

Jesus
Charlie

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WHAT IS "JE SUIS CHARLIE"?

- A **slogan** identifying a supporter of *freedom of speech* and *freedom of the press*, who condemns the January 7th 2015 massacre, in which twelve people were killed at the offices of the French satirical weekly magazine **Charlie Hebdo** in Paris.
- Journalists embraced the expression as a cry for *freedom of self-expression* and *resistance to armed threats*.

JE SUIS CHARLIE!





CHARLIE HEBDO

- **Charlie Hebdo** appeared in 1970 as a successor to the Hara-Kiri magazine, which was banned for mocking the death of the former French President Charles de Gaulle.
- It is a satirical magazine featuring cartoons, reports, polemics and jokes. The publication describes itself as **atheist**, **far left-wing** and **anti-racist**.
- The magazine has been the target of **two terrorist attacks**, in 2011 & 2015, in response to a number of controversial Muhammad cartoons it published.



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**JESUIS
CHARLIE**

JANUARY 7TH MASSACRE

- Two armed Islamist terrorists forced their way into the offices of Charlie Hebdo, killing 12 people while shouting "*Allahu Akbar*" (Arabic for "God is greatest").
- The gunmen identified themselves as belonging to Al-Qaeda's branch in Yemen.
- A massive manhunt led to January 9th discovery of the suspects, brothers Saïd and Chérif Kouachi, who were gunned down.
- On January 11th, about 2 million people, including more than 40 world leaders, met in Paris for a rally of national unity, and 3.7 million people joined demonstrations across France.



Je suis Charlie



- Within two days after the attack, ***Je suis Charlie*** had become one of the most popular news hashtags in Twitter history.
- It was embraced worldwide, used in music, displayed in print and animated cartoons and became the new name of a town square in France.
- Charlie Hebdo revealed the cover of its January 14 issue, set to be published a week after the attack. The cover features a cartoon of the Islamic prophet Muhammad shedding a tear while holding a *Je suis Charlie* sign, with the words "*Tout est pardonné*" ("All is forgiven").

CHARLIE HEBDO

JOURNAL IRRESPONSABLE

15 JANVIER 2015 / N° 1178 / 3€

TOUT EST PARDONNÉ

