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The Impact of Geographical Location on Religious Tourism Policy in Iraq

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Abstract

Tourism is today one of the most growing industries in the world after it has become one of the most important sectors in international trade. In addition, the role of tourism in the development of private sector institutions and non-governmental organizations, after the expansion of the scope of the sectors and services concerned with them, and the huge basic infrastructure required to support them such as transport, banks, financial institutions, advertising institutions, etc. Which made this sector a target for economic development programs. Iraq possesses the elements of tourism development, as it is one of the most important countries in which the terrain varies, as well as a civilization thousands of years old. In addition, Iraq contains the most important holy shrines of the prophets and righteous saints, which are scattered throughout the country, which makes Iraq one of the most important tourist attractions if the development of this leading sector in the process of economic development, which can be one of the most important economic resources of the state, in addition to oil, whose prices change from time to time.

Keywords: Tourism, Iraq, Economic Development.

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Introduction

Tourism is one of the vital activities at the global level, and the tourism industry is one of the most important global industries, as it has become the industry of the age and the future, which has no limits to its development, as it is the most civilized and the least polluted. Due to its role in diversifying sources of income and its contribution to the employment of large numbers of manpower, Iraq, has many elements of tourist attractions such as natural geographical phenomena such as mountains, marshes, lakes, tourist and archaeological sites, religious shrines, and cultural heritage, which are estimated to number more than 6500 archaeological, religious and recreational sites, except It has not received the required and appropriate attention to it and faces many obstacles and challenges that still face tourism development.

Therefore, this vital sector should be activated and serious thinking should be planned to develop a clear strategy for tourism development that is launched first by the state in dealing with tourism activities as an important economic resource of the state, and to achieve scientific and material capabilities to develop its performance and activate its movement, develop tourism facilities and improve basic and community services.

Research Hypothesis

The research stems from the hypothesis that following a strategy based on supporting and developing the tourism sector, followed by this sector, is of great importance, which is reflected positively in achieving tourism development and contributes to achieving economic diversification.

Search Structure

To verify the hypothesis of the research, it was divided into three sections. The first topic dealt with tourism development, the theoretical and conceptual framework, while the second topic was indicators and components of tourism and its role in achieving economic diversification in Iraq. The third topic was religious tourism in Iraq, the reality and prospects, and concluded with conclusions and recommendations.

Tourism Development Theoretical and Café Framework

1. Tourism Development and its Relationship to Economic Development

The concept of development emerged as a basic image from World War II, but development actually started in the eighteenth century, and the concept of development became widely used instead of the term material progress, or economic progress to denote the occurrence of the development referred to in society (Ibrahim Khalil, 2012). However, the concept of development was used to denote the process of bringing about a set of radical changes in a particular society, (Ahmed Fawzy, 2007) with the aim of society gaining the ability to continuously self-development at a rate that ensures the increasing improvement in the quality of life for all its members. Part of the comprehensive economic development and the understanding of tourism planning is closely related to the knowledge of the concept and components of tourism development and the nature of the relationships between these components, as tourism development is the most recent of the many types of development, which in turn is permeated in all the various elements of development, and is almost identical with comprehensive development, All the elements of comprehensive development are the elements of scientific tourism (Hmed Gaid, 2009), so it is the philosophy of tourism development in many countries For the world, one of the contemporary issues, as it aims to contribute to increasing real per capita income, and therefore it is one of the main tributaries of national income. The tourism diet is defined as the role that can improve tourism activity in the growth of the national economy in terms of improving the balance of payments and increasing the state's currency resources foreign and local, creating job opportunities, and increasing urban expansion by creating tourist attractions in remote areas. (Iman Abdul, 2009).

Tourism science can also be defined as achieving a continuous and balanced increase in swimming resources by optimizing the use of tourism production resources (and defined by the European Agency for Environment and National Parks in 1993 (sustainable tourism development) as an activity that preserves the environment, achieves economic and social integration, and elevates the architectural environment. It is the development that meets and popularizes the needs of swimmers and current violent societies and ensures the leadership of future generations, and it is the science that manages resources in a way that achieves economic, social, and aesthetic benefits while preserving cultural unity and the continuity of ecological processes, biodiversity and basic components of life (Hammadi, 2008).

