
Hristo Milkov**MAY 1968: THE AWAKENED SOCIETY**

(Summary)

May 1968 awoke the whole French society, shattered the foundations of the elite of that time, and involved the statesmen and politicians - the ones who ruled until then and some of which still rule - the state. It didn't spare the intellectuals, who defined, or were about to define the appearance of French science, culture and art. Large number of the men governing at that time, falling for the belief that the Old man has blown out a fuse., .has gone mad., and that .he has to go., decided that their time has come, forgetting to whom they owe their positions. New cabinets and Ministries were drafted. The .young wolves, of de Gaulle.s party already didn.t remember the heroic. Gaullism, except for when it suited them. May 1968 didn.t leave a chance to anyone to stay silent. Hardly ever 10 million workers start a strike. Hardly ever the people of one nation stand against each other and in a vicious confrontation, thousands of them falling wounded. Hardly ever squares, boulevards and streets of a capital, hundreds of cars and buildings get ablaze, pavements broken, paving stones thrown, and trees cut down. Hardly ever in the centre, one can see police forces gathered from 65 departments (out of 90), military units, and among them tank and parachute units, and at its threshold even tank units from abroad. Hardly ever TV broadcast is cut off, so that the province is deprived of picture from the capital. Because of the riot even the World film festival at Cannes was stopped.