

HUM 200: Part One – Cultural artifacts

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Cultural Artifacts

Abraham Lincoln's Top Hat

Abraham Lincoln wore the artifact, regarded as one of the tallest American presidents ever. Equally, the hat was designed by J.Y. Davis. The artist was based in Washington and created the artifact in the mid-19th century (Carter, 2013). At the time his death, the hat was stored by the war officials. Similarly, the artifact was later transferred to the Smithsonian institution for future remembrance. The institution highly values the artifact. Equally, the hat is available for viewing to the general public only on certain occasions. The hat was designed and manufactured using silk material. Likewise, measuring at 7 inches x 10 3/8 inches x 12 inches, the artifact is regarded as one of the enormous hats ever.

Vladimir Lenin Statue

The statue was designed and erected by Emil Venkov. The statue is located in Fremont and is made up of Bronze material. Through the devotion of time of ten years, the artist produced a representation of Lenin encompassed by his military equipment (Fremont Center of the Universe, 2020). Equally, the sculpture weighs about 7 tons and has a height of sixteen feet. Emil Venkov, a revolutionary leader, used warfare to bring change into society. Similarly, the representation serves a reminder of political history.

Theme

The theme that is exhibited by the artifacts is that of politics. Lincoln wore the hat during political events. As such, together with the tall stature, the hat made him stand out in the crowd. Further, Lincoln also attended both formal and informal events, putting on the hat. As such, the hat became part of the president's routine.

Similarly, the artifact became a symbol of power, and Lincoln even wore it to Presidential debates (Smithsonian, 2020). Likewise, the statue of Lenin creates a historical remembrance of the political events that led to the death of numerous individuals. As a result of his violent regime, Lenin's image creates negative emotions for the residents of Seattle. The statue reminds the individuals of a communist leader who participated in the civil wars of the early 18th century. As such, the artifacts serve as a source of information regarding the political events that shaped people's lives.

Personal Experience

In my opinion, the two artifacts are of great remembrance. Considered as one of the most famous American remembrances, Lincoln was inspiring during both the campaigns and tenure. Similarly, with him was the old top hat. The artifact was a masterpiece. Whenever I come across information related to the hat, the event evokes memories of the leader's political journey. The hat reminds me of the power Lincoln had over his peers as well as the unfortunate assassination. On the day of demise, Lincoln wore the top hat (Carter, 2013). Equally, the artifact brings back the memories of the political journey of the leader.

Further, the political events during Vladimir Lenin's tenure create memories of civil. Lenin, a communist party leader, deployed violent measures to seize power. As a result, numerous deaths occurred during the period. As such, both the artifacts evoke memories of political struggles. I feel that the information conveyed by the artifacts serves as a political remembrance. The hat and the statue reveal the nature of past political events. Accordingly, the artifacts give an insight into the killings as a result of political struggle.

Profession

Currently, I am a political science student. I aspire to become an influential leader, and as such, I am interested in the past political journey. Lincoln was an inspirational figure during America's struggle for equality. Similarly, the struggle experienced by the leader acts as a motivational factor to achieve my goals. Equally, the killings made by Lenin during the civil wars was against human rights. The assassination of Lincoln resulted in disobedience of the constitution. As such, the need to fight for the rights of citizens makes me feel motivated by the theme. Knowledge within the humanities field enhances my ability to study the historical aspect of the community as well as the measures to provide equality.

Humanities Resources

The first source in the provision of information concerning the Lincoln top hat is the Smithsonian magazine. According to the article, the hat serves as a remembrance of the assassination that led to the demise of Lincoln (Smithsonian, 2020). According to the second source, the Smithsonian Museum, the artifact is described as a significant component of the American history. Equally, the hat gave Lincoln authority over other leaders. The article also describes the events that occurred as a result of the assassination. The third source is the Fremont Center of the Universe. According to the source, the description is made concerning the relocation of the statue of Lenin to Seattle (Fremont Center of the Universe, 2020). Similarly, the article also describes the perceptions of individuals regarding relocation. There are mixed views, a consequence of Lenin's barbaric acts during the civil war in Russia. Further, the source also explores the significance of art in the expression of historical perspectives of the past political life.

Historical Perspectives

The artifacts described have much historical significance. For instance, the Lincoln top hat gives details regarding the political journey made by Lincoln towards achieving the presidency. The hat gave Lincoln an appealing picture to the supporters in comparison to the opponents. Similarly, the Lenin statue gives a history of the human rights abuses that occurred during civil wars (Fremont Center of the Universe, 2020). The image also reveals the nature of policies that were implemented by the leader to seize power. The type of information obtained is critical in the implementation of measures that promote democracy.

Similarities and Differences

There exists similarity in the type of details provided by the artifacts. Accordingly, the two provide information regarding the killings that occurred as a result of political activity, Equally, the information also provide details regarding the abuse of political power. As a result of the violence perpetrated by Lenin, many lives were lost during civil wars. Similarly, the artifact on Lincoln's top had also provided information regarding the assassination of the former president. However, there is a striking contrast regarding the nature of the two types of leaders described by the artifacts. While. The statue of Lincoln resulted in positivity, and there exists numerous critic concerning the relocation of Lenin statue to Seattle.

Medium

The nature of the medium utilized in the presentation of Lincoln's top hat is in the form of an object. According to the information from the Smithsonian museum, the hat was stored in the building right after the death of the former president. Similarly, the details concerning the Lenin statue is in the form of a sculpture. The presentation of the statue faced numerous criticism that led to the attack of the representation.

Thesis Statement

The artifacts on Lincoln's top hat and the statue of Vladimir Lenin have a historical significance in modern politics (Blumenthal, 2016).

Audience

My audience for the artifacts is political science students. Historical information is crucial in shaping modern political activities. As such, scholars in the field must obtain details on the nature of political policies that are essential for the provision of human rights.

Message

Artifacts provide crucial past information. As such, the preservation of historical objects is vital. Further, the information can be utilized to implement current policies through the readjustment of past mistakes. However, I think it is critical for the consideration of other artifacts such as the statue of liberty that provide historical information on the struggle for justice. Additionally, information about the civil wars of Russia is critical in passing judgment regarding the perception held by individuals on the statue of Lenin.

References

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