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The Concept of Tourism Secondly

Tourism Concept

Tourism is an innate need for man, whose activities are controlled by a number of elements that made it an existential solution for man. And seeking blessings from him, or other human gatherings that he recognizes, where the means of transportation were primitive and simple and developed with the passage of time until they became carrying all the means of comfort and safety, and different means of transporting man as well as his habits and desires to travel with the modern developments that accompanied this universe that made the world close to each other By providing the basic facilities and services it needs (Jalila Hassan, 2996). In order to give an understanding of tourism, we find the word tourism in the Holy Qur'an in more than one Qur'anic verse. We note in Surat al-Tawbah the Almighty's statement in the first verse: (Innocence from God and His Messenger to those whom he covenanted among the polytheists, so they will dwell in the earth for four months and know that you are not God's miracle and that God will shame the unbelievers). This means, polytheists, that the tourists will be safe for a period of four months, during which no one will object to you. And after the tourism industry has become a science, an art, and a business to attract and reside tourists and provide services that satisfy their needs and desires, and one of the main pillars to support the national economy and direct investment in natural resources that have a tourism side and are considered an economic and social individual.

Not to be underestimated in the world, and it has resulted in its current size and potential future growth and serious repercussions for the local environment and the global environment. Several international reports issued by the World Tourism Organization (WTO) of the United Nations, the growth of international tourism has increased, despite the world's exposure to many economic crises, where the number of tourists in 1990, 438 million tourists reached 681 million tourists in 2000 and 35 million tourists in 2010. The volume of intervention from international tourism reached 852 billion US dollars in 2010.

And the World Tourism Organization that the number of international tourists coming will reach about one billion tourists by the year 2020, as shown in Figure No.

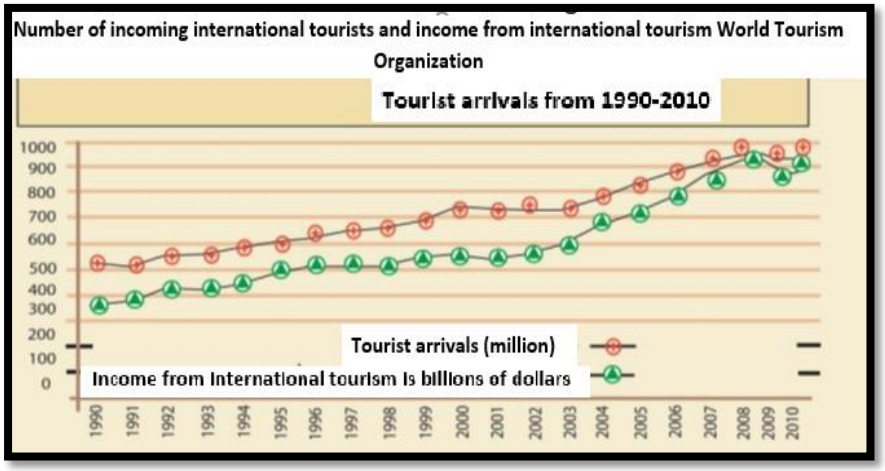

Fig. 1: The Number of International Tourists Coming Will Reach about One Billion Tourists by the Year 2020

The Importance of Tourism

The Bishopric of bitterness, the spaghetti tricks, I advised the tourist Koura d, which is lost in its growth rates, the growth rates of agriculture and industry, and it is an important problem that includes national treachery and improvement of the balance of payments, a source of health currencies, and an opportunity for labor, and here Download quantitative programs, which led to many looms that recognize the tourism environment to meet and explore complex tourism projects as a consultative factor for tourists, so tourism in the economy intends to produce a good commodity for them in the parts of the national economy, and in commodities sometimes and sometimes German, so it has been called (in the tourism industry) Many countries in which there are suspicions of archeology, history and nature contributed to a large proportion of the total gross product (and the gross national product).

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This will increase the national income of individuals. Fourth, the effects of tourism tourism on the passage in the lives of societies through several thanks, including: A- Tourism is the most important in the cultural, civilizational and environmental fields: tourism achieves an essential basis, no matter how much skills and strength it has. The rule of sieges because it contributes to the definition and rapprochement between the customs, traditions, comfort, and prosperity of nations and peoples, and through tourism, the Municipality of the East with the Arabs and Aak, and that one of the sites of the tourist is to learn about the traditions of the country to which he travels. Al-Takkiah Al-Takkiah for 18 years started from the developed and developing countries, and the conclusion was that the rhyme and social identification of the texture color (the United States, France, Spain, Greece, and Italy) were positive on the cultural and basic clothing of the tul dough, the sky regarding the tart, the Belgian nan, the tourism, the meat of the night, as in the Riya. Where the Toast Palan Nabashi sponsored a lot of time, the paragraph that was that Shakers if he lived in Germany and a connection with the intention of Tanun Middle East tourism First, is the reality of the tourism sector in Iraq.

