



LUKE TAYLOR

TUNISIAN REVOLUTION

BEFORE THE REVOLUTION

- ▶ Tunisia is controlled by a corrupt authoritarian government
 - ▶ Government takes bribes and confiscates merchandise from the poor
 - ▶ Authoritarian leader, Ben Ali, has billions of dollars from various corrupt practices
- ▶ Revolution starts because Mohammed Bouazizi sets himself on fire in protest





DURING THE REVOLUTION

- ▶ Bouazizi's actions ignite a fierce protest
- ▶ Authoritarian leader Ben Ali initially promises not to run for re-election when his term ends in 2014
- ▶ Unsatisfied, protesters continue until Ben Ali steps down as president

AFTER THE REVOLUTION

- ▶ The Tunisians adopt a relatively successful democracy
 - ▶ The group that backed democracy when Tunisia had no government wins Nobel Peace Prize
- ▶ Beni Caid Essebsi has been president since December 2014



**“POWER TENDS TO CORRUPT AND
ABSOLUTE POWER CORRUPTS
ABSOLUTELY. GREAT MEN ARE
ALMOST ALWAYS BAD MEN”**

Lord Acton



ANIMAL FARM

- ▶ Just as Ben Ali became corrupt as a political leader in Tunisia, Napoleon becomes corrupt as a political leader in *Animal Farm*
- ▶ Both these figures began their careers as fair rulers
- ▶ This reflects a problem with governmental systems in which one person has too much power