

## TATTOOING

It is hard to determine how far back the art of tattooing goes, as human flesh is almost never preserved in the archaeological record. <sup>However</sup> But rare finds of human corpses with the skin intact <sup>ey</sup> has enabled us to glimpse early examples of the tattooists art. The remarkable "Iceman" <sup>was</sup> found melting out of the Similaun glacier <sup>y</sup> in Italy <sup>y</sup> in September 1991 <sup>y</sup> <sup>#1</sup> having died there some 5,3000 years ago, <sup>he</sup> was marked with the oldest tattoos ever seen. Consisting of three sets of lines on his back, another group on <sup>his</sup> the right ankle <sup>y</sup> and a cross on <sup>his</sup> the left knee, the powdered charcoal used to create the blue markings was <sup>probably</sup> <sup>#2</sup> ~~probly~~ applied with small needles.

From Egypt and Sudan <sup>y</sup> there are occasional <sup>findings</sup> ~~finds~~ of female mummies with facial tattoos going back some four thousand years. It seems <sup>as though</sup> <sup>tattoos</sup> ~~like~~ these <sup>y</sup> had some erotic significance, since the mummies are thought to be those of concubines <sup>y</sup> <sup>#1</sup> and <sup>#2</sup> some centuries later <sup>y</sup> dancers and musicians would sport tattoos of <sup>their</sup> ~~there~~ patron god <sup>y</sup> Bes <sup>y</sup> on their thighs. The tattoos found on the mummies were dark blue <sup>y</sup> and <sup>they</sup> were applied archaeologists believe by pricking dye

into the skin with a devise<sup>c</sup> made of fish bones<sup>y</sup> set into a wooden handle.

In 1948, the most remarkable example of ancient tattooing<sup>^</sup> <sup>#3</sup> yet found<sup>^</sup> was discovered in the Pazyryk burial mound on the boarders<sup>y</sup> of the <sup>#4</sup> USSR, China, and Mongolia<sup>#5</sup>. A man ~~aged~~<sup>years old</sup> about sixty, <sup>refer to #2</sup> probably<sup>^</sup> the chief of the nomadic tribe, had been buried around 400 <sup>#6</sup> B.C. in a felt-lined wooden chamber under the mound. Then ~~came~~<sup>came</sup> the grave robbers<sup>y</sup>. Ransacking the tomb<sup>y</sup>, ice flowed in through ~~their~~<sup>the</sup> exit hole ~~or fill~~<sup>and filled</sup> the chamber<sup>y</sup>, thereby miraculously preserving its contents. The surviving skin of the chief was covered with elaborate tattoos, including monsters, a donkey, a mountain ram, deer, birds, a goat, and a fish. <sup>#7</sup>

The Pazyryk <sup>findings</sup> ~~find~~ dramatically confirms<sup>y</sup> the statements of classical writers that various ~~Barbarian~~ peoples to the north and east of Greece regarded tattoos as a symbol of nobility. According to Herodotus, whom<sup>y</sup> wrote in the lifetime of the Pazyryk chieftain, the Thracians<sup>a</sup> of the Balkans<sup>^</sup> "consider tattooing a mark of high birth, the lack<sup>#8</sup> of it a mark of low birth." Another classical source<sup>u</sup> indicates that the Thracians learned the art from the widely traveled Scythians, a nomadic tribe from Russia, who may ~~well~~ have had cultural ties with the builders of the

Pazyryk tombs.

In ancient times, the art of tattooing flourished worldwide. It has deep roots in the Far East and is still highly regarded in Japan, but little is known of its earliest days there, except that tattooing was carried out as a punishment on criminals during the Han Dynasty of China (202 B.C.-A.D. 220). By A.D. 297, however, decorative tattooing had begun in Japan, when Chinese court records note that Japanese men and boys tattooed their bodies. Judging by its representation on terra-cotta figurines, Mayan chiefs in first millennium B.C. Central American were frequently tattooed. They too saw tattooing as the mark of high status.

According to Roman writers, tattooing was rife in Britain. Julius Caesar noted during his expeditions that "all the Britons dye their bodies with woad [an herb], which produces a blue color and give them a wild appearance in battle," while the third century A.D. author Herodian described the tattoos as "pictures of all kinds of animals."

