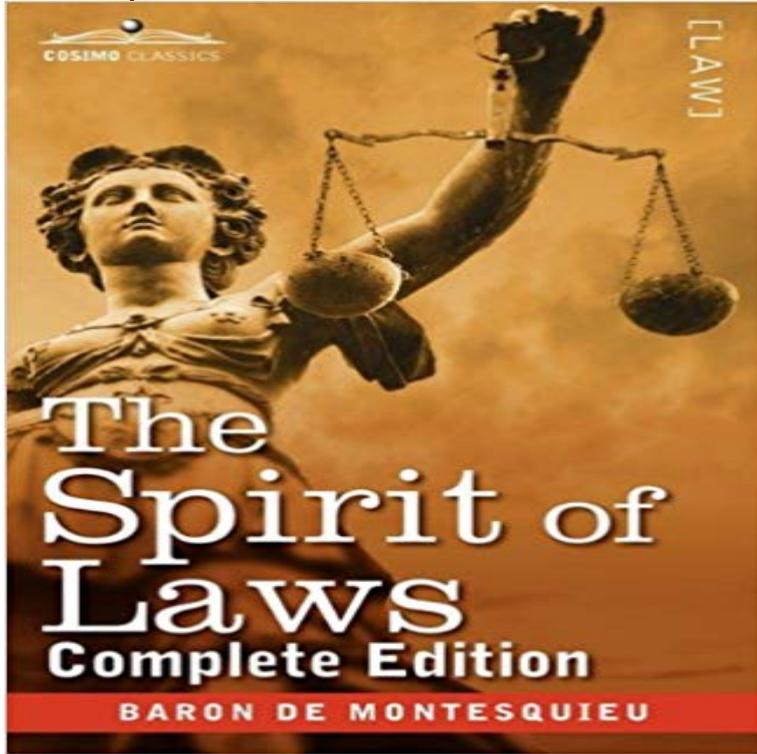


The Spirit of Laws



The Spirit of Laws, first published in 1750, is a detailed treatise on the structures and theory of government by French political philosopher Baron de Montesquieu. Unlike his well-loved Persian Letters, The Spirit of Laws scandalized the French—it was even banned by the Roman Catholic Church. The fact that it is hardly dated to modern readers is a testament to how revolutionary it must have seemed 250 years ago. Among its comparisons of different forms of governments, such as monarchies, despotic regimes, and republics, is the now-famous section on Montesquieu's concept of the separation of powers, dividing the ruling body into legislative, executive, and judicial branches. Also included is the authors thinking on slavery, religion in government, families and censuses, the influence of climate on politics and culture, and the making of laws. A powerful influence on the framers of the U.S. Constitution, this classic work will appeal to history buffs and anyone interested in the roots of modern political theory and government. CHARLES-LOUIS DE SECONDAT, BARON DE MONTESQUIEU (1689-1755), born in the South of France and often known simply as Montesquieu, was a political philosopher and social commentator known for his influential political views, especially for his separation of power theory, still used today in constitutions around the world. Some of his best-known work, the satirical Persian Letters, which made fun of life in Paris under Louis XIV, delighted France in the 1720s.

The Spirit of the Laws is, without question, one of the central texts in the history of eighteenth-century thought, yet there has been no complete, scholarly Montesquieu's greatest work, *De l'esprit des lois* (The Spirit of Laws), was published in 1748. It is a comparative study of three types of government: republic, monarchy, and despotism. Montesquieu held that governmental powers should be separated and balanced to guarantee individual rights and freedom. Antoine Louis Claude, Comte Destutt de Tracy, *A Commentary and Review of Montesquieu's Spirit of Laws: To which are annexed, Observations on the Thirty* The Spirit of the Laws, or The Spirit of Laws, is a treatise on political theory first published

anonymously by Montesquieu in 1748. Its influenceThe Spirit of the Laws is, without question, one of the central texts in the history of eighteenth-century thought, yet there has been no complete, scholarlyOne of the central ideas of The Spirit of the Laws is that countries governments correspond to their principles. For example, democratic countries are motivatedThe Spirit of Laws is Montesquieus best known work in which he reflects on the influence of climate on society, the separation of political powers, and the needAuthorSJBreword xli _ xlii In the translators notes, references such as 3.4 are to books and chapters in The Spirit of the Laws. aThe Foreword was first printed inThe Spirit of the Laws (French: De lesprit des lois also called The Spirit of Laws) (1748) by Charles de Secondat, Baron de Montesquieu is a treatise on political Title, The Spirit of Laws, Volume I. Author, Charles-Louis de Secondat, baron of Montesquieu. Translator, Thomas Nugent. Year, 1758.treatise intitled, A Defense of the Spirit of Laws, from whence we have thought several passages in the Spirit of Laws directly levelled against the doctrines of.The Spirit of the Laws is, without question, one of the central texts in the history of 18th-century thought, yet there has been no complete scholarly English: The Spirit of Laws: A Compendium of the First English Edition (9780520034556): Montesquieu: Books.Montesquieu: The Spirit of the Laws (Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought) [Charles de Montesquieu, Anne M. Cohler, Basia Carolyn Miller,Laws, in their most general signification, are the necessary relations arising from the nature of things. In this sense all beings have their laws: the Deity His laws,The spirit of the Laws (1748) his main political work. Montesquieu is a founding father of political philosophy. He was able to describe the spirit of reason whichThe Spirit of the Laws (French: De lesprit des lois, originally spelled De lesprit des loix also sometimes translated The Spirit of Laws) is a treatise on political theory, as well as a pioneering work in comparative law, published in 1748 by Charles de Secondat, Baron de Montesquieu.Spirit of the Laws. BY. BARON DE MONTESQUIEU. Tramlattd by. THOMAS NUGENT. Jrith 011 !11troductioll by. FRANZ NEUMANN. Professor of ,t,The Spirit of Laws is Montesquieus best known work in which he reflects on the influence of climate on society, the separation of political powers, and the needThe appearance of Montesquieus Spirit of Laws in 1748 provoked a debate which has raged ever since. Montesquieu anaysed different forms of government,Editorial Reviews. About the Author. BARON DE MONTESQUIEU (1689-1755) was a French His most well-known work, The Spirit of Laws, profoundly influenced European and American political thought and was relied on by the framers of