

Pilgrimage Tourism Centers and Geography

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Abstract

This article describes pilgrimage tourism, including the history of the formation of the phrase "pilgrimage" and its meaning, its place in the world and in Uzbekistan in the field of tourism, how important it is today, the unique characteristics of world religions such as Christianity, Islam, and Buddhism. we will dwell on the tourists who visit the holy places and the rituals of pilgrimage.

Key words: definition of "Pilgrimage", pilgrimage tourism, religious pilgrimage, shrine, mosque, church, mausoleum.

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MAIN PART: Pilgrimage tourism is a type of religious tourism and is a collection of pilgrimage trips by representatives of different religions. The definition of "pilgrimage" comes from the Latin word "date". The inhabitants of Jerusalem welcomed Jesus Christ with a "palm branch". It is done by visiting and traveling to places of faith and religious objects for prayer and pilgrimage. Pilgrimage tourism is currently a widespread tourism industry. Pilgrimage tourism is essentially the process of visiting places of pilgrimage. Pilgrimages are usually long journeys of days, weeks or even months for religious purposes. They are places where people of faith go to strengthen their relationship with their religion, encompassing a whole journey. Pilgrimage tourism may include visits to mosques and churches or other religious sites in a particular city or region where a visit is possible. Pilgrimage tourism is a type of tourism that fully or strongly motivates tourists to achieve religious attitudes and traditions. Pilgrimage tourism is a set of pilgrimage trips by representatives of different religions. Traditionally, it refers to religious travel, but it can also refer to secular travel that has special significance for the pilgrim. The journey, which is often long and sometimes difficult, is an opportunity for people to reflect. Pilgrimages can be a way to deepen relationships with religion. It's definitely a way to show how committed you are to the faith, and it's also an opportunity to learn more about the religion itself. As a form of travel,

pilgrimage allows people to visit holy places. A traveler traveling for religious purposes is a person who goes outside the country of permanent residence for a period of not more than six months to visit holy places and religious centers.

Religious tourism should be understood as activities related to providing services and meeting the needs of travelers who travel to holy places and religious centers outside the usual environment.

Religious tourism is divided into two main types:

- ✓ pilgrimage tourism;
- ✓ excursion and educational religious tourism

Each religion has its own beliefs, customs and rituals of religious pilgrimage. Established pilgrimage rituals of world religions; they are:

- Pilgrimage in Christianity - travel to the Holy Land and other geographical places of sacred importance for Christian devotion for the purpose of prayer and worship, for example: (Pilgrimage Church); in general, the pilgrims visit holy places for a generation. Christian traditions are based on the desire of Christ, the apostles to pray before the miraculous icons, to immerse themselves in the holy waters of the Jordan River and holy springs; penitential pilgrimages are expected as a sign of Greek repentance;
- Pilgrimage in Islam - Hajj ceremony: Muslims who visit Mecca and Medina and perform the prescribed rituals there;
- Pilgrimage in Hinduism and Buddhism - kora - the ceremony of walking around the shrine;
- ✓ among Hindus - visiting Prayag and Varanasi (Benares, India) (the latter among Jains);
- ✓ Buddhists have Buddhist shrines in India;
- ✓ among Japanese Buddhists and Shintoists - Nara settlement;
- ✓ among Tibetan Buddhists - the settlement of Lhasa (Tibet);
- Judaism's Pilgrimage Ritual: During the First and Second Temple periods, the three annual "pilgrimage festivals" (Passover, Shavuot, Sukkot) included pilgrimages to Ram;
- The Bahá'í pilgrimage is the residence of the holy places of Haifa and Acre.

Pilgrimage tourism in Christianity

Christianity is the largest religion in the world by the number of believers. about 2.6 billion people (almost every third of the Earth's population). Christianity includes two main branches: the Orthodox Church (Eastern Church) and the Catholic Church (Western Church). Many scholars also identify as branches of Christianity Protestantism, Monophysitism and Nestorianism, as well as many religious currents, movements and sects. In fact, Protestantism is only a branch of the Western Church, that is, Catholicism. Monophysitism and Nestorianism are heresies condemned by the East and the West Church. The specific characteristics of Christian pilgrims are mainly determined by the religious consciousness of believers.

