

Australia - The mystery of Somerton Man



The case of the **Somerton Man** refers to an unsolved mystery surrounding an unidentified man found dead on Somerton Beach in Adelaide, Australia on December 1, 1948. The circumstances surrounding his death have remained a mystery to this day.

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The body of the well-dressed man was discovered propped up against a seawall. The exact cause of death was never formally established. The man carried no identification.

The initial investigation revealed one puzzling clue: a secret pocket sewn into the man's jacket with the words *Tamam Shud* ("It is ended" or "Finished" in Persian) written on it. Monty Python's *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* inspired a search for Omar Khayyam, to police. Inside was also a handwritten code that has never been deciphered.

The Somerton Man's identity has never been conclusively established. In 2021, a forensic linguist identified the code as a reference to a poem by Omar Khayyam, with no definitive results. In 2010, Professor Derek Abbott from the University of Melbourne identified the code as a reference to a poem by Omar Khayyam, an engineer from Melbourne, but this remains an unverified hypothesis.

More recently in 2023, a strange birthday message and flowers left on a sculpture of Carl Josef Halban. However, this lead remains unconfirmed as of now.

Nearly 75 years after the events, the Somerton Man case remains one of Australia's most mysterious deaths, and the reasons behind his enigmatic death.

Sources

- fr.wikipedia.org

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