



Jean Auguste Dominique Ingres, *Napoleon 1 on his Imperial Throne*, 1806, oil on canvas, 259cm x 162 cm. Musee de l'Armee, Hotel des Invalides, Paris France

Countries as well as in exotic location, these conquests using military force is what makes Napoleon an imperialist.

The imperial rule of Napoleon is shown in Ingres' 'Napoleon I on his Imperial Throne'; Napoleon is depicted sitting on a throne in rich velvet and satin clothing. **The painting is full of Imperial symbolism which emphasizes Napoleons position as ruler of France,** he is holding the Hand of Justice and the Sceptre of Charlemagne both are symbols of authority an superiority. He is wearing a Legion d'Honneur which napoleon awarded himself, and his

coronation sword show his many military successes.

The political situation in France in the 19th century eventually resulted in a change of subject in art, with the church and nobility no longer commissioning paintings there was a rise in portrait commissions by the wealthier middle class. Eventually scenery and rural scenes became dominant instead.

Art in France was greatly influenced by the politics of 18th and 19th century. Political events such as the French revolutions between 1789 and 1799, and the imperial rule of Napoleon Bonaparte are represented in the paintings of the time; art is full of political meanings and themes inspired by the age of enlightenment. Common themes are Herosim, self-sacrifice and reason over passion these are all the results of the revolution and are portrayed using classical subject matter. Most of the paintings of this era are very politically related and are almost always pro-revolution.

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