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# Editorial

## Pessimism & Optimism

Lots of friends and readers indict that my editorials tend to be mostly pessimistic and ask: am I really a pessimist? Those who know me well comment that I am far away from pessimism but certify that my writings hold some glumness and they wonder why ...

My answer to all is very straightforward, I simply haul out my writings from real life and it has nothing to do with pessimism or optimism.

This reminds me of the French Baccalaureate Exams- Philosophy section, when all media publicized the peculiar -but realistic- question asked to students last month: "Do you prefer truth or happiness?"

What is meant by this question? Are humans free to choose between truth acceptance and happiness loss? And vice versa?

Does it mean that we don't have the right to have both?

Do we lose happiness by accepting truth?

Does happiness mean to live in an ongoing falsehood? Or in a world of illusions and dreams?

Is human's reality and modern life that sad to become the opposite of happiness?

Lots of questions with no comprehensible answers...

I am sure students would have saturated the issue with analysis and revision. How eager am I to read one of these tests; unfortunately I did not hear any news bulletin commenting

on this issue after the tests and corrections. I certainly would not be astounded to find out that there are major differences in students' opinions and may be even amongst correcting teachers...

The question itself imposes upon you to accept reality and admit that truth and happiness are contradictory and unmatched... Isn't this pessimism by its glorious self?

And if there is a country- which is considered as highly educated and knowledgeable- that tells its future generations that they maybe have to choose truth if they want to live in reality or... or what? Chaos? Illusions? Dreams? ... I really do not know.

But I want to clarify that I am not a pessimist -as some accuse me- and not an optimist as well... things are not all white or black... and as some philosophers and poets articulated : "Life is a smile amongst two tears." I say this smile might be shorter or longer depending on circumstances and people... tears might be as well ...

But if they asked me to choose between truth and happiness, I would -without any hesitation- prefer truth and to live in the reality of life surely without depriving me of the least which is the hope for happiness...