Main reasons to visit:

- ✓ the desire to pray and touch the miraculous icon, indestructible monuments;
- ✓ recognition in a religious center or religious center or from a well-known person. religious figure;
- ✓ performing charity work;
- ✓ donation;
- ✓ achieving guidance;

- ✓ recovery from illness;
- ✓ to fulfill the oath.

The characteristics of the pilgrimage in Christianity can be different directions, sects and sects. The nature of these trips, their intensity depends on the specific economic and political situation of another country, the level of material well-being of citizens, their social and professional status. Religious tourists are influenced directly or indirectly by the geographical location and climate of travel destinations.

Christianity is the second oldest world religion after Buddhism. a religion with a rich cultural and spiritual heritage. In many countries of the world, there are many Christian shrines and monuments, displayed in museums in most major cities with cultural values.

Pilgrimage tourism in Islam

Taking into account the religious tourism of Muslims, it can be noted that there is a pilgrimage with a specific purpose. Every Muslim should go to Hajj at least once in his life. Hajj to the holy cities of Mecca and Medina. A characteristic feature is the sharp increase in the number of pilgrims. During the Hajj, which Muslims perform once a year, the calendar dates change according to the month. Only Muslims can visit these cities, which limits the excursion, because excursionists - representatives of other religions - cannot visit the main shrines.

If we look at the geography of religious places in Islam, as mentioned above, pilgrimage involves visiting the two holy cities in Islam - Mecca and Medina, located in Saudi Arabia.

These pilgrimages are divided into two categories:

- 1) hajj (big pilgrimage);
- 2) Umrah (small pilgrimage).

Mecca and Medina are visited by about 2 million pilgrims every year. The first pilgrimage is the largest mosque in the world - Haram Bait Ullah. Inside the mosque is the shrine of the Kaaba. The "Kaaba" comes from the shape of the building, which looks like a cube, but is actually rectangular, measuring about 13.1 m, and 15 m high. The Kaaba is built of gray stone from the surrounding mountains, covered with a 25 cm high marble plinth. The shrine of the Kaaba is covered with a black blanket (muslin). This blanket is produced every year in Egypt. Just before the arrival of the pilgrims, the black veil was replaced by a white bag. At the end of the pilgrimage month, a new black veil is worn again, and the old one is cut into pieces and sold as souvenirs to the pilgrims. The second is to visit Madinah for Umrah. Combined with pilgrimage to Mecca. The distance between Mecca and Medina is 300 km. Pilgrims usually travel this distance by plane or car. The mosque in Medina is smaller than Mecca. Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) was buried there. In Medina, pilgrims climb Jabal al-Nur mountain to visit the cave where the first revelation was given to the great prophet Muhammad (pbuh) on Jabal mountain. Pilgrims visit famous battlefields and mosques.

In addition to the centers of pilgrimage in Mecca and Medina, Islamic pilgrims visit other religious monuments in other countries of the world. One of the most important shrines of Islam is located in Jerusalem.

Khalifa Umar Mosque ("Dome of the Rock"). It is located on Mount Moriah, on the site of the king's former temple. This place is holy for Christians, Jews and Muslims, because Abraham sacrificed his son Isaac gathered here. For Muslims, this place is important because the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) made a night journey from here to heaven.

Other important Muslim pilgrimage sites are:

- ✓ In Istanbul, there is the Blue Mosque (former St. Sophia Cathedral);
- ✓ Umayyad Mosque in Damascus;

- ✓ Golden Mosque in Baghdad;
- ✓ In Cairo - Ibn Tulun and Sultan Hasan Mosque;
- ✓ In Delhi - Qutub Minar and Quwwat ul Islam Mosque

Religious tourism has a great emotional impact on people. Many people come back changed after the pilgrimage, having solved some of the contradictions in life, rested and come back in a good mood. The development of religious tourism is now very important, the rapid development of infrastructure and, finally, allowing people who want to visit holy places to purify themselves and cleanse their souls.

Pilgrimage tourism in Buddhism

Buddhism (from the Sanskrit word "Buddha", literally enlightened) is a religious-philosophical doctrine (dharma) about spiritual awakening (bodhi) that arose in the VI century BC. In ancient India. The founder of the doctrine is Siddhartha Gautama, who later received the name Shakyamuni Buddha.