Following the conquest of Britain in A.D. 43, Roman legionnaires took to tattooing and spread the custom throughout the empire. The art flourished until the reign

of Constantine, the first Christian emperor (A.D. 306-373).

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Early Christians marked their faces and arms with the sign of the cross, but tattooing later came to be seen as a pagan practice. Constantine banned facial tattoos on the grounds that they disfigured "that fashioned in God's

image." In A.D. 787 the Church Council held at Calcuth in

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northern England forbade all tattooing, and it then became rare. It did not die out completely, however, even among

royalty. After ~~Will~~<sup>William</sup> the Conqueror's momentous victory at the battle of Hastings in 1066, the body of the fallen

#14 England king Harold was identified by its tattoos,

including the name of his mistress (Edith "swan-neck") over the heart.

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Despite such notable ~~acceptations~~<sup>exceptions</sup>, the great revival of

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the art in the West only really came about during the eighteenth century as a result of encountering

masterpieces of tattooing in the Far East and the Pacific where tattooing had never fallen out of favor.

**Author's Note #1:** Fact check how long ago the “Iceman” was found. Some sources I found say that he is over 5,000 years old.

**Author's Note #2:** Probably is misspelled and should be “probably.” However, it may have a professional tone if you use the term “most likely” instead.

**Author's Note #3:** The term “yet found” is slightly ambiguous in this sentence. If you mean that it is the best discovery we have made yet maybe say something like Option #1. If you mean that it was the best discovery that was made at the time but has since been surpassed maybe say something like Option #2.

Option #1: “In 1948, the most remarkable example of ancient tattooing ever found was discovered...”

Option #2: “In 1948, the most remarkable example of ancient tattooing ever found at the time was discovered...”

**Author's Note #4:** Russia is no longer called the USSR. It was, however, called the USSR during the time of the discovery, so I would fact check if it should be referred to as the USSR or Russia.

**Author's Note #5:** The Pazyryk burial is also bordered by Kazakhstan, so if you include the other three borders, you may want to include Kazakhstan as well.

**Author's Note #6:** In some older styles, B.C. has periods, but in newer styles BC, AD, and BCE do not require periods.

**Author's Note #7:** In the sentence “The surviving skin of the chief was covered with elaborate tattoos, including monsters, a donkey, a mountain ram, deer, birds, a goat, and a fish,” I would recommend reconfiguring the list to put the plurals at the beginning and the singulars at the end to give the reader more clarity. For example, you could say something like “The surviving skin of the chief was covered with elaborate tattoos, including monsters, deer, birds, a donkey, a mountain ram, and a fish.”

**Author's Note #8:** Fact check the quote “consider tattooing a mark of high birth, the lack of it a mark of low birth.” It has some grammatical errors, but if they are present within the original quotation, then leave it.

**Author's Note #9:** Fact check the dates of the Han Dynasty of China. Some sources I found say that it lasted from 206 BCE to 220 CE.

**Author's Note #10:** In the sentence “Mayan chiefs in the first-millennium B.X. Cenentral American were frequently tattooed,” I recommend changing the order of the sentence to something like, “Mayan chiefs in Central America in the first millennium were frequently tattooed.”

**Author's Note #11:** Fact check the Julius Caesar quote. Some sources I found had different variations of the quote, and color is spelled as colour in Caesar's form of English. There are also some errors in the sentence, such as “give” should be “gives”, but if this is in the original quote, then leave it.

**Author's Note #12:** Fact check the dates of Constantine's rule as emperor. The sources that I found said that he ruled from A.D. 306-337.

**Author's Note #13:** Fact check the Church Council held at Calcuth in northern England. I could not find a city named Calcuth in northern England. In sources I could find, there were two church councils, the first in Carthage in 398 CE and the second in Nicaea in A.D. 787.

**Author's Note #14:** I recommend changing the phrase “England king Harold”, which is the wrong version of England, to either Option #1 or Option #2.

Option #1: “English king Harold II.”

Option #2: “King Harold II of England.”

**Author's Note #15:** If it is important that his mistress is Edith “Swan-Neck”, then I would use em dashes instead of parentheses; however, if her name is unimportant, then it can be left as parentheses.

**Author's Note #16:** In the phrase “the great revival of the art in the West”, if the revival is a specific movement, then it needs to be capitalized like “the Great Revival of the Arts in the West.” If you are not referring to a specific movement, then it can be left uncapitalized.