



## Overview of Abraham Lincoln's Presidency and Achievements

Among his many achievements during his tenure include crafting effective military strategies against Confederate forces leading ultimately to their defeat in 1865. His unwavering resolve during these tumultuous times saw him deliver some of America's most iconic speeches including "The Gettysburg Address" which emphasized national unity and freedom for all citizens regardless of color or creed. He successfully introduced the Thirteenth Amendment into Congress which resulted in permanent abolition of slavery across all states when ratified by December 18th, 1865 after his death. In addition to this monumental feat for civil rights movement at that time; Lincoln is also recognized for signing Homestead Act (May 20th, 1862) encouraging Western migration by providing settlers with public land thereby triggering agricultural growth and establishment of new state governments thus shaping future regional demographics profoundly.

## Detailed Account of Lincoln's Assassination: Key Figures and Event Timeline

Booth swiftly stabbed Henry Rathbone—one of Lincoln's guests—who attempted to prevent him from fleeing before leaping onto the stage breaking his leg but still managing to escape amidst chaos and confusion that ensued following realization of president's shooting. Mortally wounded, Abraham Lincoln was carried across street to Petersen House where doctors battled throughout night for his life; however, their efforts were in vain as he succumbed to injury next morning at 7:22am marking one of most shocking moments in U.S history. Investigations led by Secretary of War Edwin M Stanton quickly identified key conspirators involved including Lewis Powell who attacked Secretary Of State William H Seward same night and David Herold who assisted Booth during escape attempt leading up to latter's death on April 26th whilst resisting capture.

## Immediate Aftermath of the Assassination: Public Reaction and Government Response

In terms of government response, swift action was taken in apprehending those involved in the conspiracy. A twelve-day manhunt culminated in Booth being cornered and shot dead by Union soldiers while other co-conspirators were captured, tried before a military tribunal and subsequently executed. Lincoln's successor President Andrew Johnson carried on with his predecessor's goals though his approach towards reconstruction led to significant political discord which eventually resulted in his impeachment by House Representatives—though he narrowly avoided removal from office after Senate acquittal.

## **Impact on Reconstruction Policies and Southern Reintegration**

The assassination of Abraham Lincoln also resulted in an unfortunate shift in power dynamics during this crucial period in American history - allowing conservative white southerners to regain control over local governments. These circumstances facilitated introduction of 'Black Codes' aimed at restricting freedoms and economic opportunities for black citizens which was contrary to what Lincoln had envisioned for post-war South. The comprehensive civil rights policies that could have been achieved under Lincoln's leadership were thus thwarted leading to prolonged racial tensions which further shaped America's socio-political landscape.

## **Shifts in Presidential Security Measures Post-Assassination**

In 1865, legislation was passed that officially mandated the Secret Service with responsibility for protecting the President—a role they continue to fulfill till today; although initially their primary task involved combating counterfeiting issues until after William McKinley's assassination in 1901 which led to permanent full-time security detail for all sitting presidents henceforth. The scope of protection has been expanded over years now covering former presidents for life along with presidential candidates during elections among other duties showing how significantly Lincoln's death impacted subsequent protocols regarding presidential safety.

## **Long-Term Consequences on American Society and Political Landscape**

Lincoln's death led to shifts in presidential security protocols; following his demise, the Secret Service was established to protect future presidents thus ushering in a new era concerning safety measures for head-of-states. On social front, it fueled debates about gun control policy thereby affecting subsequent legislation even up until present day. His death also served as poignant reminder of racial tensions deeply entrenched within America's fabric which still resonate today as country continues grappling with issues surrounding equality and civil rights—making his legacy ever more relevant.