Significant Events in the Reign of Amenhotep IV/Akhenaten

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| **Years 1 to 4** | |
| Year 1  (1353 BCE) | - Ascension to the throne as Amenhotep IV.  - Initial continuation of traditional religious practices.  - Construction projects initiated at Karnak, dedicated to Amun. |
| Year 2  (1352 BCE) | - Continued patronage of traditional gods, particularly Amun.  - Strengthening of ties with powerful Amun priesthood.  - Marriage to Nefertiti, who becomes his Great Royal Wife. |
| Year 3  (1351 BCE) | - First hints of a shift in religious focus towards Aten, the sun disk.  - Introduction of new artistic styles depicting Aten worship.  - Growing emphasis on the solar deity in official inscriptions. |
| Year 4  (1350 BCE) | -Increasing prominence of Aten in royal propaganda.  - Gradual reduction in the emphasis on other gods, especially Amun.  - Start of major construction projects honouring Aten at Karnak. |
| Years 5 to 8 | |
| Year 5  (1349 BCE) | - Official name change to Akhenaten, meaning "Effective for Aten".  - Establishment of a new capital city, Akhetaten (modern-day Amarna), dedicated to Aten.  - Formal declaration of Aten as the primary deity of Egypt. |
| Year 6  (1348 BCE) | - Rapid construction and expansion of Akhetaten.  - Increasing exclusion of Amun and other gods from royal monuments.  - Elevation of Aten above all other deities in religious texts. |
| Year 7  (1347 BCE) | - Full transition of the royal court to Akhetaten.  - Establishment of new temples and shrines dedicated to Aten.  - Intensification of efforts to erase the name and images of Amun from monuments. |
| Year 8  (1346 BCE) | - Continued development of Akhetaten as the religious and administrative center.  - Further marginalization of traditional religious practices.  - Consolidation of Aten worship as the state religion. |
| Years 9 to 11 | |
| Year 9  (1345 BCE) | - Introduction of more radical religious reforms.  - Complete suppression of Amun priesthood.  - Increased prominence of Akhenaten and Nefertiti in religious ceremonies. |
| Year 10  (1344 BCE) | - Expansion of diplomatic and trade relations with neighboring regions.  - Further architectural advancements in Akhetaten.  - Intensified focus on Aten worship in all aspects of public life. |
| Year 11  (1343 BCE) | - High point of Akhenaten's religious reforms.  - Significant changes in artistic and cultural expressions to reflect Atenism.  - Decrease in the power and influence of traditional priesthoods. |
| Years 12 to 17 | |
| Year 12  (1342 BCE) | - Major religious festival in Akhetaten celebrating Aten.  - Increased foreign correspondence and diplomatic activity.  - Continuation of major construction projects in the new capital. |
| Year 13  (1341 BCE) | - Potential internal dissent and unrest due to radical religious changes.  - Further consolidation of Aten worship.  - Akhenaten and Nefertiti depicted as divine intermediaries. |
| Year 14  (1340 BCE) | - Possible illness or health issues affecting Akhenaten.  - Continued focus on art and culture centered around Aten.  - Significant developments in the city of Akhetaten. |
| Year 15  (1339 BCE) | - High levels of building activity in Akhetaten.  - Potential signs of political instability.  - Akhenaten’s increasingly secluded lifestyle. |
| Year 16  (1338 BCE) | - Decline in Akhenaten's active rule.  - Possible co-regency with Smenkhkare.  - Continued emphasis on Atenism despite growing internal challenges. |
| Year 17  (1337 BCE) | Death of Akhenaten.  - Smenkhkare or another successor ascends to the throne.  - Gradual abandonment of Akhetaten and reversal of many of Akhenaten's reforms. |