

The background of the slide is the French flag, consisting of three vertical stripes of blue, white, and red from left to right.

The French National Anthem “La Marseillaise”

By: Katherine Allen

History of “La Marseillaise”

- It was written and composed by Claude Joseph Rouget de Lisle in Strasbourg on April 25, 1792.
- The original name was "Chant de guerre pour l'Armée du Rhin" ("War Song for the Army of the Rhine").
- Its lyrics are directed toward the Prussian and Austrian armies which were attacking France at the time.
- The Convention accepted it as the French national anthem in a decree passed on Bastille Day, 1795, but it was then banned by Napoleon I, Louis XVIII, and Napoleon III. It was reinstated after the July Revolution of 1830 and then permanently in 1879.

Allons enfants de la Patrie
Le jour de gloire est arrivé.
Contre nous, de la tyrannie,
L'étandard sanglant est levé,
L'étandard sanglant est levé,
Entendez-vous, dans la campagnes.
Mugir ces farouches soldats
Ils viennent jusque dans nos bras
Egorger vos fils,
vos compagnes.

*Aux armes citoyens!
Formez vos bataillons,
Marchons, marchons!
Qu'un sang impur
Abreuve nos sillons.*

Amour sacré de la Patrie,
Conduis, soutiens nos bras vengeurs,
Liberté, liberté chérie,
Combats avec tes défenseurs;
Combats avec tes défenseurs.
Sous drapeaux, que la victoire
Acoure à tes mâles accents;
Que tes ennemis expirants
Voient ton triomphe et notre gloire!
(chorus)

Let us go, children of the fatherland
Our day of Glory has arrived.
Against us stands tyranny,
The bloody flag is raised,
The bloody flag is raised.
Do you hear in the countryside
The roar of these savage soldiers
They come right into our arms
To cut the throats of your sons,
your country.

*To arms, citizens!
Form up your battalions
Let us march, Let us march!
That their impure blood
Should water our fields*

Sacred love of the fatherland
Guide and support our vengeful
arms. Liberty, beloved liberty,
Fight with your defenders;
Fight with your defenders.
Under our flags, so that victory
Will rush to your manly strains;
That your dying enemies
Should see your triumph and glory
(chorus)



Rouget de Lisle Singing the Marseillaise
by Isidore Pils



Storming of the Bastille
by Jean Houel



Liberty Guiding the People
by Eugène Delacroix

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