What are Tattoos?

Pictures done on the human body represent
• Identity
• Culture
• Class status
• ART
• Religion

Egypt and Peru

• A 1000-year-old mummy was found in the sand of the desert at Chiribaya Alta in Southern Peru.
• Two different kinds of tattoos were investigated, decorative tattoos displaying different animals and symbolic ciphers and tattooed circles on the neck.
• They were elemental tattoos done with plants and flowers.
• Egyptians used tattoos to show class status.
• Doctors, soldiers and rulers had tattoo markings all over their bodies to show everyone they were important and what their role was in society.
• High-class women also wore tattoos, and their workers did as well to show what family they belonged to or for whom they worked.

India and China

• The Kath tribe in India believes in tattooing after death.
• It will help them recognize each other in the spiritual world.
• They use a special kind of ink that can only be seen when there is no light around.
• Kath women can be recognized miles away because of their many tattoos. They believe that the tattoos make them look more attractive.
• Dulong women in China have been tattooing their faces ever since the Ming dynasty.
• They believe that tattooing their face would make them look ugly, keeping them from being raped by anyone who attacked their group.
• Girls at the age of 13 and 12 will already have tattoos as a sign of maturity.

Humans have marked their bodies with tattoos for thousands of years. These permanent designs have served as amulets, status symbols, declarations of love, and signs of religious beliefs. But many in today’s society don’t see them like that. Tattoos have served to mark people in past years to show what class ranking they held or what job they had. But today people seem to have forgotten these meanings so that they only see tattoos as low-class marks done by gangs. But a tattoo is a piece of art that has influenced how our society was and now is.

England

• Sir Joseph Banks was the first English person to have tattoos.
• He influenced many English men to get them but he first started with his crew.
• They were to blame for the rapid increase of the wearing of tattoos in England in the 1870s.
• Women also joined in the tattoo trend and they also began to wear them.
• But tattoos were highly worn by the upper class.

America

• Almost 45 million Americans today have at least one tattoo.
• It has become a “trend” to have a tattoo.
• Many tattoos today have personal meanings.
• A tattoo is a way to show their identity, or how they see life, or what they fear or like.

Conclusion

Tattoos aren’t only ink in someone’s skin but a piece of art. They have been for many centuries and yet they have not lost all of their meaning because there are still people who appreciate them.

References

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