

# The Role and Significance of Developing Eco-Tourism in the Socio-Economic Life of the Country

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## *Abstract*

The article presents the special attention is paid to the fact that, in the near future, the tourism of Uzbekistan will not be limited to the achievements in the national economy, but will enter the market of tourist services of the region and the world among the most competitive countries. One of the urgent issues of tourism development in the country is the development of ecological and recreational tourism in the context of economic modernization. Examining this problem on the example of Jizzakh region indicates its greater importance. Because it is at this level that there are organizational and legal foundations for the organization and development of tourism.

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

The main focus on the formation and development of tourism in Uzbekistan began after the state gained independence. To date, tourism activity in our country has been accepted as a priority direction of economic development, and attention to the development of this sector has been raised to the level of state policy. The necessary organizational, legal and economic mechanisms for the development of tourism have been created, relevant legal documents have been adopted by our government, and work in this direction is still ongoing.

Uzbekistan has a huge potential for tourism and recreation, it has a total of 7,400 cultural heritage sites, 209 of which are located in four museum cities - "Ichan Castle in Khiva", "Historical Center

of Bukhara", "Historical Center of Shahrisabz", " It is located in the territory of the city of Samarkand and is included in the UNESCO World Heritage List.

Great reforms are being carried out in order to implement comprehensive measures aimed at fully utilizing the potential of tourism, to accelerate the development of foreign and domestic tourism, to ensure economic growth and the improvement of the quality of services in accordance with world standards, and to increase the share of the tourism network in the growth of the Republic's economy. In particular, we can see these reforms in the adoption of the **CONCEPT** of developing the tourism sector of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2019-2025, which was adopted on the basis of the Decree No. PF-5611 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated January 5, 2019 .

In accordance with this concept, the following tasks were defined.

The goals of the development of the tourism sector of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2019-2025 are to turn tourism into a strategic sector of the national economy, to diversify and increase the quality of tourist services, and to achieve the target indicators indicated in the appendix by improving the tourist infrastructure, including attracting foreign investments and conducting effective advertising and marketing work.

The main development of the tourism industry steps are as follows consists of:

In 2019-2020 - institutional reforms aimed at creating a solid legal base for tourism development, infrastructure modernization and promotion of the country's brand;

In 2021-2025 - to increase the share of the tourism industry in the country's economy. In this direction, by developing the necessary infrastructure and promoting the tourism potential of the republic in the world market, increasing the share of tourism in the country's gross domestic product to 5% (by the end of 2017 - 2.3%), as well as by the end of 2025, more than 9 million tourists, including from far abroad - It is planned to attract 2 million tourists.

In the long term, the tourism of Uzbekistan is not limited to achievements in the national economy, but can enter the market of tourist services of the region and the world among the most competitive countries.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Since the tourism industry is just beginning its development, scientific research on the prospects of this important branch of the economy is being gradually analyzed in<sup>1</sup>our Republic, the essence,

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<sup>1</sup>Pardaev M.Q., Ataboev R. Basics of tourism. Samarkand, SamSIES - 2006. - 78 p.

traditions and strategy of organizing ecological tourism in Uzbekistan, the <sup>2</sup>national tourism development model in Uzbekistan, the organization and management of the national tourism business, and the <sup>3</sup>basics of tourism safety. <sup>4</sup>the first important analyzes were published.

In Uzbekistan, the first textbooks for the training of high- and middle-class specialists in the field of tourism <sup>5</sup>, training manuals <sup>6</sup>, important scientific literature, which are of practical importance for the development of the field, both educational and methodological, were published <sup>7</sup>.

### III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Economic analysis, grouping, comparative analysis and synthesis, induction and deduction, systematic analysis, scientific abstraction, and other methods were widely used in the research process. The practical significance of the research is that the proposals developed serve as a basis for the fundamental improvement of the evaluation mechanism of ecological tourism and the sustainable development of this field.

