



# To the Citizens of the United States and Address to the People of France (Illustrated)

Thomas Paine

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Thomas Paine was one of the founding fathers of the United States. He was also a political activist, philosopher, political theorist and revolutionary that is seen today in the row with the greatest thinkers such as John Locke, John Stuart Mill, Thomas Hobbes, Alexander Hamilton, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, and Benjamin Franklin. Their collected thoughts have had strong influence on building the foundation of the United States and its endeavor of open society.

Thomas Paine's essays in this collection were published between 1791 and 1804 in a row. In the collection, Paine debated those advocating essential human rights. He also helped decide the debate in favor of separation and revolution. His major contribution to the formation of the United States was that his writings inspired the people in the Thirteen Colonies to fight for independence from Great Britain. Paine convinced American people that the conflict of the Thirteen Colonies with Great Britain was between the good American devoted to civic virtue and the selfish provincial man. The independence was with common dissenting Protestant beliefs.

On September 23, 2015, Chinese President Xi Jinping, the powerful leader of the last and largest communist country in the world, visited the United States and claimed to American people that he enjoyed reading the books by Thomas Paine. Interestingly, this reminded American people that in 1800 Paine had a meeting with Napoleon in Paris. Napoleon also claimed he slept with a copy of Rights of Man under his pillow and told Paine that "a statue of gold should be erected to you in every city in the universe." However, Paine's response to Napoleon's progress towards dictatorship was: "the completest charlatan that ever existed". Although Thomas Paine cannot directly respond to the president Xi Jinping's praise of his books today, former secretary of the United States Hillary Clinton responded on September 27, 205 during Xi's same U.S. trip to UN in the United States "Xi hosting a meeting on women's rights at the UN while persecuting feminists? Shameless". Hillary's response to President Xi Jinping is almost repeating Paine's response to Napoleon again.

Thomas Paine is forever remembered as a philosopher, political theorist and revolutionary through his extremely influential works. His works have produced great influence on building the foundation of the United States. His books are the wakeup call to the self-indulged dictators. His view to the real world became widely recognised as the foremost philosophical and political voice of freedom. His theory still remains true and his spirit of hard core to challenge the establishments still inspires the young generations around the world to build and evolve our democratic systems around worlds for a better future. Paine's influence has been felt in nearly every field of the humanities and sciences.

This book is one of the most important ones about the thoughts of human rights and freedom by Thomas Paine, one of the greatest thinkers of modern political philosophy on the planet.



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