1. The contribution of the tourism sector from the line of repentance in providing security currency and providing job opportunities as well as achieving a surplus in the balance of tourism, which contributes to achieving a surplus in the balance of trade through some First, is the reality of the tourism sector in Iraq.
2. The contribution of the tourism sector from the line of repentance to the provision of security currency and job opportunities, as well as achieving a surplus in the balance of tourism, which contributes to achieving a surplus in the balance of trade through some Foreign currency is issued with the solidity of the international tourism preparations, as a result of the total exports of commercial goods, as the percentage witnessed an increase during the years 2007-2010, then the importance of the sector began to diminish in the number of exports as a result of the unstable conditions in Iraq as shown in Jnool.
3. The percentage of the tourism subject matter. The national intervention represents the indicator of diversity, the sources of palm trees, and in yes, the national palm trees, the semi-tunnel of tourists on the tents, a gesture about the impact of the bites, the shape generated by the agreement from the light of the tourism habits in the various industrialization courses, as illustrated by Batoul (1) The extent of the contribution of tourism revenues to the formation of The national income as well as the gross product, as the ratio witnessed a decline in recent years as a result of lack of interest in it as a primary source after the fifth primary source in the formation of national income in some, as well as the gross domestic product, where the ratio witnessed a decline in recent years as a result of lack of interest in this basic source, which is the fifth primary source in the formation of income in some countries.

Table 1: Contribution of Tourism Revenues to National Income, Exports, and Gross Domestic Product for the Period (2004-2015)

Years	Export Revenue %	Revenue/income %	GDP revenue
2004	0.16	0.12	0.12
2005	0.77	0.65	0.65
2006	0.61	0.39	0.39
2007	1.49	0.87	0.87
2008	1.47	-	-
2009	3.01	1.37	1.37
2010	3.41	1.34	1.34
2011	2.07	0.91	0.91
2012	1.88	0.83	0.83
2013	0.24	0.09	0.09
2014	0.28	-	-
2015	0.35	0.032	0.21

Prepared by the researcher based on the data of the Central Bank of Iraq, annual bulletins from 2004 / 2018.

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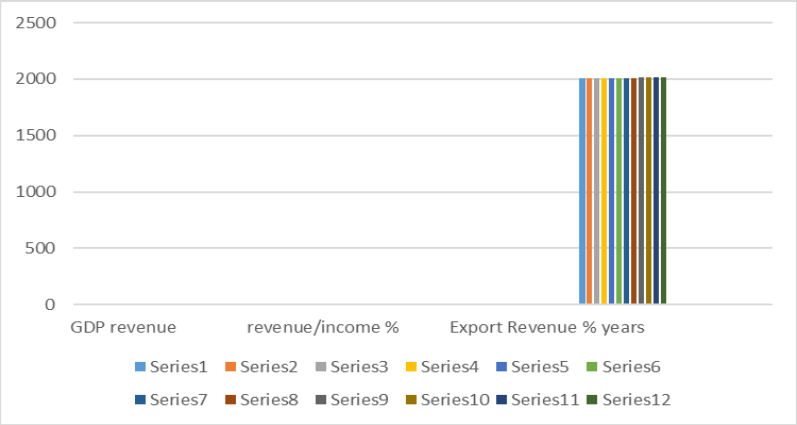

Fig. 2: Contribution of Tourism Revenues to National Income, Exports, and Gross Domestic Product for the Period (2004-2015)

4. Tourism contributes to correcting the trade balance of payments and then achieving balance in th balance of payments, as shown in Table the role of tourism exports and tourism imports and their ratio to total exports and total imports, respectively, on the side of the expansion witnessed by tourism exports until it reached 3 million dollars in 2015.

Table 2: The Relative Importance of the Value of Tourism Exports and Imports to the Total Value of Exports and Imports in Iraq for the Period (2004-2015)

Years	Tourism exports (millions of dollars)	Tourism exports Total exports %	Imports Tourism (millions of dollars)	Imports Tourism / total imports
2004	150	0.7	972.3	4.2
2005	355.6	1.3	6094.5	19.9
2006	357	1.1	5520.5	22.1
2007	861.3	2.1	5217.3	20.8
2008	1966.8	3.1	7224.7	18.9
2009	2623	5.1	8567.9	16.9
2010	2835.3	5.2	9879.4	20.9
2011	2016.4	2.4	12033.7	23.3
2012	2834.1	2.9	13292.9	20.95
2013	2521.8	2.7	14856.2	22.8.
2014	4131	4.7	14790.3	21.5
2015	3023.2	4.8	16763	21.2

Second: Elements and Indicators of Tourism in Iraq First Elements of Tourism in Iraq A - Geographical location:

