



# Jean-Paul Sartre

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# Biographical Information

- ▶ 1905: Born in Paris, France.
- ▶ 1906: His father died of fever; Moved to Meudon with his mother.
- ▶ 1917: Mother remarried and they both moved to La Rochelle.
- ▶ 1929: Met Simone de Beauvoir.
- ▶ 1929-1931: Worked as a conscript in the French Army.
- ▶ 1940: He was captured by German troops in Padoux, was released in 41 due to sickness and moved back to Paris.
- ▶ 1944: Sartre finished his book “Anti-Semite and Jew”
- ▶ 1945: Declined the Légion d'honneur
- ▶ 1946: Introduced “Existentialism is a Humanism”.
- ▶ 1948: Came out with “Les Mains Sales”.
- ▶ 1960: “Critique de la raison dialectique” was published.
- ▶ 1964: Awarded with the Nobel Prize in Literature which he denied to accept.
- ▶ 1965: Adopted a daughter, Arlette Elkäim.
- ▶ 1973: Was almost completely blind
- ▶ 1980: Died in Paris.



# Spiritual History and Point of View:

- ▶ He wrote philosophy both for philosophers and for lay people.
- ▶ The central theme of Sartre's philosophy was always being and human beings: What it means to be and what does it mean to be a human being. He argued that there were essentially two kinds of being. The first is being-in-itself, which is characterized as fixed, complete, and having absolutely no reason for its being it's just there. Which is the same as the world of external objects.
- ▶ This is the condition of humanity which is the absolute freedom in the world. This freedom in turn produces anxiety and fear because, without God, humanity is left alone and without an external source of direction or purpose.



# Aesthetic Point of View:

- ▶ He was obsessed with being seen as a man of intellect
- ▶ He was confident in his own value to society as a philosopher and writer
- ▶ His ability to convince people that he was important is one of the reasons he was so popular



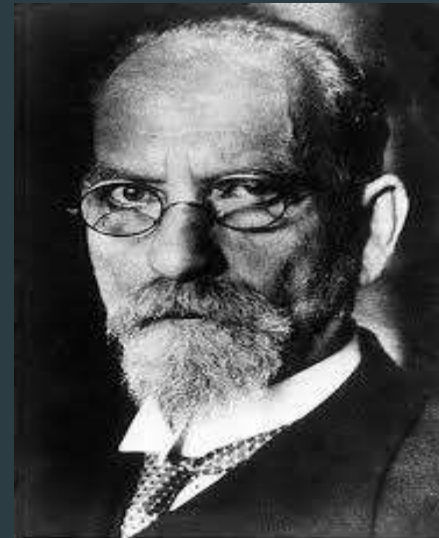
# Responsibility Toward Society:



- ▶ Existentialism
- ▶ - Marxism
- ▶ - Believed in Marxism, a striking theory of individual agency and moral responsibility.
- ▶ - “as an Existentialist he held individuals personally responsible for vast and apparently authorless social ills
- ▶ - A man has to be committed and make a meaning for himself on this world.

# Influence Other Philosophers had:

- ▶ Philosophers that influenced Jean-Paul Sartre:
- ▶ Edmund Husserl and Martin Heidegger
- ▶ Sartre drew from Husserl's idea of free consciousness and Heidegger's existentialism, but Sartre's existentialism ideas were original.
- ▶ He uses Husserlian by saying that the human way of being is in the world and more about its actual worries than knowledge.



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