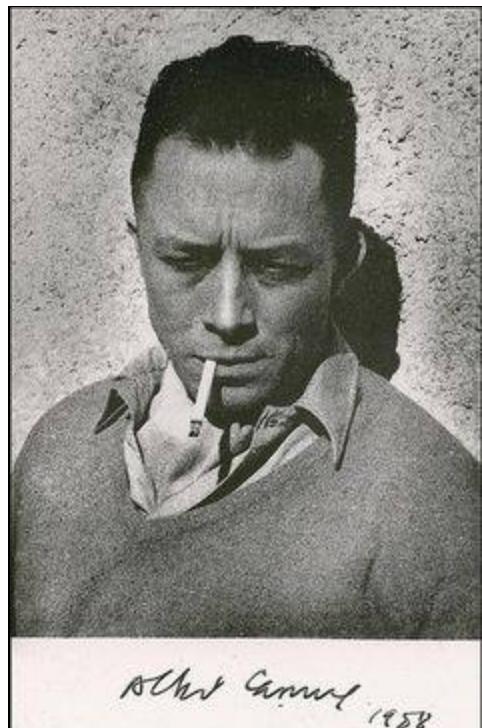


# LE JOUR D'ALGERIE

## BEYOND "PHILOSOPHICAL SUICIDE"?



The author, philosopher and journalist. (Albert Camus 1958)



**EXISTENTIALISM:** A philosophical theory or approach that emphasizes the existence of the individual person as a free and responsible agent determining their own development through acts of the will.

### The life of "stubborn humanist"

#### ALBERT CAMUS, A LIFE IN SUMMARY

Philosophical suicide is the rejection of the Absurd in favor of comfort. The author, Camus, became the second youngest recipient of the Nobel Prize for Literature. Albert Camus was born on 7 November 1913 in a working-class neighbourhood in Mondovi (present-day Dréan), in French Algeria. His mother, Catherine Hélène Sintès Camus, was of Spanish-Balearic descent. His father, Lucien Camus, a poor French-Algerian agricultural worker, died in the Battle of the Marne in 1914 during World War I. Camus never knew him. Referred to as a "pied-noir" (French born in Africa), he was among the poorer French. At 20, Camus was in a relationship with a drug addict named Simone Hié. She was addicted to morphine, and he helped her fight her addiction and eventually married her. This did not last long as he found out she was in an affair with a doctor, thus they divorced. With WWII breaking out, he moved to Paris and volunteered to join the army, but was denied due to his tuberculosis. After German occupation of France, he joined La Résistance and was editor-in-chief at the outlawed newspaper, *Combat*. After the war ended, Camus rose to become a celebrity, who was invited around the world to speak, and speak he did.

**"There is no fate that cannot be surmounted by scorn... I rebel; therefore I exist."**

#### CAMUS VS. THE WORLD

In his writing, Camus aims to pose a question on the human condition, discuss the world as an absurd place, and warn humanity of the consequences of totalitarianism. He was a libertarian socialist and a fierce critic of the USSR and the death penalty. He faced opposition from political figures and colleagues alike, as his philosophies and views were seen as highly controversial. His political views were received no different, during the Algerian War, he was further vilified for supporting the view of pluralism (or federalization) in the country, thus upsetting both the French nationalists, and Algerians. In his philosophical writing, his main aim was to express the positive side of surrealism and existentialism, rejecting the negativity and nihilism. Camus' influence is legendary in French culture, and his writing can be split into eras, with distinct thoughts and themes.

Years	Myth	Bible	Novel	Play
1937–42	Sisyphus	Alienatio-n, exile	L'Étrang-er	Le Malentendu
1943–52	Promethe-us	Rebellio-n	La Peste	L'État de Siège
1952–58		Guilt, exile	La Chute	
1958–	Nemesis	The Kingdom	Le Premier Homme	Requiem for a Nun

Camus lived by the philosophical views of absurdism and revolt. The former, the clash between human need and the unreasonable silence of the world. To Camus, it is seen as unavoidable to confront which leads into the idea of revolt in both the metaphysical and historical sense. He argued the awareness of the Absurd creates the moral values and also sets the limits of our actions, even in rebellions, politics, and writing. Camus believed that politics should be ruled by morality, not tyranny.

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## LE JOUR D'ALGERIE

# FRENCH INVASION OF ALGERIA



## ALGERIA BEFORE FRANCE INVASION



Before the French Invasion, Algeria was a beautiful flourishing country rich in natural resources. Algeria was composed of Arab and Berber ancestry.



Hussein, Dey of Algeria strikes the French Counsel Pierre Deval with his flight wisk.

### DECREASE IN REVENUE

The French used Algeria as a large importer during the French Revolution primarily for food and to buy on credit. At the end of the revolution Algerian trade became limited. Due to the lack of revenue, the dey of Algeria increased taxes which angered the people and led to an increase in pirate activity. In 1827, the Dey demanded the French to repay a 28 year old debt obtained from buying supplies for Napoleon's Egyptian invasion. The Dey was not satisfied with the answer by the French counsel and struck the counsel with his flight whisk.



The French conducted a naval blockade of Algeria where a French embassy got shelled at an Algerian fort. The blockade lasted for three years. This proved the catalyst of a French invasion. On June 14 of 1830, General De Bumont landed 34,000 soldiers in Sidi Ferruch. In retaliation, the Dey sent 7,000 janissaries, 19,000 troops. However, with "superior" Artillery and good organization, the French defeated the dey's army at the battle of Staouéli and entered Algiers on July 5th. The dey surrendered in exchange for his freedom and the offer to retain his personal wealth. Five years later the Dey went into exile with his family. As a result, the day's departure ended a 313 years of Ottoman rule territory.

The French colonized Algeria and French culture was adapted. Many conflicts occurred and Algerians couldn't take it anymore so they sought independence from France.



Landing on Sidi Feruch on June 14th



### ALGERIAN WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

On July 5th, 1962 Algeria was officially declared an independent country. With the help of The National Liberation Front (FLN), Algeria was able to gain independence from France.