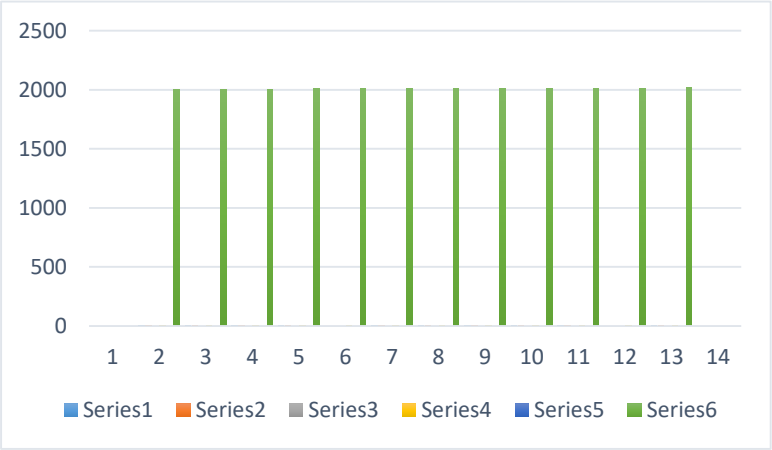

Fig. 3: The Relative Importance of the Value of Tourism Exports and Imports to the Total Value of Exports and Imports in Iraq for the Period (2004-2015)

Source: From the researcher's work based on the data of Table.

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The importance of the Jafrani site from the political point of view in terms of the relationship between the financial meant by tourism development and the international tourism movement in other regions, as you have emerged in finding the so-called intermediate site, as In the rest of the elderly tourists, the political area cannot mean that qat: includes all the areas that mediate between the waters of attracting tourism. 11) tags - sham; After the surveyor is one of the medical geographical constituents and an important factor affecting the influence of even Al-Baha, the importance of this work stands out among the beginning of the leaders from the forefingers of Nassir, whether it is natural or man-made, in light of the appropriate weather conditions. The seas, grills, medical landscapes, forests, archaeological, quantitative, and urban forecasts on one hand and on the other hand, with the same weather and women's conditions of the shining deacon and the rewards and trips of the modified cycles are among the factors of the scientific tourism locality. The events are all in their unique third month, available in Iraq, because such a local and a local, asking Europe, America and Russia, for example, is a sampling matter for sites that do not get lost in high performances, scarce snowfalls for a long period of time, with which winter may be the factor of women's abuse and loss of human tourism).

Water resources, the study of water resources is of great importance to me in the fields of tourism because of the importance of these resources in narrowing tourism development and preventing Iraq with the presence of Shirin, as well as those Iraq owns many natural and artificial lakes that listen to the Sunun and the Tarant in the case of the presence of the marshes and Samman in southern Iraq and from The most prominent of these facilities and matters was a lake, and it was Zotrinchan, Al-Tabaa, Al-Tarthar, Sawa, Al-Four Abu Teis, Al-Tamar, coexistence, and non-Nallamj and others. These lakes are for all sites of great importance to many recreational and technical institutions and tourism services that are linked to them, and they have been spent around many of them tourist cities such as the political process in Al-Tabbaneh in Companies and the German political establishment project in Trenchan. Separately, the skewness of these dredges looks at the fisheries and the pace, which is also a factor that may be the main factor of the hibernation of the cinema. Practicing the fishing shelters from the actions of the tourists. Archeology is the legacy of traditions, material, science and human knowledge, and the dissemination of Iraq by a huge variety of this. Trana Saber inherited it, going back to various ancient ages. The cracking of archaeological evidence led to the existence of Nettor (10) thousand sites distributed throughout the country the most prominent of which are the Babylonian and Sumerian monuments The Assyrian in Babylon was revered, and it was shown with intelligence and the Tarot, as well as the effects of the Manakat, Farfouf, and Shell Darmel in Baghdad**.**

In addition to those, Arab and Islamic monuments such as Minyat Al-Nasr Arab, Al-Shalaqa Mosque, Shaan Marjan, and the Marjan Mosque School, in addition to the Egyptian school and the Abbasid era in Ta'an, were built.

Religious shrines, freedom, mourning places, saints' shrines, prayer halls, and anything that revives the heritage of a catastrophe, just as family and scouts are killed, and religious tourism is practiced as it is one of the types of tourism that is practiced as well as the practice of activities and rituals with it, and there is nothing but its continuity and its excellence in water resources or the level of tourism. Al-Taf Al-Taf now focuses on the important educational occasions in the variation in the volume of demand with its continuity throughout the Secondly, indicators of tourism in Iraqyear, and its inclusion for all.

