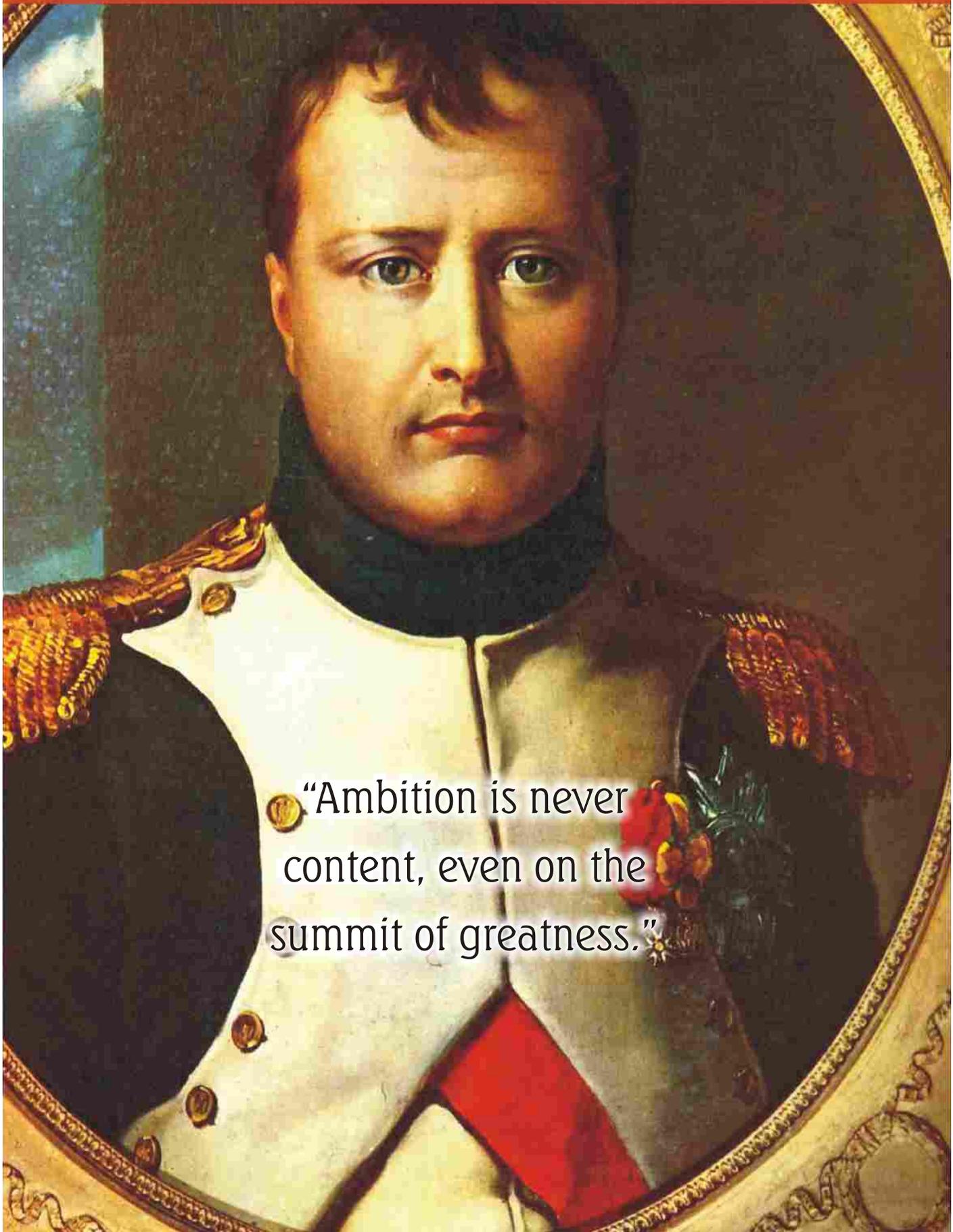


LARGER^{THAN}LIFE
A CELEBRATION OF GREATNESS

Napoleon Bonaparte
(1769 - 1821)



“Ambition is never content, even on the summit of greatness.”

Introduction:

Napoleon Bonaparte rose from obscurity to become **Napoleon I, Emperor of France** and became one of the **greatest military commanders in history**. Napoleon's army crushed one enemy after another until he seemed invincible. For 20 years, many European nations fought against him. He conquered much of Europe. He is both a **historical figure** and a **legend**.

Birth And Early Life:

Napoleon Bonaparte was born on **15 August 1769** in Corsica into a gentry's family. Educated at military school, he was rapidly promoted and in **1796**, was made **commander of the French army** in Italy, where he forced Austria and its allies to make peace. In 1798, Napoleon conquered Ottoman-ruled Egypt in an attempt to strike at British trade routes with India. He was stranded when the British at the **Battle of the Nile** destroyed his fleet.

Milestones:

1793: Played an instrumental role in the French defeat of the British at Toulon, for which he was promoted to the rank of **Brigadier General**.

1799: Overthrew the French government and became first consul of a

provisional government.

1804: Established France as an empire with himself as the Emperor.

1805: Led French troops to victory over the Austrian and Russian armies at Austerlitz (now Slavkov, Czech Republic)

1808: Invaded Spain and proclaimed his brother Joseph the King, touching off the six-year-long Peninsular War.

1812: Invaded Russia, but was forced to retreat after losing more than four-fifths of his army.

1814: Was forced to abdicate unconditionally after a coalition of European countries captured Paris; was **exiled to the Island of Elba**.

1815: Returned to Paris after escaping from Elba, and again declared himself **the Emperor**.

1815: Was defeated during the final **Battle at Waterloo**.

1815: Abdicated a second time and was **exiled to the Island of Saint Helena**.

Did You Know?

- Napoleon was actually **granted sovereignty** over the Island of Elba during his first exile.
- A brilliant military commander, Napoleon repeatedly defeated military forces superior in size to his own.
- Napoleon maintained many of the **Egalitarian principles** of the French Revolution, including Equality before the law and freedom of religion.
- Napoleon created French satellite kingdoms in Holland, Italy, Germany, and Spain, and placed his brothers and other relatives on their thrones.
- The army assembled by Napoleon in 1812 was the largest yet seen in Europe.
- Though tradition called for the Pope to crown the Emperor, Napoleon took the crown from Pope Pius VII's hands and placed it on his own head.

Quotes By Napoleon Bonaparte

He who fears being conquered is certain of defeat.



Better not to have been born than to live without glory.



Impossible is a word to be found only in the **dictionary of fools**.



If you want a thing done well, **do it yourself**.



The truest wisdom is a **resolute determination**.