### IV. ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

The origin of ecological tourism was caused by the increase of the anthropogenic (human activities) load on nature and society resources, cultural and historical tourist resources as a result of international tourism becoming more and more popular.

In the predictions of tourism of the 21st century of the World Tourism Organization, very serious, global problems arise and will intensify in the issues of tourist demand, needs and use of natural resources. Because, in the 70s of the last century, it was proved by European ecologists and economists that the growing popularity of tourism around the world has a negative impact on the environment and nature.

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<sup>2</sup>. Tukhliev N., Abdullaeva T. Ecological tourism: sustainability, tendency and strategy development. "National Encyclopedia of Uzbekistan" Tashkent - 2006. - 415 p.

<sup>3</sup>Tukhliev N., Abdullaeva T. Management and organization, business and tourism to Uzbekistan "National encyclopedia of Uzbekistan" Tashkent - 2006. - 367 pages.

<sup>4</sup>Tukhliev N., Abdullaeva T. Basic safety and tourism. "National Encyclopedia of Uzbekistan" Tashkent - 2008. - 503 p.

<sup>5</sup>Mamatkulov H., Tukhliev I.S., Bektemirov A. International tourism. Tashkent, "Teacher", 2009, Tukhliev I.S., Gudratov G'.Kh., Pardaev M.K. Tourism planning "Teacher", 2010, Tashmurodov T. International tourism. Tashkent ToshDIU, 2001. - 64 p.

<sup>6</sup>Gudratov G'.Kh., Tukhliev I.S. Economy of Tourism Samarkand, SamISI. 2007. - 71 p., Tukhliev I.S., Basics of tourism. Samarkand. Samisi. 2008. - 226 p., Alieva M.T., Umarjonoa A. Economy of tourist countries. Tashkent, Finance. 2005.- 339 p.

<sup>7</sup>Haitboev R., Sattorov A. Tourism route development technology. Samarkand, Samisi. 2009. - 83 p., Haitboev R., Amriddinova R. Marketing Research in Tourism. Samarkand. Samisi. - 2010. - 64 p., Mamatkulov H., Tourism infrastructure. Samarkand. Samisi. 258 p.

Today, anthropogenic pressure affects almost all sectors of the tourism industry in the form of tourism. The following models were developed by the "German Advisory Council on Global Change", which was one of the first to show the intensification of this situation and the levels of influence. Models are called syndromes (a set of symptoms characteristic of one disease) and are submitted to BTT.

1. Land crisis syndrome . The fact that (fertile) lands are becoming unusable for agricultural use and their general exclusion from use strongly hinders and destroys the development of recreation in nature.
2. Breakdown of development . A complete crisis of natural landscapes and a natural disaster in these places, an ecological crisis (Aral Sea), the eternal loss of the main biological species (Turonian tiger).
3. Waste syndrome . Globally, a planetary environmental crisis is threatening human survival as a result of uncontrolled development (land) and disposal (world oceans) of toxic waste.

After the publication of this international document with all its calculations and proofs, more than 400 articles will be published abroad on the results of excellent scientific research on the use of natural and historical-cultural tourist resources in tourism and the negative impact of tourism on these resources.

In 1996, the World Tourism Organization (WTO) and the World Tourism and Travel Council (WTC), the World "Green World" movement, "The concept of sustainable development of tourism in the 21st century" (Adenda 21 for travel and tourism industry) was developed. The document "21st century agenda and comprehensive action program for the tourism industry and travel" was signed by 182 state leaders at the 1992 UN International Conference on Environment and Development.

In 2002, the UN General Assembly in Rio de Janeiro declared 2002 as the "International Year of Ecotourism", dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the "21st Century Agenda" conference. According to P. Shackelford, BTT's expert on Europe, the word ecotourism was used even before the "agenda of the 21st century". Also, there are sources that A. Müller was the first to use the word "ecotourism" in 1978 <sup>8</sup>.

