

Submitted Abstract

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Abstract

Transhumance activity, carried on for hundreds of years in Turkey, has entered into a great transformation nowadays. Northeast Anatolia, the center of pasture livestock, is the region where these transformations are experienced the most. The aim of this study is to determine the factors behind the decreasing trend in transhumance and to investigate the changing role of women in this process. The study has two dimensions as the declining animal husbandry reduces the transhumance activity and the declining transhumance activity negatively affects the rural economy. Transhumance in Ardahan, determined as a study area, has many problems such as land conflict and the inability to market cattle and goose products and these problems that trigger each other in the field of livestock, transhumance and rural economy result in migration to big cities. When questioning the place of women among these problems, it is seen that they take the leading role with their knowledge, experience and work. The strong contribution of women to transhumance has taken a different dimension in recent years, and while men are engaged in agricultural activities in villages, women have started to take the herds to the highland alone for 2-3 months. This transition process in transhumance will be questioned through in-depth interviews with thirty women. In this context, the scale of "The role of women in transhumance activities in Northeast Anatolia" will be developed and a qualitative method will be adopted. Participants will be determined by stratified sampling and semi-structured interviews will be used. Participants will be determined by stratified sampling and semi-structured interviews will be used. In this way, it is aimed to determine the perspective of women on transhumance problems, when and why their role started to change, and what the positive or negative consequences of this might be. In this context, seven open-ended questions have been prepared and interviews will be conducted face to face. In addition, geographical observations to be made on transhumance will constitute another method of the research. The data will be evaluated by content analysis, and the findings will be presented with tables and figures. It is expected that the study will contribute to regional transhumance, local community and cultural geography.