

Sacred *Odù Ifá* Series: May 2026 Release
Sacred *Odù Èjì Ogbè* (Èṣẹ 1.8) *Emi / Life is an Òrìṣà*

Alàfíà ati Ife Brothers and Sisters!
Orí ire fun owo! (Good Tidings to you!)

I pray that you are feeling awake, aware, and elevated in mind, body, and spirit, wherever you are, and whatever may be happening around you! *Àṣẹ o!*

If you have been studying with me for a while, welcome back. I'm grateful for your participation and support as we travel together into the wisdom of *Ifá*.

Homage to The One Who Sends, and to those who are sent!
Homage to *Òrìṣà* and *Egun!*

Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ o!

If you are new to these video lessons, I'm Baba Umar, *Oluranse Emese* (Voice of the Emese), Member of the *Isoro* Traditional Council of Chiefs in Ile-Ife, Nigeria, *Olúwo* of the House of Umar, and *Babaláwo* of *Ile Awo Òrìṣà* (the House of the Mysteries of the *Òrìṣàs*). You can learn more about the *Emese* and the *Isoro* Council in the description section below and on our website. A link to our website is in the description section below.

Our topic in this video is: Sacred *Odù Èjì Ogbè* –
Èṣẹ 1.8: Emi / Life Itself is an Òrìṣà

Part 1 - Spiritual Significance of the Èṣẹ

This *Èṣẹ* is one of the most profound teachings within *Èjì Ogbè*. It teaches that all worldly success is worthless if Life/Breath itself is absent.

Within *Ìṣẹṣe* teaching:

Émí kì í ṣe ìmí ara lasan.

- *Émí* is not merely physical breath.

Émí jẹ agbára iyè tí Olódùmarè fì sínú èniyàn.

- *Émí* is the force of life that *Olódùmarè* places within human beings. This *Èṣẹ* presents *Émí* as a living divinity within the human being.

Kò sí ọ̀rọ̀, kò sí ọ̀mọ̀, kò sí iyì, kò sí àṣẹ láìsì Émí.

- There is no wealth, no children, no honor, and no authority without *Émí*.

This is why the *Èṣẹ* declares:

T'Émí ò bá bọ̀, kò sí ohun tí ó bàjẹ̀.

- If *Émí* is not removed, nothing is truly lost.

In *Ifá* teaching, as long as you still breathe, life remains open before you. I encourage you to visit My Kung Fu (7 Circles) Playlist and begin practicing the Breathing Lessons I have there. These practices can change your health and life for the better.

Part 2 - Core Spiritual Themes of the Ẹ̀ṣẹ̀

Ifá teaches that - *Ẹ̀mí* is the Foundation of All Life

Ifá teaches that - all blessings stand upon *Ẹ̀mí*.

Ifá teaches that Life is Greater than Material Possessions

- *Ọ̀rọ̀ lẹ̀ lọ* - Wealth may disappear.
- *Àṣẹ̀ lẹ̀ dín kù*. - Status may fade.
- *Ẹ̀ṣẹ̀ bọ̀n bí Ẹ̀mí bá wà, atunṣe ṣì ṣeé ṣe*. - But if *Ẹ̀mí* remains, restoration is still possible.

Ifá teaches Sacrifice as Protection of Life

- *Ifá ní kí Ẹ̀mí rúbọ̀*. - *Ifá* instructed *Ẹ̀mí* to make sacrifice.
- That sacrifice is what established *Ẹ̀mí* as supreme.

This Ẹ̀ṣẹ̀ establishes *Olódùmarè* as the Source of Life

- *Ẹ̀ṣẹ̀ nàà pe Ẹ̀mí ní ọ̀mọ̀ Olódùmarè*. - The verse calls *Ẹ̀mí* a child of *Olódùmarè*.
- *Ẹ̀yí túmọ̀ sí pé ìyè jẹ̀ ohun mímọ̀*. - This means life itself is sacred.

Part 3 — Translation of the Ẹ̀ṣẹ̀ (Yoruba / English)

Èjì Ogbè — Ẹ̀ṣẹ̀ 1.8

Àbọ̀rú Àbọ̀yè!

“Afin lo fi gbogbo ara h’ewú

- “An albino is the one who grows grey hair all over his body.

Aro ni o n’owo, ko gbe’gba Ọ̀rìṣà l’aja

- The cripple is the one who never stretches forth the hands to bring down the sacred calabash of *Ọ̀rìṣà* from the attic.

Díá fún Ẹ̀mí

- These were the *Ifá* declarations for *Ẹ̀mí*.

Tii ṣ’omọ̀ Olódùmarè

- Who was a child of *Olódùmarè*.

Ẹ̀bọ̀ ni wọ̀n ni ko waa ṣe

- He was instructed to make sacrifice.

O gb’ebo, o rúbọ̀.

- He complied and performed the sacrifice.

Ọ̀rìṣà t’Ẹ̀mí lo ṣoro o

- *Ọ̀rìṣà! Ẹ̀mí* is the most important.

Ọ̀rìṣà t’Ẹ̀mí lo ṣoro o

- *Òrìṣà! Èmí is the most valuable."*

T'Èmí ò bá bọ o

- If *Èmí* is not removed,

Kò sí ohun yóò nù

- Nothing is truly lost.

Òrìṣà t'Èmí lo ṣoro

- *Òrìṣà! Èmí is the greatest treasure.*

T'Èmí ò bá bọ o

- If *Èmí* is not removed,

Ire gbogbo kù léyìn

- All blessings remain possible afterward.