In the Russian state, the term "ecological tourism" began to be published in the press in the 80s of the last century. For the first time, experts of the "Sputnik" youth center of the Irkutsk Oblast Bureau of Youth Tourism of the former Union developed Ecotour... routes, and these ecotour routes

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<sup>8</sup>Alexandrova A.Yu. Geography tourism. Moscow, "KnoRUS", 2010, str. 25-28.

were officially called "Ecological tourism" routes. After that, in 1997, Gujin G.S. . and M. Yu. Belikov and E.V. Klimenoks was one of the first in Russia to introduce the definition that "the basis of ecological tourism is cooperation and protection of the environment." At that time and now, conclusions were made that this definition is the most convenient and represents the true essence of ecotourism <sup>9</sup>.

For the first time in Uzbekistan, the concept of the nature, goals and objectives of ecological tourism development prospects was developed by the State Committee of Uzbekistan "Protection of Nature" <sup>10</sup>.

In the development of tourism in each country, the presence of resources and development factors of tourism is a necessary and inextricably linked situation. Tourism experts understand tourism resources in different ways. In fact, tourism resources and tourism resources mean a single economic sector according to the content. Only the availability of tourist resources is the basis for the formation of tourism. That is, tourist resources are the foundation of tourism development.

An urgent issue at the state level may be some or those important requirements of the society's needs. And the demand comes from the state of development. If the demand is not met, the state of development will worsen and become a risk of failure. In order to get rid of the risk of failure, it is necessary to create a protection system. It is impossible to create a protection system at once, it will take a lot of time, a lot of work, and a lot of money. The saddest thing about it is that a person wastes part of his life to correct his mistakes.

, it will be enough to remember the great words of our grandfather Amir Temur - "If you act thoughtfully, your event will meet your destiny" and follow this saying. <sup>11</sup>

The reason for citing the mentioned comments is that, despite the fact that the development of tourism in our country has become a state-level policy, the development of ecological tourism, which is the most important branch of the tourism industry, is very poorly considered.

Ecological tourism in the field of rational use of our country's natural resources is to introduce the rich and unique nature of our Motherland to the colorful landscape, animal and plant world, to establish friendships between peoples, to make countries and different peoples know each other more widely, and at the same time, to be destroyed in the territory of the Republic of Uzbekistan. in order to preserve and increase the world of rare animals and plants, which are on the verge is to

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<sup>9</sup>Khrabovchenko V.V. Ecological tourism. Moscow, "Academy", 2004. str.3-6.

<sup>10</sup>The concept of ecological tourism development in Uzbekistan. J. Ecology Bulletin, No. 6 Tashkent: 2007, p. 17-26.

<sup>11</sup>Timur's rules.

create the material and technical base of ecotourism in protected areas by implementing the creation of responsive national natural parks.

In the development of ecological tourism, great work is being done on the "Concept of Development of Ecological Tourism in Uzbekistan". At the same time, in the rapid development of ecological tourism in our Republic, solutions are very difficult and serious problems have accumulated. It is considered that the main ecotourism resources in the development of ecological tourism are under state protection.

It will be known that the first priority ecotourism resources are under state protection, where the development of ecotourism is planned in Uzbekistan. This control is very well decided. In all countries of the world, natural areas with their flora and fauna are strictly protected. At the same time, it should be noted that in many countries, especially in nature reserves, where unique species of plants and animals are protected, they are effectively used for the purposes of ecological tourism. An example of this is the increasing popularity of film series about nature reserves, reserves and national parks in Africa, Canada, India, America, and Australia.

The most important reason for the creation of such film series is the development of legal norms for the use of protected areas in ecotourism, and these laws are strictly followed by both ecotourists and their hosts.

Only those conducting scientific researches are admitted to nature reserves in our republic. Even special scientific expeditions to these nature reserves require permission from the State Committee for Nature Protection of the Republic of Uzbekistan <sup>12</sup>.

Also, the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan prohibits access to rivers and reservoirs of our Republic.

