

Abstract

The thesis will focus on the migration of the young Salasaka generation within the context of the *"age of the migration dream"* (Bude, 2010) and of three approaches to answering the question of why people migrate through migration theories: economic approach, systematic approach, and narrative approach. The work will aim to describe the narratives of a migration dream and how this dream is shaped, reproduced, and changed. This research emphasizes the importance of narratives as a crucial driver of migration. Narratives can significantly influence decision-making processes, serving as a key to understanding the creation of migration flows and play a significant role in shaping perceptions and attitudes towards migration within communities. The research field is the indigenous village of Salasaka in highland Ecuador, a village where traditional ways and cultural heritage are highly valued as indigenous people were discriminated against in Ecuador throughout history. However, the younger generation has developed different ways of living as they study at universities, dress differently, have a different occupation, or leave their village. The method will include a three-month ethnographic research using photo-elicitation method. The thesis tries to answer the question, "Why do young people in Salasaka migrate?". The research will further contribute to a broader understanding of migration as a social phenomenon, especially in the context of indigenous communities and the preservation of their culture in the context of globalization.