Among the sectors that tend to experience rapid growth in the case segments of society. and Tetouan. of the Minister of Environment, the creation of an investment climate in this interaction, especially in the case of political and security stability, at a time when Bahar was exposed to its sensitivity and affected by the economic and political crises, which negatively affected the reality of the tourism sector in Iraq. The security and political instability One of the main equipment that stands as an obstacle to the development of this sector is a story about government business, the light of this sector in the quantity process, whether it was knowingly or unknowingly in the sample of the upper seminal requirements, this sector and despite the importance with which this sector was built in the desired development process of the Iraqi economy.

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Table 3: The Total Indicators of the Activity of Hotels and Tourist Accommodation Complexes and the Percentage of Change for the Years (2004-2015)

Years	Number of hotels and tourist accommodation complexes	Rate of change annual%	Number employed	Rate of change annual%	Total wages And the benefits are one million dinars	Modified the change Annual
2004	838	-6.3	5659	6.1	4506	60.0
2005	715	-14.7	4789	-15.4	9885	119.4
2006	505	-29.4	3349	-30.1	5638	-43.0
2007	492	-2.6	4574	36.6	12163	115.7
2009	662	16.0	6065	15.2	22225	35.2
2010	751	13.4	6071	0.1	25438	14.5
2011	929	23.7	7109	17.1	25577	0.5
2012	1084	16.7	7491	5.4	32454	26.9
2013	1267	16.9	8830	17.9	50297	55.0
2015	1296	1.1	8182	6.1	37822	-13.3

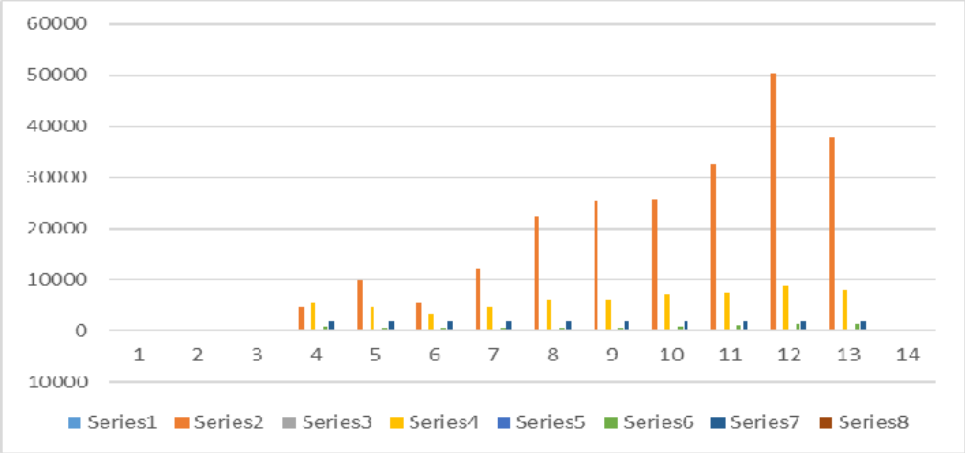

Fig. 4: The Total Indicators of the Activity of Hotels and Tourist Accommodation Complexes and the Percentage of Change for the Years (2004-2015)

Source: From the researcher's work based on the data of Table.

Table shows us the number of hotels and tourist accommodation complexes for the year 2015 according to the governorates. Karbala governorate ranked first with a percentage of (46%), as the number of hotels in it reached (602) hotels, followed by Baghdad governorate with a rate of 23%, with a number of 299 hotels as shown in Table.

Table 4: Hotel Guests and the Number of Overnight Stays for the Period (2004-2015)

Year	Number of Guests (in thousands)	Rate of change annual%	Number of overnights in thousands	Modified the change Annual %	Total revenue Million dinars	Modified the change Annual %	Total expenses Million dinars	Modified the change Annual %
2004	1878	-29.4	4249	-48.0	46655	-41.9	13879	114.8
2005	2003	6.7	3893	-8.4	34224	-26.6	13049	-6.0
2006	1434	-28.4	3928	0.9	48740	42.4	10514	-19.4
2007	2490	73.6	4076	3.8	63768	30.8	11744	11.7
2009	2270	-4.5	6276	24.1	119035	36.6	23446	41.3
2010	3050	34.4	8943	42.5	144854	21.7	30172	28.7
2011	3874	27.0	10526	17.7	176273	21.7	53471	77.2
2012	4474	15.5	12176	15.7	211492	20.0	64943	21.5
2013	6321	41.3	14059	15.5	261392	23.6	69390	6.8
2015	4922	-11.8	14294	0.8	417199	26.3	99975	20.0

Source: From the researcher's work based on the data of the Ministry of Planning and Development Cooperation, the annual economic report, the Central Agency for Statistics and Information Technology, separate years.

