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**Amenhotep Kings**

**By Dr. Sherin Elkhawaga**

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**18TH DYNASTY PHAROAHS– Amenhotep kings**

The 18th Dynasty was a period full of powerful Kings and Queens. It starts by King Ahmose who ruled from 1570–1546, one of the most outstanding in the history of ancient Egypt. His principal achievement was to weaken the Hyksos, who had dominated Lower Egypt for some 300 years, by taking Avaris, their citadel in the north. He pursued them into southern Palestine and laid siege to Sharuhem for three years.

Amenhotep I (Amenophis) was the son of Ahmose I and his queen Ahmose–Nefertari – and ruled from 1546 to 1526. He undertook military campaigns in Libya and in Nubia (up to the 3rd cataract) using boats on the Nile to transport his army, and extended the boundaries of his empire by establishing a vice–royalty in Nubia. On reaching the throne, Amenhotep I very quickly had to defend Egypt's borders – the Libyans had taken the opportunity of Ahmose I's death to launch an invasion in Egypt's delta – Amenhotep I led an army to the Western border and defeated the Libyans and their allies. Next was a rebellion by Nubia, Amenhotep I this time led an army to the southern border and very quickly restored order.

Amenhotep I had an interest in art and architecture and initiated elaborate building projects – such as the Karnak temple complex at Karnak . Amenhotep I was also the first pharaoh who separated his mortuary temple and tomb.

Amenhotep II , the 7th king of the 18th dynasty, son of Thutmose III, ruled Egypt from 1450 to 1425 BC. He continued the military exploits of his father, particularly in Syria, where he crushed an uprising and demanded oaths of loyalty from local rulers. His mummy was discovered in the Valley of the Kings. Amenhotep II was famed at the time for his sportsmanship – he was very athletic and had a great love of horses. His greatest feat of sportsmanship was the shooting of copper targets with arrows, while driving a chariot with the reins tied round his waist. Upon the death of Thutmose III, Amenhotep II inherited a vast empire, it was not something that he intended to lose – any rebellions were severely dealt with and a series of campaigns were made into Syria.

Amenhotep III ruled (1417–1379 BC) Egypt at the height of its power. His father was Thutmose IV by one of that king's chief queens, Mutemwiya. She may have, though mostly in doubt now, been the

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daughter of the Mitannian king, Artatama. That queen was indeed probably sent to Egypt for the purposes of a diplomatic marriage. He was more likely between six and twelve years of age at the time of his father's death.

Amenhotep III's own chief queen, was not of royal blood, but came from a very substantial family. She was Tiy, the daughter of Yuya and his wife, Tuya, who owned vast holdings in the Delta. Yuya was also a powerful military leader. His extensive diplomatic contacts with other Near Eastern states, especially Mitanni and Babylonia, are revealed in the Amarna tablets. Of the great temple he built near Thebes, only two statues, the so-called colossi of Memnon, remain. Amenhotep's wife Tiye, a woman of humble birth, was prominently associated with him during his long and peaceful reign. We know at least six of his children consisting of two sons and four daughters (other daughters including Henuttaneb and Nebetiah). However, his probable oldest son, Tuthmosis died early leaving the future heretic king, Amenhotep IV, otherwise known as Akhenaten, as the crown prince. His extensive

diplomatic contacts with other Near Eastern states, especially Mitanni and Babylonia, are revealed in the Amarna tablets. Of the great temple he built near Thebes, only two statues, the so-called colossi of Memnon, remain.

After the military problems seem to have been settled, we find a long period of great building works and high art. It was also a period of lavish luxury at the royal court. The wealth needed to accomplish all of this did not come from conquests, but rather from foreign trade and an abundant supply of gold, mostly from the mines in the Wadi Hammamat and further south in Nubia. . During his reign, we find a marked increase in Egyptian materials found on the Greek mainland. We also find many Egyptian place names, including Mycenae, Phaistos and Knossos first appearing in Egyptian inscriptions. We also find letters written between Amenhotep III and his peers in Babylon, Mitanni and Arzawa preserved in cuneiform writing on clay tablets.

