New Weapon in Fight Against Terror - The Nose

Terrorists and criminals could be identified by the shape of their noses, scientist claim.

They say every nose is as unique as a fingerprint and a new computer scanner has been invented to recognise them.

Dr Adrian Evans, who worked on the technology, said that noses could be more reliably identified than fingerprints or irises because they were harder to hide. The lecturer at Bath University said that the new scanning technique could used in the battle against terrorism, illegal immigration, fraud and identity theft.

The scanner, known as the PhotoFace, works by taking four photos of the nose in rapid succession from different angles. It analyses the images according to six shapes: Roman, Greek, Nubian, Hawk, Snub and Turn-up.

Dr Evans said: "Irises are a powerful biometric, but can be difficult to capture accurately and can easily be obscured by eyelids or glasses.

"Noses, however, are much easier to photograph and are harder to conceal, so a system that recognises noses would work better with an uncooperative subject or for covert surveillance."

Nose prints have been used for years by pedigree dog owners to give their pet a unique identification.

Source: www.news.com.au

Vocabulary

iris - the coloured circular central part of the eye that surrounds the black pupil biometric - using measurements of human features, such as fingers or eyes, in order to identify people

obscured - to make it difficult to see, hear or understand something conceal - to hide somebody/something covert - secret or hidden

You can see the whole lesson from your teacher, please ask them to send it to you before the class.

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