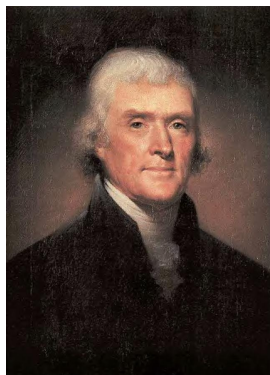## Part -1. Democracy and the Internet

"No experiment can be more interesting than that we are now trying, and which we trust will end in establishing the fact, that man may be governed by reason and truth. Our first object should therefore be, to leave open to him all the avenues to truth. The most effectual hitherto found, is the freedom of the press. It is, therefore, the first shut up by those who fear the investigation of their actions."

-- Thomas Jefferson to John Tyler in 1804. ME 11:33

What is Democracy?

$δημος$ *(dêmos)*   =   *The people of a country, the commons.*
$κράτος$ *(kratos)*   =   *Strength, might, power.*

∴ *Demo + cracy =* _____ _____

What is the Internet?
What is the World Wide Web?

<u>Boring Technical Definition</u>

"A system of Internet servers that support specially formatted documents. The documents are formatted in a markup language called HTML (HyperText Markup Language) that supports links to other documents, as well as graphics, audio, and video files ..."

-- http://www.webopedia.com

<u>Hexxa and Decima's Not-So-Boring Definition</u>

"The internet is the premier tool for free speech and democracy in the 21st Century."