


Chapter 23

Technology–Powered Pilgrimage Innovations: Shaping the Future of Religious Tourism

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ABSTRACT

The chapter examines emerging trends and real-world examples of how technology has affected religious tourism. It also discusses how technology will change holy site visits. Blockchain to organise pilgrimages, AI to create personalised trip ideas, and drones to photograph and record heritage sites are examples of emerging methods. The report includes target case studies of religion tourism destinations worldwide using technology well. The study demonstrates that technology makes sacred locations easier and more entertaining to visit. Virtual and augmented reality, as well as history and culture mobile apps, make these destinations easy to visit. Case examples demonstrate how technology can manage crowds, translate holy books, protect cultural assets, and promote eco-friendly travel. Chapter addresses how 5G, IoT, and hands-on activities could change religious tourism. It suggests ways to make pilgrimages more popular and foster business and cultural linkages. Technology alters sacred site visits. It depicts how technology could change travel

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to different regions.

INTRODUCTION

The combination of technology and tourism in recent years has transformed how travellers experience and connect with locations worldwide. Religious tourism is the most popular, drawing millions of pilgrims and visitors annually. This introduction explores the changing landscape of technology-powered religious tourism. Religion does not use contemporary technology, but it does enhance the pilgrimage experience and build sustainable, new cultural exchange and understanding channels.

This study examines emerging patterns, case studies, and future implications of technology's impact on religious tourism. The study examines the interaction between technology and religious tourism to determine how technological developments will shape pilgrimage and spiritual journeys.

This work will assess ongoing trends, case studies of successful implementations, and the look-ahead to provide valuable findings for tourism stakeholders, policy-makers, scholars, and practitioners from for-profit and non-profit organizations interested in using technology to sustain religious tourism destinations

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This systematic literature review employed PRISMA, or Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews. A complete literature review requires choosing sources, research, and membership criteria. This research sought key articles on Asian nations' SARS-related issues in 2003.

Inclusion Criteria

The Campbell Collaboration Users Group approach was employed in this research. Seven workers and researchers were asked to choose research articles. The selection considerations were established similarly to Kim, Bai, Kim, and Chon. Study papers from 2003 to 2020 regarding how the SARS outbreak influenced tourism were the primary draw. The issue was so significant and wide that tourism, leisure, management, and social science literature was examined.

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