

Perspective

The Forty-fifth

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Call it destiny or call it a smart strategy, Donald Trump will be the 45th president of the United States of America in less than 24 hours. Baffling as it may sound, he proved to be a more acceptable candidate than anything GOP had to offer in past two decades. He revived the Republican Party which was on a life support just one election ago. He may, as well, have shaped the future of GOP by appealing to union workers and Democrats (except in the coastal states). Hate him or love him, Donald Trump is distinct inasmuch as some see him as a freak and others find him unique. Though no other president possessed all his oddities, some experienced similar

circumstances as Trump did.

Donald Trump never held a public office. Though unusual but this is not unprecedented in U.S. history. He will be the fourth president who never held public office before the

presidency. George Washington, U.S. Grant and Dwight Eisenhower were the other three. All of them served the country with distinction.

Trump will be the fifth person who would become president without winning the majority vote. The other four were John Quincy Adams, Rutherford Hayes, Benjamin Harrison and George W. Bush. While history will judge George W. Bush, the remaining three (Adams, Hayes and Benjamin Harrison) are viewed as contentious.

Trump will be the third president to switch his party affiliation. The other two were Theodore Roosevelt and Ronald Reagan.

Roosevelt served nearly two full presidential terms as a progressive Republican. But after he grew dissatisfied with his hand-picked successor, William Howard Taft, Roosevelt left the 1912 Republican convention and formed his own party.

Reagan was also originally a Democrat and a New Deal supporter, who became a union leader while in Hollywood. He switched parties officially in 1962 and gave a famous quote: "I didn't leave the Democratic Party. The party left me."

Both Roosevelt and Reagan are considered great presidents.

Mr. Trump's wife, Melania Trump will be the second First Lady born outside the United States. The only other First Lady born outside was Lousia Adams, wife of John Quincy Adams. She was born in England. Melania Trump was born in Slovenia. Ms. Lousia was extremely beautiful. As First Lady, she became reclusive and depressed. For a time, she regretted ever having married into the Adams family. We don't wish the same for Ms. Melania

Donald Trump will be the richest US president with a net worth of 4.5 billion dollars. The next two richest presidents were George Washington and Thomas Jefferson with net worth of 580 and 234 million dollars respectively (in today's money). Both George Washington and Jefferson are considered greats.

Trump's slogan, "Make America Great Again" was first used by Ronald Reagan while he was running against President Jimmy Carter. Donald Trump subsequently applied for and received a US service mark for the slogan. In Reagan's case, the slogan was viewed favorably, but many considered it regressive coming out of Mr. Trump's mouth.

Trump will be the only U.S. president married three times. The presidents who married twice were John Tyler, Millard Fillmore, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson and Ronald Reagan. The results are mixed here.

According to many historians Richard Nixon, John Tyler and Ulysses Grant are among the most hated presidents. Among the most admired are Abe Lincoln, George Washington and Theodore Roosevelt. One should also notice that the traits mentioned above are no indication of one's success or failure, so let's hope that Mr. Trump will be good for America.

For those who don't believe in Trump, "We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope" –Martin Luther King, Jr.