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Quotes by Bonaparte, Napoleon

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Napoleon is the French leader famed for his military successes and for not quite conquering Europe. Starting as a second lieutenant in the French artillery, he rose quickly through the ranks until he became First Consul of France. (Later he crowned himself Emperor.) He led his armies to victory after victory, and by 1807 he ruled territory that stretched from Portugal to Italy and north to the river Elbe. But his attempts to conquer the rest of Europe failed; a defeat in Moscow in 1812 nearly destroyed his empire, and his 1815 loss to the Duke of Wellington at Waterloo finished the job. He was sent into exile on the island of St. Helena, where he died in 1821.

Nothing is more difficult, and therefore more precious, than to be able to decide.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Let the path be open to talent.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Doctors will have more lives to answer for in the next world than even we generals.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

My downfall raises me to infinite heights.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

There is no place in a fanatic's head where reason can enter.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

There are only two forces that unite men -- fear and interest.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Men are Moved by two levers only: fear and self interest

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

He who fears being conquered is sure of defeat.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

A people which is able to say everything becomes able to do everything.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The future destiny of the child is always the work of the mother.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

I made all my generals out of mud.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Great ambition is the passion of a great character. Those endowed with it may perform very good or very bad acts. All depends on the principals which direct them.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Glory is fleeting, but obscurity is forever.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The art of government is not to let me grow stale.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Public instruction should be the first object of government.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Large legislative bodies resolve themselves into coteries, and coteries into jealousies.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The herd seek out the great, not for their sake but for their influence; and the great welcome them out of vanity or need.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Great people are meteors designed to burn so that the earth may be lighted.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Greatness be nothing unless it be lasting.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

True heroism consists in being superior to the ills of life, in whatever shape they may challenge us to combat.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

From the heights of these pyramids, forty centuries look down on us.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

We must laugh at man to avoid crying for him.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The human race is governed by its imagination.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Imagination rules the world.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Impossible is a word only to be found in the dictionary of fools.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The great proof of madness is the disproportion of one's designs to one's means.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and myself founded empires; but what foundation did we rest the creations of our genius? Upon force. Jesus Christ founded an empire upon love; and at this hour millions of men would die for Him.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

A leader is a dealer in hope.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

When firmness is sufficient, rashness is unnecessary.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Men are lead by trifles.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Every private in the French army carries a Field Marshall wand in his knapsack.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

An order that can be misunderstood will be misunderstood.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

I tell you Wellington is a bad general, the English are bad soldiers; we will settle this

matter by lunch time.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The greatest general is he who makes the fewest mistakes.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The only victory over love is flight.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

There is no class of people so hard to manage in a state, as those whose intentions are honest, but whose consciences are bewitched.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Incidents should not govern policy; but, policy incidents.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

It is the cause, not the death that makes the martyr.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The best cure for the body is a quiet mind.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Water, air, and cleanness are the chief articles in my pharmacy.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Medicines are only fit for old people.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Medicine is a collection of uncertain prescriptions, the results of which, taken collectively, are more fatal than useful to mankind.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

When small men attempt great enterprises, they always end by reducing them to the level of their mediocrity.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

A true man hates no one.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Let France have good mothers, and she will have good sons.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

There are two levers for moving men -- interest and fear.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Music of all the arts has the most influence on the passions and the legislator should give

it the greatest encouragement.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The French complain of everything, and always.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Four hostile newspapers are more to be feared than a thousand bayonets.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Occupation is the scythe of time.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Among those who dislike oppression are many who like to oppress.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Order marches with weighty and measured strides. Disorder is always in a hurry.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Do you know what amazes me more than anything else? The impotence of force to organize anything.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Who saves his country violates no law.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

If they want peace, nations should avoid the pin-pricks that precede cannon-shots.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The art of the police is not to see what it is useless that it should see.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

In politics... never retreat, never retract... never admit a mistake.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

In politics, an absurdity is not a handicap.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

In politics, an absurdity in public business is going into it.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

When soldiers have been baptized in the fire of a battle-field, they have all one rank in my eyes.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The surest way to remain poor is to be an honest man.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

I love power. But it is as an artist that I love it. I love it as a musician loves his violin, to draw out its sounds and chords and harmonies.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Power is my mistress. I have worked too hard at her conquest to allow anyone to take her away from me.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Ten persons who speak make more noise than ten thousand who are silent.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

If you wish to be success in the world, promise everything, deliver nothing.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The best way to keep one's word is not to give it.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Public opinion is the thermometer a monarch should constantly consult.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

When I want any, good head work done; I always choose a man, if possible with a long nose.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Respect the burden.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

A celebrated people lose dignity upon a closer view.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Riches do not consist in the possession of treasures, but in the use made of them.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

With audacity one can undertake anything, but not do everything.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

A throne is only a bench covered with velvet.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Secrets travel fast in Paris.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

There are only two forces in the world, the sword and the spirit. In the long run the sword will always be conquered by the spirit.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

One must change one's tactics every ten years if one wishes to maintain one's superiority.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Ability is of little account without opportunity.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The extent of your consciousness is limited only by your ability to love and to embrace with your love the space around you, and all it contains

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The torment of precautions often exceeds often exceeds the dangers to be avoided. It is sometimes better to abandon one's self to destiny.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Chance is the providence of adventurers.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Character is victory organized.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

A man's palate can, in time, become accustomed to anything.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Truth alone wounds.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The most insupportable of tyrannies is that of inferiors.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Vengeance has no foresight.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Victory belongs to the most persevering.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The most dangerous moment comes with victory.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The only one who is wiser than anyone is everyone.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Do you wish to find out the really sublime? Repeat the Lord's Prayer.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

You must not fight too often with one enemy, or you will teach him all your tricks of war.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The people to fear are not those who disagree with you, but those who disagree with you and are too cowardly to let you know.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The conscience is the sacred haven of the liberty of man.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

A Constitution should be short and obscure.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

If you want a thing done well, do it yourself.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

I have only one counsel for you -- be master.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The strong man is the one who is able to intercept at will the communication between the senses and the mind.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Courage is like love; it must have hope to nourish it.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

It requires more courage to suffer than to die.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

The infectiousness of crime is like that of the plague.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

You must not fear death, my lads; defy him, and you drive him into the enemy's ranks.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Wars are won oin winter

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

There are no bad regiments; there are only bad colonels.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

An army of lions commanded by a deer will never be an army of lions.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

Once you have made up your mind, stick to it; there is no longer any 'if' or 'but'.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

True wisdom for a general is vigorous determination.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

I base my calculations on the expectation that luck will be against me

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

It is not enough to give orders they must be obeyed.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon

I may be accused of rashness, but not sluggishness.

- Bonaparte, Napoleon



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