# Donald John Trump: The American Akhenaten?

Donald John Trump, the 45th president of the United States, has been likened to a number of historical figures, both ancient and modern. One such figure is Akhenaten, the Egyptian pharaoh who reigned from 1353 to 1336 BCE. Akhenaten was a controversial figure who introduced a monotheistic religion to Egypt and centralized the power of the pharaoh. He also built a new capital city at Amarna and commissioned a number of new temples and statues.

There are a number of similarities between Trump and Akhenaten. Both men were charismatic leaders who rose to power through unconventional means. Both men were also authoritarian rulers who sought to centralize their power and control the media. In addition, both men were prone to demagoguery and used propaganda to promote their own agendas.



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by Robert M. Howard

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However, there are also a number of differences between Trump and Akhenaten. Akhenaten was a religious reformer who introduced a new monotheistic religion to Egypt. Trump, on the other hand, has not shown any interest in religion and has made a number of statements that are hostile to religion. In addition, Akhenaten was a brilliant artist and architect who commissioned a number of beautiful temples and statues. Trump, on the other hand, has no known artistic or architectural talents.

Despite these differences, there are enough similarities between Trump and Akhenaten to raise the question of whether Trump is a modern-day Akhenaten. Only time will tell if Trump will have the same lasting impact on American history as Akhenaten had on Egyptian history.

#### **Akhenaten: The Egyptian Pharaoh**

Akhenaten was born in 1364 BCE to Amenhotep III and Tiye. He was the ninth pharaoh of the 18th dynasty of Egypt. Akhenaten's original name was Amenhotep IV, but he changed his name to Akhenaten after he ascended to the throne in 1353 BCE. Akhenaten means "one who is beneficial to Aten".

Akhenaten was a radical ruler who introduced a number of new religious and political reforms to Egypt. He abandoned the traditional polytheistic religion of Egypt and replaced it with a monotheistic religion centered on the sun god Aten. Akhenaten also centralized the power of the pharaoh and built a new capital city at Amarna.

Akhenaten's religious reforms were met with resistance from the traditional priesthood of Egypt. However, Akhenaten was able to suppress the opposition and establish his new religion as the official religion of Egypt.

Akhenaten's reign also saw a number of artistic and architectural innovations. He commissioned a number of new temples and statues that were dedicated to Aten.

Akhenaten's reign ended in chaos. After his death in 1336 BCE, Egypt returned to its traditional polytheistic religion. The new capital city at Amarna was abandoned and the temples and statues that Akhenaten had built were destroyed.

#### **Donald John Trump: The 45th President of the United States**

Donald John Trump was born on June 14, 1946 in Queens, New York City. He is the son of Fred Trump, a wealthy real estate developer, and Mary Anne MacLeod Trump, a Scottish immigrant. Trump attended Fordham University and the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, where he earned a bachelor's degree in economics.

After graduating from college, Trump joined his father's real estate company. He quickly rose through the ranks and became president of the company in 1971. Under Trump's leadership, the company expanded rapidly and became one of the largest real estate companies in New York City.

In 1977, Trump married Ivana Zelníčková, a Czech model. They had three children together: Donald Jr., Ivanka, and Eric. The couple divorced in 1992 and Trump married Marla Maples, a model and actress, in 1993. They had one child together, Tiffany. The couple divorced in 1999 and Trump married Melania Knauss, a Slovenian model, in 2005. They have one child together, Barron.

Trump first entered politics in 2015, when he announced his candidacy for president of the United States. He ran as a Republican and won the election in 2016. Trump was inaugurated as the 45th president of the United States on January 20, 2017.

Trump's presidency has been marked by controversy. He has been accused of racism, sexism, and xenophobia. He has also been criticized for his handling of the COVID-19 pandemic and his attempts to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election.

#### **Similarities between Trump and Akhenaten**

There are a number of similarities between Trump and Akhenaten. Both men were charismatic leaders who rose to power through unconventional means. Both men were also authoritarian rulers who sought to centralize their power and control the media. In addition, both men were prone to demagoguery and used propaganda to promote their own agendas.

One of the most striking similarities between Trump and Akhenaten is their use of propaganda. Both men used propaganda to create a cult of personality and to promote their own agendas. Trump uses social media, such as Twitter, to spread his propaganda. Akhenaten used art and architecture to spread his propaganda. Both men were able to use propaganda to create a loyal following.

Another similarity between Trump and Akhenaten is their authoritarianism. Both men sought to centralize their power and to control the media. Trump has repeatedly attacked the media and has tried to suppress dissent. Akhenaten suppressed the traditional priesthood of Egypt and established a new religion that was centered on himself.

Finally, both Trump and Akhenaten were prone to demagoguery. Both men used fear and anger to appeal to their supporters. Trump has used fear of immigrants and Muslims to appeal to his supporters. Akhenaten used fear of the traditional priesthood to appeal to his supporters.

#### **Differences between Trump and Akhenaten**

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Finally, Akhenaten's reign ended in chaos. After his death, Egypt returned to its traditional polytheistic religion. The new capital city at Amarna was abandoned and the temples and statues that Akhenaten had built were destroyed. Trump's presidency, on the other hand, is still ongoing. It remains to be seen how it will end.

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