BREAKING NEWS

2024

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20

6.00:7.30 PM

THE STORY OF THOMAS JEFFERSON

I- Jefferson, politician and diplomat

A) One man, founder of the United States

- Author of the United States Declaration of independence, 1776
- Founder of the democratic republican party during 1790's
- Secretary of state under Washington, 1790-1793
- Vice-president of John Adams 1797-1801
 The third President of the United States 1801-1809

B) Relations and influence in Europe

- France's U.S. ambassador 1785-1789
- Jefferson influenced the French "Declaration des droits de l'homme et du citoyen" 1789.
- He tried to pacify relations between England and France.
- He succeeds in buying Louisiana from France.



II- An ambiguous defender of rights

A) A profound defender of individual rights and freedoms

- Liberalism
- In favor of a balance of power, he draws his inspiration from Montesquieu.
- A Summary View of the Rights of British America
- The importance of an independent state

B) Contradictions: slavery

- Ambiguous relationship with slavery
- In 1782, Jefferson passed a law facilitating the personal emancipation of slaves.
- Inherits plantations and slaves on father's death
- Although liberal, did not abolish slavery

