

Thomas Jefferson: The Revolution of Ideas

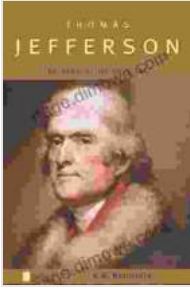
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Thomas Jefferson: The Revolution of Ideas (Oxford Portraits) by R. B. Bernstein

★★★★☆ 4.3 out of 5

Language : English



File size	: 1628 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 267 pages
Lending	: Enabled



Thomas Jefferson was one of the most influential figures in American history. He was a Founding Father, the principal author of the Declaration of Independence, and the third President of the United States. He also served as Secretary of State under George Washington and as Minister to France. Jefferson was a brilliant thinker and writer, and his ideas had a profound impact on the development of American democracy.

Jefferson was born in Shadwell, Virginia, on April 13, 1743. His father, Peter Jefferson, was a successful planter and surveyor. His mother, Jane Randolph Jefferson, was the daughter of a prominent Virginia family. Jefferson had a privileged upbringing, and he received a classical education at the College of William and Mary. After graduating from college, Jefferson studied law and was admitted to the Virginia bar in 1767.

Jefferson entered politics in 1769, when he was elected to the Virginia House of Burgesses. He quickly became a leader in the movement for American independence. In 1774, he was a delegate to the First Continental Congress. In 1776, he was appointed to a committee to draft the Declaration of Independence. Jefferson was the principal author of the Declaration, and it was his words that proclaimed that "all men are created equal." The Declaration of Independence was a bold and revolutionary

statement, and it helped to inspire the American colonies to fight for their freedom.

Jefferson served in the Continental Congress throughout the Revolutionary War. In 1781, he was appointed Minister to France. He served in this position until 1789, when he returned to the United States to become Secretary of State under George Washington. As Secretary of State, Jefferson played a key role in the development of American foreign policy. He also helped to establish the University of Virginia, which opened its doors in 1825.

Jefferson was elected President of the United States in 1800. He served two terms in office, and during his presidency he oversaw the Louisiana Free Download and the Lewis and Clark Expedition. The Louisiana Free Download doubled the size of the United States, and the Lewis and Clark Expedition explored the vast interior of the continent. Jefferson's presidency was also marked by his conflict with the Federalist Party, which was led by Alexander Hamilton. Jefferson's victory over the Federalists helped to establish the dominance of the Democratic-Republican Party, which he founded.

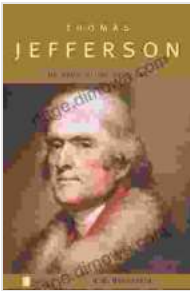
Jefferson retired to Monticello, his plantation in Virginia, after leaving the presidency in 1809. He spent his retirement years writing, farming, and pursuing his many intellectual interests. He died on July 4, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

Thomas Jefferson was a complex and contradictory figure. He was a brilliant thinker and writer, but he was also a slave owner. He was a champion of democracy, but he also believed that some people were

inferior to others. Jefferson's legacy is still debated today, but there is no doubt that he was one of the most important figures in American history.

Additional Resources

- Monticello
- The Library of Congress: "The Declaration of Independence: A Transcription"
- The White House: "Thomas Jefferson"



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