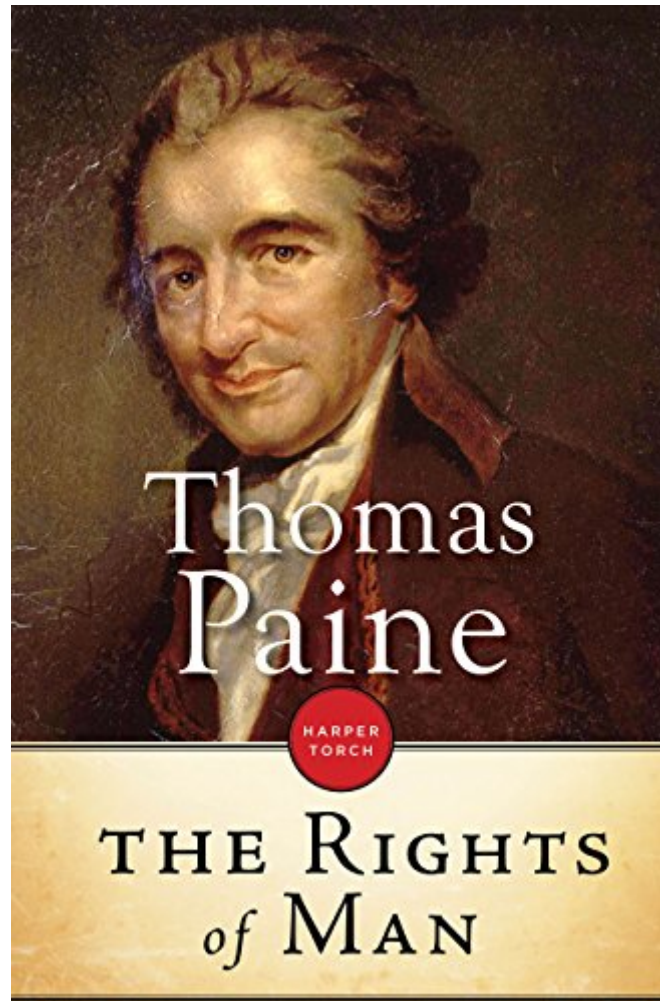




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# The Rights Of Man



## Synopsis

Thomas Paine's *Rights of Man* argues that human rights are inherent. As such, they cannot be conferred on citizens by their governments because to do so would mean that these rights can be revoked by that same government. Paine further suggests that government is responsible for protecting the rights of men, and therefore, the interests of governments and citizens are united. Within this context, Paine argues that revolution is acceptable when the rights of men are not respected or defended by their governments. Originally published in two volumes in 1791 and 1792, Paine's discourse reflected on the French Revolution, and positioned the uprising as an attack against a corrupt governing system, rather than a personal attack on the king himself. As a result of his arguments in favour of revolution and social welfare, Thomas Paine was tried and convicted of seditious libel against the Crown of England, and sentenced, in absentia, to hanging. Resident in France at the time of his British trial, Paine never returned to England. HarperTorch brings great works of non-fiction and the dramatic arts to life in digital format, upholding the highest standards in ebook production and celebrating reading in all its forms. Look for more titles in the HarperTorch collection to build your digital library.

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## Customer Reviews

good book, everyone should read it

very good more people should read it

good read

Ok

Thomas Paine is my hero and one of the most fascinating men of history. He shaped the American revolution and our violent overthrow of the British government. His thinking has advanced the cause of human rights for three hundred years and is still as fresh and current as the day it was written. A must read for every student of political thought or history. I think it should be required reading for every American high school student along with Howard Zinn.

Great information

Much of this book should be committed to memory by anyone who loves the freedom we enjoy here in America because we have this freedom largely due to him!!!!!!(Thomas Payne) God definitely gave him wisdom far and above the average person. I wish it had been taught in schools when I was attending them-----further, I wish it could be taught in schools today, starting with grade 8. It should be required reading each year of high school and it would not do any damage to require an annual review in college. We would not be in the political mess we are in today if we did this. JIM

The Great Experiment is "Can men govern themselves?." This book gives many insights into the "why" and the "how" of the beginnings of our republic (America is not a democracy, we are a republic). Meanwhile, back in France a man by the name of Edmund Burke writes for the French people his ideas for liberty and democracy in their nation. It did not end well for the French, but America turned out very well. Why did things go that way? Reading this book helps answer that. Thomas Paine refers occasionally to the works of Mr Burke in this book so you will be interested in

one of Burke's books to go along with this. I suggest "On the Sublime & Beautiful, Reflections on the French Revolution." This book by Paine is easier to read than Burke. Paine's sentences are shorter and to the point. Burke writes with an eloquence of the day so I much preferred Paine's style. This particular printing of "Rights of Man" is illustrated by Lynd Ward with 18 full page black&reddish/orange ink drawings. Also at the beginning of each chapter is a smaller black & white woodcut drawing. The book is somewhat large at 11 & 1/2 inches tall by 8 & 1/2 wide. about 1 & 1/8th inches thick.

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