Social Organization & Disorganization among the Hadzabe: The Division of Labor and the Effects of Tourism on a Hunting & Gathering Society in Tanzania

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This presentation is based on ethnographic research conducted among the Hadzabe of Tanzania in the Fall of 2003. The Hadzabe are the last hunting and gathering society in Tanzania, and for the past eighty years the Hadzabe have resisted outside pressures from the Tanzanian government to give up their traditional lifestyle. Ironically, rather than helping the Hadzabe protect their traditional ways, it is tourism that has initiated the degradation of the Hadzabe mode of production and culture. The Hadzabe division of labor, based on gender roles, has shifted, but that is not the only change that has negatively affected the Hadzabe. This research looks at Hadzabe society as a whole to better understand the impact that tourism and other aspects of globalization are having on Hadzabe life ways.