

Summary

The dissertation is a monographic historical study of the tourist and climbing activities of women in the Tatra Mountains until 1939, indicating the links with Alpine tradition and the social and cultural development of the society. From the very beginning of the development of tourism and mountain climbing, women began to climb peaks in spite of social conditions.

Women made their presence felt in the mountains from almost the beginning of the history of Tatra tourism and mountaineering, regardless of the widely held belief that men dominated in the mountains. Such an opinion resulted from the difficult terrain and weather conditions in which mountain activities were practiced, but also from the fact that statistically more men undertook them. The moments from the history of Tatra tourism, mountaineering and women's mountaineering presented and discussed indicate that the position and mountain performance of women has never been equal to that of men.

The small number of women engaged in Tatra tourism and mountaineering was not due to lesser abilities or psychophysical capabilities, but to cultural stereotypes, according to which, as already mentioned, ladies were assigned a specific social role, which effectively delayed the development of women's activities. The research material analyzed shows that women's social roles evolved, and this process progressed even within a few years, allowing them to develop in every field of life, including mountain activities.

The territorial scope concerns the whole area of the Tatra Mountains, both their northern and south areas. The time caesura is set by the aforementioned date of 11 June 1565, which was a probable day of visiting the Kieżmarska Valley by Beata Kościelecka-Łaska. The final caesura is the outbreak of World War II, which stopped the development of Polish mountaineering and mountaineering in the Alps for several years.

The dissertation consists of an introduction, six chapters and a conclusion, as well as a bibliography and an appendix, which presents a chronological register of tourist and climbing achievements of Polish women in the Tatra Mountains until 1939, against the background of more important climbing achievements of women in the Alps. The register is completed by a tabular listing of women's pioneering mountaineering and mountaineering achievements.

Keywords: mountaineering, history of women's mountaineering, female mountaineering pioneers, Polish female's climbing, female-alpinism