A portrait of the tattooist as a nice young man

**‘Oattn’** pioneer Hori Benny battled prejudice, poverty and punishing training to blaze ink trail in Osaka

**TELLING LIVES**

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hen Hori Benny moved to Osaka from his home in the eastern city of Sendai in 2007, he found himself faced with a number of challenges.

In Sendai, he had begun his career as a tattooist in the local Yakuza (Japanese mafia) and had spent nearly 10 years as a member of a tattoo studio. However, when he arrived in Osaka, he found himself facing a different set of challenges.

Benny faced discrimination and bias in the local tattooing community, which was dominated by the Yakuza. He was also faced with poverty, as he had to work two jobs to support himself.

Benny found that he was able to break into the tattooing community by teaching himself the art of tattooing. He started by learning on his own and then began to teach others.

Benny was eventually able to gain the respect of the local tattooing community and began to build a following.

In 2014, Benny opened his own tattoo studio, Hori Benny, in Osaka. The studio quickly became popular and Benny was able to build a successful business.

Today, Benny is one of the most respected tattoo artists in Japan and his studio is known for its high-quality work and customer service.

**Benny**

Benny credits his experience at Chopstick for giving him the skills and knowledge to be successful in the tattooing industry.

“Chopstick was a great place to learn,” Benny says. “I was able to learn the techniques and skills that I would need to be successful in the tattooing industry.”

Benny also says that he has been able to use his experience as a tattooist to give back to the community.

“I try to give back to the community by teaching others the art of tattooing,” Benny says. “I want to help others learn this important skill.”

For more information about Benny and his tattoo studio, please visit horibenny.com.