

Summary

The doctoral thesis is an interdisciplinary approach to the religious phenomenon of institutionalized reincarnation in Tibetan Buddhism called tulku. The problem which was investigated here pertains to the complexity of understanding of this institution analyzed from the point of view of the Tibetans living in Exile with regard to the occurrences connected with the double choice of the Panchen Lamas. The text comprises of four chapters. The first chapter is an explanation of doctrinal assumptions of tulku concept combined with the depiction of the genesis of the institution and its value for Tibetan culture. In the second chapter the history of the tradition of Panchen Lama's lineage is retraced in the light of mutual relationships of religion with politics. The third chapter covers the whole net of events which resulted in the double choice of the Panchen Lamas. The fourth chapter is an analysis of gathered data during field work conducted in Dharamsala. The last part is a summary in which the outcomes of the whole research are discussed. In an appendix "the short" biographies of Panchen Lamas translated from Tibetan to Polish are presented.

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