Addresses to the German nation

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Notes: Includes bibliographical references and index.

This edition was published in 2008



Filesize: 54.94 MB

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Addresses to the German Nation: Johann Gottlieb Fichte, Reginald Foy Jones, George Henry Turnbull: Free Download, Borrow, and Streaming: Internet Archive

What inspired the men of noble mind among the Romans, whose frame of mind and way of thinking still live and breathe among us in their works of art, to struggles and sacrifices, to patience and endurance for the fatherland? Among the students he decisively influenced were the poet Novalis, the philosopher Schelling, and the Schlegel brothers, who were both to become outstanding philologists. Behold in this also a characteristic of the German spirit. In these desperate circumstances, the philosopher Fichte resolved to speak out publicly in the cause of the German nation.

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The purely dynastic patriotism which the various German princes had attempted to foster among their subjects had proved no match for the intense nationalism which spurred the French invaders. The new light proceeded from the ancients and, falling first upon the central point of neo-Latin culture, was there developed into nothing more than an intellectual view of things, without taking hold of life and shaping it differently.

Merkel plans rare TV address, but will announce no new restrictions: broadcaster

In the Characteristics, Fichte had developed a scheme of five successive ages, somewhat similar to that propounded by the great German dramatist and critic Gotthold Ephraim Lessing some years before. Als ich dieses Werk zu lesen begann begleiteten mich sowohl die Empfehlungen mancher wie auch die Warnungen anderer.

Addresses to the German nation: Fichte, Johann Gottlieb, 1762

On this condition, the result once more would be the creation in the German mother-country, on the stimulus of antiquity which has come to it through neo-Latin lands, of a new age such as never existed before. In Prussia, Fichte began to develop his philosophy in a direction which took more cognizance of the importance of the nation and the state in providing the conditions under which knowledge and virtue might be attained and cultivated. This it easily disposed of by applying to it the measure of understanding or common sense, which was presupposed, and thereby proving to its own satisfaction that this religion was in direct contradiction to the latter.

Fichte: Addresses to the German Nation

Owing to the fierceness with which he maintained his convictions he always seemed despotic, uncompromising, and obstinate; he himself admitted that one of the many qualities he lacked was that of accommodating himself to those around him and to people who were opposed to him in character. Hence, the noble-minded man will be active and effective, and will sacrifice himself for his people.

GHDI

The command model involves training people to a high standard, giving them general directives as to what they are to do, and letting them exercise their judgment and initiative in executing directives. It was in the nature of things, as we have said, that Luther should turn to all men with this question, which concerns all men and which each man must deal with for himself. The Russians, who had come to the aid of the overwhelmed Prussians, fought a drawn battle with the French at Eylau on February 8, 1807, but were beaten at Friedland on June 14, and made peace with France at Tilsit on July 8, 1807.

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