The followers of this teaching themselves called it "Dharma". (Law, doctrine) or "Buddhadharma" (Teachings of the Buddha). "Buddhism" was created by Europeans in the 19th century.

It is believed to be one of the oldest religions in the world, recognized by different peoples with completely different traditions. "Without understanding Buddhism, it is impossible to understand the great cultures of the East - the Indian, Chinese, Tibetan and Mongolian cultures, which have been steeped in the spirit of Buddhism to their last foundations."

The largest number of Buddhists live in the following countries:

Japan - 72 million people

Thailand - 52 million people

Myanmar - 37 million people

Vietnam - 35 million people

China - 34 million people

Sri Lanka - 12 million people

Republic of Korea - 12 million people

Cambodia - 7 million people

India - 6 million people

99.1% - Asia

0.4% - Europe

0.4% - America

0.1% - other regions

Buddhism is one of the 3 world religions. It appeared in Ancient India in the 6th-5th centuries. V. BC. and distributed in Southeast and Central Asia, Central Asia and Siberia. This religion is based on man's inner desire for spiritual realization (nirvana), which is achieved through meditation, wisdom and high moral values. One of the centers of Buddhism is located in the highlands of Tibet in the city of Lhasa. Here is the monastery and palace of the Dalai Lama, the Buddhist spiritual leader. Built in the 17th century, the palace has more than 1,000 rooms, 10,000 objects of worship, and 20,000 statues. Until 1959, the palace was the winter residence of the Dalai Lama. After being expelled from the country by the Chinese Communists, he made his way to India.

In Kandy (Sri Lanka) there is another shrine of the Buddhist world - the left tooth of the Buddha, which came here many centuries after the cremation of the Buddha's body. Every year, at the end of July -

beginning of August, Buddhists from all over the world gather in connection with the removal of the holy relic from the temple, and a colorful celebration is held for 10 days. The city of Nara (Japan) is one of the most revered cities among Buddhists. About 3 million pilgrims visit it every year.

Separately, a visit to Mount Kailash and Lake Monasarovar (Tibet) should be mentioned. Mount Kailash is a sacred mountain for representatives of 4 religions - Buddhism, Hinduism, Jainism and the ancient Tibetan religion of Bon. In the book of the famous Russian ophthalmologist E.R. Muldasheva "In Search of the City of Gods" a scientific expedition to this area is charmingly described. Mount Kailash (height 6666 meters) is the most magnificent pyramid in the world.

In the Middle Ages, religious pilgrimage acquired a special mass character in the form of the Crusade. It was held under the banner of the fight against Muslims, under the motto of liberating Christian holy places from them.

Pilgrimage activities became more active in the 15th and 16th centuries. Most of those who go to the Holy Land (Jerusalem) mask their goals and interests with a religious pilgrimage.

Based on the work of a number of scientists, in particular A. Yu. Aleksandrova, the following 11 macro-regions of pilgrimage can be distinguished:

- Orthodox countries of the world: Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Georgia, Greece, Bulgaria, Romania, etc.;
- the majority of foreign Europe with the dominance of Catholicism and Protestantism, numerous movements;
- North America (NA) with a dominant position of Christianity;
- Latin America (LA), where Christianity and traditional folk beliefs of the local population prevail;
- Islamic-dominated North Africa;
- The predominance of Islam and the presence of centers of Christianity and traditional folk beliefs in East and partly West Africa;
- Western Asia dominated by Islam and enclaves of Christianity and Judaism;
- South Asia with the spread of Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam, as well as centers of Christianity, Sikhism and Jainism;

Southeast Asia with enclaves of Buddhism, Islam, Christianity and Hinduism;

- ✓ Eastern Asia where Buddhism, Confucianism, Shintoism dominate, Christianity and Islam;
- ✓ Central Asia under Islamic rule; Buddhism dominates Central Asia (Tibet).

Each macro-region is primarily known for its secular centers of pilgrimage. They receive the international flow of believers and are often combined with the functions of administrative, industrial, cultural and touristic centers of religious specialization. In addition, there are religious objects of national and local significance in the macro-regions. The city of Jerusalem is one of the largest religious centers in the world. Jerusalem is also a holy center for believers of three religions: Islam, Christianity, and Judaism.

