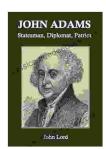
# John Adams: Statesman, Diplomat, Patriot An Annotated Article

John Adams (October 30, 1735 – July 4, 1826) was an American statesman, diplomat, and Founding Father who served as the second president of the United States from 1797 to 1801. He was a leader of the American Revolution and one of the principal authors of the Declaration of Independence.



### John Adams: Statesman, Diplomat, Patriot (Annotated)

by Douglas Holt

Language : English File size : 132 KB Text-to-Speech : Enabled Enhanced typesetting: Enabled Word Wise : Enabled : 29 pages Print length Lending : Enabled Screen Reader : Supported



Adams was born in Braintree, Massachusetts, to Deacon John Adams and Susanna Boylston Adams. He graduated from Harvard College in 1755 and then studied law. He was admitted to the Massachusetts bar in 1758 and began practicing law in Boston.

### **Political Career**

Adams became involved in politics in the early 1760s. He was a delegate to the Massachusetts Provincial Congress in 1774 and 1775, and he served in the Continental Congress from 1774 to 1778.

Adams was one of the most vocal proponents of American independence. He helped to draft the Declaration of Independence, and he was a strong advocate for its adoption. After the Declaration of Independence was adopted, Adams served as a delegate to the Continental Congress and as a member of the Continental Army.

In 1778, Adams was appointed by the Continental Congress to negotiate a treaty with France. He successfully negotiated the Treaty of Amity and Commerce, which established an alliance between the United States and France.

After the American Revolution, Adams served as the first United States minister to Great Britain from 1785 to 1788. He then served as the first United States vice president under George Washington from 1789 to 1797.

In 1796, Adams was elected president of the United States. He served as president from 1797 to 1801. During his presidency, Adams signed the Alien and Sedition Acts, which restricted the rights of immigrants and political dissidents.

Adams was defeated by Thomas Jefferson in the presidential election of 1800. He retired to his home in Quincy, Massachusetts, where he wrote his memoirs and other works.

# Legacy

John Adams is widely regarded as one of the most important figures in American history. He was a key leader of the American Revolution and a principal author of the Declaration of Independence. He also served as the second president of the United States.

Adams's legacy is complex and controversial. He was a brilliant and articulate advocate for American independence, but he was also a flawed man who made many mistakes during his presidency.

Nevertheless, Adams remains an important figure in American history. He was a man of great intelligence, courage, and determination. He helped to shape the course of American history, and his legacy continues to influence the United States today.

#### **Annotations**

**Deacon John Adams:** John Adams's father was a prominent deacon in the Puritan church.

**Susanna Boylston Adams:** John Adams's mother was the daughter of a wealthy Boston merchant.

Harvard College: Harvard College is the oldest university in the United States. It was founded in 1636 and is located in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Massachusetts Provincial Congress: The Massachusetts Provincial Congress was a revolutionary government that was established in 1774 to protest British rule.

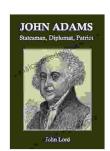
**Continental Congress:** The Continental Congress was a body of delegates from the thirteen American colonies that met from 1774 to 1789 to discuss and coordinate the American Revolution.

**Declaration of Independence:** The Declaration of Independence is the document that declared the thirteen American colonies independent from Great Britain. It was adopted by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776.

**Treaty of Amity and Commerce:** The Treaty of Amity and Commerce was a treaty between the United States and France that was signed in 1778. The treaty established an alliance between the two countries.

**Alien and Sedition Acts:** The Alien and Sedition Acts were a series of laws that were passed by the United States Congress in 1798. The laws restricted the rights of immigrants and political dissidents.

**Quincy, Massachusetts:** Quincy, Massachusetts is a town that is located south of Boston. It is the birthplace of John Adams and John Quincy Adams.



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