



## Ernest Renan's lecture on Spinoza held in The Hague, February 12, 1877

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Abstract: The Renanian lecture on Spinoza is a contemporary hymn to freedom of thought and simplicity of morals. Renan celebrates Spinoza as a model of secularism and political and religious tolerance. His criticism of dogmatism, his critical rationalism, his pantheism and his political views, elevate Spinoza to the rank of the characters from the personal mythography of Renan, alongside Averroes, Christ, Marcus Aurelius, etc.

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