These macro-regions are divided based on the potential of existing religious shrines. Among them, the most important regions are the Vatican in Europe, the cities of Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia and Jerusalem in Western Asia. In Central Asia, there are religious tourist resources in ancient Bukhara and Samarkand, Tashkent, Termiz, Khiva and other cities of Uzbekistan.

Pilgrimages usually involve visiting the shrines of prominent figures of various religions. Since the place to be visited is sacred, many believe that praying there means that the prayer is more likely to be answered. Some shrines and sites rely entirely on this impressive power of tourism for their income. This, in turn, affects the surrounding areas. Tourists rent hotels and restaurants. Jobs will be created for guides,

souvenir makers, photographers, etc.

Pilgrimage is to go to holy places, graves and cemeteries and perform certain religious and educational prayers. Objects with the status of holy places, places of religious events, burial places of great saints of all times and their followers, holy places of lost religions, objects of perennial pilgrimage, places the appearance of nature is the only landscape created by forces. The development of pilgrimage traditions is common to all major religions. In Islam, the cities of Mecca and Medina are the main cities of pilgrimage tourism. In addition, Jerusalem (Khalifa Umar Mosque on Mt. Moriah), Istanbul (Blue Mosque), Damascus (Ummavi Mosque), Baghdad (Golden Mosque), Gohira (Ibn Tulun and Sultan Hasan Mosque) and Delhi (Qutb Minar minaret and Quwwat ul Islam). mosque) are also important holy places of pilgrimage for Muslims. In practice, pilgrimage tourism includes all types of tourist services related to religion, various types of mysticism, unexplained phenomena and traditions. Today, the tourism industry is developing at a rapid pace, geographical problems such as tourism and historical tourism, pilgrimage, ecotourism, educational tourism, sports, medical tourism and opportunities for the development of tourism and recreation in Uzbekistan, competition in the international tourism market is increasing.

The sacred places named after our ancestors serve as a great heritage for the future generations with the lifestyle, culture, national and religious values, architecture and architecture of our people. In order to preserve the entire spiritual and cultural heritage of our people, to preserve, repair and beautify every step, monument, shrines to the required level, to improve their infrastructure, to create comfortable conditions for pilgrims and travelers, 20 monuments were built. repairs, improvements and improvements are being made. Shrines and shrines located in the territory of Tashkent region were given to the regional administration of the "Golden Heritage" international charity fund, and 6 to the "Waqf" fund. In particular, by the regional branch of the international charitable society "Golden Meros" "Prophet father" in Ohangaron district (2001), "Shoabdumalik bobo" (2009-2018), "Zarkent father" in Parkent district (2002). Currently, the shrines of "Bukhangar Buva", "Ansari Baba", and "Hazrati Mulla" in Boston district are being designed. Zangiota, Hazrat Ali, Shodimalik father, Buzruk father, Zarkent father, Paygambar father, Shamirgori saint, Parpi father, Sheikh Umar Vali Buzruk father are located in the region. , Kyrgyz shrines are famous, pilgrims visit here not only from our republic, but also from neighboring republics and countries such as Central Asia, Russia, Kazakhstan, Turkey, Indonesia, Malaysia, Iran, Pakistan.

Increasing the attractiveness of the region for the development of tourism depends, first of all, on increasing the interest in knowing its historical and cultural possibilities.

It includes historical objects, shrines and other spiritual and cultural monuments, folk crafts, museums. Historical-cultural heritage includes all socio-cultural environment with all its traditions and customs and features of everyday life. Almost all shrines are of interest to tourists. Currently, there are more than 10 major centers of pilgrimage tourism in the world, and the presence of Central Asian countries with Islamic values in them indicates that there are great opportunities for the development of this field in our country.

CONCLUSION In conclusion, it can be said that religious-pilgrimage tourism did not appear today. It is an ancient form of travel that has been historically formed. At that time, in the 1st century AD, the population of the world was 200 million people, but by now it has exceeded 8 billion, and we can see that the number of believers has also increased accordingly. We can see that the demand for goods and services has also increased. In general, pilgrimage tourism has taken an independent place as a type of tourism today and is becoming more and more popular within domestic and foreign tourism.

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