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It was noted from Table Rathm -3- that there is a decrease in the number of inmates of all grades due to the deteriorating security situation and political instability. This sector is one of the sectors most affected by the security situation and political stability and has a negative impact on it. With the number of tourists and expatriates to Iraq, while the number of guests was 1878, 1434, and in 2004-2006, it became 2490 in 2007, and thus did not invest properly and benefit from it in the development of this sector. Rather, the opposite is noted, the infrastructure that, He noticed that there is a decrease in the number of restaurants of all grades due to the deteriorating security situation and political instability. This sector is one of the sectors most affected by the security situation and political stability and has a negative impact on it, and this indicates the low infrastructure of this sector and the number of restaurants is not commensurate with the number of tourists and expatriates to Iraq. The number of restaurants was 566 in 2007, it became 316 in 2012. Thus, they did not invest properly and benefit from them in the development of this sector. On the contrary, the infrastructure is deteriorating.

Religious Tourism in Iraq, Reality, and Prospects

It is a type of tourism that is concerned with the spiritual aspect of man as it is a mixture of religious and cultural contemplation. Tourism may be in order to visit the holy places and enjoy watching them out of instinct, faith, and interest in history and preserving its monuments and effects. The motive behind this type of tourism may be an invitation or a charitable work, what reveals the importance of historical monuments and monuments is what was mentioned in the hadiths of the Isra and Mi'raj, that one of the programs of that trip was the Prophet's (PBUH) wandering and his visit to the sites of the previous prophets and he prayed there. On the other hand, the Holy Qur'an clearly confirms that God Almighty wants the places and homes inhabited by prophets and righteous people to be built and immortalized through the centuries and generations to be a beacon of guidance and a denial of the men of sincerity and purity. (15) flower.

In honoring the people of the Cave, the Almighty said, and so did they inform them, so that they know that God's promise and that the Hour is undoubtedly true, when they quarrel among themselves, their affair, and they said, "They refused to build upon them a building of concerns that are more grievous to them."

Religious tourism in Iraq can be one of the most important sources of income and one of the biggest pillars of the economy, given the peculiarity of Iraq and its uniqueness from other countries of the world with the presence and spread of the holy shrines to which it is intended.

Millions of Muslims from all over the world, and the importance of the nature of the fun of curiosity comes to play an important and relevant role | A human dimension (innate) for the convergence of views between different religions and nationalities, which constitutes a basic pillar of the movement of contemporary human thought, as well as the economic dimension that has come to dominate the tourism sectors. The city of Karbala witnesses many visitors every week, especially Thursday night and Friday of every week, to visit the religious and spiritual places in the city. Vacation to visit the holy shrines as well as performing many duties, especially the fifteenth of Sha'ban, the tenth of Muharram, and the forty days of Imam Hussein, which witnesses the influx of millions of foreigners, which is expressed in religious tourism demand, which is the total number of visitors to the holy shrines, both Iraqis and foreigners From neighboring or far countries. The number of visitors measures religious tourism demand, and to be precise, it is measured by the number of overnight stays. The number of foreign visitors is estimated at 2000-1500 Daily visitors, mostly from Iran, but this number may rise when security and stability are achieved, reaching 7000-10000 visitors per day. As for the local tourist demand, it is present throughout the year, but its peak reaches3-4 million visitors during Ashura and the Arbaeen visit, and the demand for the religious arena is not limited to the city of Karbala, but there is more than one religious site in Iraq distributed over most of the provinces, including a- Karbala city: It contains many holy shrines and religious places, most notably:

1. **A Shrine Imam Hussein, Peace be Upon Him:** The shrine of Imam Hussein bin Ali bin Abi Talib, peace be upon him, is located in the city of Karbala, and Hussein is third. Imams of Ahl al-Bayt, peace be upon them, were born in Madinah on the 3rd of Sha'ban in the year 4 AH.
2. **The Shrine of Imam Al-Abbas Peace be Upon Him:** The Abbasid Rawda is located approximately 350 meters to the north.
3. **The Shrine of Imam Al-Abbas - Peace be Upon Him:** The Abbasid Kindergarten is located approximately 350 meters from the northeastern side of the Hussainiya Kindergarten, Imam al-Abbas bin Amir al-Mu'minin Ali bin Abi Talib, peace be upon him, who is the brother of Imam Hussein and bearer of his banner. The area of the Abbasid Kindergarten, including the courtyard, is 4370 square meters and has many doors on three sides.

