implement and create new things. When we go wrong, she corrects us openly. She also accepts when we tell her mistakes. Hence, she made us always to be initiated for work. Currently, we are assessing markets to export our products abroad."

### Activity 10

Answer the following on basis of the passage:

1. Explain Zemzem's behaviour of self-confidence?
2. What is the significance of the self-confidence of Zemzem for herself, her family and country?

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A self-confident person is a person with no dependency outlook. Since a person usually attempts to achieve a better economic and social life, he/she would be successful. Such persons settle differences through discussion since he/she respects other opinions. He/she admits acceptable ideas from others and uses for him/her self. He/she is not reluctant to share his/her ideas to others.

Furthermore, individuals are the basis of a family. Family in turn is the basis of a society of a given country. Therefore, developing a country is related with creating a good citizen. As what has happened in the life of W/ro Zemzem, by developing individuals self-confidence, it is important for building good family.

Good family in turn creates job creator citizens who work by mutual understanding for country's development. By such citizens, a country becomes developed and protects its sovereignty. Therefore, the self-confidence emanates from individuals, who play roles in life of family and in process of country building.

### Activity 11

Answer the following questions:

1. "Take individual responsibility for a country's progress or failure" as a title and debate on it.
2. Mention points which relate self-confidence with successes.

## Summary

Non-dependent persons are self-reliant in their economic processes prevailing at individual and country level. In addition to this, they contribute social and economic self-reliance which are supporting to each other. Fulfilling basic needs opens the door to be proud of identity. Self-reliance has its own contribution for sovereignty of a country. Ways to self-reliance attained from advice, experience, education and professionals.

In order for our country to become self-reliant, there are a number of responsibilities and duties expected from citizens. For example, respecting

rules and regulations of a country, not involving in contraband and illegal activities, informing criminal encounters for concerned bodies are the major ones. Furthermore, it is a duty of all citizens to promote the culture of work, protecting the country's sovereignty by being productive and job creative.

In other ways, peoples have to make them ready to correct themselves. Learning is not only from schools. Important knowledge is attained from friends, family, community, aged (senior) persons and etc. The society departed from dependency only can sustain its country progress ahead.

## Key Words

<b>Sovereign:</b>	Independent, free
<b>Shy:</b>	A person who fears to express what he/she knows for others
<b>Honour:</b>	Respect, dignity
<b>Competence:</b>	Ability, knowledge, capacity
<b>Contraband:</b>	Illegal trade
<b>Drugs:</b>	Over motivating material (food or drink)

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### Unit Review Exercises

Do these review exercises in your exercise book.

#### I. Write "True" if the statement is correct and write "False" if the statement is incorrect

1. Once self-confidence developed, it is lasting forever.
2. We may be confused by others wrong suggestions, if we are able to identify our strengths and weakness.
3. Forwarding ideas freely and directly is one aspect of self-confidence.
4. Self-honouring person is full of superiority complex.
5. Contraband is the common enemy of the peoples of the whole world.

#### II. Match words or phrases under column 'A' with correct items of column 'B'

A

1. A person learning from mistakes
2. Self-honouring
3. Self-reliance
4. Shyness

B

- A. An attribute of non self-confidence
- B. Wise
- C. Failure to forward ideas freely
- D. Self-confidence
- E. Gives the freedom of self-directing

#### III. Choose the correct answer for the following questions

1. To develop self-confidence
  - (a) Knowing and promoting ones own competence
  - (b) Accepting the realities genuinely
  - (c) Planning and evaluating the success of the plan
  - (d) All.
2. Peoples attempt to be self-reliant
  - (a) Helps themselves only
  - (b) Helps their families only
  - (c) Helpful for themselves, their family and their country
  - (d) Have no significance.
3. Self-confidence
  - (a) Develops by updating knowledge every time
  - (b) Develops by collecting large number of resources
  - (c) By disregarding others
  - (d) It has great significance for self-reliance.
4. Peoples with dependency feeling are
  - (a) Burdens of a country
  - (b) Burdens of a family
  - (c) Comfortless peoples
  - (d) All of the above.



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5. Contraband
  - (a) not illegal trade
  - (b) Distorts social and economic life
  - (c) A factor for expansion of corruption
  - (d) (b) and (c) are answers.

### IV. Give short answers for the following questions

1. What connotation does the concept “Dependents have no freedom” at individual and country level?
2. What does self-honouring mean?
3. Mention five commodities exported by contraband from our country.

### V. Copy the following questions on your exercise book and fill the correct answer on the space provided

1. Peoples who encountered contraband or illegal trade and reporting the case for the concerned body has \_\_\_\_\_ allowance.
2. A person departed from \_\_\_\_\_ has free opinion.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ is not putting oneself in an inferior position and identifying the right place of him/her self.