Akhenaten (Amenhotep IV) (1350–1334), The second son of the great Amenhotep III, Akhenaten came to the throne when his elder brother and heir to the throne, Thutmose, died while still a child. At this point the young Akhenaten was still known by his original name – Amenhotep (IV), it was only when he ascended the throne that he would change his name. Immediately he took up the offices and teachings of a prince regent, including studying at the centre of intellectual learning for Egypt – Heliopolis. He was invested as king not in the Amen temple at Karnak as custom dictated, but at Hermonthis, where his uncle Inen was High Priest of Re and immediately began building a roofless temple to the Aten, the disk of the rising sun. He soon forbade the worship of other gods, especially of the state god Amen of Thebes. In the 6th year he changed his name from Amenhotep ("Amen is satisfied") to Akhenaten ("beneficial to Aten") and left Thebes for a new capital at Akhetaten (El Amarna). Amenhotep IV's reign was a time of many changes, for not only did he decide to change his name to Akhenaten, he found a perfect site along the banks of the Nile where he could build a new capital of Egypt – Akhetaten, the Pharaoh found a plain within a semicircle of cliffs – here he set up an altar and made an offering to the Aten in thanks for leading him to this chosen place. Later at the foundation ceremony of the city, Akhenaten expressed how the city had been revealed to him alone by his father, the Aten, as his chosen seat.

Living there with his queen Nefertiti, six daughters, and possibly several sons, he fostered new styles in art and literature. The confiscation of the wealth of the Amen temples wreaked havoc upon its

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priesthood. Akhenaten used these riches to strengthen the royal control over the army and his officialdom. His concentration on internal affairs brought about the loss of some of the Egyptian possessions in Canaan and Retenu (Syria) and of the Egyptian naval dominance, when Aziru defected to the Hittites with his fleet.

His religious reforms didn't survive his reign and monotheism in its pure form was forgotten in Egypt, even though it found a new expression in the trinity of Re, Ptah and Amen. The Aten temples were demolished, and Akhenaten came to be called "the Enemy."

Tutankhamen (r. 1361–1352 BC), the son in law of Akhenaten, succeeded his brother Smenkhkare when he was only nine years old. His vizier Ay restored the traditional polytheistic religion, abandoning the monotheistic cult of Aten of Akhenaten, its religious centre at el Amarna and returning to the capital Thebes. By reviving the cult of the state god Amen he strengthened the position of Amen's priesthood. The pharaoh changed his name Tutankhaten, (living image of Aten), to Tutankhamen, (living image of Amen),

During his reign, the general Horemheb sought to 'pacify' Palestine and fought against the Hittites in northern Syria allied to the Assyrians.

Egyptian medical doctor, speciality in radiology, much interested in egyptology.

## Hollywood And Sports Logos

**By Dana Bradley**

Back in the late 1980's the citizens of Los Angeles celebrated the many victories of their professional ice hockey team, the Los Angeles Kings. Many residents of the City stayed glued to their TV sets on the afternoon when Wayne Gretzky scored his record-breaking goal. Still, one had to admit that the team logo for the Kings was not too colorful. It would have appeared the same, if seen on a black and white TV.

Perhaps that realization planted the seed of an idea. That seed of an idea started to grow. That seed of an idea was most likely the foundation for the area's second professional ice hockey team. Still that seed grew very slowly at first. For a while, the creation of a second ice hockey logo seemed a long way off. No one could really come up with just the right name for that second ice hockey team.

Then the Disney Company released the movie about "The Mighty Ducks." The movie drew big crowds to the movie theaters, and it brought good sales, when released as a DVD. The movie also seemed to offer the answer for which so many had been searching. It suggested a name for a second ice hockey team.

The movie released by Disney not only offered the people of southern California a possible name, it also gave them a more colorful logo. Even if this proposed expansion team failed to have the quality players found on the Kings team, it would at least have a very colorful logo. No one really put that idea in words, yet that must have been the thinking of those who would have to market the new team.

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After all, the marketing of an expansion team is always a challenge. Such a team does not have a great deal of name recognition. People are not yet familiar with the team's logo. Both of those looming obstacles would be removed from an expansion team named the "Ducks." That was the beauty of using that name for a new ice hockey team.

The Disney Company had already profited from its purchase of the California Angels. The Disney Company was ready to finance the creation of the Anaheim Ducks. Therefore, the people of Los Angeles and Orange County began to fly a bit more color during the ice hockey season.

They did not stop flying the logo for the Los Angeles Kings, but they also flew flags with the colorful logo of their own Mighty Ducks. They could thank the Hollywood studios for their more colorful logo.

Dana Bradley writes about

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and



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