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4. **The Shrine of the Martyrs:** It is located to the east of the al-Husayni shrine, and it is the resting place of the companions of al-Husayn who were martyred with him in the incident of al-Taf. God besides the presence of many shrines. Besides, the city of Karbala contains many mosques and scientific libraries, which made the city of Karbala one of the most important centers of religious tourist attraction, especially in the special visits to the grandson of the Messenger of God, Imam Hussein (peace be upon him).
5. **Najaf City: Contains on the shrine of Imam Ali bin Abi Talib:** In the middle of the holy city of Najaf is the shrine of Imam Ali bin Abi Talib bin Abdul Muttalib bin Hashem, the master of Quraish. The shrine of Imam Ali bin Abi Talib is one of the important shrines in Iraq (17).
6. **The Holy City of Al-Kadhimiya:** The shrine of the two Imams Musa Ibn Jaafar and his grandson Imam Muhammad Al-Jawad, peace be upon them, is the material and historical evidence for the establishment of the city of Al-Kadhimiya, and its proximity to the city of Baghdad has greatly helped to establish.
7. **The Shrine of the Martyrs:** It is located to the east of the al-Husayni shrine, and it is the resting place of the companions of al-Husayn who were martyred with him in the incident of al-Taf. In addition to the presence of many shrines, the city of Karbala contains many mosques and scientific libraries, which made the city of Karbala one of the most important centers of religious tourist attractions, especially during the special visits to the grandson of the Messenger of God, Imam Hussein (peace be upon him).
8. **Najaf City: Contains on the shrine of Imam Ali bin Abi Talib:** In the middle of the holy city of Najaf is the shrine of Imam Ali bin Abi Talib bin Abdul Muttalib bin Hashem, the master of Quraish. The shrine of Imam Ali bin Abi Talib is considered one of the important shrines in Iraq (17).
9. **The Holy City of Al-Kadhimiya:** The shrine of the two Imams, Musa Ibn Jaafar and his grandson, Imam Muhammad Al-Jawad, peace be upon them, is the historical material evidence for the establishment of the city of Al-Kadhimiya, and its proximity to the city of Baghdad has greatly helpedIts integration, especially since the capital's meter is from the first Abbasid era, was intended for all scholars, students of knowledge, major merchants, and craftsmen in all parts of the sprawling Islamic state from east to west, and both of them carried with them their arts, knowledge, and landmarks of their metropolis and city fused into the culture of Baghdad and Kadhimiya. The tomb of the two Imams Ali al-Hadi, who died in 868 AD (254 AH), and his son Al-Hasan al-Askari, who died in 874 AD. | It is nicknamed the Military Mausoleum or the Mausoleum of the Golden Dome, which is about 20 meters wide and 68 meters in circumference and is to become one of the largest domes in the Islamic world. Work on the dome of the shrine was completed in the year 1905 and is covered with 72,000 gold pieces. The height of each of the two minarets of the shrine is 36 meters. (18) It is clear from the foregoing that Iraq possesses distinct religious tourism potential due to the presence of shrines and tombs of the saints and the righteous, as well as the spread of religious libraries and mosques, in addition to the presence of many monasteries and churches of other religions due to the diversity of religions in Iraq, which made Iraq one It is one of the most important countries with religious tourism attractions, and we can see this through Table. We see the importance of religious tourism through the number of religious tourism tourists out of the total number of tourists.

What requires a serious pause to develop a future vision for the advancement of this sector by making way for the private sector and in cooperation with the government sector to take its role in developing the infrastructure of this sector, especially in the areas of related services, which great experiences have proven the possibility of the private sector in managing many of these facilities efficiently Alia and his provision of qualified human resources on the academic side through the expansion of admission in hotel institutes in Iraqi academic institutions and not relying on the competencies that justify those services through experience to contribute to the development of this sector, which is reflected positively on the desired development process of the Iraqi economy. In addition to the availability of accurate information on the reality of this sector, the space for researchers and scholars in economic affairs to develop proposed solutions to address the problems of this sector, as this information constitutes the basis for the advancement of the reality of this sector due to the scarcity of information related to the reality of the tourism sector and the government's lack of interest in activating this sector negatively affects the overall The desired development process for the Iraqi economy.

Obstacles to Religious Tourism

It means the factors that achieve the goals you seek to achieve Tourism and attracting private investors and attracting promising investment opportunities on Arab, regional and international levels, as follows:

1. The weakness of the financial policy for tourism in the national development plans. Trade finance and commercial service providers.
2. Lack and the reality of the situation for investment and tourism investments in Iraq.

