Abstract

This paper presents some considerations that emerge from current research on indigenous craft production in the Chané community of Campo Durán, province of Salta, Argentina. In the context of the vulnerable social and economic situation that characterizes this group, the handicrafts are an important source of income, and also one of their most prominent traditional manifestations. After examining briefly the history of Chané handicrafts, some contemporary problems related to this activity are revealed, focusing on the economic dimension. In this sense, it is proposed that Chané crafts are undergoing a process of increased dynamism. The following analysis aims to explain this phenomenon and understand its implications in the characterization of the craftsmen and women and their production process. It is argued that the present dynamic of Chané craft production is related to two points: increased possibilities of commercialization and the need to diversify incomes in a context of precarious labor conditions.

Keywords

Chané, Handicrafts, Dynamism.