

## **Jules Ferry**

- **1832 Saint-Dié, 1893 Paris.**
- **Opposant de l'Empire ; républicain**
- **Promoteur des lois scolaires ; école laïque :**
  - Ecole Normale féminine, agrégation féminine 79
  - Enseignement secondaire pour filles aussi 80
  - Ecole gratuite au primaire 81
  - Obligation et laïcité de l'enseignement « L'instruction religieuse appartient aux familles et à l'Eglise, l'instruction morale à l'école. »
  - l'obligation d'utiliser la seule langue française a presque réduit à néant les langues locales
- **Expansion coloniale :**
  - Fervent défenseur
  - Protectorat de Tunisie en 1881
  - « Je répète qu'il y a pour les races supérieures un droit, parce qu'il y a un devoir pour elles. Elles ont le devoir de civiliser les races inférieures. »
  - Victor Hugo d'accord mais insiste sur le côté temporaire que doit avoir la colonisation
  - « Il faut chercher des débouchés »
  - « Une marine comme la nôtre ne peut pas se passer, sur la surface des mers, d'abris solides, de défenses, de centres de ravitaillement.

Jules Ferry was born in 1832 in the Vosges. After studying at the Strasbourg Imperial High School, he became a lawyer and got passionate for public matters.

He's well known as being the advocate of secular school. As a matter of fact, while being the Public Instruction minister, he came out with several laws on this topic, but more generally, he made school easier for everyone to access :

- From 1879 to 1880 He created an Ecole Normale for women, and made it possible for them to get the agrégation. Afterwards he gave girls access to secondary school.
- He made primary school free in 1881. He used this opportunity to make instruction compulsory and, also, school secular.

➔ Most of young French people had to learn how to read. On the other hand, since the teachings were only in French, and other regional languages forbidden, these languages almost vanished.

Nonetheless Jules Ferry was a fervent upholder of colonial expansion. He was set at the head of the Tunisian Protectorat in 1881. He defended colonialism both as being good for the economy and as being a duty.

Economically speaking, many, in right and left wings, were against, asking what would remain for the France if we had to spend money on other countries. But Jules Ferry sustained that it was a necessity because of the Globalisation that was, at this time, slowly growing.

As for the duty, it is educational. Educational to « lower peoples » as he said. This can be seen as racist, and it sure is in a certain way, but that was not completely what he was really thinking about.

Debates on these matters took place in 1885, especially between Jules Ferry and Georges Clemenceau.

A few years later, he became President of the Senate. He died in Paris in 1893.