It is known from the natural geography of Uzbekistan that there are natural ecological regions with unique natural features in the territory of Jizzakh region in the natural geography of Central Asia. These natural geographical regions are also fully protected by the state. Therefore, the solution to the problems of the republic in the development of ecological tourism in Jizzakh region depends on the future and prospects of ecotourism in this region. However, the main problems of ecotourism development in the region are determined as a result of our research.

As it is known that tourism is a complex socio-economic field, first of all it is required to study the concepts and knowledge of the local population in the field of tourism. Countries that are

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<sup>12</sup>Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Specially protected areas. Tashkent, May 7, 1993.

on the list of international leaders in tourism have developed domestic, local tourism first of all in their countries.

From our observations on the field of tourism in our country, it became clear that, first of all, the population does not have enough information about the true nature, goals and tasks of tourism, a new important socio-economic field in our country. Also, they did not hear information about tourist organizations operating in the region. At the same time, they expressed their desire to rest in the mountains and what conditions they would like to organize for this.

## **V. CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based on the tourism potential, the analysis of the results obtained in the Jizzakh region and the conducted research and survey revealed that the problems of the development of ecological and recreational tourism in the Jizzakh region are inextricably linked with the serious problems of the development of ecotourism and recreation tourism in our republic, and the following problems of the development of ecotourism and recreation tourism in the region determined:

1. Restrictions on the use of these resources in the development of ecotourism and recreation tourism due to the fact that the main resources of ecotourism in the region (ecotourism resources are also recreation resources in full) (state nature reserves, national parks, state orders, water bodies, mountain forestry farms, etc.) are separate protected areas of the state :
2. Legal norms for the use of ecological tourism resources in tourism are not fully developed:
3. Unsatisfactory status of entrepreneurship, initiative, tourism business, socio-economic growth, employment of local labor resources, education-propaganda, interest, and guidance work in the development of ecological and recreational tourism, currency and national currency inflow into local and state budgets:
4. The fact that ecotourism and recreation tourism resources in the region have not been registered in terms of tourism use, descriptions have not been created:
5. Non-development and advertising of tourist routes and tourist excursion routes to ecological and recreational areas:
6. Unsatisfactory state of creation of infrastructures for providing services to tourists in ecotourism and recreation tourism facilities:
7. In the development of ecotourism and recreation tourism in the region, lack of development of domestic and international advertisements for the tourism market:

8. Lack of organization of management (tourist organizations, tourist firms, business activities) in the organization of ecotourism and recreation tourism routes, excursions, recreation for the residents of the region.

As a result of a serious study of the mentioned problems, taking into account the unity of the potential opportunities for the development of these tourisms in the region, we believe that the promising directions for the development of recreation and ecotourism in the Jizzakh region will be as follows.

1. Determining ecological tourism and recreation tourism resources in the region, developing a geographic map, creating tariff descriptions of each resource and object.
2. Levels of tourism use of ecotourism and recreation tourism resources in the region, development of legal and regulatory documents.
3. In the development of ecotourism and recreation tourism in the region, development of education-propaganda, interest, guidance programs, organization and financial support of entrepreneurship in the position of the regional government, strengthening of tourism broadcasts and programs in regional mass media, radio and television.
4. Development of programs for the organization of recreation conditions for the residents of the region in recreation facilities.
5. Development of programs for the use of regional ecotourism and recreation resources in international and domestic tourism.
6. Starting to create infrastructures for the provision of tourist excursion services in ecological tourism and recreation tourism facilities in the region.
7. Promotion of ecotourism and recreation resources in the region to the domestic tourism and international tourism market.
8. Development and advertising of complex tourist routes, tourist excursion routes of ecological tourism and recreation tourism.
9. Development of differentiated socio-economic programs for the provision of recreation services to the population.
10. To substantiate the economic and social effectiveness of the organization of tourist companies and tourist organizations in the region, to justify the local administrations of the organization of ecological and recreational tourism, to provide solutions to local socio-economic problems, to develop scientific public recommendations.



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