9370 - Women travelling with other women without a mahram

the question

Is a woman counted as a mahram for a non-related woman when travelling and in other cases, or not?

Detailed answer

Praise be to Allah.

A woman cannot be a mahram for anyone else. The mahram is a man who is forbidden for marriage to the woman because of blood ties, such as her father or brother; or a mahram through marriage, such as her husband, husband's father or husband's son; or a father or son through ridaa' (breastfeeding, i.e., the father or son of the woman who breastfed her), and so on.

It is not permissible for a man to be alone with a non-mahram woman or to travel with her, because the Prophet (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "No woman should travel except with a mahram" (saheeh, agreed upon). And he (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him) said: "No man is alone with a woman, but the third one present with them is the Shaytaan" (narrated by Imaam Ahmad and others, from the hadeeth of 'Umar (may Allah be pleased with him) with a saheeh isnaad).

And Allah is the Source of strength.