

# **"Epicurean Influences On the Enlightenment" - An Article by Dimitris Atlas of the Garden of Thessaloniki**

**Post by "Mike Anyayahan" of January 5, 2020 at 7:45 AM**

Again, this is another example of a modern philosophy that is sitting on the shoulder of a giant most notable of which is the concept of social contract which many people believe to be the product of the Enlightenment where in fact it was Epicurus who first introduced it which is evident in the PD "33. Justice does not exist in itself; instead, it is always a compact to not harm one another or be harmed, which is agreed upon by those who gather together at some time and place."

Therefore, it is not Rousseau nor Hobbes who invented it. The problem with this version of social contract is that it stood on the ground of absolute universal laws while that of Epicurus is more relative and practical.