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Mr. Johnson

American History

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Samuel Adams

Despite Boston’s quantity of widely recognized revolutionary leaders, Samuel Adams stood out among them. He gained recognition for skillfully using the community's anger toward parliament's authority to impose taxes on the colonies. His importance within the revolution in relation to the American War of Independence cannot be emphasized enough. His distinct viewpoint and capability to inspire the public were essential to the Boston Tea Party’s benefit.

Samuel Adams was born in Boston, Massachusetts on September 27th, 1722. He was born into a very politically involved family who owned a brewery. His cousin, John Adams, became the second president of the United States of America. Samuel was a graduate of Harvard College in 1740. After college at age 21, his first career was in accounting, which did not work out too well for him. He then became a tax collector until he was elected to the House of Representatives in Massachusetts.

As his career in politics increased, he became extremely opposed to British taxation. When the Stamp Act was passed in 1765, he became very against it. When the Tea Act came into play, he organized and led the Boston Tea Party to show his opposition to unfair tax on tea. The Boston Tea Party occurred in Boston Harbor in 1773 on the night of December 16th. The Sons of Liberty dressed as Mohawk Indians, not only to cover their identity, but it was also to show England they were American citizens, not British people.

Samuel Adams was a delegate to the Continental Congress from 1774 to 1781. representing the state of Massachusetts after his term as Congressman. During his time as a member of the Continental Congress, independence from England and forming a new nation were the major accomplishments they wanted to achieve for our country. This came to be by creating the articles of confederation which was the first U.S. constitution. As a founding father, Samuel Adams was one of the people who signed the Declaration of Independence.

In the 1790’s, official political parties were formed, the Federalists and the Democratic-Republican parties. Along with Thomas Jefferson, Samuel Adams became a member of the Democratic-Republican Party. (Today is now known as Democratic). Samuel’s last political office was governor of Massachusetts from 1794 to 1797. He was so tired of this political mess he gave up and welcomed death on October 2nd 1803 in Boston, Massachusetts.

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