



A sacred ritual

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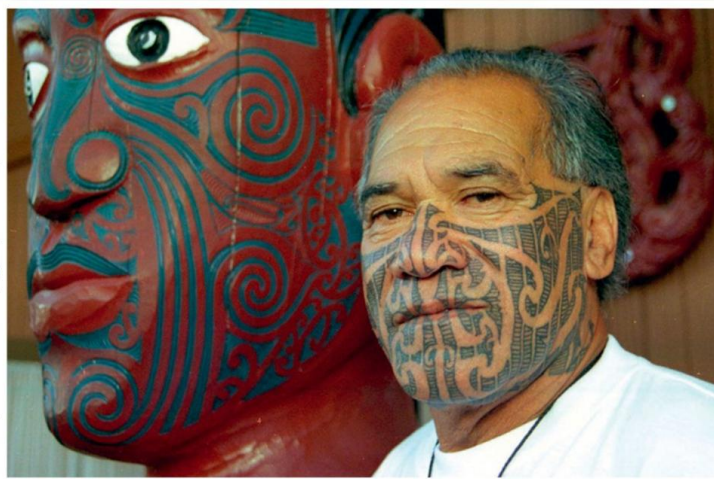
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Rural

Moko more than tattoo

By Greg Taipari

7:00 PM Thursday May 30, 2003



▲ Maori elder with traditional facial tattoos

1. Moko is a visual representation of a person's genealogical links, personal achievements and connections to people and places of the heart. Moko for many Maori is a rite of passage, something which is earned or passed down from generation to generation.
5. I have a moko and it is not a tattoo. I'm proud of it, it graces my body and it represents my whakapapa (genealogy). I don't see my moko as a bit of ink placed on my body, as a decoration or a fashion statement. It tells the story of who I am, where I've come from and, with my children represented in my moko, where my future lies.

1. Before reading:

Why do you think people get tattooed? Have you ever considered it yourself?

People get tattooed to remember significant life events, their achievements, to tell a story.

Yes, I have/ No, I haven't.

2. Present the document:

The document is an article written by Greg Taipari, published in the Rotorua Daily Post on Thursday May 30, 2003. It is about the Maori moko tattoo.

3. Find the translation in the text for:

liens généalogiques: genealogical links

être fier: be proud (of)

où est mon avenir: where my future lies

4. Explain the title of the article

The moko tattoo is not only a drawing with ink, but the representation of the Maori culture and traditions.

It has to be earned.

5. True or false? Highlight the justification in the text.

Moko is considered identical to modern tattooing techniques.

T / F

Moko serves as a representation of an individual's genealogy and social status.

T / F

Receiving a moko is a rite of passage in Māori tradition.

T / F

Moko designs are chosen randomly without specific meanings.

T / F

Moko has no spiritual significance in Māori culture.

T / F