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Nutthawat srisajjalertwaja

Akhenaten

996 words

After Amenhotep IV¹ (Akhenaten) inherited the throne from his father Amenhotep III, he had broken the normal tradition of his people and changed the ways of living of many Egyptian, which lead to the down fall of his cities.

Firstly, he shocked the high priest of the Egyptians by broken the tradition. He would now only wanted warship only one god which is the god of sun, Aten. Although there was some resentment among his people and his priests, he did not care and continue to pursue what he had in mind. Pharaoh had his own ways of thinking and he think that he had the absolute power and he can do anything he want. In order to fulfill his idea, he did something to the furthest extend my changing his name which his father gave it to him. He changed his named from Amenhotep III to Akhenaten which mean horizon of Aten for his strong believe for his god. When he did that there will be many people that do not agree to the idea as they want to stick to the old method. Thus there will be a division among his people and once this happened, this makes everything in the society harder. This will create tension across all of his cities and fight may occur at any moment if the two group have an argument over their believes. Once this happened, the whole society would be in chaos because normal routine would be interrupted for example the groups might not want to trade to one and other which lead to decline in economic aspect. There are also true example over the dispute of believe, Northern Island where protestant and catholic fight one

¹ <http://www.heptune.com/Akhnaten.html>

and another and it lead to the down fall of the country. The worst possible things that can happen to them are that the two groups may have to live at a separate location to prevent the fight. If the problem still persists on for long there might be an irreversible effect to the country.

Secondly, he realized that there were many people who were against him for example the high priest and people who still want to stick to the old tradition way of worshipping their goddess. In order to fulfill his wishes faster and to escape the division among his people, Akhenaten did not try to solve his problem from the core, relocated his capital city and started building everything right from the soil. Once he did that, it was really wasted of the resources because by building let alone a normal city is not cheap but to make it a new capital and to his taste would consume enormous of his money and resources which care be use to improve the facility of his cities. In addition, it is not easy to start a new life in the new city because citizens have to start everything from nothing even thought there might be incentive or reward from their Pharaoh. Business of the new capital also might not be very good because before everything is in place, the people there might not have the same amount of time to work like what they have preciously in the old city. It is also a risk for the people who move to the new city as it is not warrant that they can find new job in the new city. New city also mean new life for the family, they have to adapt and adjust to the new environment for example their daily routine, sending their kids to school and getting to know new neighbor. By doing so it is superficially seemed like the problem is solve but in reality it is not, he may or may not know about it but he does not care about it. He called this new capital city Amana² where the citizens worship only Aten, the sun god. In this new city, once again broke the old tradition by performing the

² <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Akhenaten>

rituals in the open space where there were no roof.³ That was again for the god he admired because he wants the sun to shine at him and the worshipers when they were performing the rituals. It is extremely contrast to what they did before previously; the rituals had to be carried out in the temple where it is dark.⁴ The people had to learn a great deal before they can adapt in to the new system of doing thing and it is a waste of their time because they can use this time to put it at better use.

Lastly, Akhenaten once again broke the tradition ways painting arts. His ways of panting include in the scene, motion of the people and already include in the sun ray which represent his good, Aten. Most of the painting will be associated with the Aten as well. It is very different from what the Egyptians done before. Since Akhenaten is immersed himself in art and painting, he may neglecting his duty as pharaoh. Once the leader of a country is slacking, other people tend to follow as well. Once this happen all of the work are not doing efficiently thus reduce the income to the country. When he is busy doing his art and painting, this also mean that he do not have to diplomatic mean with other countries around him which mean there will be less trade going on between them. Since Akhenaten did not really care about his city welfare, the stage of the city will not be maintain properly, for example there might be an increase in crime as the justice system is not well plain.

In conclusion, Akhenaten brought a destruction upon his cites because of his ignorance and his obsession in art. There is no way a country and growth without a proper care. He also did many things that is not necessary for his cities. It is like a saying what you reap is what you sow.

³ <http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Akhenaten.aspx#1-1G2:3446400012-full>

⁴ <http://www.encyclopedia.com/topic/Akhenaten.aspx#1-1G2:3446400012-full>