

Many Maasai from the north-eastern part of Tanzania migrate to Zanzibar for work. Most often they find a job in the tourism sector, which means they are in regular contact with tourists. These meetings often result in closer relations with European women, which sometimes end in marriage and emigration of Maasai men to the tourists' countries of origin or the decision of women to live in Tanzania.

The subject of the project is a continuation of the research that I carried out for my master's thesis "Migrations of the Maasai from the Morogoro region (Tanzania)" (supervisor dr hab. Marcin Brocki, Jagiellonian University, Krakow 2019). In it, I dealt mainly with the labor migrations of the Maasai to Dar es Salaam and to Zanzibar. The research revealed, among other things, frequent relations of Maasai men with European female tourists.

The aim of the project is to investigate the long-term relationships of Maasai men with European women, especially those resulting in the change of residence of one of the partners. The most important – and innovative – aspects of my research will be an attempt to find an answer to the question of how contact and relations with European women affect the redefinition of the concept of masculinity and femininity by the Maasai men and what impact tourism has on the formation of new family forms, what I propose to call "polygamous intercultural family". Maasai often establish relationships with older Europeans who do not want to be mothers or who already have children from previous relationships and do not plan further ones. The family plays a very important role in the life of the Maasai. This seems to be the reason why Maasai begin to build more complicated relationships: they marry a woman from Europe, but also a Maasai woman who will give them children.

My main research problem is related to the aspects of long-term intimate relationships of Maasai men and European women which will be analyzed in the context of anthropology of tourism and migration by means of postcolonial perspective. I want to investigate this problem by answering the following questions:

- What are the mutual perceptions of Maasai men and European women about each other in the context of postcolonial categories of race, class and gender? How are masculinity and femininity perceived and performed in these encounters?
- How are these relationships perceived in the communities of origin of Maasai men and European female tourists?
- What aspirations and opportunities do the Maasai men associate with entering into a relationship with European female tourist?
- What are the motivations of European women entering into close relationships with Maasai men?
- What challenges are the partners facing and what types of coping strategies are they undertaking? How are the roles of husband and wife negotiated in the context of different ideas about marriage?
- What determines the choice of the couple's place of residence?
- What economic strategies are Maasai-European couples adopting?
- What are the reasons for the Maasai to establish "polygamous intercultural families" and what different evaluations of their offspring are they associated with?

I will conduct my research in three locations:

1. family villages of Maasai migrants;
2. tourist destinations in Zanzibar;
3. destination of immigration in Tanzania and/or Europe.

In family villages of Maasai migrants, I will research the views of the Maasai regarding economic migrations, but also their assessment of relationship between Maasai and Europeans. In Zanzibar, I will explore the prospects that arise when entering into a relationship with European female tourists, and in Tanzania and/or Europe I will look at relationships in the so-called mixed marriages. I would also like to focus on the values and expectations of members of both groups (Maasai and Europeans).

The research I propose will broaden the knowledge about changes taking place in the Maasai community: their perception of the role of a man and a woman, as well as changes in the way of building new family forms (e.g. in the form of a "polygamous intercultural family"), shaped thanks to tourism and related migrations.