**Family Backpacking in India - The Case of Israeli Families**

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Research literature on backpacking tourism in recent years has dealt largely with the increasing numbers of adults taking part in this tourism model. However, little attention has so far been paid to families who have also begun to join the backpacking tradition, merging an older population with a new demographic of children.

In this context, I would like to propose a chapter that sheds light on the phenomenon of family backpacking to India's tourist areas, focusing on the population of Israeli families. For several decades India has been a particularly popular backpacking destination for Israelis, gradually absorbing more and more segments of society. In the proposed chapter, I will examine the motivations of families to join the flow of Israeli travelers to India, elaborate upon their identity, and present the patterns of backpacking that characterize them as well as their rationale.

The chapter will be based on two periods of ethnographic fieldwork conducted in India in 2010-2011 and 2013, as well as on tracking online texts that presented or discussed backpacking trips in India for Israeli families in 2010-2017. Drawing on the case study of Israeli traveling families in India, I will argue that a new breed of Western backpacking has emerged that is stripped of ideas of hedonism and debt cancellation that were previously the cornerstones of this tourism model. Its organizing axis is cultural perceptions of parenting and child rearing, which dictate its character and future paths of development.

Khen Ya'ari is a social anthropologist. She recently completed her doctoral research on contemporary Israeli parenting through the prism of family backpacking at Haifa University, Israel. She is currently researching one-child families in Israeli society while maintaining her identity as a serial backpacker-mom.