Claude Levi-Strauss was one of the most influential French intellectuals of the 20th Century; he founded the structuralist school of anthropology in the 1950s.

Levi-Strauss's books include *Tristes Tropiques* - a 1955 biographical book regarded as a classic - as well as *The Savage Mind* and *The Raw and the Cooked*.

His death was announced in Paris by his publisher, Plon, on Nov. 3, 2009.

Levi-Strauss applied the structural approach pioneered by linguistics to anthropology, arguing that family relations and belief systems are best analyzed as complex sets of interrelated parts.