

The Transition of Woodcarving Iconography in Aboriginal Paiwan During the Japanese-Owned Period -- Illustrated From Police Iconography

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Abstract

Based on the field survey in middle and south area of Paiwan, this thesis mainly discusses the formation of the police iconography found in aboriginal woodcarvings. Viewing several woodcarvings used to decorate the home of tribe's chief, author detects that the police iconography was originally found during the Japanese-owned period. Via in-depth research, author tried to find the real meaning of the police iconography to the Paiwan people and society. Moreover in order to realize the alien culture impact, the hidden meaning behind the police iconography was also uncovered by author.

First the author describes the research objectives – housing woodcarvings for chief's home – in very detail, including the woodcarvings' subject, size, scale, and different design style of police iconography. Then making an analytical comparison between the traditional Paiwan housing woodcarvings and the Japanese-owned Paiwan ones with police iconography. The thesis desires to realize the formation of police iconography in terms of culture impact from Japanese policies. Finally the author tries to explain the implicit meaning of police iconography via providing a system approach, accompanied with many other clues, such as academic articles and field surveys.

Key words: police iconography paiwan woodcarving primitive art

