

Dread locks, Sister locks etc.

Get a picture of the history on these sites

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dreadlocks>

http://www.freemaninstitute.com/Gallery/Egyp233_big_copy.jpg

<http://www.dreadlocks.org/the-history-of-dreadlocks/>

The Roots of Dreadlocks

The roots of dreadlocks can be traced to the Rastafarians of Jamaica, and further, to [Indian sages and yogis](#), but they have never been more popular or widespread than they are today. It is said that dreadlocks originated with these eastern holy men. Possessing nothing, renouncing the world and possessions (not even a comb) they eschewed even personal grooming, hence the inevitable dreadlocks. Dreadlocks get their name from Jamaican tradition. Those with 'natty' locks in their hair were to be dreaded, or feared. When slavery was abolished in the US, it was no longer legal to enslave African Americans. But good ol' America found a loop hole, no one said anything about not enslaving native peoples of India.

Slavery

So, over they went and began capturing and enslaving people from India and the surrounding areas. [\(Find that in a history text book!\) Hindu yogis and holy men, along with their dreadlocks, escaped to the Caribbean Islands, and began appearing in places like Jamaica, where their knotty hairstyle and religious piety were noted and followed by the burgeoning Rastafarians and holy men of the islands.](#) Dreadlocks have their roots (again, no pun intended) in spiritual circles. The Hindu holy men of the east, Rastafarians, which are essentially Judeo-Christians of the Caribbean Islands wore dreads as part of their religious lifestyle. [Dreads themselves for the eastern yogis were nothing special, but the Rastas almost deified their locks, considering the hair to be holy and powerful.](#) [Dreadlocks became a religious priority.](#) Fast forward a couple decades, and things have changed, but dreadlocks remain prevalent. You have people like Mike Borden, drummer for killer awesome rawk band Faith No More, with phat knotty dreads all the way down to his drum stool. Bands like Korn, Bad Brains, Incubus (Brandon used to have locks), Finger Eleven, POD and many more do, or used to, sport dreadlocks, which come in very handy while rocking out. Nowadays, it is about as standard to have a dreadlocked member of the band as it is to have a DJ in the group.

Bob Marley and the Introduction into Pop Culture

Of course, nearly everyone is aware that dreadlocks were brought into the pop culture spotlight by a Mista Bob Marley.

<http://www.popculturereviewed.com/hairstyle-dreadlocks.html>

Locks in Egyptian History

Tiye (also known as Tiy, 1398-1338 BCE) was a queen of Egypt of the 18th dynasty, wife of the pharaoh Amenhotep III, mother of Akhenaten, and grandmother of both Tutankhamun and Ankhnesneferibre. She exerted an enormous influence at the courts of both her husband and son and is known to have communicated directly with rulers of foreign nations. The Amarna letters also show that she was highly regarded by these rulers, especially during the reign of her son. Although she believed in the traditional polytheistic religion of Egypt, she supported Akhenaten's monotheistic reforms, most likely because she recognized them as important political stratagems to increase the power of the throne at the expense of the priesthood of Amun. She died in her early sixties and was buried in the Valley of the Kings. Her mummy has positively been identified as that known as the 'Elder Lady', **and a lock of her hair**, possibly a keepsake of the young king's, was found in Tutankhamun's tomb.



<http://www.ancient.eu/tiye/>

Since the late 1980's, dreadlocks have come to be called African locks or Nubian locks or just plain locks to describe the neat, tightly matted tendrils. Across the country, they are being styled in an increasing number of hair salons that cater to natural hairstyles -- those that involve no heat or chemical processing -- for a primarily black clientele.

"This revolution has little to do with the Rastafarian movement," said Ademola Mandella, a stylist at Locks 'n Chops, a natural-hair salon in midtown Manhattan. "This is about style, and the African culture and about progressive urban living."....

.... For many, wearing locks is a way to get in touch with their African heritage. Young boys in the Masai tribe of East Africa wear locks as a symbol of the passage to manhood.

<http://www.nytimes.com/1994/01/23/style/just-locks.html>

Egyptian Mythology

Side-lock worn by the moon god.

Religion in ancient Egypt was very much like modern times. Today not everyone worships in the same way, or believes in the same god - Egypt was no different. Individual kings worshipped their own preferred gods, as did the workers, priests, merchants and peasants - but there was always one particular god that was considered preeminent. Pre-dynastic Egypt had formulated the concept and belief of a "greater being", this was originally expressed in pictures, some scholars suggest that "writing" was invented in order to communicate these spiritual thoughts to the masses. Egyptian gods lived, died, hunted, went into battle, gave birth, ate, drank, and had human emotions. The reigns of their gods overlapped, and in some instances merged.

The dominance of a particular god depended on the beliefs of the reigning king, and where the king wanted his capital; this because the dominance of particular gods was often regional. Likewise, the myths associated with particular gods changed with the location of the gods, as sometimes did their names. Each god had five names, and each name was associated with an element, such as air, celestial bodies, or was a descriptive statement about the god, such as strong, virile or majestic.



