

Fig.102 Illustration showing a group of native women being photographed dressing the clothes of the colonists who have invaded their land. They are even places in front of the flag of the colonial power and are often brought for display to modern cities. Ultimately these natives always try to escape and make it back their land, getting rid of all the modern clothes.

Nostalgia Among the Natives of Lower Asia

When a "multi-talented" native is abducted to the mainland, he picks up "the languages" and drifts into a "variety of jobs" like a "flutist", a "cabin servant" and a "pharmacist" but eventually he makes it back to the jungle to live "clothed just with bow and arrow and covered with paint from top to bottom". And native women abducted on a ship, even if they are "fed and dressed" they jump into the sea and swim "to an island half a mile away". And when brought hundred of miles away natives get "miserable" and start running away to a river where they make "a raft from a few planks of wood" and then row to an island "twelve miles downstream". If recaptured they die of "pneumonia" within a month and their skeletons are "duly preserved for science". Even native girls brought up in an orphanage since they were very small may go every day to school and every "Sunday at church, neatly dressed in white" but when granted permission to rejoin their people, they are left "destitute of clothes, shaved and greased with a mixture of olive-coloured mud and fat, and married, wanting but the finger and toe-bone decorations" to complete their toilets. They might go about pointing to white visitors their "swollen" stomachs saying with "much pride and no shame" they have a baby and proving the "ineradicable savage element in their subjects" (Mukerjee 2003).