They Call Him… TJ

The Jefferson Presidency
Targets
Personal Philosophies

• **Goal**: Peaceful transfer of power between parties
• **Dream**: Reunite two parties through “liberal democratic philosophy”
• **Goal**: Majority rule, minority rights
• **Dream**: Plato’s rule of “**Philosopher Kings**” → appointed upper-class, highly educated men
• **Goal**: Laissez-Faire in federal government
• **Style**: down-to-earth, simple, didn’t want to seem elitist
• **Practice**: Moderate, doesn’t vary much from Hamilton

"Dissent is the highest form of patriotism."
—Thomas Jefferson
Presidency

- **1801** – Revoked Alien & Sedition Acts → naturalization to 5yrs.
- Repealed **Judiciary Act** → “Midnight Judges” lost positions → *Marbury v. Madison* (1803)
  - Impeached corrupt federal judges
- Tried to retire public debt ($83M in 16yrs)
  - Cut bureaucracy, defense
  - Grew state militias & est. West Point
• Did NOT address racial divide
  – Indian lands not protected in westward expansion
  – Importation of slaves ends (1808) but still smuggled in
• Constructed **National Road** (1806) → stretched congressional power → mindset change

Lewis, Clark, Sacajawea
• **Louisiana Purchase** (1803)
  – Napoleon gets LA from ESP in 1800
  – Sent Livingstone to Paris to buy N.O. & FLA, Tallyrand offered ALL of LA b/c FRA didn’t want to defend & needed $ now
  – $15M & promise of Catholic freedom

• **Embargo Act** (1807) – Forbade all US exports\(\rightarrow\) lifted in 1809