

CALL FOR PAPERS for the subsequent volume of "Lodz Ethnographic Studies"

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In the forthcoming volume of "Lodz Ethnographic Studies" we will focus on **CELEBRATION** in its traditional and contemporary dimension as it belongs to very interesting areas of culture and has developed diversified forms through the centuries.

We would like to encourage an interdisciplinary analysis of **CELEBRATION** as an exceptional time in human life (the *sacrum* sphere), opposed to everyday life and work (the *profanum* sphere). To start from 'the very beginning': before adopting Christianity we had our own ritual calendar and festivities were connected with the seasons, nature vegetation and love rites when 'the couple united'. However, following the adoption of Christianity, the liturgical year finally prevailed over the primal forms of celebration that were linked to practices, customs, rites, rituals and ceremonies. Both older and newer cultural practices used to be (or still are) characterised by rich symbolism and magical functions that were (are) accompanied by special celebrations, various beliefs, word patterns, feasts and formal clothes (festive costumes), frequently identified with tradition. Bringing order and stability to people in times of dynamic changes, **CELEBRATION** evokes feelings experienced in childhood and, therefore, the celebration time is perceived as better and more attractive than a weekday. Celebrations are held by a group of people who cherish the same values so their joining in the celebrations confirms their belonging to the community. **CELEBRATION** is an axiological determinant of a specific group, and the occasion celebrated and the way it is celebrated are marked by values that show how people focus on finding their purpose in life, showing their social status and individuality.

The tradition of celebrating has been changing for centuries, and now that a 'new secular tradition' of celebrating has developed, the calendar of non-working days has been enriched with secular holidays and state ceremonies, and 'imported' holidays that have already been observed within the realm of popular culture have started to change the lifestyle, there must be a place for discussion between researchers representing 'sciences of culture and religion', and **folklorists, ethnologists and anthropologists** in particular. We would like to continue a dialogue that has already been opened on traditional and contemporary celebration (involving not only local communities, but also urban and metropolitan ones), and on changes in functions, American influence on culture, celebration perceived as fun by the consumerist society or invented traditions preferred by ethnic minorities. It is time to put additional questions as to the place of traditional forms of annual and family celebration in the contemporary culture, fashionable examples of carnivalization, public celebration on the street in the form of social and political happenings in which women and youth participate. It would be interesting to answer questions about the lifestyle of age groups, families and occupational groups, or about the

forms of celebration in today's pluralistic society, the role of the Church (that attempts to join in or develop new forms of celebration and participation in culture), 'religion in the insidious embrace of consumerist culture', or the influence of the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) and the lockdown on celebration...

We cordially invite Polish and foreign researchers to publish their works in our volume. We expect the papers to be ascribable to one of the following sections of our periodical:

- Studies;
- Fieldwork materials;
- Comments and discussions.

We only accept original papers that have not been published earlier, edited in accordance with the formal rules of "Lodz Ethnographic Studies". Information and guidelines for the Authors can be found on: <https://apcz.umk.pl/czasopisma/index.php/LSE/about/submissions#authorGuidelines> and <https://lse.ptl.info.pl/dla-autorow/>.

Papers are submitted and the whole editing and review process takes place on Akademyka Platforma Czasopism (Digital Publishing Platform for Magazines): <https://apcz.umk.pl/czasopisma/index.php/LSE>.

**Submission deadline is 31 December 2021.**

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