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CHAPTER – I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

"Tourism is the temporary, short-term movement of people to destination outside the places where they normally live and work and their activities during the stay at each destination. It includes movements for all purposes (1976, Tourism Society of England, 1976)". Tourism has been described in various ways but may be thought of as the connection and experience arising out of the journeys and temporary stay of people travelling primarily for leisure and recreational purpose. Tourism is thus a multifaceted activity and geographically complex one as different services are sought and supplied at different stages from the origin to the destination.

Tourism has emerged as one of the most important instruments to boost economic development in many of the countries across the globe as an engine for economic development, the earnings of foreign exchange, its contribution & creation of employment.

Tourism is classically regarded as travelling for recreation although this definition has been expanded in recent years to include any travel outside of one's normal working or living area.

The tourist originated when large numbers of middle class people began to join aristocratic travelers. As societies became wealthier, and people lived longer, it became not only possible but probable that lower middle and middle class people steadily employed would retire in good health and with some significant savings.

India has diverse culture and heritage in the North, it has the great Himalayas which gives tremendous opportunities for mountain tourism or adventure tourism. It provides great challenges and difficulties to mountaineers. In the Southern part of the country there is Indian Ocean which gives opportunities to beach tourism and attract large number of foreign and domestic tourists. In the North West there is Thar Desert with Aravalis mountains range. It is highly suitable for desert tourism and heritage tourism.

In this way India have very rich natural resources like geographical and cultural diversity, forests, lakes, mountains, rivers and rivulets, sacred shrines, historic monuments and hospitable people, which are necessary for thriving tourism activity.

Pilgrims with pilgrimage tourism is one of the fastest growing tourism in the world. Not only has it become an important component of the Indian life style but it has had a profound impact on other peoples of the world and the environments in which they live.

Today the relevance of pilgrim centres and pilgrimage tourism is growing day by day and different aspects of religious travel have been considered depending on the sacred places visited by a pilgrim in his life such as the relevance of the Shrine visited by a pilgrim, the location which refers to the pilgrims area etc.

Parassinikadavu is a small temple in Anthoor municipality. This town is located about 16 KM from Kannur corporation in the Kannur district of Kerala state south India. It is a famous tourist destination and pilgrim center in Malabar. Parassinikadavu town is a popular tourist destination, known for its Muthappan temple, Snake Park, Amusement park etc.

Prassinimuthappan was born during the period cast harassment and economic exploitation of the victims. He said that the name of Parachikadave is called Parassinikadavu. Parassinikadavu is the place chosen for MuthappanAaarattu decorative and everlasting festival. That is exactly precious backbone of the parasite as done in the countries, but he is permanently settled the foliage.

SreeMuthappan was introduced to the earth and to the protect of dharmas. Muthappan become the king of minds of devotees to fight against the slavery and the exploitation and the injustice of the poor and the savior of the poor. Muthappan is the one of the ultimate mightily warrior who has been astonished by the divine miracles and helped him the long run by saving the miracles.

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Pilgrimage tourism is the type of tourism that entirely or powerfully motivates tourists for the achievement of religious attitude and practices. One of the oldest types of

visiting the attractions and a global experience in the olden times of spiritual growth, it can be differentiated into different forms. The temporary religious sightseeing is well-known by excursions to close by pilgrimage centers or religious conferences. The durable implies visits of quite a few days or weeks to nationwide and worldwide pilgrimage sites or conferences. This paper investigates the issues and challenges of pilgrimage tourism and also its civilizing significance in ParassinikadavuMuthappan Temple.

Muthappan Temple, also called ParassinikadavuMuthappan temple is a Hindu temple, located at Anthoor Municipality on the banks of the Valapattanam river about 10 km from Taliparamba and 16 km from Kannur City in Kannur District, Kerala. The temple is also a popular destination for travellers and pilgrims to savour the charm of Theyyam, a ritual that is performed here on a daily basis. Men adorning masks and costumes with a riot of colours perform this temple art form and it represents conflict between good and evil, with good ultimately emerging victorious.

1.3 SCOPE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Pilgrims with pilgrimage tourism is one of the fastest growing tourism in the world. Not only has it become an important component of the Indian life style but it has had a profound impact on other peoples of the world and the environments in which they live. Parassinikadavu is a famous tourist destination and pilgrim center in Malabar. Parassinikadavu town is a popular tourist destination, known for its Muthappan temple, Snake Park, Amusement park etc. In this context it is significant to analyze the importance of pilgrimage tourism in Parassinikadavu.

1.4 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To study the relevance of pilgrimage tourism in spiritual places.
- To study the mythology and history of Parassini temple.
- To find out the importance of Parassini as a religious tourism centre.

1.5 METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

Methodology is the systematic, theoretical analysis of the methods applied to a field of study. It comprises the theoretical analysis of the body of methods and principles associated with a branch of knowledge. Typically, it encompasses concepts such as paradigm theoretical model phases and quantitative or qualitative techniques.

A methodology does not set out to provide solutions, it is not the something as a method, set of methods or so called, “the best practices” can be applied to specific case for example, to calculate a specific result. The proper objective setting of the study is ensuring a specific result. Taking this objective into consideration, the methodology comprises the source of data, selection sample size and methods, questionnaire construction of data.

1.5.1 SOURCES OF DATA

Both primary and secondary sources of data were used together the data with regard to tourist and officials. Primary data include the method of gathering data with the help of questionnaire. Tourists and officials were administered the questionnaire at the study state. The secondary data pertaining to the Andoor Municipality and tourism. In addition many institutions, libraries, interpretation centres, were also visited to collect hard and soft copies of literature for getting an indebt knowledge and clear understanding on the research problem. Several research references, such as journals, books periodical web references and data basis were also reffered to understand the concepts, current trends, challenges, problems and development of tourism and aspects in relation with other key elements.

1.5.2 Selection of Sample size and sample method.

A convenient sampling method is adopted for the study. A total 50 pilgrimage tourist are interviewed with a structured questionnaire. Questionnaire distributed to the tourist and travelers in the site area to collect the visitor experience and suggestions for the better development of Parassini Temple.

The time period for the collection of data is schedule from November 2019 to February 2020.

1.5.3 SAMPLE SIZE

For the present research work a total of 50 samples have been collected from the tourists of Andoor Municipality. The data collected, filtered and finally determined for data analysis.

1.5.4 QUESTIONNAIRE CONSTRUCTION.

Questionnaire is considered a research instrument used to capture the best data from the field after the preliminary field works. Survey and review of literature. A well-structured questionnaire was prepared.

The questionnaire was designed for the pilgrimage tourists of Parassinikadavu.

1.6 DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

After the primary data is collected the data is coded and filtered and finally the 50 questionnaires from the tourist have been finally retained for data analysis. The selected data is coded and feuded in Microsoft Excel software and analyzed to get the output. Simple percentage method is used to get the output. And this data are to be converted into the graphs and diagrams.

1.7 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

- Time allowed for the study is limited
- Inadequacy of periodical data
- No previous experience
- Lack of reliability of data