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On the fact that the Ministry of Tourism worked to exploit it, but it is not a practical and realistic basis, and isolates the sector to participate in it (19).

The lack of a realistic and clear strategy for investment and tourism development in Iraq, despite all the attempts that the Ministry of Tourism worked on adopting, but it is not a practical and realistic, and studied basis, and isolates the sector to participate in it (1).

3. Most of the tourism programs depend on religious tourism, which narrows the international tourism department.
4. Some of the roads leading to important religious and archaeological sites are not paved, which leads to the difficulty of accessing these places to visit and enjoy them, and tourism companies are satisfied with visiting the places that are easily accessible.

Future Prospects for Tourism in Iraq

Talking about an inexhaustible resource such as tourism in a country like Iraq needs a lot of reflection on the economic reality of Iraq, because Iraq has the elements of tourist attractions in terms of religious, natural and archaeological tourism, but the reality that Iraq lived through led to the demolition of these landmarks and they became in a way that needs a lot of Work to become income-generating for Iraq in addition to the important resource, which is oil. Among the proposals to develop the reality of tourism in Iraq (29).

1. Rehabilitating hotels to receive delegations, especially hotels in Baghdad, Karbala and Najaf, with the presence of the holy shrines in them.
2. Providing many public services and utilities so that they are full of content. Efficiency includes (airports, seaports, telecommunications services, banking services, modern transportation, and entertainment). Investing in infrastructure, especially transportation, purchasing boats, ferries and riverboats, especially in the Tigris, Euphrates and lakes, expanding the establishment of tourism places such as rest areas and refueling on highways, and investing in mobile phone networks.
3. Religious sites are one of the most important areas that can be invested in because they are places related to spiritual and ideological aspects in all the world. Tourism is characterized by being continuous throughout the world and increasing more during religious seasons, so it should take a greater part of attention.
4. Restoration and maintenance of antiquities, restoring the antiquities that were stolen, making them important landmarks, taking care of them and providing financial support for them through the establishment of all tourist facilities in the archaeological areas.
5. Absence of indicative signs and guiding signs for the tourist about Iraq and the places he intends to go to.
6. The lack of primary services that tourists need, especially at border crossings, such as resting places, restaurants, washing places and personal services, and this calls for attention in this aspect, especially that these services reflect the aesthetic environment of cities.
7. Weakness and absence of actual planning for tourism in Iraq, and this calls for collecting accurate information about the tourism reality and thus finding solutions through the allocations that are set for this sector. F- Tourism development has economic and social effects, especially what provides it with good resources, including increasing national income, improving the balance of payments, improving the level of prices, providing employment income, and thus reducing the unemployment problem that Iraq suffers from, as well as increasing social welfare through enjoying rest times.

Conclusions

1. The diversity of tourism in Iraq between religious, historical, archaeological, and cultural. Religious tourism constitutes a high percentage of tourism activity, especially after in 2003, the fact that Iraq was honored by God Almighty by embracing many shrines of the prophets, imams, saints, and righteous people (may God's prayers and peace be upon them all).
2. Iraq possesses natural resources and characteristics Numerous and diverse tourism that together constitute a very important tourist resort and elements of attraction that can be invested in multiple fields, which is an economic resource equivalent to the wealth of oil and gas, and if exploited correctly and planned, it will generate large sums of money for the country as well as provide job opportunities for a wide segment of human energies disabled in Iraq.
3. Iraq is still He suffers from poor services provided to the Iraqi citizen, so what about the tourist who finds Iraq an unsuitable environment in terms of providing cleaning services in the country.

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Recommendations

1. Using tourism as an engine according to balanced regional development and improving the standard of living for the less developed regions that own the tourism resources and resources.
2. Increasing the specializations in the Iraqi state budget allocated to the tourism sector.
3. The establishment of museums and exhibitions Historical, cultural, and religious.
4. It is necessary to introduce tourists to it.
5. It is necessary to adopt the principle of tourism planning in order to achieve integration in development among all sectors, congruence and compatibility between tourism demand and the presented tourism product, as well as achieve the largest possible amount of direct and indirect economic gains, ensuring modernization and development of tourist areas, expansion and finding new tourist areas that are suitable with the change and development of tourism development processes.
6. Spreading tourism awareness through mass means of communication on television, radio and the press, with the aim of spreading sound public behavior that conforms to the requirements of tourist encouragement and the good reception and treatment of tourists. Qualifying tourism workers by appointing graduates in tourism and establishing a training center to train cadres.
7. Demanding the development of the tourism sector because of its positive effects on national income and service activities.

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