



TRINITY COLLEGE FOR WOMEN NAMAKKAL

DEPARTMENT OF COSTUME DESIGN & FASHION

**HISTORIC COSTUME AND TEXTILES
EVEN SEMESTER**

Presented by

Ms. K.P.THEEPIKA

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

DEPARTMENT OF CDF

<http://www.trinitycollegenkl.edu.in/>

HISTORIC COSTUMES AND TEXTILES



INTRODUCTION

From the beginning the subject of costume has received a full share of the world's interest and attention. The impulse towards adornment was prominent in the primitive ancestor in his usage of paint, tattoo and human bones, which is today expressed in milady's rouge, feathers and future.

In the distant age, man lived in caves and under rocky cliffs. He mainly wanted to secure food and preserve his life, dress did not exist.



BODY DECORATION

The beginning of the dress was in the form of body decoration. Painting, cutting and tattooing of the skin are forms of body decoration, which were the first steps towards modern dress.

1. PAINTING - The ambition to be distinguished from others stimulated the desire towards the desire towards dress.

a) BLOOD MARKS

b) COLOURED CLAY



Blood marks - When primitive hunters returned to his tribe stained with blood, he found that these evidences of his might (greatness) were respected and admired. Thus physical power was the only standard of worth in early age.



Coloured clay - The next source of inspiration after blood marks were coloured clays. They were available in the plenty. The people started to apply the clay to their faces, head and bodies (with this coloured pigment). Soon they were expressed at regular and measured intervals. Thus a sense of rhythm and idea of pattern began.



2. CUTTING - After painting, another form of body decoration was discovered. It was the cutting edge. Knife blades made of bone, horn, flint and other stones were finished with a fine point and edges. With these tools the fashion leaders used to cut or slash his skin in forms of pattern.



3. TATTOOING - Cutting was followed by tattooing. Here, the skin was marked with slight incisions (cuts) and colouring material was added. This form of decoration was expressed in elaborate pattern.



THANK YOU

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