

Some sample pages from this zine.....

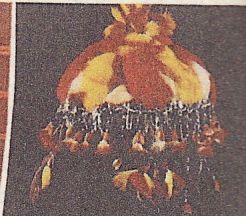


Beauty
and the
Buprestids
Beetle Elytra & Embellishment



Head-Taking Tribes

Shaur peoples of South America and Naga peoples of northeast India believe that embellishment using parts of animals adds to the strength of the wearer and protects him because they retain the animal's soul force



Embellishment communicates bravery, wealth, rank earned by head-taking and holding Feasts of Merit



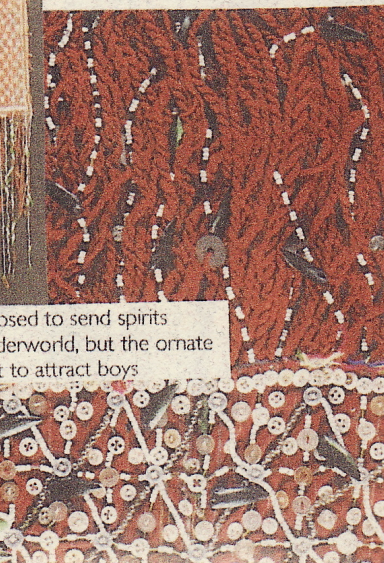
Warriors must earn a high rank in order for themselves and their daughters to wear beetle elytra



Two Karen of Northern Thailand

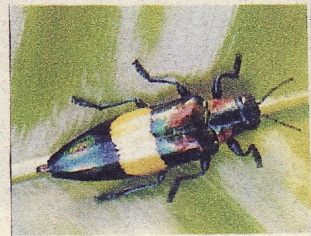
Unmarried girls wear "singing shawls" to funerals, this culture's most ornate ritual. They are embellished with coins, buttons, shells, seeds, beads, elytra, etc--anything cheap and readily available

The noise is supposed to send spirits safely into the underworld, but the ornate scarf is also meant to attract boys



Living Jewels

People in some parts of India, Sri Lanka, and Mexico wear live beetles tethered to their shirts by tiny gold chains. In northern Mexico and the Caribbean, native women wore lamyrids in gauze sacs or on hairpins during certain ceremonial dances.



(by Jessica Grate)