LOTTE PELCKMANS

Background and career details

Lotte Pelckmans was born in Turnhout, Belgium on 12 January 1979. She attended the Sint Jan Berchmans College in Westmalle, Belgium and after a one-year exchange programme with AFS in Brazil, she studied Cultural Anthropology and Non-Western Sociology at Leiden University, the Netherlands, specializing in multiculturalism, identity, migration, inequality and power relations in West Africa. She did her PhD research at the African Studies Centre in Leiden from 2005 to 2009 and since 2010 has been lecturing at Nijmegen University on identity and mobility, ethnography, culture and development, and conducting research on river nomads and anti-slavery movements in West Africa.

Title and summary of the published thesis (book format)


Based on rich and wide-ranging data, this book describes the sensitive issue of the contemporary emancipation trajectories of agro-pastoralist Fulbe in Central Mali. It explores how people are currently dealing with hierarchies they inherited from past master-slave relations and focuses on the relational dynamics between members of a network of migrants. The importance of mobility to identity is explored by analyzing the tensions that exist among migrants to reproduce or change hierarchical relations in post-slavery societies.

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