Òrìṣà t'Èmí lo ṣoro."

- *Òrìṣà! Èmí is the most valuable."*

Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ o!

Èjì Ogbè - Èṣẹ 1.8

Part 4 — Core Message of the Èṣẹ

Ifá teaches that - human life is greater than all worldly things.

- Many people weep when they lose money or status, but *Ifá* says that if *Èmí* still remains, everything can return.
- Each morning you should thank *Olódùmarè* for giving you another chance at life.

This *Èṣẹ* also warns that a person must protect their *Èmí*.

Kí a má ṣe fi ìbínú, àìgbón, ìjà, tàbí ìwà búburú ba ìyè wa jé.

- We must not destroy our life through anger, foolishness, conflict, or destructive character.

Part 5 — Historical Context of the Èṣẹ

In traditional Yoruba understanding:

Èmí jé agbára pàtàkì jùlọ nínú ènìyàn. - *Èmí* is the supreme force within the human being.

Ara lè ṣàisàn. - The body may become ill.

Orí lè dàrú. - One's destiny may become confused.

Ṣùgbón bí Èmí bá fi ara sílẹ̀, ikú ní yóò dé. - But when *Èmí* leaves the body, death arrives.

Therefore, Yoruba elders traditionally place life and health above every other pursuit.

This is why the proverb says:

A kì í fi ohun ṣeré kí a pàdánù Èmí.

- One must never gamble away life itself.

Part 6 — Philosophical Implication of the Èṣẹ̀

This Èṣẹ̀ contains deep philosophy about what it means to truly live.

- *Ifá* does not see a human being as merely a body.

A person is a union of:

- *Ara* - Body
- *Orí* - Destiny Consciousness
- *Èmí* - Divine Life Force
- *Ọkàn* - Inner Consciousness/Heart-Mind

Among all these, *Èmí* is the force that animates them all.

This Èṣẹ̀ also teaches that worldly success must never become more important than life itself.

Part 7 — Esoteric Layer of the Èṣẹ̀

At the deeper, esoteric level

- *Èmí* in this verse is not merely physical breath.
- It is the living extension of *Olódùmarè's* divine power within humanity.
- When *Ifá* calls *Èmí* an *Òrìṣà*, it is declaring that a sacred power exists within you and every human being.

Therefore:

Èmí gbọdò jé mímó.

- *Èmí* must be kept sacred.

Èmí kò gbọdò bàjé nípasẹ̀ iwà búburú.

- *Èmí* must not be corrupted through bad character.

Èmí gbọdò bá Orí ṣiṣé.

- *Èmí* must work in harmony with *Orí*. (heart, breath, destiny consciousness)

In *Ìṣẹ̀ṣe* wisdom, a person whose *Èmí* is balanced possesses inner peace and spiritual authority.

Part 8 — Moral and Communal Teaching of the Èṣẹ̀

- This Èṣẹ̀ teaches that you must protect both your own life and the lives of others.
- You must never engage in actions that destroy human life.

It also teaches perseverance.

- When life becomes difficult, the one who still possesses *Èmí* must not give up.
- *Ifá* says blessings may still arrive another day.

Part 9 — Theological Summary Based on *Ilé-Ifẹ̀ / Ìṣẹ̀ṣe* Orthodoxy

In *Ilé-Ifẹ̀ Ìṣẹ̀ṣe* theology:

- *Olódùmarè* is the source of all *Ẹmí*.
- *Ẹmí* is a heavenly gift.
- No *Òrìṣà* can function within a human being without *Ẹmí*.
- *Ifá* elevates *Ẹmí* above all worldly things.

This *Ẹṣẹ* does not mean *Ẹmí* is an independent *Òrìṣà* like *Ògún* or *Òrúnmilà*.

- Rather, it teaches that *Ẹmí* is the sacred divine force placed within human beings by *Olódùmarè*.

Part 10 — Closing Interpretation

- *Ẹjì Ogbè* reminds us that life itself is the first wealth.
- The one who still possesses *Ẹmí* still possesses hope.
- The one who still possesses *Ẹmí* can still rebuild life.

Therefore, *Ifá* teaches us:

- Do not destroy yourself over worldly matters.
- Protect your *Ẹmí*.
- Honor your *Orí*.
- Cultivate good character so that your life may be long and blessings may continue to follow you.

Part 11 — Authentic Yoruba Proverb / Saying (*Òwe*)

Ẹmí l'ọlá n gbé!

- It is *Ẹmí* that carries honor.

Or,

Tí yè bá wà, ire gbogbo wà!

- Where life remains, all blessings remain possible. If you are feeling lost or stuck in your life process this *Ẹṣẹ Ifá* says, "Don't give up!"

Also, remember that I'm here for you, along with Baba OriSagbemi and Baba Okunlade. We are available to do consultations and readings to assist you on your journey. Just send me an email to express your interest and needs.

Ki Olódùmarè, Òrìṣà, ati Egun fifun e ni

Itona, Imoye, ati Opo Ire!

May *Olódùmarè*, *Òrìṣà*, and *Egun* bestow on you,
Guidance, Wisdom, and Abundant Blessings!

Ifokanbale! Peace of Mind from *Olódùmarè!*

Alafia ati Ife! Peace and Love!

Ajolo Ajobo! We go out together; We return together!

Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ! Àṣẹ o!