

### # 3. Fyodor Dostoevsky – The Explorer of the Human Soul

Biography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Born: November 11, 1821, Moscow.</li> <li>• Strict religious upbringing.</li> <li>• Graduated from the Military Engineering Academy in St. Petersburg, pursued a literary career.</li> <li>• <b>“Poor Folk”</b> - debut, then arrested for participating in a radical intellectual group.</li> <li>• Sentenced to death, at the last moment his punishment was changed to a four-year Siberian labor camp.</li> <li>• Exile experience shaped his worldview and writing.</li> <li>• After his release, traveled through Europe, struggling with poverty, epilepsy, and gambling addiction.</li> <li>• Despite hardships created some of the most profound psychological novels in world literature.</li> <li>• Died: 1881, left a legacy to challenge and inspire.</li> </ul>
Main Literary Works	<p>Most significant works:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Poor Folk”</b> – a powerful novel, a heartbreaking exploration of love, dignity and survival.</li> <li>• <b>“Crime and Punishment”</b> – the psychological journey of a young man who seeks redemption after committing a murder.</li> <li>• <b>“The Karamazov Brothers”</b> – a philosophical novel about faith, doubt, morality, and family conflict.</li> <li>• <b>“The Idiot”</b> – a portrait of a pure man whose goodness is tested by a corrupt society.</li> <li>• <b>“Demons” (also translated as “The Devils” or “The Possessed”)</b> – a critique of political extremism and nihilism in 19th-century Russia.</li> </ul>
Screen Adaptations and Theatrical Productions	<p>Numerous adaptations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>“Crime and Punishment”</b> - adapted over 20 times for the screen, including international versions in Japan, France, and Hollywood.</li> <li>• <b>“The Karamazov Brothers”</b> - a Broadway play and an Oscar-nominated film.</li> <li>• His stories regularly performed in Russian and international theaters for their deep psychological drama and philosophical weight.</li> <li>• Directors like Akira Kurosawa and Andrei Tarkovsky were influenced by Dostoevsky’s themes in their work.</li> </ul>
The Significance and Contribution to Russian Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One of the greatest figures in Russian and world literature.</li> <li>• Wrote about the spiritual and ethical struggles of humanity.</li> <li>• Elevated the Russian novel to global prominence.</li> <li>• Influenced psychology, theology, and philosophy.</li> <li>• Writers like Kafka, Camus, Sartre, and Freud acknowledged their debt to his insights into the human condition.</li> <li>• Shaped Russian national identity by exploring its moral and existential dilemmas.</li> </ul>