Khonsu

This moon god was the son of Amon and Mut. He was depicted as a child with his head shaven except for the side-lock worn by Egyptian children, or as a man, wearing the disk of the new moon. The main temple at Karnak is dedicated to him.

Khonsu the Moon God, wearing the disk of the full Moon

http://realhistoryww.com/world_history/ancient/Misc/Egypt/Egyptian_Mythology.htm

This is the sum...

Most Christians of whichever race who embrace the Bible fully will trace in a spiritual sense the Israelites as their fathers/ancestors in faith according to 1 Corinthians 10: 1, Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea. (a reference to the Exodus).

But when we notice the language employed by Pharaoh, we see the he was both opposed to and ignorant of the true and living God though he worshipped many gods.

Exodus 5:1-4 And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness. And

Pharaoh said, **Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.** And they said, The God of the Hebrews hath met with us: let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the desert, and sacrifice unto the LORD our God; lest he fall upon us with pestilence, or with the sword. And the king of Egypt said unto them, Wherefore do ye, Moses and Aaron, let the people from their works? get you unto your burdens.

So since locking (dread locks or sister locks) is so greatly steeped into this ancient African tradition and is a statement of more than one's preference in terms of fashion but one's worldview. It is an indication of the historical tradition that one desires to perpetuate. This makes dread locks and sister locks not merely a neutral hairstyle but a message.

Samson and Nazarites

Locks have been frequently connected with Judeo-Christian tradition, with little evidence. It is connected with a few names such as Samson and Nazarites in Israel.

Judges 16:19 "And she made him sleep upon her knees; and she called for a man, and she caused him to shave off the seven locks of his head..."

Locks is from the Hebrew *machlâphâh* which means a braid, lock or plait of hair. So the status of Samson's hair should be viewed from this broader perspective. And the message from the angel to Samson's parents was not "let no comb come upon his head" rather –

Judges 13:5 "For, lo, thou shalt conceive, and bear a son; and no razor shall come on his head: for the child shall be a Nazarite unto God from the womb: and he shall begin to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Philistines."

This was not the duty of every male in Israel or every leader in Israel but a special symbol borne by a select group of men of the true Messiah (Jesus the Nazarene, [Matthew 2:23]) who was to come.

So there is a Christian heritage and an African heritage, and without controversy, the two are not the same (basically every Christian is not African neither is every African a Christian). Africans can choose to be Christians but a Christian cannot by choice become African. An African must be born thus. The African culture and the Christian culture presents two distinct worldviews and the styling of the hair is an indication of the world view that one has chosen. Truly there are some aspects of the African culture that is steeped in polytheism (worshipping of many gods) so it cannot be blended with Christianity that presents God as He is described in the word of God as a personal being - Father, Son and Holy Ghost. And while the Christian's rule of faith is the Bible and the Bible only, the African culture is based out customs and traditions (there is no clear standard for every African all over the globe).

2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

Two Separate cultures

Egyptians counted it an abomination to eat with the Hebrews

Genesis 43:32 And they set on for him by himself, and for them by themselves, and for the Egyptians, which did eat with him, by themselves: because the Egyptians might not eat bread with the Hebrews; for that is an abomination unto the Egyptians.

Egyptians counted the sacrifice of the Hebrews as an abomination

Exodus 8:26 And Moses said, It is not meet so to do; for we shall sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians to the LORD our God: lo, shall we sacrifice the abomination of the Egyptians before their eyes, and will they not stone us?

In the Tenth Plague on Egypt, God made the reason for the difference between the Egyptians and the Hebrews apparent by the blood of the Lamb that was placed upon the dwellings of the Hebrews.

Exo_11:7 But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the LORD doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.

The Lamb represents Jesus Christ, who would die on the cross. Revelation 19:13 – “And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God.” Therefore, the Word of God makes all the difference, by it we know how we ought to live.

The Bible gives us an indication of the difference between the Egyptians and Israel, the lives of God’s people should be a vindication of the difference in diet, in worship and even in appearance.

1Tim 2:9, 10 “In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.”

So while we should maintain our physical bodies in the natural way God established it at birth, there is a spiritual choice that all must make to be born again and this will be evident in a new spiritual culture (total transformation) that is dictated by the word of God - not human philosophy, traditions, culture or personal preferences.

Romans 12:1, 2 explains it perfectly,

¹I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. (Physical state, presented in the natural way it was formed (long hair for women, short hair for men [1 Cor 11:13, 15]).

²And be not conformed to this world [or any continent of it]: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God. (Spiritual Transformation – Christianity) What the Bible presents here if applied to our discussion is an African person with a Christian mind. This combination will be made apparent in modes of dress, styles of music, styling of the hair, etc of the Christian.

To Christians it was said –

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: (1 Peter 2:9)